

Briginshaw One-Name Study

Founded 1984

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EDITORIAL

When I wrote in my Introductory Letter, which accompanied Newsletter No 1 in July 1984, that I would issue further Newsletters at irregular intervals, it was never my intention that after the next one (Newsletter No 2 which I produced in December of that same year) nearly five years would elapse before No 3 would make its appearance!

I can only apologise and, without going into lengthy excuses, just say that it was the growth of interest in family history itself that was the main culprit. I was responsible from 1977 for many duties as a founder and executive member of East Surrey Family History Society, becoming its Chairman 1984-87. Growth of this society, in common with many others, was so rapid and so great that what began as an enjoyable hobby grew into an almost full-time job. This, in the end, became irksome as it pushed all my own research into the background. I then decided that after spending ten years helping to further family history generally I must relinquish my position, let others take up the burden, and try to catch up with some of my personal research before too late.

Before doing so there followed the fulfillment of a long held desire to visit the land of my birth, renew old acquaintances and try to recapture something of those 'dear dead days beyond recall'. All this is another story but not unrelated to family history. My parents emigrated to Canada in the early years of this century. I was born on Vancouver Island in 1913 and the family came back to England in 1929. So, after an absence of 58 years, I took my wife on 'The Holiday of a Lifetime' when we spent three months in Canada travelling some 13,000 miles from the Atlantic to the Pacific and the American border to the Arctic. Most of this I drove in a motorhome, meeting old friends and making new ones, visiting haunts of my youth and many other parts inaccessible in those far off days of the 1920's. I then stopped to write up the story of this trip and the history of my youth but am now back to researching various branches of the family which, of course, includes the Briginshaws and I can promise that Newsletter No 4 will not appear five years hence!

Since the issue of Newsletter No 2 undoubtedly the most exciting development happened quite recently when Geoffrey Briginshaw of Mississauga, Ontario, Canada (descended through John - b1707/Richard Jeffries/Jeffries/George/Frank Frederick) in communication with John Briginshaw of Tasmania (descended through John - b1707/John/Thomas/Henry/Arthur/Henry Ernest) produced a pedigree that had been built up in 1952 and which purports to take us back from John (b1707) through five generations to William Briginshaw who married Ann Sharp 23.10.1564 at Aston Clinton. The majority of the entries on which this pedigree are based tie up with those extracted from Aston Clinton and surrounding Parish Registers by Georgina, Jenny and myself in 1984 but there are some differences and I wish to make exhaustive checks and verify entries from other sources before reproducing this pedigree in our Newsletters. This will be done as soon as possible.

May I appeal once again for short articles or items of interest connected with the Briginshaw family. A Newsletter such as ours is for the whole family and I hope an historical record for the future and should be more than the work of just one individual. However, I am quite happy to continue the production of these Newsletters so let me hear from you.