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Chronicle

2014



www.one-name.org

The Filby Association
was Founded in 1968 by
Ellsworth L. Filby
Frederick N. Filby
Mary E. Filby



An Organisation of people the world over with the surname of FILBY or its variants, FILBEY, FILBEE, PHILBY or PHILBEY devoted to furthering the study of the name derived from the village of FILBY, Norfolk in England—the genealogy of the various families with this name and the support of the Parish Church at Filby. There are no annual dues or assessments but anyone desiring to help the Association through donations should Contact the Treasurer. Family data will be welcome as research is encouraged on a hobby basis. The Association is fully constituted and is a not-for-profit charitable organisation.

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The memorial plaque of MILES FILBY on the front cover can be found on the wall near the nave in Wymondham Abbey, Norfolk, and is an ancestor of all members located on TREE T02.

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From our Manager's Keyboard ~ Jim Filby

Yet another year has passed and as reported in our 2013 'In Touch' we had a successful and very enjoyable reunion, which was a truly International Event when many members and friends joined us from Australia, Canada and the USA, along with all those from the UK. Marion organised a Meet & Greet dinner at the Bridge Inn, Acle, on the Saturday evening and thirty-six members with guests attended. On Sunday morning at 11.00am there were forty in attendance at our AGM, with seven apologies for absence. Pleasingly, after a delightful lunch in the church, even more people attended the DNA Project presentation and Family Service in the afternoon.

Sadly, as reported in the 'In Touch' newsletter, I had the unenviable task of announcing the recent death of our President, Mary Filby, who passed away on the 19th June, and was last of our three Founder Members. We are hoping to purchase a park bench in memory of Mary to be situated alongside those of Ellsworth Filby and Fred Filby on The Pound in Filby village.

Over the reunion weekend we had two younger members who came forward offering their services to the Association: **Adam Barker**, who has become our new web master after Mark Filby resigned due to business commitments. We thank Mark for all he has done for the Association; he won a number of awards for the website and was an executive officer. We wish him well in all his business ventures and look forward to the family attending future reunions.

Alan Filby (Mary's youngest son) has taken over from me as Treasurer. He took up the position on 1st October, 2013, at the start of our financial year. This means that the 2013 reports in this issue will be my last as Treasurer and I can concentrate on being your Manager.

We thank both Adam and Alan for volunteering to take up these positions, and we enthusiastically welcome them to our team of willing helpers, wishing them much success in the future. We are still appealing for younger people to come forward and get involved now in preparation for our retirement, in order to continue the work our three founder members started in the sixties.

Two more male volunteers offered to pay for their own Y-DNA37 test; a Filby and a Philbey. We thank them both for joining our DNA Project; they will remain anonymous until they receive their results and agree that we can publish them. Most of our volunteers have been Filby's, but we now have two whose surnames are spelt with a Ph. We are looking for male volunteers from all five spelling variations: Filby, Filbey, Philby, Philbey and Filbee to take the test which we hope will confirm that we are all descended from the one ancestor. The price of a Y-DNA37 test is £80 and we ask our volunteers to pay for themselves, although in exceptional circumstances our researchers and the executive may agree to pay a part of the fee if it is in the interest of the Association to have the test done.

The results of all our DNA tests can be found on the internet public site, on which only the surname is shown at www.familytreedna.com/public/filby. Anyone wishing to be a part of our DNA Project can contact either myself or Marion Filby for further information without obligation.

We do have an online shop on our website www.filby.org where we have a number of Association items for sale and where donations can also be made; the items can be paid for using a debit or credit card. Anyone without internet or who does not want to avail themselves of this service can still post their merchandise orders/donations to me: **Jim Filby, 72 Appleton Road, Blidworth, Notts. NG21 0SQ. England.**

You will be pleased to hear that the Association can accept any currency and/or cheque from members in other countries; although it does take a little longer for foreign cheques to clear.

I hope that you enjoy reading all the interesting articles that Marion has collected for this years Chronicle, and that you will continue to support the Filby Association and all our officers in whatever way you can, be it through monetary donation, family information and trees, articles for our editor, attending our reunion and AGM, or even just words of support and thanks, which are always appreciated.

Please don't forget we will be celebrating our 50th Anniversary in 2018, possibly on the weekend of Saturday 30th June / Sunday, 1st July, and hope to welcome more members from around the world to this special event. Please put the date in your diary and watch future Chronicles for information. With over 50 people attending this year it would be nice to think that we could exceed the 200 that attended our first Homecoming in 1968.

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IN MEMORY OF OUR LATE PRESIDENT, MARY FILBY:

We are hoping to purchase a matching bench to those we already have situated on The Pound at Filby village, in memory of our Founders, Ellsworth Filby and Frederick N Filby. Mary will be our last Founder Member to die and it is only right that she should be remembered along with Ellsworth and Fred.

Many of you have fond memories of Mary and Len Filby from earlier years when they took a leading role in the development of our Association and opened their home to everyone as 'family'.

If you would like to make a donation toward the purchase of the bench we would be most grateful as the cost will be in excess of £700 and we would like to have it in place during 2014.

Donations for the bench can be made using the enclosed/attached form sent out with this Chronicle issue.

We thank you in anticipation.

EULOGY for Mary Filby— by her son, Prof. Ivan Filby.



When we were young our parents were like superheroes to Alan and me: they were strong, invulnerable and, we thought, a ‘forever’ part of our lives. With my mother’s passing we are now middle-aged orphans! It’s hard for us to imagine life without her.

When we were young she shaped our identity, influenced our values and helped us to identify the paths in life worth travelling. With

her passing, we find that her influence was much deeper than even we could have imagined. We have found that we are becoming more and more like her - it’s like being reeled in by an expert fisherman helping us discover who we really are. In our teenage years we thought the idea of being like our parents was abhorrent; now we find it comforting, even quite lovely.

She once wrote to me explaining that after one severe childhood illness she became paralysed; the doctor’s prognosis was that she would probably never walk again. She told me that her next door neighbour, Gran Nurse came in, rolled up her sleeves and said “NOT if I have anything to do about it.” Then, every day her own Nanna and Gran Nurse took it in turns to manipulate her arms and legs until she was eventually able to walk again. One day, she recalled, they each took hold of one of her legs to make her move! I suspect that this experience was a defining moment in her life; she became a woman who refused to allow expert opinion be the final word on anything. In the latter part of her life she fell several times, and was told on a number of occasions that she would likely have to be in a wheelchair for the rest of her life. Her response was always “NOT if I have anything to do with it!” On one occasion she was told that unless she was able to stand then she would be denied physiotherapy on NHS. With grim determination and obvious pain I saw her pull herself upright onto her feet to the surprise of the hospital staff.

Just as she was determined to find a way to walk, she was equally determined to believe the best in others. When she was told by my headmistress not to have any high expectations for me because I was a slow learner, she refused to be dissuaded that I could have a wonderful future. She had the capacity to believe the best in people, even if naysayers had already tainted their reputations. She was able to make ordinary people feel important, valuable and lovable. She discovered beauty in the everyday rhythms of life,

beauty that was unseen by many. She was a giver in multiple ways. Most importantly, she gave people the gift of time. She knew how to listen without interrupting, making many feel the center of the universe. She knew how to leave harsh words unsaid, and how to speak words of encouragement with grace. No wonder many folk sought her for her counsel, a counsel that was left unsaid unless she was asked.

When I was young I used to shop with her every Saturday morning. It was a bittersweet experience. The sweet part was the cream cakes that we shared at Debenhams. The bitter part was how long it took to shop; she stopped to talk with every second passer-by. How was it possible, I wondered, for one person to have so many friends?

She spent lots of time thinking of small things to do for others, for no reason than she wanted them to feel loved. She had the gift of bringing joy to people, not joy measured in ounces, but huge dollops of joy that she just gave away willy-nilly to any one willing to receive.

It's hard for us to imagine what life will be like without her. She has been at the center of our family all of our lives, like the hub or a wheel holding all the spokes together. She was the one who read the Secret Seven and the Famous Five to us each night at bedtime; she was the one with the magic finger to help heal our cuts and bruises; she was the one who taught us the Lord's Prayer. she was the one who sang Oh Shenandoah and Red River Valley sitting at our old piano; she was the one who toasted bread over an open fire at Christmas; She was the one who always welcomed our friends for dinner, even when we forgot to mention that we had invited them; she was the one who listened to our teenage music and loved us nonetheless; she was the one who encouraged us to go to University; she was the one who encouraged us in our careers; she was the one who always asked about our wives and children during our phone calls. She was the one who taught us how to love.

Most often at funerals we hear scripture like 1 Corinthians 15:54 which rightly proclaims; "Death has been swallowed up in Victory" and we find great comfort in this.

However, when I think of my mum, I find a more appropriate scripture is one more commonly associated with weddings:

The Apostle Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 13 that:

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails.

My mum shared this quality of love with us and with so many. Our celebration is that she now gets to enjoy the undiluted version of this love in the presence of the God who shaped her and led her through her life. We celebrate a life well lived.

Introducing our new Web Master— Dr. Adam Barker.



My name is Adam Barker and I am excited to join the dedicated Filby Association team as the new Webmaster.

I am a Canadian, and have lived in the UK for the past four years, having moved from British Columbia for graduate studies in 2009. I am currently a Lecturer in Human Geography and hold a PhD in Geography from the University of Leicester.

I have married into the Filby family through my wife, Emma Battell Lowman and her maternal line, and have been warmly welcomed by all. I first attended the Filby Annual Reunion and Meeting in 2007 with my spouse and mother-in-law, Melanie Battell.

Most recently, I had the great pleasure of bringing my parents, Kathy and Joe Barker who were visiting from their home in Stoney Creek, Ontario, Canada, to the 2013 Filby Reunion. I look forward to working with the Association to maintain a vibrant electronic Filby presence.

barker.adam.j@gmail.com

Introducing our new Treasurer— Alan W Filby.

As one of Len and Mary Filby's sons, I have known about the Filby Association for most of my life. It was inescapable given their involvement; especially my mother's, and I have many fond memories of her typing and being surrounded by lots of paper and files. My brother and I however, did get to meet many interesting people, some from overseas as a result of their involvement.

I have to confess that at the time I was not overly interested. I was more concerned about where I was going rather than long dead ancestors. Trips to Filby for



reunions and the like seemed to take forever on the single track winding roads that existed in Norfolk at the time.

However, getting older, and also becoming more reflective and have more time to think about where I had come from and my wider family tree.

The career that I was interested in when I was younger was architecture and I pursued this through study until qualification as an architect. I currently work for a small midlands based practice.

I have two step sons, both of whom have now moved away from home to pursue their own lives and careers. I currently live in Derby with my wife, Jackie, and two rather spoilt but equally lovable cats.

I look forward to being able to contribute to the work of the Association in the capacity of Treasurer and meeting more Filby's in the future.

alanf@filby.org

Secretary's Report—Marion Filby

It is with great pleasure that I welcome both our new Web Master and Treasurer to the Association, we have been waiting patiently for new blood to step forward and offer their time to help an ageing team!! Thank you, and best wishes for the future.!

Let me also welcome our New Members this year:

025 Alan & Caroline Dinsdale, Middlesex, England. (Tree T05)

041 Barbara A Rozmiarek, Marinette, USA. (Tree M182)

152 Lesley Lahey & Joy Hill, Toowoomba, Qld. Australia. (Tree T03)

185 Dr. Dirk A Filby, Aachen, Germany. (Tree T01)

186 Vincent Filby, Oakville, Canada. (To be researched)

037 Stephen J Hulbert, Cardiff, Wales (Tree T08)

We have had to remove some names from our register due to returned journal or email on more than one occasion—please remember to keep us informed if you change either, or contact with us will be lost forever.

I haven't been notified of many Birth, Marriage or Deaths this year, but those I have are reported in the final pages of this issue. Please do keep us informed as we enter all this information onto our family trees.

We are always looking for volunteers, so please don't be shy, there is no pressure, you can do as much or as little as you desire—we just want you to enjoy being part of a world wide family history association.

At the AGM next July I will be up for re-election as your secretary for a further three years, but I have decided not to pursue this. I have been officially your secretary for three years and enjoyed it immensely, but having turned seventy in 2013, I have decided that I must spend more of my time doing things with my family and friends rather than all of my time on voluntary work, however enjoyable it may be, and I have certainly found my involvement very rewarding in both friendships and interests.

After sixteen years duties as Researcher, and eleven years as Editor and GOONS Representative I have also decided to bring these to an end and offer my resignation at the 2014 AGM. However, if help is required before my positions are filled I will assist whoever, whenever possible. I will of course remain a member of the Filby Association and support my husband who is Deputy Manager. I wish it much success for the future, but we need our younger members to find a little time to ensure this happens. Please consider any of the above positions seriously and contact either myself or Jim Filby, our Manager, to ask what it would entail.

The next AGM will be held at All Saints Church, in the village of Filby in Norfolk, on Sunday, 29th June, 2014, at 11.00am. (one week earlier than usual)

1.30pm Dedication of the bench on The Pound in memory of our Late President, Mary Filby, the third and last Founder to be honoured.

The Family Service will follow at 2.30pm.

Please let us know if you will be attending on the form provided.

The Filby Association DNA Project progresses:

Following our slide show at the reunion everyone enjoyed the results shown and explanations of how we had discovered where, in a few cases, the non paternity event had occurred, which is what you have to be prepared to accept should you decide upon a test.

Following on from the reunion we had two more volunteers tested—a FILBY and a PHILBEY. The results confirmed that our FILBY does carry the FILBY GENE and it now appears that there may be a separate PHILBEY GENE! These results have been added to the chart opposite.

From 12 tests we have established that 7 carry the exact matching gene and so have accepted this as the FILBY GENE that may have originated in India or Pakistan and is known as Haplogroup G.

2 of 3 from Haplogroup R1b1a2 are identical and may establish a PHILBEY GENE that originated throughout Europe and the British Isles.

This inheritance pattern is what makes it possible for us to use the Y chromosome to compare against other men of the same surname to see if they share a common ancestor, because if they do, their Y chromosome DNA will match, either exactly or nearly so. Females inherit an X from both parents and it is mixed in the same fashion as the autosomes. The good news is that you may well have noticed that the surname is passed down the same paternal path as the Y chromosome, so if this is a Filby/Philbey family, the Y-line DNA travels right along with the surname. How it can help us with genealogy now becomes obvious, because if we can test different male descendants who also bear the Filby/Philbey surname, if they share a common ancestor since the advent of surnames, their DNA will match, or nearly so.

How Does Y-Line DNA Testing Really Work? In Y chromosome testing, two different areas of DNA are tested.

The first, called Short Tandem Repeats, or STRs for short, are a special type of stutter mutation used to track mutations used for genealogical purposes which we'll discuss in a few minutes.

The second, called Single Nucleotide Polymorphisms, or SNPs for short, are measurements of single locations, as in the earlier example, to determine your deep ancestry or haplogroup assignment.

Y-line testing provides us with three kinds of information by using these two different kinds of tests.

1. Genealogically useful information is provided by purchasing the "standard" marker tests, typically offered in panels beginning with 12 markers and ranging up to 67 markers. This type of testing uses a type of marker known as STRs, or Short Tandem Repeats - these results are specifically geared to provide you with information that is relevant in a genealogical timeframe, typically within the last 500-1000 years.

2. Anthro-Genealogy is the time after you lose your own genealogical record, but still within the time that last names are being used. While you may not be able to connect to an individual person, you can still use the information provided by your standard tests to compare your results with other last names and notice specifically the history and geography associated with these families. If you match, they are your cousins and where they were, your ancestors likely were too.

3. Deep Ancestry, also known as anthropology, is provided by the second type of specialty testing known as SNP or backbone testing. These tests are critical to population genetics and map the migration of man, our ancestors, out of Africa to where they are found today. These tests are used to determine your clan and subclans, known as haplogroups. Mutations revealed in SNP tests determine our haplogroup and subhaplogroup, also known as our ancestral clan. These mutations occur very rarely and are considered "one in the lifetime of man" events. Mutations revealed in STR testing provide us with genealogical information used to compare within our family as well as others of similar surnames to determine relationships within a genealogically relevant timeframe.

What Can We Tell? Y-line DNA testing for genealogy can tell you two things:

1. It can tell you, using the markers in your panels, whether or not you are descended from a common ancestor with another individual. This is very useful genealogically.

2. It can tell you, using your haplogroup and associated SNPs (used to confirm a haplogroup), where your ancestors originated, when they moved, where they migrated, and where they are found today in the highest percentages.

The first question to ask when attempting to determine whether you and another individual are DNA matches is “does our haplogroup match?” If the answer is no, then you’re not a genetic cousin to that individual in the last several thousand years.

Let’s say for example that you have 3 mismatches with John Doe. If you and John don’t share the same major haplogroup (such as R1b, R1b1 or a haplogroup “upstream” or “downstream” of your R1b1a2), then don’t bother going any further, you’re not related in thousands of years. At Family Tree DNA on your personal page, you won’t be matched with anyone that isn’t in your major haplogroup.

If John is the same haplogroup and matches all of your rare markers, but mismatches you on more common markers, it holds a different level of significance than if the 3 markers where he mismatches you ARE the 3 rare markers you have.

Non Paternity Events on our Family Trees:

An illegitimate son—would have been baptised a FILBY like his mother but will not carry the Filby gene, neither will any of his Filby descendants. There are many examples of this in the 1600s on all our trees.

Extra-marital affair—Mrs FILBY may not have told her husband (or even known) that her son was not fathered by him. He would carry the FILBY surname but neither he nor any of his descendants would carry the Filby gene. We have some evidence of this already.

Adoption—Many children who were adopted were never told until recent years, so any adopted male child named FILBY would not carry the Filby gene and neither would his descendants - who may never know.

Widow marrying a Filby—We know of widows pregnant with their late husbands child marrying a FILBY before the birth of this child. Upon birth the male child is Christened a FILBY like his newly married parents but as he was not conceived a FILBY he does not carry the FILBY gene and therefore none of his descendants named FILBY will either. However, his younger brothers of course will!

DNA is an extension of genealogy that makes it more interesting and definitely more challenging for the researcher, which is stimulating when answers are forthcoming, but AS FAR AS WE ARE CONCERNED ANY PERSON WITH THE FILBY/PHILBEY SURNAME is a FILBY, whatever their genes!

I hope this helps those of you who have been tested, and perhaps will encourage those of you not yet tested to join our project this year. Cost approx. £80 and all you do is take three mouth swabs and post them off to await your results. We will then help with other information or research.

Having found the probability of a second gene it is important that we test anyone with the surname of PHILBY to take us further down the line into establishing a link between two or more spellings. If you live in the UK or USA please consider joining our project and helping us to progress further.

Thanks.....

Marion.filby@virgin.net

Australian Correspondent, Helen Filby, updating us with her news.

Hello to everyone,

The Filby clan in Adelaide has had a busy year.

We visited family in the UK in May, spending time with Mary Filby (Dave's mother) near Darlington, and holidaying in Mull with our son Chris, his wife, Annette, and son, Joshua, who has just started school- they live in Scotland at present. We were also able to spend time with Dave's cousin, John Filby, and his wife, Sally, who live in Derbyshire, and Dave's cousin, Jean, her husband, Doug, and their family in the Cotswolds. It was so good to catch up on family and compare news and pictures of events.

Our daughter, Tricia, is living in Hobart where she works as a physio at Royal Hobart Hospital. She will be visiting family in the UK in November. Our other daughter, Joanna, has two lovely energetic red headed boys (Rufus George, aged 3, and Wilbur Basil, aged 17 months). Jo's partner was in Afghanistan with the army for 7 1/2 months so we spent quite a bit of time with the boys, which was very enjoyable.

My niece has two red headed boys – Seth, aged 4, and Mason, aged 2, so we have five red heads in the next Filby generation - we wonder how many other Filby red heads there are! My nephew has a daughter, Lily, aged 3, and a son, Jensen, aged 10 months, but they both have very dark hair.

Dave's sister, Sue, and her husband, Jeff, visited family in the UK last month and are now holidaying in France - while they were away they spent time visiting other places with Dave's brother, Michael, and his wife, Linda.

As you can see we have been a fairly active group here.

We're still hoping to catch up with some of the Kadina Filby/Philbey family at some stage and if there are reunions or other events we hope you'll keep us informed.

When I checked the phone book I noticed there are also seven Philbey entries, but nothing for Philby. It would be interesting to know if they are part of the wider family.

Well, this tells you all about our family and our busy year, but hopefully things will be a bit quieter this year. We will begin by visiting Townsville as my daughter's partner has been posted there with the army from January, 2014, so it there are any Filby/Philbey folks wanting to make our acquaintance - just get in touch.

Wishing you all a Happy and Healthy Year ahead.

Helen and David

david_filby@internode.on.net

DIRECT HIT!!!!!!!

A short story written by Derek Filbey of Bexhill recounting events during the blitz in London during 1941. A poignant and moving personal memory of a sad event in his early life.

For the first years of the War 1939-1941, the Filbey's, that is myself and my parents, lived at 94 Blandford Road, Beckenham, Kent, with my grandparents, the 'Popjoys' (unusual name). It was early evening of the 16th April, 1941, that our brush with death happened. Darkness had fallen and with the black-out in place an eerie silence existed, but not for long. The wailing sound of an air raid siren was soon to be heard, ominous of events to come.

Soon the characteristic throbbing drone of the 'Luftwaffe's Heinkel-HE111H' engines could be heard, accompanied by our intense 'AA' (Anti-Aircraft) fire, as once again the nightly ordeal of the Blitz had begun, meaning another cold, damp night in our 'Anderson Shelter'. No sooner had Dad rushed Mum and I into the shelter, there was a swish and a thud like a 'giant's boot' stomping the ground, accompanied by what sounded like lots of broken glass and mixed with the noise was a woman's terrified scream.

The Anderson Shelter rocked and shook in the ground; yes the house had received a "Direct Hit", probably by an 'SC50 Bomb'. The memory of the terror of that moment is as clear today as it was seventy years ago. Shaking with fear I prayed "Please God, please God, don't let me die". Our shelter had a door, which Dad had cleverly made! (Doors on Andersons' were not standard supply). The door proved all it's worth, because it protected us not only from the effects of the blast, but also the chocking dust of the two terraced houses that had just been blown to pieces.

As soon as the dust settled, the three of us scrambled out of the shelter to be confronted by a pile of rubble, and a black void where our home used to be. There was a small fire burning in the debris and my granddad was calling for help. He never used the shelter and was shaving at the kitchen sink at the time of the 'hit'. My grandmother had taken cover under the stairs, as this was considered to be the safest part of the house, however she was killed instantly. Granddad was buried in the rubble with one ear partly severed, but he survived.

Having left the security of our shelter we made our way through adjoining gardens until we found a house where we could go through to the road, but not without first being given a cup of tea by the occupants (tea being the English cure for all situations). The raid continued into the early hours of the 17th April when at last dawn broke and the siren sounded the 'All Clear', with the Luftwaffe returning to Germany to re-arm, ready to return the next night.

When all was quiet, I can remember walking back up the road to the pile of rubble, which was once our house, and on the way seeing two neatly laid out stretchers covered with blankets masking two bodies. I realise now, that must have been my grandmother and the other the victim of the scream. (I thanked God for my survival).

I returned later that day to see what, if any, of my belongings had survived. My Raleigh bike for instance, (which was advertised as an 'All Steel Frame' bicycle). Mine was a 24" wheel job, which Mum and Dad had purchased second-hand the day before. It was a proud machine painted in black, picked out with a red line and had chrome plated handle bars and a shiny bell, which completed my 'pride and joy'! I found it in the back garden with the paint work scratched, saddle missing and wheels buckled, but with the bell intact and still working".

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## **From the Rector of Filby – Reverend Graham Steel.**

It was good to be able to welcome members from across the world to the International Filby Association meeting in July, 2013.

As you know from previous contributions to the Filby Association Chronicles, we have been planning and refining a re-ordering of the church to make it more "user-friendly" for the 21st Century. Those who came last July will not have seen much change in Filby Church itself yet, but it does now boast a new car park to replace the car parking lost by the sale of the Church Hall, which is now complete.

The church will eventually have modern accessible toilets, proper kitchen facilities as well as a more flexible space to cater for groups and events within the main church building.

Our vision is that Filby Church will remain as relevant and central to the local community as it has been in earlier times.

Our proposals have received "in principle" approval by the Diocesan Advisory Committee for the Care of Churches and our Architect is drawing up detailed plans. But all these things take much longer than we would like (and of course, there is the issue of fund-raising – we do appreciate the generosity of members of the Filby Association in the support they have given).

In the meantime, Filby Church continues to serve the community, being there for everyone at times of joy and celebration – baptisms, weddings, anniversaries – and to provide support and comfort at times of bereavement.

We offer worship most Sundays and at special celebrations like our "Stars & Candles" Christmas Festival, as well as social events like concerts. We also pray for the community weekly at a short service of Morning Prayer, and church members contribute to the events and activities we arrange across the whole Benefice.

Every blessing for 2014.

**A couple of Wills transcribed to the best of my ability from old English text! They may be your ancestors—if so, please let me know!**

*by Marion Filby*

### **Will No. 58 of Robart Phylbie dated 1573**

In the name of God Amen the twenty second day of May in the year of our lord god one thousand five hundred and seventy three I Robart Phylbie of Postcombe Lewknor being of perfect mind and good and powerful remembrance laude and praise be to god doo make and ordaine this my last will and testament continuing therein my last will in manner and forme following That is to say first I commend my soul unto Almighty God my maker and redeemer By ..... and .....my body to be buried in the church yarde of Aston Rowant Item I give and bequeath to John my eldest sonne half ..... bequeath to John my sonne ..... Item I bequeath to Robart my sonne ..... a bullock of two ..... also ..... and 13s 4d in money Item I bequeath to Thomas my sonne ..... I bequeath to my sonne John one bullock and ..... In monie Item I bequeath to Jane my daughter ..... And also I bequeath to my daughter Jane a roll and ..... platters and pair of ..... beeles and shillings in monie ..... I bequeath to my wife Annes ..... I do make my ..... be fulfilled and to my last . ...

### **Will No. 56 John Filbee (Phylbie) dated 1577**

In the name of god Amen I John Filbee of Postcombe in the County of Oxon husbandman being sickle of Body but of sound and perfect mind praise be to God doe make and ordaine this my last will and testament this 22n daye of Febrero in the yeare of the Lord god 1577 in manner and form following Firstly I bequeath my soule into the hands of the Almighty god and to the right owner thereof only begotten sonne Jesus Christ to redeem and all with his the most precious blood ..... before pa.... I fully and steadfastly believe to be .....

Secondly my bodie to be buried in the parish churchyard of Lewknor ..... First I Bequeath unto my sonne Hugh Filbee .....sheep .... all that belongeth ... unto the best ..... my will is that he shall ... for the .....Lands of the best he .... I bequeath unto the Hugh Filbee my son the best .... and my great .... Item I bequeath unto Christopher ..... sheep Item I unto Amos .... one sheep I bequeath unto William Filbee my nephew one pair or sheep Item I bequeath unto my brother Thomas Filbee three sheep Item I Bequeath unto ..... one sheep All the rest of goods unbequeathed I give unto my wyffe Amesa Filbee and Hugh Filbee my sonne whom I make my overseers of this my last will and testament payment ... ..... The ..... of my will I make William Brook and Walter ..... and in the parish or Lewknor and Postcombe George ..... and Thomas ..... Executors. - John Filbee

## William Filby - A Catholic Martyr

by Jean-Jacques Filby (Researcher and European Pages Editor)

### Brief historical background:

Elizabeth became Queen on 17<sup>th</sup> November, 1558, upon the death of her sister, Mary. Although Elizabeth had proclaimed to be a Catholic, she took off her mask and despite great opposition, convinced the House of Commons with a plurality of only six votes and brought a total change of the religion to the kingdom. The Catholic clergy of course could not be made to acknowledge the Queen's church headship; the latter were deprived of their livings and were either cast into prison or banished.

One of Elizabeth's tactics was to have her new church supplied with clergy that were ignorant and illiterate, whose knowledge went no further than the liturgy or book of homilies. As Catholics were excluded from the universities and from all means through which they could qualify themselves through learning, the nation would in time become quite destitute of priests, with old priests dying off and no new young ones to take their place.

Divine wisdom however, intervened: Dr. William Allen (who later became a cardinal), was inspired to create seminaries abroad for the training of English scholars who in proper time would become priests, and return to their native England to serve Christ and the Catholics there. The first of these seminaries was created in 1568 on the continent, a short distance inland from the English Channel, in Douay (modern day spelling Douai), by the authority of Pope Saint Pius V. Now part of France, the heavily fortified city of Douay was part of the Spanish Empire at the time the English College was founded there. Not only was it England's first, and the parent of all the future institutions of its kind, it is also believed to be the first in the entire Christian world. This seminary, or college, would over time produce a cardinal, an archbishop, twelve bishops, two bishops elect, three archpriests with Episcopal faculties, eighty doctors of divinity and seventy writers. More gloriously, it produced over one hundred and fifty martyrs. It is also well known for the Douay-Rheims Bible (an excellent history of this can be had by pointing your browser to [www.douaybible.com](http://www.douaybible.com)).



With this success, Pope Gregory XIII, Pius V's successor, endowed Douay with a yearly pension, and founded another seminary in Rome in the ancient

hospital of the English nation. In 1578, the tension in the Low Countries obliged the Douay seminary, after having sent fifty-two priests into the mission, to remove to Rhemes (modern spelling Reims) in France, where it would send another twelve priests into the mission that same year, and twenty more in 1579.

### **William Filby**

William Filby (sometimes spelled Filbe or Filbie) was born in Oxfordshire between 1557 and 1560. He was educated at Lincoln College, Oxford, but as he did not like the established religion, he gave up the university and went to the English College of Douay. He was admitted to the seminary in Rheims on 12<sup>th</sup> October, 1579, and was ordained a priest in Reims on 25<sup>th</sup> March, 1581, at the Church of Saint Mary by the Bishop of Châlons sur Marne and shortly after left for the mission in England.

He was apprehended at Henley, while incautiously attempting to speak to Father Edmund Campion, who was being conducted to London with other prisoners. He was arrested in July, 1581, committed to the Tower on 22<sup>nd</sup> July, 1581. On 14<sup>th</sup> August he was removed to Marshalsea and then back to the Tower. Along with three other priests (Luke Kirby, Laurence Richardson (whose right name was Johnson) and Thomas Cottam), he was arraigned and condemned on 20<sup>th</sup> November, 1581.

He was sentenced on 17<sup>th</sup> November, 1581, and from that date until death he was loaded with manacles and was also deprived of his bedding for two months. On Wednesday, 30<sup>th</sup> May, 1582, not above the age of 27, William was hung. William Filby was beatified by a decree of Pope Leo XIII, dated 29<sup>th</sup> December, 1886.

### **Cardinal Allen's account of William Filby**

In his book "A briefe Historie of the Glorious Martyrdom of XII Reverend Priests, executed within these twelvemonethes for confession and defence of the Catholike faith", Rheims, 1582, Cardinal Allen provides an account concerning William Filby, drawn from the Douay diary, and from a printed account of William's death by an eye-witness, in 1582. The English government was very concerned with Allen's publication of the dying words of Fr. Filby, as Protestants thought foreign-trained priests especially untrustworthy because they had been instructed to use any means, including slippery logic and dissimulation, to advance the Catholic cause:

"He was born in Oxford, and there educated in Lincoln college; but not liking the established religion, he forsook that university, and went over to Douay or Rhemes ; where, continuing his studies in the English college, he was made priest in 1581; and returning soon after to England upon the mission, and happening to go to the house of Mr. Yates, of Lyford, at the same time as father Campion and his companions were there apprehended, he was also made a prisoner and conducted to London with them. My author

relates, that in their way to London, lodging at Henley, Mr. Filby, had in his sleep a significant dream, or vision, of the ripping up of his body, and taking out of his bowels; the terror whereof caused him to cry so loud, that the whole house was raised thereby; which afterwards was accomplished in his own, father Campion's and others, his companions, martyrdom.

He was committed to the Tower with the rest, on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of July; arraigned and condemned the following November, upon the testimony of witnesses that had never seen him in their lives before his imprisonment; and whereas he showed a more than ordinary cheerfulness and constancy upon this occasion, he was ordered to be pinioned with iron manacles, which he endured from the time that he received sentence, November 20<sup>th</sup> till the 30<sup>th</sup> of May, when he was executed. On which day, being Wednesday, he was drawn with his three companions from the Tower of London along the streets to Tyburn, about seven of the clock in the morning.

When they were come to the place of execution, Mr. Filby being the youngest, (not above twenty-seven years of age), was first taken from the hurdle; and being lifted into the cart, he blessed himself with the sign of the cross, saying, *in nomine Patris*, &c., and then said, let me see my brethren, looking to the others that lay on the hurdle; and therewithal holding forth his hands to them, he said, Pray for me. Then, speaking to the company, he said, I am a catholic, and I protest before almighty God, that I am innocent of all these matters whereof I am condemned; and I hope to be saved by the merits and death of our Saviour Jesus Christ, beseeching him to have mercy on me, and forgive me mine offences; and therewithal a proclamation was read for keeping the peace, and at the end thereof was said, God save the Queen; to which he said, amen.

The people asking him for what Queen he prayed, he answered, for Queen Elizabeth, beseeching God to send her a long and quiet reign, to his good-will, and make her his servant, and preserve her from her enemies. With that Mr. Topcliff and others willed him to say, God save her from the Pope. To whom he answered, He is not her enemy. After that, one of the sheriff's men, standing in the cart with Mr. Filby, said to him, what hast thou there in thy handkerchief? and therewithal taking the handkerchief from him, found a little cross of wood within it, which he, holding up in his hands, said, O! what a villainous traitor is this that hath a cross, divers times repeating it; and some of the people saying the same. Whereunto Mr. Filby answered nothing, only smiling at them. He was no more ashamed, says my author in the margin, of this his Saviour's banner, than of his crown, which he made shift to shave.

Then the articles, with the preface of the book printed by authority, were read, and his answers to them. To the sixth article, he answered, that if he had been in Ireland, he would have done as a priest should have done; that is, to pray that the right might take place. Some, upon this, asked him,

did Saunders do well in that business of Ireland? I know not, said he, I was not privy to his doings; I never saw or spoke with him; let him answer for himself.

Then sheriff Martin called upon the hangman to despatch; and the rope being about his neck, the sheriff said, Filby, the Queen is merciful unto you, and we have authority from her to carry you back, if you will ask her mercy, and confess your fault; don't refuse mercy offered; ask the Queen forgiveness. To whom Mr. Filby answered, I never offended her. Well, then, said the sheriff, make an end; and thus, desiring all Catholics to pray for him, he prayed, saying his *pater*, and *ave*, and *in manus tuas*, &c., and when the cart was drawing away, he said, Lord, receive my soul; and so hanged, knocking his breast several times, till some pulled down his hands, and so he finished his mortal life."

After the hanging, William Filby's companions in the cart, Luke Kirby, Laurence Richardson and Thomas Cottam, also about to become martyrs in turn, were first forced to watch William beheaded and drawn and quartered.



## Dead Poets Corner

My friend, here am I  
 Death has at last prevailed,  
 And for once all my projects are baffled.  
 'Tis a blessing to know,  
 once a man's nailed  
 he no longer fears the scaffold.  
 My life was cut short by a shot through the  
 head  
 On His Majesty's highway at Dalston;  
 So now 'Number One's numbered as one of the  
 dead.  
 All's one if he's Alton or All-stone.

**Grave of Edward Alston the notorious Essex  
 Highwayman 1720 - 1760**

## Dead Poets Corner

In memory of John Kirton  
 Who died on July 7th 1855 aged  
 72 years  
 The graves around,  
 for many a year  
 Were dug by him who slumbers  
 here.

**Graveyard at Long Bennington  
 Lincolnshire**

## Are you researching your family?

The British Association for Cemeteries in South Asia (BACSA) may be of help. Many Europeans, including soldiers, civil servants, administrators, railwaymen, and businessmen, spent much of their lives in countries in the region such as India, Thailand and Singapore, and this is where they were buried. Along with wives and children they were laid to rest in cemeteries dotted all over the region, but sadly, over time, the majority have become neglected and the monuments have fallen into disrepair.

The BCASA works to maintain and preserve the cemeteries and note down and photograph all monumental inscriptions. A huge collection of their material can be consulted at the Oriental and India Office Collections of the British Library. BCASA also publishes a journal, *Chowkidar*, bi-annually where queries can be aired and answered by readers. More information on the organisation can be found at:

<http://members.ozemail.com.au/~clday/bacsa.htm>.

## South Africa?

As in the past I am happy to try to do any research from/about the South African Filby families, if and when needed. I can be contacted at my email address [Sa\\_wi@yahoo.com](mailto:Sa_wi@yahoo.com) or those who need help can call me at + 027 (0) 44 - 2791515.

**Regards, William and Sara Gould**

## Did You Know that.....?

..... Around 1000 women were hanged for being witches in England? Undoubtedly, many of those convicted were suffering from mental illness or were the victims of malicious local gossip. A statute passed in 1563 made witchcraft a felony, punishable by death, so the ecclesiastical courts could no longer try those accused. Instead, the assize courts tried them under the common law. Those convicted would also forfeit their lands and goods to the Crown. 'Pricking' to find the devil's mark and the use of children as accusers characterised the trials. In England, hanging was the usual punishment but in Scotland, and on the Continent, (where there were many more convictions), witches were burnt. The first known woman to be hanged in England was Agnes Waterhouse who was hanged at Chelmsford in 1566, the last, Alice Molland who was hanged at Exeter in 1684. Jane Wenham of Walkern, Essex was also found guilty of witchcraft in 1612 but was reprieved. It is no coincidence that persecution was strongest at times of religious and social turmoil. Most assize records are held by The National Archives but historians have documented many of the trials and reference to them can be found on the Internet and in printed sources.

## **DESCENDANTS OF WILLIAM FFLIBE, SON OF JOHN FFLIBEE OF HONINGHAM** *by John D Filby, Association Researcher*

Articles in the 2009 to 2011 editions of *The Chronicle* covered the lives and descendants of MILES, EDWARD and JOHN FFLIBY, sons of JOHN and ELIZABETH Fflilby of Honingham, Norfolk. This article focuses on their son WILLIAM and his descendants.

As noted in the earlier articles the Honingham Parish Register covering the period of the baptism's of the children of JOHN and ELIZABETH are missing and only that of EDWARD in March, 1662/3 remains. The fact that WILLIAM was the son of JOHN and ELIZABETH therefore depends, as described in the earlier articles, on JOHN's Will of March, 1691, and the 1709 Will of WILLIAM's brother, JOHN of Sparham.

WILLIAM FILBY married three times, first to MARY GABING, 6 October, 1674, at Honingham, and when she died in October, 1686, to ELIZABETH MOSS or MORE on 1 March, 1687, at Honingham. His final marriage was to MARY HOWES of East Tuddenham at Little Ellingham around November, 1717. This last marriage has not been found in the Parish Register but is based on a Marriage Bond issued on 16 November, 1717, and signed by WILLIAM FILBY, Yeoman of Mattishall Burgh, and JOHN BULLARD of Morley St Botolph, who was WILLIAM's son in law by his marriage to ANN, WILLIAM and MARY GABING's youngest daughter.

WILLIAM and MARY had three other children, a son, JOHN, and two daughters, MARY, who married EDMUND BRIMSTONE in February, 1698, at East Tuddenham, and ELIZABETH, who married JOHN COOPER at Barnham Broom in 1705.

WILLIAM and ELIZABETH had nine children in the period September, 1688, to March, 1708, four sons and five daughters, of whom one son and one daughter died in infancy. It appears from the baptisms of their children that WILLIAM and ELIZABETH moved from Honingham to Mattishall Burgh in the early 1690s. There, WILLIAM became a leading member of the local church and as churchwarden he put "his mark" on the Bishop's Transcripts of 1705, 1713 and 1715. At the time of his death in October, 1724, three of his four daughters by this second marriage had married, the exception being his youngest daughter, BRIDGET, to whom he left £40, by far his largest bequest. To the majority of his other children, including his two married sons, JOHN and WILLIAM, he left 10 Shillings, and to his grandchildren, WILLIAM and EDMUND BRIMSTONE, 5 Shillings. His two youngest sons, MICHAEL and EDWARD, were not given specific bequests but received the residue of his estate divided equally between them. How much was involved is not known.

Although their marriages have not been found it is believed that both MICHAEL and EDWARD married. Six children with parents MILES and FRANCIS FILBY were baptized at Mattishall Burgh between October, 1729, and May, 1740. FRANCIS was buried on the same day as her last daughter was baptised, probably having died as a result of her birth. Following FRANCIS' death no confirmed record has been found of MILES although it is probable that he was the MILES FILBY from Yaxham who was buried at Mattishall Burgh in September, 1769. Unfortunately, he did not leave a Will. Based on the Administration Document referred to below it is believed that EDWARD of Elsing was the youngest son of WILLIAM and ELIZABETH. He left a Will when he died in 1783, naming his wife, MARY, son, THOMAS, and daughters,

SUSANNA, FRANCIS and SARAH. EDWARD, as a widower, had married MARY BROOKES, single, at Elsing in 1770 and the children were from his earlier marriage.

WILLIAM and ELIZABETH's eldest surviving son, WILLIAM, married MARY TUFFS at Mattishall Burgh in May, 1718, and they had eight children baptised there. After MARY's death in June, 1732, WILLIAM married ANN BOYS in October, 1734, at Welborne. No children have been found from this marriage and WILLIAM, who was now a farmer in Reymerston, died in October, 1768, without making a Will. ANN, his widow, handed the administration of his estate to his youngest brother, EDWARD of Elsing, as described in the 2011 Chronicle.

The baptism of WILLIAM and MARY's son, JOHN, has not been found but he is listed as JOHN of Thuxton in WILLIAM's Will written in 1723. JOHN married DOROTHY SEWELL at East Tuddenham on 2<sup>nd</sup> November, 1699, but unfortunately the following August DOROTHY died in childbirth and is buried with her son, CLARE, at Hockering. JOHN's second marriage was to ANN FULLER on 9 March, 1701, at East Tuddenham. They had five children, four sons RICHARD, JOHN, WILLIAM and FULLER and one daughter, MARY, who unfortunately died in 1716 at the age of 13.

JOHN and ANN's first son, RICHARD, was baptized at Thuxton in December, 1701, followed by JOHN in November, 1704, WILLIAM in May, 1709, and FULLER in January, 1712.

In 1715 JOHN was a church warden at Thuxton church and made "his mark" on the Archdeacon's Transcripts. At the time Thuxton was a small parish with only 33 persons over the age of 15 years. JOHN was buried at Thuxton on 15 November, 1766, and his gravestone is in the lower left hand corner of the adjacent photograph, close to the path leading to the North Porch. The name JOHN FILLBY, the year and his age are just about decipherable but the remainder of the inscription is largely unreadable. However a copy of the inscription was found on the "Familyhistoryonline" web site, which has been replaced by "findmypast.com". It reads:-



In Memory of  
 JOHN FILLBY  
 who departed this life  
 the 12<sup>th</sup> of Nov 1766  
 in the 87<sup>th</sup> year of his age.  
 Look think reflect repent  
 be assured there is nothing  
 so certain as death  
 and he the only happy man  
 who lives today  
 as if he should die tomorrow"

**(Photo—Graves at  
 Thuxton)**

From this it can be seen that JOHN must have been born between November, 1678, and 1679. The gravestone nearer to the porch is that of MARY, wife of JOHN FILBY, who died 1<sup>st</sup> April, 1776, age 72. The majority of the inscription is unreadable. The grave of MARY's husband, JOHN, who was buried at Thuxton in June, 1760, has not been located.

RICHARD, JOHN's eldest son, married HANNAH BLANCHFLOWER from Reymerston at the church of St Peter Parmentesgate, Norwich, on 1 August, 1725. HANNAH was the daughter of JOHN and SUSAN BLANCHFLOWER of Reymerston and was baptised at Reymerston Parish Church on 8 October, 1704. RICHARD and

HANNAH FILBY had a son, JOHN, presumably named after his grandfather, who was baptised at Reymerston on 12 January, 1726. Since this JOHN is not mentioned in his grandfather, JOHN of Thuxton's Will it is assumed that he died before September, 1760, although no record has been found of his burial. For a long time this was all that was known about RICHARD and his family, since unlike his brothers, he did not appear in any of the Thuxton, Reymerston, or Garveston Parish Papers.

JOHN, the son of JOHN of Thuxton, married MARY LOWELL at Garveston in March, 1729. The Reymerston Parish Papers held in the Norfolk Record Office record that by 1730 both JOHN, who was then 26, and his father were paying tithes on land in Thuxton. JOHN and MARY had a daughter, ANN, baptised at Thuxton in March, 1734. Sometime before 1760 JOHN and MARY moved to Attleborough since his Will, written on 24<sup>th</sup> May, 1760, records him as living there. Unfortunately, JOHN died in June, 1760, three months before his father wrote his Will in which refers to JOHN's recent death.

JOHN's third son, WILLIAM, died in 1728, well before his father wrote his Will in September, 1760, in which he appears to disown his eldest son, RICHARD, by making a bequest to him of "Twenty Shillings if he be living at my Decease and personally Demands the same of my Executor". Therefore most of JOHN's estate, including his "Messuages Lands Tenements and Hereditaments wheresoever situate lying in Garveston in the said county and elsewhere", were left to his youngest son, FULLER FILBY, who was appointed as his sole executor. What caused JOHN to treat RICHARD in this manner is not known but it could have been the fact that RICHARD and HANNAH went to Norwich to get married rather than at the Thuxton church where JOHN was a churchwarden. They also did not have their first child, JOHN baptised at Thuxton.

FULLER FILBY married RACHEL MITCHELL at Welborne in October, 1734, and they had a son, JOHN, who was baptised at Thuxton in April, 1738. JOHN received a bequest of £100 under his grandfather's Will. The Norfolk Poll Book for 1768 records FULLER as living in Hardingham where he farmed a freehold. FULLER died in January, 1777, and was buried at Garveston where it was recorded that he was from Hardingham. RACHEL FILBY, FULLER's wife, was buried at Garveston some 7 years after her husband and the entry in the Archdeacon's Transcripts noted that she was originally from Rockland St Peter. In his Will, written 31 May, 1771, and proven 28 February, 1777, FULLER left "All messuages, lands, tenements and hereditaments in Hardingham and Garveston to his son JOHN FILBY" subject to the payment of an annuity of £14 per year to RACHEL his beloved wife. JOHN had married MARY HOWARD at Whissonsett in November, 1767, and they had two daughters, MARY and RACHEL presumably named after their mother and grandmother respectively. It is believed that FULLER's son JOHN was the JOHN FILBY, farmer of Yaxham, who was buried at Garveston 8 August, 1799. The Will of JOHN of Yaxham, written 18 December, 1794, and proven 10 August, 1799, refers to his daughters MARY and RACHEL, his wife MARY had died in 1794 before the Will was written. In his Will JOHN left his lands in Yaxham to his two daughters to hold as tenants in common, his properties in Mattishall he left to MARY and those in Hardingham and Garveston to RACHEL.

Since JOHN of Attleborough, WILLIAM and JOHN, son of FULLER, had no sons the FILBY FAMILY line from JOHN of Thuxton depends entirely upon RICHARD having further surviving sons. JOHN of Thuxton's Will indicated that this was likely since amongst his bequests was one to "RICHARD, my grandson, and son of my son RICHARD". The family of RICHARD and HANNAH FILBY were eventually located in

the village of Wendling, Norfolk, where the Parish Register recorded the baptism of RICHARD FILBY son of RICHARD and HANNAH on 9 February, 1728. It also recorded for the same parents the baptisms of WILLIAM in April, 1730, and MARY in May, 1731. JOHN of Thuxton's Will of 1760 does not refer to his grandson WILLIAM, who therefore may have died, but there is a bequest of £10 to his granddaughter MARY, the wife of JAMES WILSON. The burials of RICHARD and HANNAH have not been found although a possible HANNAH FILBY, widow, was buried at nearby Beeston by Mileham in August, 1768, but this Hannah may be connected to another FILBY family that lived in the area.

RICHARD FILBY, now from Reymerston, married SARAH BROOKE of Garveston at Garveston Parish Church on 6 July, 1759. Although there is no conclusive proof that this RICHARD is JOHN of Thuxton's grandson no alternative has been located. Also, although RICHARD was only an agricultural labourer, he was well enough educated to be able to write his full name in the register suggesting that he had had wealthy support. RICHARD and SARAH's first child, JOHN, was baptized at East Dereham where his mother was baptized. Nothing further has been found concerning JOHN. MARY, their second child, was baptized at Mattishall but died as an infant and is buried at Garveston where three further children, MARY ANN, RICHARD and ANN were baptized. Finally, according to the Archdeacon's Transcripts, a daughter SARAH, whose baptism has not been found, was buried at Thuxton in February, 1783. RICHARD's wife, SARAH, was buried at Garveston in October, 1797, while RICHARD followed just over a year later in December, 1798.

Once again the ancestral line is dependent on a single channel through the above son RICHARD. The banns for the wedding of RICHARD FILBY, of Garveston, and MARY ANN SOFTLEY, of Whinburgh were read at Garveston and Whinburgh March/April, 1800, but no record of the marriage has been found. Their first child, RACHEL, was baptised at Garveston approximately 5 months before the banns were read, the entry in the Parish Register gives MARY's maiden name. They had one more child, WILLIAM, baptised at Garveston before switching to Reymerston where six further children, GEORGE, EDWARD, JAMES, JEREMIAH, SARAH and ANN, were baptized. In the 1841 Census RICHARD's occupation is given as an agricultural labourer. According to his Death Certificate he died, aged 82, of "Old Age" at Reymerston on 25 January, 1847. He was buried there on the 28<sup>th</sup> January. At the time of the 1851 Census MARY ANN FILBY was living alone at Reymerston and was described as a pauper who had been born in East Dereham. She outlived her husband by 10 years, dying of "Bronchitis" at Garveston, where she was buried, on 19 October, 1857, age 78. Her death was reported by her son JEREMIAH, see article in 2011 Chronicle, with whom she was probably living.

To conclude this article I shall limit it my own ancestral line. EDWARD FILBY, RICHARD and MARY ANN's son, married BRIDGET SMITH on 16 April, 1830, at Reymerston. Between July, 1830, and July, 1850, they had a total of 10 children amongst them WILLIAM, my great grandfather. There is a gravestone in the Reymerston churchyard commemorating EDWARD and LYDIA BRIDGET FILBY also their son THOMAS, the latter name being at the bottom and almost hidden by the ground and grass. LYDIA BRIDGET died at Reymerston in December, 1886, age 79, her Death Certificate giving her name as BIDDY FILBY. In the 1851 and 1861 census she gave her place of birth as Brandon Parva. Although the Parish Register for Brandon Parva records the baptism of some SMITH children around the appropriate time, ~1807, there is no record of either a LYDIA or BRIDGET SMITH. The 1841, 1851

and 1861 census' record EDWARD and LYDIA as resident in Reymerston with EDWARD'S occupation as an agricultural labourer. By the time of the 1871 census they had moved to Black Horse Road, Garveston., the village where EDWARD's brother, JEREMIAH, lived. By the 1891 census LYDIA was dead and EDWARD, age 84, was listed as a pauper. A few months later on 20 January, 1892, EDWARD died of "Senile Decay" at Hingham, age 86. His death was reported by his son-in-law, C. Holly, who was probably the husband of EDWARD's daughter SARAH.



(Photo - Edward and Bridget's Gravestone.)

Who caused the gravestone to be erected and when is a mystery. THOMAS died 25 years before his parents and yet appears at the bottom of the stone. EDWARD died a pauper and is unlikely to have paid for the stone. It may have been SARAH's family since that is where EDWARD died or, more likely, JEREMIAH, EDWARD's brother, who from the census records appears to have run, if not owned the Garveston village shop, and left a Will for £41 when he died 10 December, 1893.

My great grandfather, WILLIAM, married HARRIET WEBSDALE at Hardingham in July, 1860. They had 16 children 8 sons and 8 daughters. According to the 1861 to 91 Census WILLIAM was an agricultural labourer and it is believed that he worked for Squire Edwards of Hardingham Hall. When he died at the age of 78, his Death Certificate gave his occupation as farm bailiff. His eldest son, WILLIAM, my grandfather, worked as an agricultural labourer in his teens but left in March 1880 to enlist into the 31<sup>st</sup> Battalion of Infantry. But that is another story!

### Did You Know that.....?

Although you won't find him amongst the hereditary peerage, the Duke of Shoreditch was a real person?

In the sixteenth century, Mile End was still a mere waste of fields, dotted with windmills and much frequented by archers, for practising at roving marks. King Henry VIII was a competent and enthusiastic archer who used to go to Mile End to see the London archers at their sports.

In the 29th year of his reign Henry granted London's archers a charter of incorporation, by the name of the Fraternity of St George, this being celebrated with an archery competition at Windsor. He conferred on an archer from Shoreditch named Barlow, who had out-shot all comers at the competition, the jocular title of Duke of Shoreditch. This was retained by the captain of London's archers for a considerable time afterwards.

In 1583, during the reign of Queen Elizabeth 1, the captain of the archers assumed his title of Duke of Shoreditch and called together his companions who adopted such titles as the Marquises of Hoxton, Clerkenwell and Islington, the Earl of Pancras, and so forth, who all arrived with their own companies of archers. A total of some three thousand archers, sumptuously appareled, every man carrying a long-bow and four arrows, were attended by four thousand billmen as well as pages and footmen; they met at Merchant Taylors Hall, from whence they marched to Smithfield, to shoot at targets for honour.

## Treasurer's Report : 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2012 to 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2013.

I have pleasure in presenting the Treasurer's Report for the year 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2012, to 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2013. On the next page you will find a summary of our Income and Expenditure over the year, a few explanatory notes are shown below:

- 1) You will notice that our officer's expenses came to £947.68, a little higher than last year, the increase is lower than inflation; to counteract this expense our officers donated £975.00.
- 2) The Gift Aid of £373.30 that we received from HMRC was for last year's donations. I will be claiming £376.35 on this year's donations.
- 3) The research cost was for two YDNA tests for two volunteers: both volunteers donated towards their tests. We thank both of them.
- 4) The PayPal account was set up to enable us to open an online shop on our website [www.filby.org](http://www.filby.org) donations can also be made to the Association via this account using your credit card, **click on 'donate' and follow the instructions.** This shop now has a shopping trolley which means that you can buy more than one article at a time.
- 5) The interest on the Premium Account is abysmal at the moment at 0.01% so I have not transferred any excess money into that account; it therefore stays the same this year.

This will be my last report as your Treasurer because Alan Filby (Mary's son) will be taking over as our Treasurer from October, 2013.

We are, as you are no doubt aware, heavily reliant on donations from members to keep us viable, below is a list of our approximate yearly outgoings before we even think about any other business:

|                              |                                          |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| Subscriptions (GOONS & FFHS) | £135.00                                  |
| Chronicle (inc. postage)     | £315.00                                  |
| In Touch (inc. postage)      | £135.00 (this year the cost was £300.65) |
| Website                      | £ 65.00                                  |
|                              | <b>Total: £650.00</b>                    |

Included in the Subscription to FFHS is Indemnity Insurance for our hard working officers. The higher cost of the In Touch was due to the extra photos taken at the Meet and Greet Diner held on the Saturday evening prior to our reunion on the Sunday, (2013 13 pages – previous years averages 5/6 pages), and of course all the photos were printed in colour.

Of course we do need further money to finance our shop and our research, in addition one of the reasons we can claim Gift Aid is because we regularly (at our International Reunions) make a donation to All Saints Church in Filby village in accordance with our Constitution. So please keep sending donations or make a purchase from our online shop, everything helps. (For those of you who do not have internet access details of items for sale are on the order form that comes with the Chronicle and can be ordered by post).

I would like to thank all those listed below who have donated to the Association during this accounting year: 1st October, 2012, to 30th September, 2013.

204 Julie Harper; Nebraska, USA  
 053 Sheila Filby; Horley, Surrey.  
 021 Mary Edwards; Hawkley, Hampshire.  
 140 Carolyn Tunstall; Sutton in Ashfield, Notts.  
 027 Ron & Kath Filby; Doncaster, Yorkshire.  
 023 Elinor Tolfree; Shaftesbury, Dorset.  
 040 Kathleen Boast; Diss Norfolk.  
 120 Brian Filby; Pinner, Middlesex.  
 223 Barbara Hayward; Hadley Wood, Herts.  
 025 Caroline & Alan Dinsdale; Staines, Middlesex.  
 C02 Jim Filby; Blidworth, Nottinghamshire.  
 101 Dr Ray & Sue Filby; Warwick, Warwickshire.  
 188 Patrick King; Holbeach, Lincolnshire  
 034 Melvyn Filby; Hornchurch, Essex.  
 C05 Alan & Marion Filby; York, Yorkshire.  
 036 Steven R Filby; Waltham Cross, Hertfordshire.  
 033 Robert Filby; Cheshunt, Hertfordshire.  
 011 Henry & Molly Kuttner; Edgware, Middlesex.  
 019 John D Filby; Croydon, Surrey.  
 141 Darryl Philbey; Queensland, Australia.  
 089 Susie Maluish; Western Australia  
 152 Lesley Lahey & Joy Hill; Queensland, Australia.  
 106 Marilyn & Ian Philbey; Western Australia.  
 128 Bob & Joyce Filby; Thames Ditton, Surrey.  
 267 Alan Hague; Harlow, Essex.

We also had two members donate at our reunion who did not leave their names, I thank them also. I apologise if any names have been left off the above list in error.

**Jim Filby (Treasurer)      jim@filby.org**

## **IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO MAKE ANY FUTURE DONATIONS:**

**By Post: To Alan Filby (Treasurer)**

**10 Richmond Avenue, Littleover, Derby. DE23 1DL, England.**

**Via Web Site at: [www.filby.org](http://www.filby.org) and click on 'DONATION' button.**

**Bank Transfer: Barclays—Sort Code: 20-24-64**

**Account Name; The Filby Association.      Account No. 93616762**

**Contact email for our new treasurer is .....      [alanf@filby.org](mailto:alanf@filby.org)**



## **BOB FILBY'S 90th BIRTHDAY—** *by Alan and Caroline Dinsdale*

Saturday, 23rd November, 2013, saw an important gathering of part of the Filby clan to celebrate Bob Filby's 90th birthday. As many will know, Bob has had a long, varied and very distinguished life stretching through his time in the army in the second world war (hailed recently as the liberator of Bayeux), to his time working for Gordon's Gin culminating in his role as Chairman, and more recently as Worshipful Master of his Masonic Lodge (for the second time).



About 80 of us, including members of his family, neighbours, ex colleagues from work and lifelong friends, gathered together in a marquee in his elder son Nigel's garden in Thames Ditton to celebrate the event. Drink flowed freely, as might be expected, especially the 'Filby' cocktail. Nigel treated us to a potted history of Bob's life accompanied by a selection of revealing photographs. Bob followed this up in his usual inimitable style by putting this all down to luck, but those of us who know him realise that it is due to his hard work, his bravery, his total commitment to everything he does, his gregarious personality and, of course, the love of all who know him. He is a very special man and we wish him a very Happy 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday! **(PHOTOS ON BACK COVER)**

### **BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT:**

**James David Willmott** was born 11th September, 2013.

Son of Michelle and Andrew Willmott, who through marriage descend from Emily Louise Filby on Tree T05.

### **DEATH NOTICE:**

**Raymond "Tinker" Taylor, who** passed away 12th May, 2013, aged 84, much loved father of Patricia Patterson.

Descendant of Edward Filby, 1767, on Tree T06.

### **MARRIAGE CONGRATULATIONS:**

**David Filby & Vickie McDonald**

were married on 2nd April, 2013, in Barbados.

Vickie's son, Jack, aged 11, was Best Man.

**(photo on back cover)** (Family Tree T21)

## In Memory of Joy Ann Battell

*by her family. (Tree T01)*

**13th Dec.1924 – 2nd Oct. 2013**



Joy Ann Battell was born on the 13<sup>th</sup> December, 1924, in Cambridge, to parents Margery (nee Filby) and Cyril Willers. With her curly red hair, Joy enjoyed a happy childhood with her two younger sisters, Irene and Rita. When she was 11 the family moved to Enfield so that her father could work as an Engine Driver out of King's Cross where he drove the Flying Scotsman. Winning a scholarship to the County School in Enfield, she excelled in all subjects and particularly enjoyed Art. As war broke out, she found herself revising for some of her examinations in an air-raid shelter. At 18, Joy began working at the aircraft factory which built wings and tails for the Handley-Page Halifax.

It was while working as Dr Bryant's Secretary in Standard Telecommunications that she met a young scientist: William Battell, known as Bill. They were both involved in the firm's sports tournaments and, as the story goes, it was at a tennis tournament which Joy arranged that the match was made. Joy would later write in a letter that 'he was, he is, my life'.

Another shared passion was dancing: indeed, Joy and Bill would always be the first on the dance floor. Following their courtship, Joy and Bill were engaged and married two months later on the 10<sup>th</sup> July, 1948, in St Andrews Church in Enfield. Just three weeks after, the newlyweds found themselves on their way to Montreal on the Empress of Canada, Joy dancing her way across the Atlantic in a new lilac taffeta dress she had bought prior to their voyage.

From Montreal they travelled by train to Deep River, Ontario, a small community built around the Nuclear Research Station at Chalk River. Their time spent in Deep River was to hold a special place in Joy's heart throughout her life.

In 1951 their first child, Melanie, was born and in 1952 the family moved to Montreal in order for Bill to start a new job with Marconi Electronics. In 1954 their second child, William, arrived and the young family made the voyage back to England two years later, living in Enfield with Joy's parents at first and then moving to their new house in Beacon Way, Rickmansworth. In 1957 their third child, Coralie, was born, the youngest of, in Joy's words, her 'beloved children'.

As they were growing up, Joy was a member of St Peter's Church in Mill End and the Townswomen's Guild. She was involved in many of the activities and groups including arts and crafts, music and drama, rambling and was remembered by her friends for her great commitment and enthusiasm. As a very special lady she will always be remembered for her

lovely smile, distinctive voice and always a cheerful greeting for all.

Just last year, after more than 50 years of membership, Joy was asked to deliver a talk to the Guild about just some of her extensive collection of patchwork, tapestry and needlepoint. She was a perfectionist with all that she made and her creativity and artistic talents shone through in the colours and designs she so loved to spend her time putting together. She inspired so many of her friends and family and we are very lucky to be able to have so many examples of her work to treasure.

In 1980 Bill sadly died and, although she was devastated at the loss of her beloved husband, Joy continued to live in Rickmansworth and found great joy in her grandchildren both in Canada and England. She cherished her time with each and every one of her children and grandchildren and was especially close to her daughter Coralie, with whom she shared many interests and particularly loved to spend time with at quilt shows and patchwork groups. Her children and grandchildren were her life and, as our dear Nan, Joy has been at the centre of the family, happily involved in every aspect of our lives. From babies through to adults, Nan has been there, lovingly looking after all of us grandchildren with her generosity, fairness and patience; as we have grown up there are fond memories of birthday parties, picnics by the river, sports days, camping holidays, trips to Canada, visits to the seaside, school trips and family gatherings at Easter and Christmas time, with rooms filled with food, fun and laughter.

Nan loved to learn and had an analytical and inquisitive mind, as well as an amazing memory and mathematical ability. She belonged to the University of the Third Age, particularly enjoying the engineering and heritage subgroup. Having been a Girl Guide in her youth, she continued to enjoy the company of other guiding enthusiasts through her membership of the Trefoil Guild. She supported and encouraged us all in our learning and development and shared in our achievements in life, particularly enjoying all the graduations. Each and every special event brought her a special memory which she carried in her heart, especially the weddings she attended and knew were coming ahead, which filled her with happiness for all of us and our loves.

Like her name, our Nan was always full of Joy and, in her own words written in a letter she asks us not to sorrow at her passing, but to rejoice with her as she is now with her beloved husband forever, and that she will always be near wherever we are. A part of her will live on through each of the members of her family and Joy was so very happy to know that a new life was beginning with her great-grandson on the way.

Permission has been given by individuals to publish all articles used. Whilst every precaution has been taken to ensure accuracy of contents of this Chronicle during compilation, we apologise for any unintentional offence caused. Genealogy is not a precise art depending on old records etc., some of which are almost illegible. Members have given information to the Association over the years some of which still has to be verified by our team of researchers. Mistakes will be rectified should you bring them to our attention. We thank you for your understanding.

## In Memoriam - Mary Frances Filby (nee McFarland)



Mary Filby, wife of Nevin Boswell Filby (d 2009) died on 7<sup>th</sup> July, 2013, aged 95 years, in Melbourne, Victoria, Australia. She is survived by her four children, Suzanne Filby, Peter Filby, Jillian Yates, and Michael Filby.

Mary was born on 1<sup>st</sup> July, 1918, in Grafton, northern NSW, to Leslie and Ruby McFarland. Within 10 months of her birth her mother died of pneumonic flu which was raging after World War I. Mary spent the next 6 years being lovingly raised by her grandmother, Frances McFarland, on the family wheat and sheep farm, Waterview, in Wagga Wagga, central NSW.

Mary's independence, self-reliance and positive disposition were initiated and developed in these early years at Waterview where she had a happy upbringing, being spoilt rotten by her numerous aunts and uncles.

Her father, Leslie ran a successful piano selling business. He remarried and Mary went to live with her father and her new mother, Ella, in Lismore, and then in Sydney. Mary was not told who this new person in her life was, and it was not till she was about 16 that she finally asked her parents to clarify the issue.

Mary was always a good swimmer despite never having had lessons, and on trips back to the farm or to Wagga, she would confidently swim across the wide Murrumbidgee River and play all day with her friends, then swim back again in the evening. Later, she was a school prefect and sports captain, successfully representing her school in swimming competitions. She did well academically and a swimming injury to her back in her final school year stimulated her to pursue a physiotherapy course at university. While she was waiting for the course to begin she completed a secretarial course where she met and became good friends with Bessie Filby.

Bessie invited her to her family home at Grenfell, NSW, one Easter, and there Mary met Bessie's brother, Nevin. Nevin completed training to become an accountant in Grenfell and moved to Sydney for his first job. Mary and Nevin courted for the next couple of years in Sydney.

World War II began, Nevin went off to the war and Mary graduated from physio in 1942. Her first job was servicing the Broken Hill Mine in a remote part of Australia where she was the one and only physio. She just got on and did the best she could with what she had – a testament to her self-reliance and positive attitude. She joined the army and the next three years were spent at hospitals around Sydney treating convalescing



soldiers. Nevin returned from the war and they were engaged in August 1945, VP Victory in the Pacific Day, and were married in September, 1945, in Sydney. She continued to work until she was discharged from the forces and then became a housewife.

The four children, Sue, Pete, Jill and Mike, were born over the next 5 years and the family moved from a flat in Sydney to a large house in Parramatta, and then to a citrus orchard on the outskirts of Sydney. Mary helped on the farm, driving the tractor etc., while Nevin continued to work in Parramatta and study at university. After 2 years on the farm the family moved to Papua New Guinea where Nevin had a job managing the Health Department. He moved first to PNG leaving Mary to sell the farm, store and ship furniture, sell the car and obtain tax clearances, and all with four kids in tow.

As Sue's high school years were approaching in PNG the decision was made to return to Australia as Mary and Nevin could not bring themselves to leave the children behind in boarding schools in Australia. Mary left PNG ahead of Nevin and settled back into Chatswood on the North Shore of Sydney.

She did some private physio locums, but after 4 years the family moved to Melbourne where Nevin was offered a job. They bought a large solid brick house in East Malvern and this was the family home for the last 50 years until Mary moved into a nursing home nearby for the last year of her life.

The family thrived at school and then at university, and finally all four children were married and had children of their own, who have been cared for in the same way that Mary cared for her own children, with great love and respect.

Mary was a wonderful mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, mother-in-law and friend throughout her life. She was a magnificent cook and seamstress, making many clothes, evening gowns and even a wedding dress. She was a confidant and a wise counsellor to her family and friends. Over a hundred friends and family attended her funeral in Melbourne, some travelling from interstate to attend and pay their respects. She is sorely missed.

**From her daughter, Jill Yates.**

(The family is on Tree T02)

## **BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE**

The Book of Remembrance is resting on a reading table with chair in All Saints Church, Filby. If you would like an entry to remember your loved ones please send to Jim Filby, our Manager.

1/4 page £5, 1/2 page £10, 3/4 page £15, full page £20 – A4 size

You can name as many family members as you choose on the entry.



**David Filby & Vickie McDonald  
were married on 2nd April, 2013,  
in Barbados.**

**David's parents, Robert & Doreen  
Filby attended, and Vickie's son,  
Jack, aged 11, was Best Man.**

**Bob Filby celebrating his  
90th birthday with friends  
and family on 23rd  
November, 2013.**



**This magnificent cake was to share with all  
guests who attended Bob's birthday  
celebration.**



**The bottle of champagne with the  
personalised gold label was Chateau Filby  
Est.1923 for Bob's 90th birthday from blends  
of the Judy and Susie grape variety.**

We hope you have enjoyed reading this edition of The Filby Association Chronicle. Please consider sending an article for our next publication to share your memories or research with other members, and if you need help with the writing, just ask.

If you do not wish to remain on our mailing list please advise us - either by writing to any Officer listed inside the front cover - or simply by clicking on "Reply" to this email and typing "Unsubscribe" in the Subject box. Thank you.