



THE CORY SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER



Member of the Guild of One-Name Studies
Member of the Federation of Family History Societies

NUMBER 19

AUGUST 1999



ARTHUR ERNEST CORY (1891 – 1957)
*father of Frederick Cory and
grandfather of Colin Cory and Brenda Miller*

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ARTHUR ERNEST CORY of Harpole, Northamptonshire

A survivor of the Battle of Ypres in Belgium in the Great War, he was a batman to Lieutenant Tuck of the Suffolk Regiment and for his services to him received an engraved silver teapot now in the possession of his eldest son Frederick.

He had been sent to the Suffolk Regiment because they had recently suffered great losses and were drafting in new recruits from anywhere in the country. He was fortunate not to be drafted to the Northampton Regiment as they later lost many men during the Battle of the Somme.

Born 16 April 1891, Arthur Ernest, known as 'Ern', was the eldest of five children, the only one to have sons (three) to carry on the Cory name.

After the war he worked at the local Co-op in Harpole as a slaughterman and in his spare time he did outwork for the local shoe factories making football boots. In 1925 he went to work for Lewis's, a shoe factory in Northampton. Never

idle, in his spare time he was a barber to the village men; kept about 100 hens, selling the eggs to the local Egg Marketing Board who collected every day; sold garden produce to the villagers; and sang in the choir of the Baptist Chapel of which he was an avid member.

In 1955 he had a bad car accident, in which his only daughter Nellie was killed, from which he never fully recovered. He died in 1957. His descendants were three sons, four granddaughters, one grandson, three great-grandsons, and two grand-daughters.

Marilyn Cory (wife of Colin) and Brenda Miller of Harpole and Duston respectively

DAME JANE ANNE GORDON CORY'S BEQUESTS

Part 2 Lace Shawls and Textiles to the Victoria and Albert Museum, South Kensington, London

All my diamond ornaments jewellery and trinkets and a very small jewelled fan and all my lace shawls and textiles also One hundred pounds to be applied for use in its discretion in connection with the preservation display or giving publicity to such articles which are to be retained in one collection. If this bequest as a whole is refused by the Victoria and Albert Museum South Kensington the bequest is to be offered to a Museum in Ottawa Canada.

As you will see from the above excerpt from Lady Cory's will of 22 Nov 1945, the jewellery bequest - covered in the last newsletter - was linked with her *laces shawls and textiles*. The V & A's enthusiasm for the jewellery, however, was in stark contrast to their lack of it for the textiles - mainly machine lace - which would have been refused had the two collections not been linked. Fourteen items - all 19th century fans - were accessioned in 1952 but what happened to the remainder? Nothing, until 1989 when Santana Levey, the Keeper of the Department, reassessed the collection and 38 more pieces were accessioned, machine lace having greater significance by that time. Mainly 19th century from England, Ireland, Belgium, France and Austria, the oldest piece is a Flemish veil dating from 1800-1805.

How fortunate we are that Clifford Cory's cousin Theodore Cory married the authoress Winifred Graham for in her book *Observations Casual & Intimate* she related visits to Sir Clifford in London and Monmouthshire and to Lady Cory thus giving us an fascinating insight into their lives, otherwise unavailable to us, and revealed that *Jane* was known to friends as *Annie*:

"..... After she and Clifford had a legal separation, she lived with Lord and Lady Carew, the latter being her devoted sister. It was a great blow to Annie when Lady Carew died, for the sisters were inseparable and did everything together, including many week-end visits to friends.

Clifford's widow lives at 28 Belgrave Square and contemplates reviving her famous musical parties. Before the war she was one of the best known hostesses in London. If Kreisler, in whose honour she frequently gave lavish entertainments, returns to London she will certainly bid him to her hospitable board to meet the well-known people who graced her parties in the past. She and Kreisler are the greatest friends and I believe hers was the only private house in London at which he ever consented to play.

After six years of war spent in the country, it seems like a little bit of old London to see this Victorian hostess established again in the familiar home, and I am told hers is one of the few large houses in Belgravia occupied at the present time by a private resident.

It is appalling to think of the masses of boxes which had to be unpacked when she re-opened the familiar premises. Personally I am all for space, crowded treasures however beautiful lose some of their enchantment for me when they testify to their owner's love of collecting. I was never a collector because I have a natural antipathy to accumulation. Theodore shares these views. He says he loves the dignity of space which helps to display to advantage a few choice pieces. He infinitely prefers this to having a mass of exhibits which are lost when crowded together.

It is lucky we don't all think alike, or people who visit Annie Cory's storehouse of treasures would have lost a real treat. I prefer to see these things than to live with them and to be shown over her domain is like visiting a museum.

(Two paragraphs to appear in the next issue.)

One cannot speak of Annie's collection of striking exhibits without mentioning her love for relics of Queen Victoria. From girlhood, when the young Miss Lethbridge, who later married our cousin, was presented at Queen Victoria's Court, the Queen Empress became her idol. Among the many curiosities in the Belgrave Square house, I think the most treasured of all is the Queen's heavy black moiré dress, edged with crepe. Old lace and silk stockings worn by the same royal owner are other souvenirs owned by Lady Cory."

So, did any of these items of clothing form part of the bequest in the will of Lady Cory or does lack of a special mention indicate that she disposed of them before she drew up her will? None of the pieces are given that provenance but *An overskirt, part embroidered, 1860s, English, from a court dress* makes one wonder!

Sources:

Dame Jane Anne Gordon Cory's will
Observations Casual & Intimate by Winifred Graham
Correspondence with the Textiles and Dress Dept, V & A

Ida Birch, Cuffley

Welcome to members of the Cory Society at the AGM, 1 May 1999
by chairman, Mark William Cory Hassall

IT'S ALL IN THE GENES

Our physical characteristics are controlled by the 'genetic blue print' we inherit from our ancestors. Don't ask me about the details of all this - what, for example is the difference between a 'gene' and a 'chromosome' - but we can take it as read that geneticists can tell some extraordinary things. Remember the case of Adrian Targett the west country history school teacher? He was shown to have 9,000-year-old long line of descent from palaeolithic Cheddar Man, or, to be more accurate, Cheddar Man's mother, because the particular form of DNA that demonstrates the connection passes through females (see Larry Barham, Philip Priestly and Adrian Targett *In Search of Cheddar Man*, Tempus, 1999 £9.99). Such a descent is not of concern to members of 'one name societies' like ours, because we represent people with a common surname, and surnames are *sirenames*¹, or patronymics which reflect a male line descent. However in the human genetic make up, there is one chromosome, the 'Y' chromosome, which is unique in that it is carried by males only. What is more it is very distinctive. The 'Y' chromosomes of both myself and my brothers will be almost identical to those of our father. And yet with each generation the chromosomes mutate slightly. Two cousins connected in the male line with a common ancestor two hundred years ago will have 'Y' Chromosomes more closely similar than male line cousins who had a common ancestor living in, say, the twelfth century.

I was unaware of all this until one of my students, Matt Sears, told me about some research he was doing in conjunction with someone called Mark Thomas in the Centre for Genetic Anthropology at University College. Mark and his colleagues had already proved the theory of Dr Tudor Parfitt that the Lemba, a black African tribe, really were, as they claimed, 'one of the lost tribes of Israel' (Tudor

¹ Etymologically, however, the *sur* in surname has nothing to do with *sire*. It comes, through the Norman French *sur*, from the Latin *super*, 'above' of 'extra' and so surname simply means a name used over and above the given Christian name. In most European countries surnames reflect patrilinear descent, though, sometimes matrilinear surnames were used.

Parfitt *Journey to the Vanished City*, Phoenix 1999 £7.99). Matt Sears was going to undertake similar research in this country.

It is a common place with all family historians that populations in the British isles were pretty static until the nineteenth century and the great growth of towns brought about by the industrial revolution. Only one of the families of my eight great grandparents were truly Londoners, but in the course of the nineteenth century all the other seven came to London even though they didn't always stay there. Before this migration they had lived in different regions in country areas - my Corys in north Cornwall, my Hassalls in Cheshire - and had lived there in each case from the middle ages and no doubt generations before that. But were my Corys or should I say your Corys (because I am not descended from the Corys in the male line) surviving Celtic stock as seemed likely, and were my Hassalls, living as they did on a frontier area between England and Wales, Saxons or Celts? This was the sort of question that Matt intended to answer. He has embarked on taking samples, or using the information where it already exists from medical records, in a transect across England from East Anglia where one might expect a high proportion of 'Saxon' Y chromosomes to Cornwall where one might expect a high proportion of 'Celtic' ones. He would thus be able to quantify - at least as far as males were concerned - the question of Celtic survival in different parts of the country.

Last November Matt took a swab sample from inside my mouth so that he could get my Y chromosomes analysed. I had to wait till the 1st April (!) for the results. Not much good I'm afraid, though there was a close match between my Y chromosome and that of someone (an anonymous someone because the information came from medical records) from across the Cheshire border in Derbyshire. Still, once a big enough data base is established, I should be able to tell whether the Hassalls are Celts or Saxons. Matt's own Y chromosome sample when analysed came up with an amazing result: he was descended in the male line from Tartars!! What a saga there must be behind that - Hunnish hordes pillaging - and yes, raping - as they rode westwards to batter the crumbling defences of the Roman Empire; some tow haired Visigothic girl, perhaps, giving birth to a baby boy with high

cheek bones and black hair - Matt's ancestor; tribe raiding tribe, more forced unions between Matt's aggressor male ancestors and his female ancestor victims, until a descendant, growing up in Saxony, Angle or Frisia, crossed the North Sea to England with a war band in a battered open boat. Again the raping and pillaging until Matt's warrior ancestors finally settled down somewhere in the home counties - where they lived and tilled the soil for 1300 hundred years before finally migrating a century or so ago to London. Phew! It is hard to imagine my friend big boned Matt, and with his florid face and cockney phonemes, being related to Atilla the Hun and Genghis Khan, but this is the story his Y chromosome has to tell!!

Well, what has this to do with the Corys? Simply that we could get Matt to take samples from the Cory males amongst various family groups - in Cornwall, East Anglia, and Northampton, and his friends in the Centre for Genetic Anthropology should be able to say, scientifically, approximately when they 'split off'. Matt is already doing similar work with one or two other one name societies. So what about it Colin

and Michael, David and William? Are you man enough for the dreaded 'swab test'? Is the Cory Society going to be at the fore front of genetic research into family history? Or are we just to continue to potter happily amongst the census returns and parish registers? That is the challenge we - or rather you Cory males face - so, lads, its over to you!

There is no reason of course why one shouldn't trace one's matrilinear pedigree, especially in this age of sex equality. I can trace my own matrilinear pedigree for five generations, the surname changing with each generation, back to one Martha Bartlett who lived at the end of the eighteenth century in the Shepton Mallet area of Somerset, about ten miles from Cheddar, so perhaps I'm descended from Cheddar Woman too!

PS On a more serious note, if you are interested or can interest a male Cory relative, please contact the chairman who will send out a 'kit' so that you can take the necessary swab samples and return for analysis.

SOLDIERS DIED IN THE GREAT WAR 1914-1919

Each year the nation pays tribute at the Cenotaph and at War Memorials throughout the country to those who died in the Great War, and other wars more recent. We pay our own tribute to the Corys who died, not forgetting those who survived the ordeal some bearing the effects on their bodies and minds for the rest of their lives. We remember too the anguish of the families who mourned when their sons, husbands or fathers made the ultimate sacrifice.

We are able to list all the Cory soldiers of the British Army who lost their lives, thanks to The Naval and Military Press for producing a CD-Rom containing the information in the 81 volumes produced in 1921 listing approximately 634,000 Soldiers and 37,000 Officers by regiment or corps. This archive, now easily accessible, holds information on 703,000 soldiers including those who died at home, perhaps of illness or other non-battle related causes. We have identified the two Cory officers but not all the soldiers and we need the help of readers. If you have information on any of them, please get in touch with the editor in time for the December issue.

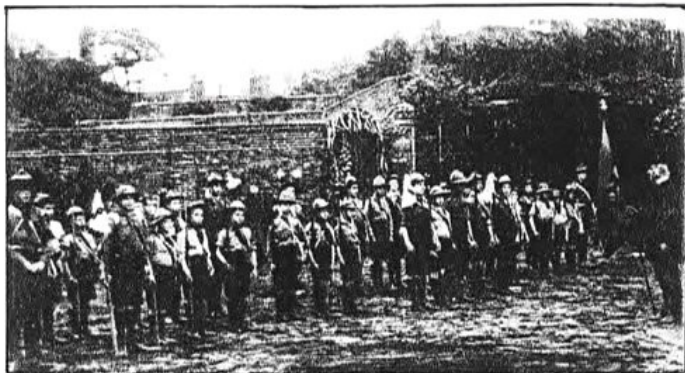
This list covers the British Army only. We will endeavour to list the Corys in other services and wars. Not wishing to omit any names, we ask you to pass on any information you may have to the editor.

Name	Regiment	Battalion	Rank	Died How	Died Date	Supplementary Notes
Charles Willoughby	Suffolk Regiment	5th Battalion (Territorial)	2/LT	Killed in action	12 Aug 1915	
Cyril Noel	Royal Horse Artillery and Royal Field Artillery		CAPT	Killed in action	31 Oct 1916	(ATT T M B)

Name	Born	Enlisted	Residence	Number	RANK	Died How	Theatre of War / at home	Died Date
Arthur Frederick		Woolwich	Penge, S E	237619	GUNNER	Died of wounds	France & Flanders	25 Oct 1918
	Royal Horse Artillery and Royal Field Artillery.							
Bernard Charles	Kensington, Middlesex	Manchester	Sidecup, Kent	1184	L/SGT	Killed in action	Gallipoli	06 Jun 1915
	Manchester Regiment, 1/6th Battalion.							
Bernard Horace		Kettering	Wellingborough	G/68489	PRIVATE	Died of wounds		18 Apr 1918
	Royal Fusiliers (City of London Regiment) 17th Battalion. Formerly 33838, East Surrey							
Charles Samuel	Northampton	Northampton		51010	PRIVATE	Died of wounds	France & Flanders	01 Aug 1917
	Manchester Regiment, 16th Battalion. Formerly G/86531, Middlesex Regt.							
Ernest Albert	St Peter's, Nr Mountigate Norwich	Norwich		3/7804	PRIVATE	Killed in Action	France & Flanders	11 Aug 1916
	Norfolk Regiment, 7th Battalion.							
Frederick	Stratton, Cornwall	Bude	Stratton	266378	PRIVATE	Died	Mesopotamia	24 Mar 1918
	Devonshire Regiment, 1/6th Battalion (Territorials)							
Harry		Leeds	Leeds	5015	PRIVATE	Died of wounds	France & Flanders	16 Jul 1916
	Prince of Wales's Own (West Yorkshire Regiment), 1/7th Battalion							
Horace	Southport, Lancs	Liverpool	Southport	42344	PRIVATE	Killed in action	France & Flanders	26 Mar 1918
	Machine Gun Corps (Infantry). Formerly 34560, Liverpool Regt.							
John Fred	London	Stratford, Essex	Bow, Essex	10721	L/SGT	Killed in action	France & Flanders	26 Aug 1914
	Royal Scots (Lothian Regiment), 2nd Battalion.							
John Henry	Battersea	New Cross	Forest Hill	P/4609	A/SGT	Died	Home	15 Feb 1919
	Corps of Military Police, Mounted Branch. Formerly 5396, Dragoons of the Line, M.M.							
John Reginald	Brixton, Surrey	Chesterfield, Derbyshire	Mitcham, Surrey	70230	PRIVATE	Killed in action	France & Flanders	03 Oct 1917
	Sherwood Foresters (Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Regiment), 9th Battalion.							
Robert Ashby	Harpole, Northants	Northampton	Harpole, Northampton	20878	PRIVATE	Killed in action	France & Flanders	22 Aug 1917
	King's (Shropshire Light Infantry). Formerly 40080, Suffolk Regt.							
Samuel	Delamere, Cornwall	Camelford, Cornwall	St Teath, Cornwall	23432	PRIVATE	Died	Home	11 Aug 1917
	Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry, 7th Battalion.							
Wyndham Archibald		Newton Abbot	Torquay	205065	PRIVATE	Killed in action	France & Flanders	04 Oct 1917
	Devonshire Regiment, 8th (Service) Battalion.							

SCOUTING IN RYE - CAPTAIN EDWARD JOHN CORY DSO MC

From *Around Rye in Old Photographs* by Alan Dickson, courtesy of Sutton Publishing Ltd.



BOYS SCOUTS AT RYE, 1911. Founded in 1909, the first Boy Scouts troop in Rye was led by Captain Edward John Cory, a Boer War comrade of Baden-Powell and partner in the auctioneering firm, Reeve & Finn. The troop was reviewed by the King at a national rally, and, Captain Cory having died in March 1911, the colours were presented by his uncle and business partner, Kingsnorth Reeve.

Captain Edward John Cory - awarded the DSO and MC for his services in the Boer War - was a descendant of the Norfolk, Bramerton line. The son of Edward William Cory, Vicar of Meldreth in Cambridgeshire, and his wife Sophonia Reeve, his half-brother surgeon Charles George Cory was the grandfather of three of our members, C Charles Cory - who supplied the above item - and his brothers J R Michael Cory, and David W Cory who reports on the tour of Bloomsbury, below.

A WALK AROUND BLOOMSBURY

After two hours of earnest discussions at the Annual General Meeting followed by an excellent sandwich lunch it was a pleasure to be taken for an instructive walk by Mark Hassall.

The weather was perfect and the parks and trees were at their best as sixteen of us followed Mark to visit the sites of the houses of Arthur Cory (Bramerton, Norfolk line), Ralph Cory (Tresparrett, Cornwall line) and William Cory, Richard Cory and the Bell family into which Hannah Cory married (Mark's Stratton, Cornwall line - see tree of the Bloomsbury branch in Newsletter No 16, August 1998). The connection of the Bells with the Bloomsbury Group and Virginia Woolf, John Maynard Keynes and Lytton Strachey was apparent from the juxtaposition of their houses

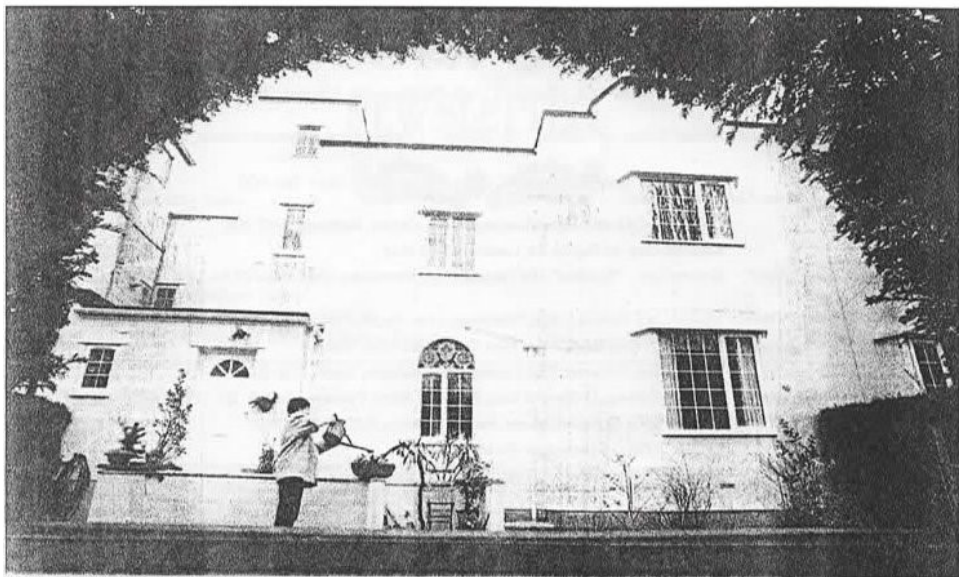
although few of them remained in their original form.

We were, perhaps, fortunate that we were unable to view the gruesome remains of Jeremy Bentham in University College and were sad to hear about the departure of University College Hospital from its present position opposite. I was interested to note that the site of the house of Arthur and Fanny Cory is now the Institute of Tropical Diseases where I had to attend for my various inoculations in 1956 before leaving for Singapore.

All in all a very pleasant and instructive afternoon, thank you Mark.

David W Cory, Bury St Edmunds

ON THE MARKET: Pwll-y-Myn, Peterston-super-Ely, Vale of Glamorgan



PWLL-Y-MYN: Here the Moroccan-style house is framed by the arch in the yew hedge around the front garden

A touch of Morocco in Wales

JOHN WILLIAMS

It appears that Peterston-super-Ely, among the more select and secluded of Vale of Glamorgan villages, would have been on the way to becoming a small town if a certain family had had its way.

Mind you, the 1,000 houses that the wealthy Cory family – of Welsh shipping and coal mines fame – planned for the locality at the turn of the century promised to be something special.

The plan was for a “garden village” of considerable proportions. It would have had a new church, school and inn, and tree-lined avenues were to be a key feature. Even a golf course was mooted though, so an account goes, that was quietly dropped after a Cory motiarch objected in case the locals should be tempted to play on a Sunday.

A start was made, a lot of the landscaping was carried out (including trees planted alongside the River Ely) but World War I intervened and in the changed world afterwards the ambitious scheme died away. Intended to cover more than 7,000 acres, it would have dwarfed many similar “garden” ventures that eventually sprang up around Britain.



ROOMY: Wendy Bull in the spacious lounge

In the event just 23 of the houses were built at Peterston-super-Ely, a few miles west of Cardiff, 10 of them in a small crescent called Pwll-y-Myn (literally, the “pool of young goats” though nobody seems sure why).

No 4, built in 1905, is now on the market and its extraordinary design gives a flavour of how unusual Peterston-super-Ely would have looked had the Cory family

got their way. All 10 were built Moroccan-style following a Cory family member’s travels in North Africa – flat roofs at a variety of levels giving a castellated and turreted effect, creamy white walls and an arch with a mosaic design over the front door.

The “garden village” saga was related by one of No 4’s owners, Wendy Bull, who spent her childhood at the house (which is ap-

proached by the only avenue of trees to get off the Cory driving board – 50 or so large and leafy chestnuts).

“My friends were so envious that we had a house where you could go out on to the roof and sunbathe or have picnics,” she said. “The flat roof coped with rain by being imperceptibly sloped so that the water would run away to the guttering.” She said access to the roof was gained from a white tower which contained a staircase which served the upper floor landing before continuing upwards to the roof.

Mrs Bull’s family had been in the crescent since around 1910. An uncle still lives in the next house but one.

She said the Moroccan theme was not continued inside the house, which has a square entrance hall, an inner dining hall, a lounge with a large window overlooking the rear garden, a sitting room with a bay window to the front and a kitchen/breakfast room which has cream dragged finish cupboards and solid maple worktops.

The windows are fairly new but were made to the small-pane pattern of the originals.

There are four double bedrooms, three of which have cast-

iron fireplaces with iron basket grates and slate mantelpiece and surround. The remaining bedroom has an original fireplace with Art Nouveau moulding. It has gentle curves, petrol blue/green colouring and large ceramic tiles. “It’s so beautiful it catches people’s eye,” said Mrs Bull.

A privet hedge encloses the rear garden, which is mostly lawn with a large paved patio and herbs and flower beds, while the front garden has a high yew hedge forming an arch over the main gate.

On the side of the yew hedge away from the house stands a high copper beech planted by her parents to replace one which had had to be cut down.

The peculiar nature of Pwll-y-Myn’s birth as some sort of unfinished business means the row of 10 houses is a rarity – it’s one of the few places you’ll find where the house numbers are consecutive on each side instead of odd or even. Mrs Bull said it’s because the houses across the road were not built until long afterwards. For many years No 4 was faced by a garden nursery – she remembers it well.

● Number 4 Pwll-y-Myn Crescent, priced at £169,000, is being handled by Watts & Morgan, of Cowbridge, tel: 01446 773500.

From the Western Mail of 16 January 1999, reproduced courtesy of Western Mail & Echo Ltd

THE CORY SOCIETY

Chairman	Mark Hassall,
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(Coordinator - Norfolk)	Malcolm Cory,
(Coordinator - Northants)	Marilyn Cory,
(Coordinator - Australia)	Pam Cory,
(Coordinator - Kent)	William Cory,
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	Michael S Cory,
	Margaret Goffin,

EDITORIAL

My thanks to all who contributed articles and to Rosemary Gitsham for extracting the Corys from the CD-Rom *Soldiers Died in the Great War 1914-1919*. Printed material is another valued source: I thank Charles Cory and Raymond Cory for items in this category and also the respective publishers for allowing reproduction in this newsletter. Disappointingly, the Moroccan style houses in Pwll-y-Myn Crescent, Peterston-super-Ely (page 7) were not included in the BBC Wales architecture series *On the House* as originally planned by the production company Fulmar West Limited.

The nuns at Llantarnam Abbey kindly gave us the extract from Winifred Graham's *Observations Casual & Intimate* - they, in turn, had received it from an appreciative visitor.

WE STILL NEED A STEADY FLOW OF ARTICLES, PHOTOGRAPHS ETC AS DEMAND IS ALMOST OUTSTRIPPING THE SUPPLY!

MEMBERSHIP

A warm welcome to our new member Nicholas Purcell, of St John's College, Oxford, a descendant of the Reverend Matthew Henry Eade = Elizabeth Wymond Cory (Stratton tree - Table F1, SO/4 in *The English Corys*), daughter of Nicholas Cory, surgeon of St Mawes.

Do you wish to join The Cory Society ?

If you do, please send your cheque, payable to *The Cory Society*, to the Treasurer,
Mrs M C Cullingworth, Bexhill-on-Sea, East Sussex

Subscriptions: £12 (UK) \$27 (US) C\$40 (CAN) A\$ 40(Aus)

OVERSEAS MEMBERS MAY PAY INSTEAD £15 STERLING BY BANK DRAFT VIA UK BRANCH OF BANK.

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