

---

# NO(R)STER NEWS

---

December 2005

Issue 7

---

If you have any suggestions for other subjects you would like covered, I'd be pleased to hear from you.

Examples could be a section for notification of Births and Marriages, or perhaps a list of contact points - whatever you want, I will try to incorporate.

If any of you are on the 'net', I can send this newsletter via e-mail. If you wish this, please let me have your e-mail address.

Previous copies are available to anyone who would like one.

This will be the last year that I will send a copy to everyone - costs are getting prohibitive. Please let me know if you would like to continue to receive a paper copy. I will continue to send by e-mail, so please keep me up to date with your e-mail address if you wish.

**A**s for me, my details have not changed: -

6 White Broom +44(0)7941344858

Lymm

Cheshire

WA13 9JA

e-mail [norster@one-name.org](mailto:norster@one-name.org)

the new website is [www.norster.org.uk](http://www.norster.org.uk)

If you have an e-mail address I could send this to you through, please e-mail me to let me know.

**I** apologise for not organising a Reunion or Family Gathering this year.

Unfortunately, personal circumstances prevented it. I will try soon, but will contact you all when I can regarding this.

## A Cautionary Tale...

Back in the beginning of my research, I looked through the General Record Office indexes of Births, Marriages and Deaths to find members of the family. These indexes were on microfiche, and had to be read at public libraries with a special section set aside for us sad people !

For the marriage indexes, up to 1912, there is no indication of the spouse's surname at the time of marriage. I came across a marriage of Francis Norster in the March quarter of 1908 in Portsmouth, Hampshire. Now, I needed to know who he married. To find this out for marriages prior to 1912, you need to look through all the microfiche looking for the same reference number. This can be extremely tiring and very time consuming. However, I started looking from where I had found Francis, and not too long afterwards, I found the same reference for a Lillian Madge Parsons. Eureka, I had found her - add her to the file.

Having found the marriages, I next turned my attention to the Death indexes. I found Francis dying in Gosport in 1953. No problem there. Amongst the deaths, I did not find Lillian Madge Norster. I did find, however, Daisy Caroline Norster, dying in Fareham in 1983. I didn't think too much of this at the time. I found one or two that had died in Gosport, and a large cemetery there in Ann's Hill, so I wrote to them asking for any details from their records. They sent back a number of details, including Daisy Caroline Norster.

The next time I was at my parents house, I visited Ann's Hill and located the grave of Daisy Caroline (whom I had still not linked with any other member of the family), and (as you have probably guessed by now) she was buried with Francis as his widow. Fortunately, on the side of the grave marker was a funeral directors name - they still existed in Gosport, but were not able to provide too much information. A copy of her will did not help either other than to lead me to think her maiden name was Stephens, nor could the old peoples home where she died as it had closed some time ago.

Now I had a problem. I could not find the death of Lillian Madge Norster, nor Francis' marriage to Daisy - perhaps they both happened overseas in which case I may never find them.

A short while ago, I happened to be looking at the 1837online website where they are trying to transcribe the GRO indexes from 1837 to date (a mammoth task as there are 100 million between 1837 and 1900 alone, and all by volunteers). The usefulness of this site is that you can see all the people in marriages.

I found Francis, and clicked on his marriage link. This reminded me that at that time 2 marriages were listed on each page, so 4 people would have the same reference, and the 2 females listed - Lillian Madge Parsons and Daisy Caroline Stephens.

I had thought that I had found a marriage to Lillian, but did not check for another marriage record on the same page.

The upshot is that there never was a marriage between Francis and Lillian, but he did marry Daisy in 1908. I have nothing else to look for, and can now close my investigations on that part.

Boy do I feel silly...

**F**or those of you who have access to the Internet and e-mail, you can contact me on:

[norster@one-name.org](mailto:norster@one-name.org)

Or, please visit our (your) website at:

[www.norster.org.uk](http://www.norster.org.uk)

which has recently been updated. This newsletter will be on the website by the time you read it. It gives you the opportunity to see your ancestors in a normal tree format. Please e-mail me, or write, or phone and let me know what you think of it.

If you have a computer, but are not on the Internet, I can send you a copy of the website on a CD. Please let me know if you would like a copy.