

I think we can say that a good time was had by all at the Gathering, despite inclement weather and our peculiar reception at Fullingcott! At least, of all the dozens of letters written and 'phone calls made to arrange visits, those were the only ones ignored. Such kindness at Lee Barton from Mr. and Mrs. Hobbs and from Miss Busse at Lavington Church, also from staff at the new North Devon Record Office. Letters have been sent thanking these good people once more for making our visits so interesting.

To Derek and Betty, also, thanks for arranging our accommodation in Barnstaple. My thanks to them and all who were present for my framed testimonial!

How nice it was to meet new cousins Paul, from Plymouth and Ron, from Morwenston. Paul added to our records with various photocopies, among which were details from Ottery St. Mary concerning Copplestone of Woodland. Included is a transcription of a floor tomb in the choir of the Church. 'Underneath this stone lies the body of Mrs. Mary Copplestone of this parish who departed this life the 6 day of February 1756 aged 36 as also the body of John and Ann son & daughter of the abovesaid Joseph and Mary also here lieth the body of Joseph the eldest son of Joseph and Mary Copplestone who departed this life the 25th day of Aug^t 1756 in the 8 year of his age Also here lieth the body of Mr. Joseph Copplestone Husband of the abovesaid Mrs. Mary Copplestone who departed this life 8 of March 1759 in the 42 year of her age Remember me as ye go by As you are now so once was I As I am now so much you be Prepare for Death to follow me'

A sad note - I had had correspondence with a kind gentleman in Yarncombe, Mr. Harold Pointon, regarding Kingdon and he had hoped to meet us at Alverdiscott Church. I thought he had not come because the weather was bad, but received a letter on my return home from his solicitors informing me that he had died in April. It would have been a pleasure to meet someone so interested in the local history.

It is always interesting to find members of the family 'in print' and I acquired when visiting Derek and Betty at Rochester some cuttings from the hockey pages of the Chatham News regarding their son Nigel. Headlines include: 'Coppleston is once more the winner', 'Another Coppleston hat trick' and 'Defence gets credit as Nigel gets glory'. Some good ones for the family scrap book! A photocopy of an older write-up from The Denbighshire & Border Counties Advertiser of Sept 27, 1907 has been received from Willis along with a picture of the subject, 'The late Mr. Coppleston'. The business founded by Benjamin and taken up by his father, Thomas, when he moved to Liverpool, then carried on by Henry Edward, grandfather of Michael in Plymtree. Thomas, born Barking in 1804, seems to have been quite an eccentric and the cutting tells us that he would, when business was slack, take down his sign and re-hang it upside down with spelling errors! On other occasions he would rush down the main street with a 5' lath in his hand looking the soul of business and though when he started he was waiting for work, when he returned he always claimed that as the result of his rush through the town he had been besieged by people anxious to employ a tradesman who appeared to be so busy. A decorator, he was also poet and preacher. He had preached from the age of 18 until past 80 and was intimately associated with the English Churches of Christ in the country.

Willis continues his family history interest and has now had several articles published in 'Hel Achau', organ of Clwyd Family History Society, the latest being on the Muster Rolls. (I could do with his help at the PRO at Kew!)

A strange coincidence. During the week after returning from Devon I had a letter from Hermione in which she asked what I knew about Coppleston Warr Bampfylde. Two days later a card arrived from son Michael who had started his Coast to Coast Walk in the Lakes asking 'Who is Copplestone Ware Bampfylde?'. He had visited Dove Cottage and the Wordsworth Museum and seen prints made by the gentleman who was described as 'amateur topographical draughtsman'. He can be no other than Sir Coppleston Warwick Bampfylde, 3rd baronet (of Poltimore) and grandson of our heiress, Gertrude Coppleston, who married John Bampfylde and took Warleigh and various properties to that family.

To those of you awaiting information, pedigree copies, etc., please bear with me. I've been out almost every day since the Gathering, including a lovely weekend with Olive and Reg - which included a visit to Richard and Joyce at Birchington - and am off on the 16th for an extra long weekend with my old friend Maggie who has recently bought a house in Lichfield. Upon return I will deal with your requests as far as possible before making another attempt at the South Downs Way with Michael on the 30th. After that I should have more free time, broken only by another weekend away at Marjorie Coppleston's at Worthing, where I look forward to renewing acquaintance with Cindy, Johnnie and Sam, her beautiful feline friends.

For those of you who asked about quarterings I have put on this News-sheet the shield from McLean's Trigg Minor pedigree. Some of you met Valerie Huish of Instow, who came to Fullingcott and back to the motel with us - 'Hiwis' is one of the ancient spellings of her name. A study of the Visitations will show the name connections, except for a few. Raleigh is still a mystery to me, but is probably a connection through the Bonvilles.

Progress report: Work is ongoing at the PRO, Kew, to sort out our sailor and soldier ancestors and at the PRO, Chancery Lane examining early Wills and Chancery Proceedings to add to the earlier history. Reg and Olive rightly brought to my notice the fact that additions have been made to the pedigrees and I will type out these as soon as possible. All of you holding pedigrees and wanting these updates, please send s.a.e. plus 2nd class stamp to cover photocopying costs. While on the subject of postage, I seem to be sending less News-sheets out every time! As stated in the last Newsletter in July two years ago, I will send News-sheets to all those sending me an s.a.e. and a second class stamp every June and December. I cannot bear the cost myself and if any of your cousins complain that they are not receiving News-sheets, you will be able to remind them of the reason! If you put a note on your calendar or in your diary for June and December it will help you to remember. My postage bill is already heavy - and particularly around Gathering times when 'phone calls are added - so please, if you want to receive the News-sheet, send the wherewithal!

Regular visits are also made to the Census Room and if any of you have addresses of your family in the years 1841, 1851, 1861, 1871 and 1881, let me have them and I will be able to send you readings covering the whole family living in the house at that time. Birthplaces of children which are given will also help me to trace family movements. Somerset House is visited, too, for Wills from 1858 and if any of you want Wills read and notes made, let me know. For this information also, an s.a.e. will be appreciated. The Will indexes alone give useful information: 'Will of John Copplestone late of Ide, co. Devon, vet. surgeon, died 4 Aug 1879 at Ide, proved Exeter by Wm. Copplestone of Dawlish in said Co., vet. surgeon, son and James Dimond of Cowick Street in the parish of St. Thomas the Apostle nr. Exeter in said Co., baker, the Exors. Effects under £200.' For 25p the Will may be inspected and notes taken of all bequests. Admons (Administrations when person has died intestate) only give date of death and name of Administrator and address, with effects.

I hope you all have a good summer (and weather to go with it!) and enjoy your vacations. Any discoveries or happenings of interest will be welcomed for the December News-sheet and of course correspondence meanwhile I shall be happy to receive.

Your ever-loving kinswoman,

Muriel

1. Coppleston; 2. Raleigh; 3. Graas; 4. Pruer; 5. Hawley;
6. Tressilian; 7. Hiwis; 8. Bonville; 9. Gorges; 10. Foliot;
11. St. John; 12. Wibbery; 13. Mules; 14. Blanchminster;
15. Beauchamp(?) 16. Berkeley



A Wolf, passant, Az.

