

Filby Association History of Development

1961

Ellsworth Lincoln Filby of Kansas started his family history research in the USA. He contacted people in the UK with the same surname.

1962

Mary Filby of Downham Market, Norfolk, England, began to assist him in his research in the UK and managed the Association until 2007.

1964/6

Ellsworth visited England to gather information from church records in Norfolk and Suffolk. He visited Filby folk found in telephone directories to further his research.

1968

The Home Coming on 22nd September in the Church Hall at Filby village attended by 250 people (all variants of Filby) that he had found and kept contact with through newsletters. A family service followed in All Saints Church.

The Filby Association founded "Saga" a Newsletter sent out yearly to members.

1969

The Filby Association expanded with Frederick N Filby as British Coordinator and Mary Filby as Secretary.

1970

Ellsworth went to Australia to find and meet more Filby's and Philbeys.

1971

The First Reunion - 4th July. These Reunions are to be held every 3 years in Filby village.

1975

The 2nd Reunion - Frederick N Filby bought the first copy of the International Genealogical Index (IGI) for the Society of Genealogists (SAG).

1976

Our Founder, Ellsworth L Filby died this year. His widow Marion became Hon. President of The Filby Association. A bench was erected on The Pound at Filby in remembrance of Ellsworth.

1978

The 3rd Reunion - Frederick N Filby helped establish the Guild of One Name Studies (GOONS) and the East of London Family History Society.

1982

The 4th Reunion - Frederick N Filby and P William Filby honoured with Fellowships by the Society of Genealogists for their respective genealogical activities, in the course of which both were introduced to the Queen.

1984

The 5th Reunion - Frederick N Filby answered over 2,300 letters in this year. He was also presented to the Queen following completion of the East of London Society's Monumental Inscriptions Project.

1988

The 6th Reunion.

1992

A Filby Sunday Service introduced in July with a modest attendance of Filbys.

1993

The 25th Anniversary and International Reunion - 4th July. US, Canadian, British and Swedish members attend.

1995

Frederick N Filby died just 8 days before his 80th birthday.

The Filby Sunday - 2nd July - Memorial Service for Frederick N Filby. In remembrance a bench was situated on The Pound at Filby.

1998

The Filby Sunday and 30th Anniversary - 5th July. A Flower Festival was held at Filby.

2001

The International Reunion - 1st July. Among the many who attended were Ellsworth L Filby's 3 grandchildren, and the Mayor of Great Yarmouth. Marion Filby became Chief Researcher.

2003

Marion Filby - replaces Molly Kuttner as Editor and developed the Chronicle as an A5 Booklet to be circulated each January.

2004

The International Reunion - 4th July. Among the people who attended were some from as far away as New Zealand.

2007

The Filby Sunday - 1st July. Mary Filby agreed to become President after the sad loss of her husband Len last year. Len was our Honorary President. Jim Filby was elected as Manager and started a DNA Project.

Alan Starkey was elected as Family Tree Manager and Alan V Filby was elected as Deputy Manager. Our constitution was created and we were registered as a non-profit making charitable organisation.

2008

40th Anniversary and International Reunion - 6th July. We held our first A.G.M. on the morning of our reunion which was well attended by many overseas members. An annual AGM will continue as per our constitution.

2009

The Filby Sunday & AGM – 5th July at the Church Hall, Filby.

2010

The Filby Sunday & AGM - 4th July at the Church Hall, Filby. Due to demolition of the church hall future events will take place in the church.

2011

The Filby Sunday & AGM - 3rd July at All Saints Church, Filby. A new car park was developed behind the church.

2012

The Filby Sunday & AGM - 1st July at All Saints Church, Filby.

2013

An International Reunion & AGM – 6th & 7th July. Our President, Mary Filby, died 19th June, as she was the last of our Founder members. It was decided that no further Presidents be elected. A bench was erected on The Pound at Filby in remembrance in 2014. A celebration dinner was organised at The Bridge in Acle where 13 Australian, 4 Canadian and 19 UK members attended.

2014

The Filby Sunday & AGM – 29th June. Alan W Filby was elected Treasurer to replace Jim Filby. Marion Filby replaces Jim Filby as DNA Project Administrator: 16 tested and what is assumed to be the Filby Gene, G-M201 is found in 8.

2015

Due to ill health Jim Filby retired and Alan W Filby was elected as Manager. Christine Starkey became GOONS Representative. The church at Filby was closed for reordering to make it more suitable for other events to be held there. The AGM was held on 9th August, at Doncaster Hilton.

2016

The Filby Sunday & AGM – 14th August at All Saints Church Filby, where a book trolley made from the redundant pews was dedicated to our late Presidents, Len and Mary Filby.

2017

No Reunion scheduled but the AGM in early August at Doncaster Hilton.

2018

The Filby Association 50th Anniversary Weekend – An International Reunion & AGM 11th/12th August.