

THE JOSSELIN SOCIETY  
NEWSLETTER

Issue No 1

April 1991.

The Josselin Society was formed after discussion between several people of different variations of the name, voiced an opinion that they were interested in tracing their Family History & also would like to meet others of the same or similar name socially. The name of the society being derived from the town in France as this is a neutral spelling of the name. The name has been registered with The Guild for One Name studies. It is hoped to hold a meeting initially every 6 months & produce a newsletter Quarterly in March, June, Sept & Dec. Any contributions are welcome please send to the address at the end of newsletter.

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On Sunday 24th Feb 1991 we had our first gathering of the newly formed Josselin Society.

Twelve interested parties attended the rendezvous that evening at The Jobbers Rest, St Mary's Lane, Upminster. I wish to convey our thanks to the landlord Tom & his wife Sandie for the use of their conservatory & supplying the Variety of sandwiches we enjoyed.

May I thank Mr & Mrs D Kirby of Colchester, Mr E Joslin & Mr Brian Joslin of Romford, Mr Brian Joscelyne & Mr Benjamin Joscelyne of Braintree, Mr Melvyn Joscelyne of Colchester, Mr David Clarke (his wife nee Josling) of Greenhithe, Mr Peter Josling of Welwyn Gdn City & Mr Andrew Joscelyne & company of Battersea for attending and making the evening possible.

There were many contributions to provide interest & Peter Josling was kept busy by enquires & demonstrations on his portable computer, Thank you Peter it certainly is a great asset for efficient storage & recall of information.

I was sorry we could not meet Arthur Joscelyne of Leigh on sea, Stan Joslin of Colchester, John Joscelyne of Ealing, David Joscelyne & his wife Jane of Twickenham, John Francis Josling of Hastings & John Josling of Caddington who all are interested in "The Josselin Society" but sent their apologise that they could not attend due to other commitments, we look forward to meeting them at future gatherings.

The time went by very quickly & we were soon aware that it was 11pm, we were the only customers left & the landlord was waiting to close.

During the evening it was agreed that the meeting had been worthwhile & enjoyed by all. A further meeting was decided to be held in September. It was further proposed that the next meeting should give us more time & the landlord has offered us the use of his conservatory throughout the Sunday afternoon & evening & will provide refreshments as required.

Bill Joscelyne.



I can think of nothing to add to Bill's comments on the first meeting other than to thank him for his efforts in finding & booking the venue & other work he has put in.

As Bill said I bought my computer to the meeting & I would like to explain this a bit further. The computer is a Toshiba 1200 & the programme I am using is Pedigree. This is all IBM compatible. Also the data stored is transferable to a Gedcom file, this is a standard used by The Church of Latter Day Saints for data transfer. Which means anyone with a programme with this facility can swap information by modem (phone line) etc.

When I first got interested in Genealogy I started with knowing only my Grandfather's name & that we had some connection with the Walker's (of Johnnie Walker) fame. During the following years I have gathered lots of information. I then started coming across research done by A W Joscelyne of Leigh on Sea & W J Joscelyne of South Ockenden. By this time I had started research on Essex parish registers, then having met both Arthur & Bill discovered that a lot of the ground I have covered had already been thoroughly researched by these two gentlemen. On our many meetings with each other we all came to the conclusion that to store all this information in one place on a computer was the way forward. This would mean future researchers would not have to cover ground already done.

Hence I have set off on the task of putting all records of the name onto Pedigree. This includes Boyds registers, Births etc at St Catherine's House plus numerous other records. I have now got over 3000 names on database, 1500 marriages.

Most of you who attended the meeting kindly gave me your personal trees which I have now entered. NB: when supplying information it is helpful if you put your source of material down.

By our next meeting I hope to be able to print out a few of the documents available from the programme ie: Tree's, Personal history charts etc.

If anyone has any information they wish to submit or an enquiry of information needed please do not hesitate to contact me at the address at the end of this newsletter.

Peter Josling.

### NIGHT RENDEZVOUS

The year before the battle of Trafalgar there was an unusual event connecting a well known Leigh midwife with Lord Nelson. It involved Mary Joscelyne of Bank House, Leigh, a midwife who herself had ten daughters. Hurriedly called out one winter's night & sworn to secrecy, she was paid double her fee & taken to the Lawns, Southchurch, in a carriage with drawn blinds. On arrival she was presented with a patient in difficult labour, her hair was thick & auburn & her face more beautiful than Mary Joscelyne had ever seen.

When the difficult delivery was successfully ended, a stranger



entered the room wearing a black patch over one eye & with an empty sleeve to his jacket. He looked at the baby, said nothing to the midwife & left soon after. This remarkable incident has never been mentioned by historians but the older inhabitants of Leigh have always known that Nelson's child was delivered that night by their very own midwife Mary Joscelyne.

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### THE TOTTENHAM OUTRAGE

On the morning of 23rd January 1909 two Russian Anarchists, Jacob Lepidus & Paul Hefeldt, held up a wages van outside a rubber factory in Chesnut Rd Tottenham. They seized a haul of 80lbs of Gold & Silver. The driver of the van tried to stop them & was shot on. This alerted the police in a station across the road from the crime. A chase then began, at this time a 10yr old pupil of Earlsmead school, Haringey was helping a baker with his round. His name was Ralph Joscelyne in the excitement he ran beside a car giving chase, Lepidus & Hefeldt fired shots as they passed No 8 Mitchley Rd, Ralph fell wounded, a Mrs Andrews of No 4 ran & held him in her arms but saw he was dead.

As the chase proceeded into Dowsett Rd more shots were fired & a P.C. Tyler was fatally shot. The chase which by this time included a duck shooting party & local horse trades proceeded across the River Lee at Stonebridge Locks. Eventually on the edge of Epping Forest Hefeldt shot himself (he died later in hospital.) Lepidus ran on to Oak Cottage in Hale End where when surrounded by police & a crowd intent on lynching him also committed suicide. They were both buried in Walthamstow cemetery the location of their graves remaining a secret, as also the whereabouts of their haul which was never found.

As to Ralph Joscelyne he was buried in Abney Park cemetery opposite Stoke Newington Rail station. His grave being behind P.C. Tylers bears the following Monumental Inscription "In Loving Memory Of Ralph John Joscelyne Who Was Fatally Wounded On January 23rd 1909 Aged 10 Years Erected By Fellow Scholars At Earlsmead." It is also reputed that his father John who had quarrelled with his son on that fatal day, went mad & died 7yrs later in an asylum.

From information supplied by Arthur Joscelyne of Leigh on Sea.

### A THOUGHT

If one considers that each of us had 2 parents 4 grandparents 8 great grandparents 16 great great grandparents 32 great great great grandparents etc. Either this planet used to be very crowded or everyone must be related to everyone else.



### VARIATIONS

Josling, Joscelyne, Joscelyn, Joslin, Josselyn, Joslyn, Joslan, Jostling, Jasline, Joclyn, Jocelyne, Josland, Josslyne, Josclyn, Josclyne, Jasling, Jossling, Jocelin.

These are all variations of the name I have found, if any of you have come across other spellings, I would like to hear from you. A lot of it was down to how the person recording a marriage etc. Their interpretation of the name they heard & were possible responsible for what variation one is now blessed with. Also is a Gosling a Josling or not ?

### ROBERT JOCELYN. FIRST VISCOUNT JOCELYN 1688 - 1756

Lord Chancellor of Ireland, was the only son of Thomas Jocelyn by his wife Anne Daughter of Thomas Bray of Westminster & Grandson of Sir Robert Jocelyn of Hyde Hall, Hertfordshire. He appears to have studied English Law for sometime in the office of an attorney named Salkeld in Brook St, Holborn, where he made the acquaintance of Philip Torke, afterwards Lord Hardwicke. He was called to the Irish Bar in 1706 & at a by-election in September 1725 was returned to the Irish House of Commons for the borough of Granard Co. Longford. He was appointed third serjeant on the 28th March 1726 & at the General election in the following year was elected for the borough of Newtown, Co Down. On 4th May 1727 he became Solicitor General on the accession of George II. Jocelyn was confirmed in his office on 22nd October 1730. Was promoted to the post of Attorney General in the place of Thomas Marlay, appointed Lord Chief Baron on the resignation of Thomas Lord Wyndham. Jocelyn through the influence of his old friend Lord Hardwick, was appointed Lord Chancellor on 7th September 1739. He took his seat as speaker of the Irish House of Lords at the opening of parliament on 9th Oct 1739. He was created Baron Newport of Newport in the county of Tipperary by letters patent dated 29 Nov 1743. On the 3rd February 1744 he presided as Lord High Steward at the trial of Nicholas 5th Viscount Netterville, who was indicted for the murder of Michall Walsh. He was created Viscount Jocelyn also in the peerage of Ireland, by letters patent dated 6th December 1755. In September 1756 the great seal was put in commission during Jocelyn's absence from Ireland for the recovery of his health. He never returned, dying in London on 3rd Dec 1756, aged 68yrs. He was buried at Sawbridgeworth, Hertfordshire. Jocelyn married first, Charlotte daughter of Charles Anderson of Worcester. By whom he had an only son Robert who succeeded him as second Viscount & was created Earl Roden of High Roding in the county of Tipperary on 1st December 1771. His first wife died on 23rd February 1747. On 15th November 1754 he



married secondly, Frances daughter of Thomas Claxton of Dublin, Widow of Richard 1st Earl of Ross. She survived her second husband & died on 25th May 1772. Jocelyn is described by Lord Chesterfield as "A man of great worth". He possessed an amiable character & literary & antiquarian tastes. He served no fewer than 10 times as one of the Lord Justices during the absence of the Lord Lieutenant from Ireland. He was president of the Dublin Physico-Historical Society. In the British Museum there is an interesting letter written by Jocelyn, dated Dublin 2nd November 1754 to the Duke of Newcastle, calling the Duke's attention to "The very extraordinary height to which the disputes & animosities here have been unhappily carried". Two portraits of Jocelyn by Slaughter are in the possession of the present Earl of Roden. A marble bust by Bacon was erected to his memory in Sawbridgeworth church by his son.

Compiled from various sources by Arthur George Josling 1863-1924.

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Letters were sent out informing of the formation of the Josselin Society to, The Society Of Genealogists, Essex Family History Society & Family Tree Magazine. From these to date 12 letters have been recieved, some requiring information others giving it. It is my hope that this newsletter will grow into a quarterly magazine eventually, to do this it will though need an input of letters, articles etc from all members. Also have thought about having a members profile each edition ie: a brief article on yourself including your interests, birth & marriage date etc. If you wish for a reply to any enquiry I would be grateful if a SAE is included.

All correspondence & enquires to:- Peter Josling. 61 Golden Dell, Welwyn Gdn City. Herts. AL7 4EE.