

# Quaker Connections

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Magazine of the  
Quaker Family History Society

## THE QUAKER FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

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## EDITORIAL

Dear Friends

After a month of official existence we now have over 100 members and have produced the first magazine. We are aiming to produce three magazines a year, of about 36 pages each. The Society is open to all, Quaker and non-Quaker researchers. We are essentially a historical organisation, not a religious one.

### COMMITTEE

Last summer Margaret Bennett convened a meeting to discuss the proposed Society, and four of us formed ourselves into a Committee and took the plunge. Later we co-opted Margaret Gaynor and, once we began to put out feelers, Edward Crawford offered to keep the record of Members' Interests, and Katherine Slay offered to be Membership Secretary. With some assistance, she and I are to be co-editors of the magazine. We are all unofficial at the moment but we're doing the work in practice (which is what counts!)

### DAY CONFERENCE AND "CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY"

By June we hope we shall have a clear idea of the aims of the Society and how much interest there is, so we have arranged a Day at Friends House to establish ourselves formally. (For further details, see page 4). We have a basis for the Constitution and will hope to establish a proper committee. We hope as many members as possible will attend and want to take a little of the work on their shoulders. Many hands make light work, to coin a phrase, and it would be a great help if the larger jobs, such as the Secretaryship, could be divided between a number of people. Do check your diaries for 11th June. It would help if you could fill in and return the enclosed slip.

We shall need:

- Chairman
- Secretary/ies
- Treasurer
- (and Auditor)
- Minutes Secretary
- Membership Secretary/ies
- Programme Co-ordinator or people willing to arrange occasional meetings
- Editor/s
  
- Keepers and compilers of various indexes (such as that of Members' Interests)
  
- A couple of people who enjoy "playing" in the Library at Friends House and are willing to check small details
  
- Similar people are needed to research in the library at the Society of Genealogists, and at the Public Record Office, where the collection of Quaker registers is kept
  
- A couple of people with home computers, because they always seem to come in useful these days.

Do consider your capabilities, and remember that modesty is as much a sin as pride. There was no praise for the man who hid his talents in the ground.

## EVENTS

A national Society such as ours may not be able to support regular meetings in one place, and we feel therefore that perhaps one Annual Day Conference of our own is as much as we shall manage. However, we feel that we have the expertise to run a day on Tracing Quaker Families in conjunction with any Society or Meeting that will host it. If we provide the speakers, perhaps your Meeting or Society could find the premises, provide tea and coffee, and do the local publicity. We're sure you could, and in that way we can hold a number of useful days each year in various parts of the country so that all UK members can get to a meeting in their area every now and then.

In addition, we should like to publicise meetings of Quaker historical interest run by any other organisation. If you know of anything which is being planned, please let the Editor know in good time so that we can help you with publicity. It is so irritating to find out that something really interesting was on last month, but you never heard of it.

## THE MAGAZINE - OR WILL IT BE A JOURNAL?

You will see from this first magazine the sort of thing we have in mind. Information on what people are doing - or what they have done - is obviously our life-blood, but we should also like to publish articles which will last. From this point of view our constituency is clearly defined. We are about Quaker families and their connections with each other, how to research them, and the fruits of that research.

Quakers have always been a fairly homogeneous group socially, and the records in which they most usually appear are well known, and have been well combed by many people before us. On the whole we are not going to come up with exciting large-scale new sources. So the best thing seems to be to publish the fruits of your research: simple, straightforward trees of the families you have researched, beginning with those who were first 'convinced' and tracing down the lines that stayed Quaker. Maximum five pages - less if you don't think of yourself as an author. If we could publish a number of such trees in each journal, then we would soon have a solid body of valuable reference material on the families of ordinary Quakers; and as long as there is a contact address, then anyone who is particularly interested can write to you direct for the 50 page version.

To my mind the trees can even be hand-written provided you have neat handwriting and send them in unfolded on A4 paper, bearing in mind that we shall reduce them to A5.

Then, when we've published, the business historians and the social and religious historians can begin to notice links that their own work would never have highlighted, and begin to build new academic palaces with our individual little bricks. One hand washes the other.

Now, enough of me. I've said what I should like to publish, but I may not be Editor after the new committee is elected. If you can see how a Society of this sort should be run; if you can feel the words 'What they ought to do is ....' welling up inside you, then you're the right person to take over on 11th June. If you can't come, then do contact Margaret or me in advance to say what you think.

Michael Gandy

A meeting to found the  
QUAKER FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY  
officially

A Day Conference at Friends House, Euston Road, London NW1 2BJ

Saturday 11th June 1994

- 11.00 am Coffee.
- 11.30 Open Forum. Introduction: the story so far. Election of an Executive Committee. To agree on a Constitution. The aims and future direction of the Society.
- 1.00 pm Lunch.  
Books on Quaker history, Quaker Meeting Houses, and researching your family history will be on sale during the lunch break.
- 2.30 A talk on researching Quaker families by Malcolm Thomas, Librarian, will be held in the Library at Friends House.
- 3.30 Tea.
- 4.30 Close of Conference.

Tea, coffee and soft drinks will be provided but you should bring your own food.

Tables for displaying members' own Quaker and family history material will be provided if you wish to bring your research.

If you have written a family history and wish to bring copies for sale, you may do so. Privately printed histories of Meeting Houses would also be welcome.

Friends House is wheelchair friendly.

#### HOW TO GET THERE

B.R. - Friends House is on Euston Road, directly opposite Euston Station.

Tube - As above.

Bus - north to south buses along Southampton Row, numbers 68 and 168 also pass by Friends House. Number 188 terminates at Euston.

- east to west numbers 10, 14, 18, 30 and 73.

Car - Parking is free all day, north of Euston Road. South of Euston Road, meters require payment until 1.30 pm.

Entrance to Friends House is through the garden and up the slope, NOT through the main doors. The meeting will be held in Rooms 7 and 8.

## EVENTS

### Friends Historical Society

Saturday 25th June at Carlton Meeting House, 188 Woodhouse Lane, Leeds. Jean Mortimer will give the presidential address 'Quaker women - constraints and opportunities in the 18th century'. Mark Ellison will speak on the Leeds Friend, Daniel PICKARD.

### Woodbrooke Conference

'Our Quaker foremothers, patterns and examples' is the title of a conference taking place from Friday 8th - Sunday 10th April. Information from Leonora Wilson, Woodbrooke, 1046 Bristol Road, Birmingham B29 6LJ. Tel. 021 472 5171.

### Third Symposium on the History of Religious Dissent in East Anglia

This takes place on 9th and 10th April at Haughley Barn, Stowmarket, Suffolk. Information from Nesta Evans, 'Crossings', Tostock, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk IP30 9NY.

### 'Paved with Gold'

The conference to be held by the London and N. Middlesex F.H.S. on 8th, 9th and 10th April at the City University, Northampton Square, London EC1V 0HB will hold a meeting for those interested in our Society, the Quaker Family History Society, on the afternoon of Saturday 9th April, if enough members or prospective members appear. Michael Gandy and Margaret Bennett will be on hand for information.

### Quaker Exhibition

In Philadelphia there is an exhibition of Quakerism from 1644-1994 in the area surrounding the statue of William Penn. Anyone fortunate enough to visit the exhibition might care to submit an article for a future edition of this magazine.

### Society of Genealogists Fair

Don't forget the Society of Genealogists Family History Fair on 7th and 8th May, at the Royal Horticultural Society's New Hall and Conference Centre, Westminster. Tickets available in advance, £3.50 in person or by post to include admission and programme, from the Society of Genealogists. It should be a good weekend, with more room this time. Let's hope there are more chairs too!

## WHO KNOWS WHAT?

Michael Gandy

In the autumn of last year we sent a circular to every meeting for worship in England and Wales asking:

1. whether a history of the Meeting or copies of any of its records had been published?
2. whether there is a member who is interested in the history of the Meeting and would be willing to correspond with enquirers?
3. whether the history of any families connected with the Meeting have been researched or published?

So far we have had replies from nearly 70 Meetings, almost all of whom had something useful and interesting to report, though some have only been established recently and have therefore nothing to tell us about our distant ancestors. Clearly the completeness of the returns has depended upon the knowledge of those who have filled them in and, especially as regards recent research on families (perhaps by descendants who have no modern connection with the Meeting), there must be much more to be known. However, this seems a most valuable starting-point, and we shall publish the results as quickly as space allows.

We are very grateful to those who are willing to correspond. Please remember to offer information, as well as asking for it, and always enclose a S.A.E.

As an initial guide, returns have been received from the following meetings. Those underlined appear in this issue, and the remainder will follow in future magazines.

Bexleyheath	<u>Farnham</u>	Lewes	Skipton
Blackburn	Frاندley	<u>Lincoln</u>	Southall
Brant Broughton	Frenchay	<u>Liskeard</u>	<u>Southampton</u>
Bridport	Fritchley	Llandrindod Wells	<u>Sunderland</u>
Brigflatts	Gloucester	<u>Macclesfield</u>	Sutton
Burford	Guildford	Malton	Thirsk
Chesham	<u>Halifax</u>	<u>Milford Haven</u>	<u>Torquay</u>
Chippenham	Hammersmith	Newbury	Truro
Cirencester	Hartshill	Newtown	<u>Uttoxeter</u>
<u>Cockermouth</u>	<u>Hereford</u>	Northampton	<u>Uxbridge</u>
<u>Colchester</u>	Heswall	Norwich	Wembley
<u>Cotherstone</u>	<u>Horfield</u>	Reading	Westminster
Cotteridge	<u>Hull</u>	Ross-on-Wye	Whitby
Derby	Kendal	Rye	Wincanton
Dorchester	<u>Kirby Moorside</u>	Seaford	<u>Wolverhampton</u>
Durnow	Leeds - Roundhay	Shrewsbury	<u>Wooldale</u>
Edgbaston	Leigh-on-Sea	<u>Sibford</u>	Woolwich
Exeter	<u>Letchworth</u>		

The results of the questionnaire will be set out under five headings, giving the information received. The histories of particular Meetings will be featured in later editions.



1. Name of Meeting (as given). PM = Preparative Meeting.
2. Histories.
3. Correspondent. N.B. Please note certain correspondents will NOT undertake family history research. Do not bother them.
4. Families researched.
5. Additional material. Further information volunteered by the meetings.

Name of Meeting **Cockermouth PM and Pardshaw PM.**

Histories 'Cockermouth Quaker Meeting - the first 300 years' by J. Bernard Bradbury, pub. 1988.

Correspondent J. Bernard Bradbury, 21 Parkside Avenue, Cockermouth, Cumbria CA13 0DR.

Families Researched None

Additional Material J. Bernard Bradbury is planning a book on the history of Pardshaw PM. This Meeting's records are in the Carlisle Record Office, The Castle. Journals of Pardshaw have gone to the Universities of Durham, Bradford and Leicester.

Name of Meeting **Colchester PM.**

Histories 'History of Colchester Meeting' by Stanley Fitch. 'History of Sudbury Meeting' by Stanley Fitch.

Correspondent Valerie Graves, 12 Piper Road, Lexden, Colchester, Essex CO3 3SF.

Families Researched Brief account of DOCKWRA family.

Name of Meeting **Derby PM.**

Histories None. Most books on George Fox mention his time in Derby gaol.

Correspondent Ian Care, 8 Kings Drive, Littleover, Derby DE3 6EU.

Families Researched None published. Some recent trees lodged with the Derbyshire Family History Society.

Additional Material Derbyshire FHS has a library at Alfreton which has some records, e.g. MIs with Quaker origins.

Name of Meeting **Farnham PM.**

Histories None.

Correspondent None.

Families Researched None.

Additional Material Records deposited at Guildford Muniment Room, Castle Arch, Guildford, Surrey. No record under 30 years may be seen.

Name of Meeting **Guildford PM.**

Histories 'Early Quakerism in Guildford (1673-1952)' pub. 1950s.

Correspondent None.

Families Researched None.

Name of Meeting **Hartshill, Warwickshire.**

Histories 'The Quakers of Hartshill' (a history of the Meeting), 'Our George' (George Fox in Fenny Drayton), 'The Nathaniel Newton Foundation School' - all by Joan Allen.

Correspondent Joan Allen, 22 Hillside, Hartshill, Nuneaton CV10 ONN. N.B. No lengthy research undertaken.

Families Researched None.

Name of Meeting **Hereford PM.**

Histories None.

Correspondent Walter Little, 8 Poole Close, Belmont Road, Hereford HR2 7JP.

Families Researched None.

Name of Meeting **Horfield PM, Bristol.**

Histories None.

Correspondent Elizabeth M. Lloyd, c/o Horfield PM, 300 Gloucester Road, Bristol BS7 8PD.

Families Researched None.

Name of Meeting **Hull Meeting, N. Humberside, formerly E. Yorkshire.**

Histories 'Quakers in Hull' by Fred Fletcher; 'A History of Reckitt & Sons Ltd', 'A History of the Sir James Reckitt Charity 1921-1979', 'William Reckitt, an 18th Century Transatlantic Traveller' - all by Basil N. Reckitt.

Correspondent Stan Bowser, 4 Percy Street, Hull, N. Humberside HU2 8HH

Families Researched None.

Name of Meeting Kirby Moorside PM, N. Yorkshire.

Histories 'The Quakers of Kirby Moorside and District' by Mary Rowlands, pub. 1990. 32pp, £1.80.

Correspondent Mary Rowlands, 1 Corner Cottage, Cropton, Pickering, N. Yorkshire YO18 8HH.

Families Researched 'The CROSFIELD Family' by John F. Crosfield, pub. 1980, re-issued 1990. For details on the HARVEY family of Leeds/Barnsley, apply to Mary Rowlands.

Name of Meeting Letchworth PM.

Histories None.

Correspondent Denise Sullivan, Ivy Cottage, Letchworth Lane, Letchworth, Herts SG6 3ND.

Families Researched None, but the GRUBB family lived here.

Name of Meeting Lewes Meeting.

Histories 'Quakers in Lewes, an informal history' by D. Hitchen and wife, £3 plus 50p p&p.

Correspondent Book available from Mr D. Hitchen, 35 Spences Lane, Lewes, East Sussex BN7 2HF.

Families Researched Some research, but permission needed before listing here.

Name of Meeting Lincoln PM.

Histories 'Quakerism in Lincdnshire'.

Correspondent Susan Davies (Clerk).

Families Researched 'The BURTTS of Lincolnshire' by Mary Bowen Burttt.

Name of Meeting Liskeard and Looe PM.

Histories None.

Correspondent Maureen Simmons, South Dean, Old Road, Liskeard, Cornwall PL14 6DL.

Families Researched None.

Name of Meeting **Macclesfield PM.**

Histories 'A History of Macclesfield' ed. C. Stella Davies, Part VI pp 324-327.

Correspondent Cecil Davies, Hob Cottage, Kerridge Road, Rainow, Macclesfield, Cheshire SK10 5TA.

Families Researched None.

Name of Meeting **Milford Haven PM.**

Histories 'A History of Quakers in Pembrokeshire' (1990).

Correspondent Stephen Griffith, Jordans, Neyland Terrace, Neyland, Milford Haven, Dyfed SA73 1PP.

Families Researched None.

Name of Meeting **Sibford PM, Banbury.**

Histories 'Banbury and Evesham Monthly Meeting' by Jack Wood.

Correspondent Ina Lamb, Back Acre, Sibford Ferris, Banbury OX15 5RG.

Families Researched Genealogies of the HARRIS and LAMB families by Joshua Lamb (1938, and supplement 1977). N.B. Family distribution only.

Name of Meeting **Southampton PM.**

Histories 'Southampton Friends 1670' by James Matthews (covering period 1655-1884); 'Quakers in Southampton' by Sandra Stoley & History Committee.

Correspondent Margaret Matthews, c/o Southampton PM.

Families Researched None.

Additional Material Records are at the County Record Office (Winchester) and at the Meeting House.

Name of Meeting **Sunderland PM.**

Histories None.

Correspondent Marjorie A. Trotter, 9 Newlands Avenue, Sunderland SR3 1XW.

Families Researched 'Quaker Families in Sunderland' by Corder (unpublished).

Additional Material Above book in Newcastle Archives.

Name of Meeting **Torquay Meeting.**

Histories A history prepared by F.W. Dymond, private circulation. One copy for sale (£25) 6 printed. Concerns the Devonshire Trust and the history of local Meetings.

Correspondent Dennis E. Nichols, 48 Tor Hill Road, Torquay TQ2 5RT.

Families Researched None.

Name of Meeting **Uttoxeter and Burton PM.**

Histories Brief history of the Meeting House.

Correspondent Joanna Corby, c/o Friends Meeting House, 39 Carter Street, Uttoxeter ST14 8EY.

Families Researched None.

Additional Material Map of the Burial Ground (1886); transcript of a Victorian story by Mary Howitt; biography 'Mary HOWITT - another lost Victorian writer' by Joy Dunicliff.

Name of Meeting **Uxbridge Meeting.**

Histories Yes (no details).

Correspondent None at present. Will be mentioned in the Uxbridge Meeting newsletter.

Families Researched Yes, but not by Friends (no details given).

Name of Meeting **Wolverhampton PM.**

Histories 'Wolverhampton Quakers 1704-1988'. Copy lodged with Michael Gandy.

Correspondent None.

Families Researched None

Name of Meeting **Wooldale PM, near Holmfirth, Yorkshire.**

Histories 'Plain Country Friends - the Quakers of Wooldale, High Flatts and Midhope' by David Bower & John Knight (pub. 1987, reprinted 1993).

Correspondent David G. Bower, 21 Ingdale Drive, Wooldale, Holmfirth, Huddersfield, W. Yorkshire HD7 1AT.

Families Researched 'The BURTTs - a Lincolnshire Quaker Family' by Mary Bowen Burt (ancestors of David Bower).

## WHAT TO READ ABOUT QUAKERS

There is no doubt whatsoever that every family historian who has, or thinks he may have, a Quaker ancestor must buy a copy of **'My Ancestors were Quakers'** by E.H. Milligan and M.J. Thomas (Society of Genealogists 1983). But after that there is a very wide selection available, so that the books mentioned below are very much a personal choice reflecting my own interests. I should stress that it makes no attempt to cover the ground that is so well covered in that excellent booklet. Buy it! Read it!

For those interested in the early history of Quakers, my own view is that Christopher Hill's **'The World Turned Upside Down'** (Penguin, 1975) is an ideal start. Whilst the Quakers' radical stance during the Interregnum means that they are often centre stage, this is a general book by a distinguished, if controversial, historian. Perhaps he had mellowed by the time he wrote **'The Experience of Defeat'** (1984). This is in any case a more academic book of less general interest. One should stress that there are numerous worthy books on the history of Quakers. I was, for example, brought up on Ernest Taylor's **'The Valiant Sixty'** (Bannisdale Press, 1951). His account of the courage of, and the persecution suffered by, early Quakers makes it, for me, a very moving book, but I still think one should start with Christopher Hill to get a broader picture. One should also mention John Punshon's **'Portrait in Grey: a short history of the Quakers'** (Quaker Home Service, 1984 - but revised and reprinted since then).

During the 18th and early 19th centuries, Quakers were excluded from the universities and, by and large, from the professions, and for a variety of reasons many of them became important in the fields of commerce and industry. Arthur Raistrick's **'Quakers in Science and Industry'** (David & Charles, 1968) was first published in 1950, and I understand a new paperback edition is expected shortly. He also wrote **'Dynasty of Ironfounders - the Darbys of Coalbrookdale'** (Longmans, 1953). (If one is visiting the Ironbridge museums, it is well worth looking at the Darby house).

I have found David H. Pratt's **'English Quakers and the First Industrial Revolution - a study of the Quaker Community in four industrial counties: Lancashire, York, Warwick and Gloucester 1759-1830'** (New York, 1985) a fascinating exposition with a wealth of information. It stems from a thesis written in 1975, and my guess is that it will not often be found outside a university library, though Friends House Library do have a copy of the thesis.

Then there are the local histories, often published by a Quaker Meeting, perhaps sometimes a little uncritical but nevertheless a mine of information. Susan Davies' **'Quakerism in South Lincolnshire'** (Yard Publishing Services, 11 Minster Yard, Lincoln LN1 1PJ, 1989) is a good example of a useful book without these faults. **'Plain Country Friends - the Quakers of Wooldale, High Flatts & Midhope'** by David Bower & John Knight (Wooldale Meeting, 1987) is perhaps an even better example. A reprint is available from the Friends Book Centre at Friends House (price £10 plus £2.60 p&p).

No doubt because of the generally good quality of Quaker records, they have attracted professional historians. David Scott's **'Quakerism in York, 1650-1720'** (Borthwick Paper No.80, Borthwick Institute, Peasholme Green, York YO1 2PW, £2 plus 35p p&p) must be essential reading for anyone whose ancestor happened to be a Quaker in York during that period, but is also of more general interest. The picture he reveals is an interesting contrast to that shown in Steven Allott's **'Friends in York'** (William Sessions, 1978) subtitled 'The Quaker Story in the

Life of a Meeting', which covers the period from 1651 to 1952 and is perhaps a more conventional Quaker history.

The records themselves may also be in print, such as '**Leeds Friends' Minute Book, 1692-1712**', edited by Jean & Russell Mortimer, for the Yorkshire Archaeological Society, (Record Series Volume 139, 1980). But for me the outstanding academic book currently available is '**Friends in Life and Death: the British and Irish Quakers in the demographic transition, 1650-1900**' by Richard Vann & David Eversley (CUP, 1992). It is primarily written for historical demographers by two very erudite historians and large parts of it would be of very little interest to the average family historian. But they had to explain the Quaker background to their readers, and I have seldom read such a thoughtful and interesting summary. However, at some £35 it is a book to be borrowed from the library rather than bought.

Quakers were great keepers of diaries. Maybe we often wish they recorded more about their families and less about their spiritual development, but if one is lucky they can be a gold mine. I see that Ted Milligan notes that there is a list in the Friends House Library. Looking recently through William Matthews' '**British Diaries, 1442-1942**' (1950) (probably available in larger reference libraries), I was intrigued to see how many of those listed were Quakers. I have not yet read '**The Autobiography of William Stout of Lancaster, 1665-1752**', edited by J.D. Marshall (1967). I hope to do so shortly.

If one knows what area one is dealing with, the relevant volume of the '**Victoria County History**' might well have some useful information, even though it is unlikely to provide names of individuals.

I think it would be fair to say that '**The Journal of the Friends' Historical Society**' (information from Friends House Library) is more orientated towards the history of the Society of Friends than the doings of individual Quakers. Interesting though it is, it may prove a disappointment to the average family historian. '**The Friend**' is the current periodical that is widely read by Quakers. '**The Friends Quarterly**' does from time to time have articles of historical interest.

I feel that it is important to try and understand what made Quakers different, and still does, but this is not the easiest territory. The current book that is suggested to those enquiring about Quakers is, I understand, Harvey Gilman's '**A Light that is Shining**' (Quaker Home Service, 1991, £2.50). I think I prefer its predecessor, George Gorman's '**Introducing Quakers**' (1969), but one must remember that both were written by Quakers for a specific purpose and inevitably reflect the way that the Society perceives itself.

My personal choice for those who are seriously interested in their Quaker Ancestors, but have little knowledge of the religious ethos that motivated them, would be George Gorman's '**The Amazing Fact of Quaker Worship**' (Quaker Home Service, 1973, but currently being reprinted - likely cost £5.25). They might then feel that they could come to Meeting for Worship one Sunday morning, perhaps in the same meeting house in which their ancestor once sat. '**The Book of Meetings**' (my 1991 copy cost £3.80), which is published annually by London Yearly Meeting, lists all current Quaker Meetings. Quakers turned their backs on the 'steeple houses' but for me the old meeting houses, largely unchanged, have a magic of their own. So perhaps on holiday you can find 'your' meeting house, and if you are lucky it might be Pickering, or Kirby Moorside (in the North Riding), or Wooldale, or High Flatts (in the West Riding).

One should, I feel, always bear in mind the problems that arise when an 'insider' writes about his own group. Unless he has the experience and scholarship of a David Eversley, it must be extremely difficult to stand back and look at your subject in the round. Equally, the 'outsider' may have difficulty in appreciating what motivated the early Quakers. Thus the insider may dwell, understandably, on the persecution suffered by early Quakers for their faith. The outsider may point out that, because they preferred divine authority to that of King or Parliament, they were a serious potential threat to the state! Today Quakers are rightly noted for their work for peace, but both Christopher Hill and Vann & Eversley have pointed out that many early Quakers fought in the Parliamentary Army.

Last, but by no means least, many of these books can be obtained from the Friends Book Centre at Friends House (071 387 3601). And yes, they take credit cards and will post books to you!

Roger A. Bellingham  
27 Garths End, Pocklington, York YO4 2JB

\* \* \* \* \*

WANTED

A copy of 'The Record of the House of GOURNAY' by Daniel Gournay, (privately published in 1848) at a reasonable cost. Member Michael B. Petty, The Mill House, Feltham Lane, Frome, Somerset BA11 5NB, tel. 0372 472544, is seeking this book and interested in other books on the FRYs, HANBURYs, LLOYDs and BARCLAYS. He already has:

Barclay's Apologies  
Friends and Relations  
Elizabeth Fry (Rose)  
Elizabeth Fry (Whitby)  
Gournays of Earham  
Lloyds of Birmingham  
Quaker Enterprises

He would be glad to help others interested in these families by phone or visit, but does not wish to enter into long correspondence.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Society is looking for interesting pictures connected with Quakers for the magazine, not all of George Fox or the local Meeting House, please! These are easily available, but the Editors would welcome other interesting or informative pictures.

We would also be interested in designs for a logo reflecting our Quaker interest and heritage to head our correspondence and make us easily identifiable. We must have some members with artistic or design capabilities.... Please send pictures or logo designs to Michael Gandy (address on inside of front cover).



## HANNAH'S GRAVESTONE

Do you ever find yourself seduced into researching a family not directly connected with you? I can see many of you nodding, especially if they seem more interesting than your own. It happened to me.

For many years I have been researching my family name, ELAM. I discovered my furthest ancestor so far found, William Ellom of Moresyde, ffartown, to the north of Huddersfield, was married there in 1658. Intensive research has failed to push the line back further. However, there was an Elam family, several miles away, around this time, on Skircoat Moor, to the south east of Halifax, one John Elam of Heath. Was there a link?

After seven years' research into John's family, I have yet to find out, but what an adventure it has been. It has taken me through Oliver Heyward's diaries to Leeds, and all England, to Virginia, Rhode island, and New Zealand. Halifax Gibbet Field, York Castle Prison, plantations on the James River, and an Art School in Aukland. These people were members of the Society of Friends for over 150 years, and with the help of their records as a foundation, I have built up the story of their lives. One of the many adventures I had on the way concerns the gravestone of John's daughter Hannah.

Hannah died aged 11 months in 1694, and was buried in the Quaker Burial Ground at Harwood Well, near Halifax. A stone marked the spot. However, in 1717 the Society of Friends decided that gravestones were signs of pride, and orders were sent out that they should be removed. Hannah's gravestone disappeared, but was eventually found again in 1909.

An article in the 'Halifax Courier' of 1932 said that the inscribed portion of the stone was discovered by workmen in the Heath Hall estate, when Heath Hall was demolished, and handed to the Halifax Antiquarian Society. It then passed to Bank Field Museum, and afterwards was fixed along with other gravestones at the Friends Meeting House in Clare Road, Halifax. It appears that the gravestone may have been removed to John's garden at Heath, to be rediscovered in 1909.

All this I know, thanks to the kindness of Joyce Sutcliffe of Calderdale F.H.S., who knew of my interest in the family, and had kindly sent me the 'Halifax Courier' articles. She also sent two further articles in 1990. These said that the Clare Road Meeting House had been sold to Share Training for a Day Nursery.

What about the stones I wondered, so I wrote off to Friends House in London. They replied that it was purely a matter for the Halifax Friends, and gave me a name and address to contact. When I expressed an interest in Hannah's stone, I was told that I could have it if I wanted it, but to come quickly as the builders were moving in.

Off we set on a glorious sunny morning, to arrive in Halifax in drenching pouring rain. Because of the one way system we had difficulty locating the Meeting House, and even more difficulty in trying to park. After our third fruitless circuit, my husband suggested I should get out, while he continued circling. Past builders' lorries I went, round rubble, over scaffolding. The builders were in, and piles of stone and building materials were dumped in front of the Meeting House door.