

In Touch



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The Filby Association

Newsletter - AUGUST 2011

Dear Friends,

Here we are again with another year of happenings in the Filby Association – what busy lives we all lead and we love to hear about yours, either by post or email – so please keep up the contact and thank you so much.

Firstly, I must inform you that our secretary, Sue Reynolds, has expressed her preference of research to administration, so instead of advertising the position I accepted the responsibility of secretary in her place. Sue and I work closely together on research and form a good team.



We also have a new researcher, Jean-Jacques Filby, who lives in France, and is another big asset in aiding the development of our trees. He also edits the new European page on our www.filby.org web site, which, along with the new USA page edited by Jessica Filbey and Alan Starkey's Tree Manager page are recent additions that Mark Filby, our web master, has created.

Marion Filby - Editor

News from Your Manager ~ Jim Filby

I must start by saying a big "thank you" to all our members and friends for their support and also welcome any new members to our large, extended, worldwide family; I feel I must say an even bigger thanks to all our hard working officers, which must include our Executive Officers, without whose hard work and dedication The Filby Association would cease to exist.

Although only small in numbers this year the AGM and Reunion went well, but due to the recent retirements of our secretary and treasurer we found the Executive Committee short of the required number. Because of their hard work it was proposed at the AGM that Mark Filby, our Web Master, and Alan Starkey, our Tree Manager, join the Executive Committee, their appointments were agreed unanimously and we thanked them for accepting the positions. I am sure they will continue to be an asset to the Association.

As temporary Treasurer, I have been looking closely at Association finances and noted that our largest outlay is our two journals, especially the Chronicle. When Marion became our editor it was decided that established members who received the old newsletters by post would continue to receive the new Chronicle by post even if they had an email address, but new members were not given a choice. Also some of our members requested and received more than one paper copy. However, with the increasing cost of printing, and especially the increasing cost of postage, we find that the Association cannot afford to continue this practice, especially as donations are getting fewer.

It has therefore been decided that all members with email addresses will receive electronic copies and those who want to receive paper copies, will unfortunately have to pay £2.50 per copy, this price includes postage. **If you have an email addresses and would still like to receive paper copies let me know how many you would like as soon as possible and enclose the money required please to: Jim Filby, 72, Appleton Road, Blidworth, Nottingham, NG21 0SQ, England.**

This will allow me to estimate the correct number for printing when we place our order in December. Those members who do not have internet access (email address) will continue to receive

one paper copy as before. Any donation towards our costs will be gratefully accepted, and please remember that the Association cannot continue without your invaluable donations.

If you now have an email account and are still receiving paper copies, please inform us of the address so that we can update our information and send you your Chronicle via email.

It is written into our Constitution that one of the objectives of the Association is to promote and encourage research into our family name, and as such we have a dedicated team carrying out research upon requests of help from members. This team, ably led by Marion Filby, and assisted by Alan Starkey, our Tree Manager, do this in their free time and the Association does not charge for the results they offer, unlike other individuals and institutions. Just a word of thanks from the members we help, or even a donation toward the cost would make their work for us more appreciated.

Please remember that our researchers cover all their costs and do not charge anyone for this help, although they may suggest a small donation to the Association. We do however, ask that you do not put the information we supply onto the internet, and certainly not without good reason; as soon as information is put on the internet it is available to others and unscrupulous companies and individuals take that information and then charge for supplying it as their own work. I see no reason why others should profit from information we provide free to our members. Please also remember that using a family tree facility provided by web sites for you to generate your family tree 'online' is putting information onto the internet, and using our information in this way is also in contravention of the Data Protection Act.

We, or should I say, our Tree Manager, is looking into the possibility of supplying the family tree program Family Tree Maker 2011 at a reduced price to our members, and if we can broker a deal it will mean two things:

- 1) Anything we provide you with will be compatible with your system, and of course anything you send us will also be compatible with our system.
- 2) You will no longer need to use the internet to generate your own tree, it will already have been done for you, and you will not be breaking our rule about putting our information onto the internet.

Finally I hope you enjoy reading the 2011 In Touch, which as always, Marion makes interesting while at the same time informative.

iim@filby.org

The Filby Reunion – 3rd July, 2011, at All Saints Church, Filby, Norfolk, England.



Above: Some of those who attended our service, and below: The Executive Committee.





Our Manager, Jim Filby, presenting Ruth Smith with a gift to show our appreciation for her 22 years of service as secretary to The Filby Association.

**The next Filby Sunday will be on 1st July, 2012 – Please come along and meet ‘the Filbys’.
The Triennial Reunion will be 7th July, 2013, when our overseas visitors try to attend.**

Research Update – Marion Filby

Since last August we have had some huge developments involving USA trees sent in by new members where their information has merged with some of our existing trees, as well as some completely new trees, so this is just great – thank you! Also we have established a link to Norfolk, England, between ancestors on both USA and UK trees as far as testing through our DNA project is concerned, so that in itself is an amazing break-through for us all. We welcome any male Filby (or variant) to offer his DNA for testing – it’s just a simple mouth swab sent by post, so nothing to worry about. Please think about participating and get in touch with either Jim jim@filby.org or me marion@filby.org to discuss what it involves, we really do want this project to develop further.

The Filby Association was developed mainly for the researching of family history through the many variants of our name, beginning in the 1960s by our Founder, Ellsworth Filby, and his supporters. These pioneers trekked from parish to parish, from graveyard to cemetery, and on a door to door basis of names taken from telephone directories both in the US and UK.

We still have the original paperwork from personal interviews and information gathered during their many hours of inquisition, but in the new millennium most of this was put onto the Family Tree Maker 2006 (Version 16) computer program and this formed the basis of our many trees and on-going research. We now have access to internet information although it is not all to be trusted like original parish registers and archive documentation, so do be careful. I know that details can change when new evidence is discovered, so never trust trees published on the internet without evidence to support their findings – a lot is guess work!

As Association Representative I attended the Yorkshire Regional Meeting of the Guild of One Name Studies (GOONS) in June this year, and the main discussion was ‘Which Family Tree Program?’

The Filby Association have been using FTM 2006 for some years now, and since January, trialling the FTM 2010. However, after listening to the training talk and member’s experience during usage of the newest program, FTM 2011, I was convinced that this was the way forward for us. I approached our Tree Manager, Alan Starkey, and we discussed it in detail. Having used both 2010 and 2011 Alan recommended that we look into updating our FTM 2010 programs into 2011. This was put to the Executive Committee and unanimously agreed at a meeting on 3rd July.

The practicalities are that we will still be able to share information via email and also GEDCOM with our members, which eliminates a great deal of re-typing data. Older versions than FTM 2006 may not be compatible, but the transferring of trees from 2006 and above into 2011 is a simple task.

A Message from our Web Master, Mark Filby.

Those of you who visit the www.filby.org website regularly may have noticed a number of new pages and images. Please take a look if you have not visited recently, you will see pictures of the recent reunion in Filby village and the following additional pages:

- Tree Manager – Alan, our Tree Manager, introduces himself and is working hard on updating the extensive Filby family trees to the latest software version.
- USA Pages - Jessica Filbey of Facebook, has volunteered to give an American perspective to all things Filby and will shortly be publishing some material on this page.

- Europe pages - Jean-Jacques Filby has volunteered to give a European perspective to all things Filby and will shortly be publishing some material on this page.
- Merchandise page - here you will find a few items that are available from our Manager, Jim Filby jim@filby.org. Remember that every penny raised from the sale of such items supports more family tree research and helps support our very good friends at All Saints Church, Filby, Norfolk, who have supported the Association reunions for many years.

We are now reviewing our merchandise and really **need your feedback** about the items we could offer our members in the near future.

The following items are being considered with the Filby Crest:

1. Coasters
2. Tea Towels
3. Door mats/welcome mats
4. Polo Shirts
5. T Shirts
6. Fridge magnets
7. Mugs
8. Letter opener
9. Computer Mouse mat
10. Packs of notelets
11. Christmas cards

I would be very grateful for your response as to whether you would consider purchasing any of these items either for yourself or your family. Or, maybe you have another suggestion? All items will be offered with the Filby Crest or similar, printed or embroidered feature. I would be delighted to hear from you via my e-mail address mark@filby.org

Thank you in advance for your feedback and continued support!

Mark Filby - Webmaster

A Message from Jessica Filbey – USA Correspondent on Facebook

A couple of months ago, I talked briefly about our little Filbey corner in the world of Facebook. Well, I am delighted to say, that our little corner is now quite big and it's a very busy corner indeed! We now have about 112 members from all over the world... mostly from the US, UK and Australia. I am very excited to report that our members are very active and vocal and our Facebook page has provided a forum for everyone to talk about different topics. Of course we all talk about our 'roots' but we also have weather call outs from around the world, and we chat about what we are doing for the summer holidays. There was also a lively conversation about "Filby" license plates. It's always interesting to see American English, English English and Australian English being typed. We are also able to email blast the members and post polls and ask questions of the group as a whole. It's been a great information gathering resource.

My favorite things are the old family photos that some members are posting. To me, this brings a real life visual of what we see on the trees. It's really brought our big family closer and more in touch with each other. Mark, our web master posted pictures of the Filby Reunion so everyone could see what they were missing! I think it's absolutely terrific. Shelley Frazier, who is granddaughter to Ellsworth Filby brought up a good point. She said, "My grandfather, Ellsworth Filby--(founder) would be amazed on how freely we can all converse these days-but I'm sure he would still be writing and not embracing today's technology -- just that kind of man." I know for some of us, Facebook is daunting, but for others, it's a great tool for networking and research.

So, please log on, make a profile and search "FILBEY ASSOCIATION" and we'll be here. Can't wait to have you join us! And in case you were wondering, it's hot, hot, hot in Chicago!

If you have any questions, please contact me (jessica.filbey@gmail.com) or my partner in facebook, Madeleine Cox Filbey (filbey@bellsouth.net)

Jessica Filbey - Facebook

Please remember that in September I will be starting preparation for the Chronicle and will need some stories from our members to make it more interesting and personal. I am sure you must have something of interest that you would like to share so all it takes is either a letter or an email to me at

the addresses on the top of this newsletter, and if necessary I will write the article from your notes. We also want to see photos of any Filby weddings or new babies – and sadly, if you have had a bereavement, we would like to remember that loved one in an obituary or simple notice. I also update your family tree from all this information so please do remember to make me aware of any happening in your family.

Sent from Australia - Jill (nee Filby) and David Yates want to share a special occasion with us – the marriage of their son, Joe to Judy Ferguson last year.

Joe had been living in England for several years. He is an IT graduate from University of Queensland and was working in the IT field in London and then in Manchester. Judy is a Maths Graduate from the university at St. Andrews (Scotland) and has been working since she graduated in 2008. They met on a Christian skiing/snowboarding holiday in Switzerland at the beginning of 2008.



The wedding was held at Poynton Christian Fellowship, Poynton, Cheshire, on Friday, 11th June, 2010, and the reception was held at Shrigley Hall, Pott Shrigley,

Left:

Joe and Judy Yates on the stairs inside Shrigley Hall.

Below:

From left - Gill and Stephen Ferguson (Judy's parents), Judy and Joe Yates, Jill and David Yates (Joe's parents).



Well that's it folks until the Chronicle is sent out in January, 2012, and it's up to you how interesting I can make it, so please remember to participate and send me your articles and photos. If you print this newsletter now, you will be able to share it with your family and come up with some of the answers we are hoping to receive from you in feedback to the very important questions asked.

We are currently collecting photographs of personalised FILBY car number plates – however contrived - to display on our website. If you possess one, we would welcome the opportunity to include it and demonstrate how dedicated we all are to our surname – whatever the spelling!

If you have gathered any new information on your family tree that you know we do not have, please send it to me to add to our data base for future generations to share. Also, it goes without saying that if you move house or have a change of email address - please remember that I need this information to ensure that you remain on our mailing list and membership register.

Along with other members of the Executive Committee we send to you all our best wishes for the remainder of this year and look forward to seeing as many members as possible making the pilgrimage to our next annual gathering at Filby village in 2012.

Kindest Regards,
Marion (Editor)