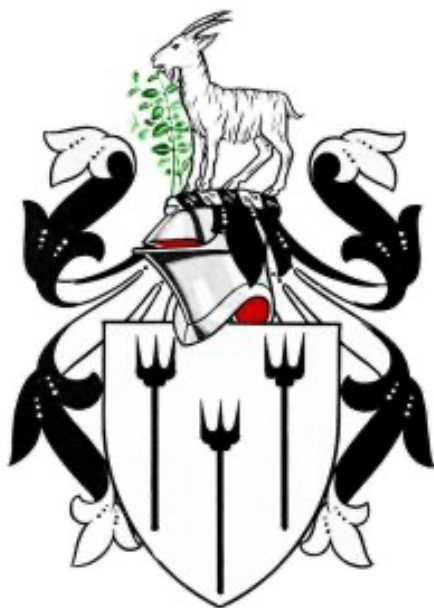


Worthington Family History Society Newsletter



November 2021

Worthington Family History Society

Newsletter

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**Remember to visit our website at
www.worthingtonfhs.org**

Worthington Family History Society Newsletter: Edition 3

Welcome to the third edition of the WFHS Newsletter. Each member of the Council will be taking turns to write the Newsletters and any volunteers from the membership are very welcome as well. The first three biographies of the Council appear in this edition and the other three in the next edition.

In contrast to Hannah's sunny London introduction in Edition 2, I am writing this at my desk on a cold day in morbid Melbourne, the city with the longest number of lockdown days and curfews in the world. There is no end in sight as the numbers of infected increase daily. Everybody has had enough of incompetent governments and their cohorts. One good thing is Spring! It is in the air!

The 16th AGM took place on 27/28 March 2021 by Zoom and was attended by eleven members who live in different time zones all over the world. The Treasurers accounts were approved and seven new members were formally accepted. Those on the Council and other positions agreed to stand again and a Gathering in 2022 was optimistically discussed. The full Minutes of the AGM are on the WFHS website.

Since the inception of the 17th Century Project, now the Worthington Family History Society, I have archived yearly, correspondence, photos, agendas and programmes. Before they find a final resting place it has been agreed that I write a short history of these events beginning at the beginning. The First Three Years 2004-2006 appears in this edition of the newsletter. This will be followed by our Gathering for the AGM held in Annapolis, Maryland, USA in 2007.

Christine Worthington has submitted Part 2 of her research on her ancestor John Worthington.

On our website is a sketch of a woman who is identified by her connection to her husband, Benjamin Worthington of Dover 1718-1783. Ann has an interesting background and her biography appears in this newsletter.

Ian has written a short article bringing us up to date with the current state of play regarding those Worthington pedigrees of the 17th Century not covered in Volume 1 of our book published last year. Also relating to the book, Bill has received an acknowledgement from the US Library of Congress for the copy he sent to them for their archives.

Jan Worthington

Councillor Australasia



Ian Alan Worthington, OBE

Born Stockport, Cheshire and after leaving school, joined the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, where I worked in a number of countries between 1977-2014. First posting Moscow, USSR as a young Third Secretary for Scientific Affairs, and last Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic/ Port au Prince, Haiti as Ambassador. Lots of adventures between meeting royalty, presidents, despots, dictators, and more importantly the ordinary people of some fascinating and interesting countries on our planet. I now live in southern France in the Département de l'Herault with my partner and our dog.



First got hooked on family history via a first cousin once removed who was trying to find out more about "our branch" of the family. I later enrolled on the Higher Certificate Correspondence Course at the Institute for Heraldic and Genealogical Studies in Canterbury, but other projects and interests related to family history have put that study on a back burner.

I have been President of the WFHS since 2020 and have been trying to modernise our procedures so that we may share more of our research with other genealogists (and share their research and knowledge). I am also actively trying to pull together the information we have gathered to produce pedigrees for the Worthington families of the 17th Century not covered in Volume 1 of our Society publication. I also volunteer as a transcriber at the Society of Genealogists to help digitise the many thousands of pedigree rolls held in their library.

Janet (Jan) Worthington, NZRN, Dip FHS, FSAG



Born New Zealand 1941, the great granddaughter of Thomas Knight Worthington, (1836-1896) of Dover, Kent, immigrant ancestor who arrived in NZ in 1858. Inherited passion for family history. Family: 22 aunts & uncles, 52 first cousins, two marriages, two children, four grandchildren. Careers in Nursing, Education, Computer Industry, Genealogy. Travelled the world for work and pleasure. Lecturer, author, researcher, event organiser, JP, company director, company secretary. Three successful businesses in Brisbane, Sydney & Melbourne, mainly in Genealogy & Family History for past 40 years. President & founding member of 17th

Century Project & WFHS. Hobbies: socialising with family and friends, building and renovating houses, gardening, long distance swimming, painting & sailing. Awards for genealogy, books, sailing and gardening. Unusual experiences: unexpectedly entertaining overseas CHOGM Heads of State in my lounge room; sitting my Diploma exam in the Library of Congress Washington DC supervised by FBI agent P William Filby; diving off a ship into freezing Antarctic waters for a swim; and getting married when I was nearly 80 to Bonnie Tyler's Total Eclipse of the Heart.

Hannah Murphy

I was born in New Zealand and now live in Kent, UK. I usually work as an urban planner for a local authority in London. However, I am currently on maternity leave after giving birth to my beautiful daughter Grace in late October.



Growing up my Dad did a lot of research into the Murphy family history. My 2x Great Grandmother's family (the Delaney's) spent their life savings on a one-way ticket to Victoria, Australia from Tipperary, Ireland in 1854 to escape famine. They set up one of southern Australia's first whiskey distilleries (albeit underground) and many distilleries in the region now cite the Delaney storey as part of their origins. Discovering such interesting stories and facts about my ancestors is what got me interested in family history.

Although I knew a lot about my father's family heritage, I realised I knew very little about mother's family – the Worthington's. My research pretty quickly led me to the Worthington Family History Society and it has been neat to link up with like-minded people as we continue to delve further into understanding who our ancestors were and how they lived. I am in my second term as Secretary of the Society.

NEWS AND NOTES

17th Century Project - update

Hello Members!

I thought you might welcome a “sitrep” of where we are regarding the processing of material not already included in Volume 1 of the Worthington Families of the 17th Century. With just three of us working on this, it is taking longer than we would have hoped, but progress is being made!

Most of the identified pedigrees have now been fully updated and verified by Stuart, Heather and me. The originals of some of the pedigrees were drafted over 10 years ago and it was necessary to bring them up to date with new, or at least newly discovered, information. There remain just the the complex and contentious pedigrees for the families who were resident in Cheshire to complete.

Some good progress has been made with the narratives which will accompany the first three of five Leicestershire pedigrees: Newbold (Worthington), Lockington and St Margaret’s. Work is currently in hand to add similar narratives and pedigrees for the other two Leicestershire pedigrees (Norton Juxta Twycross and Orton on the Hill). Once completed they will be added to the website in their own section of the Members’ Area. The plan is also to have a document with an overview of these five pedigrees and the county, pulling together links (where they exist or may exist). Being on line, these documents will be easier to edit if new or additional information comes to light any time in the future. Or indeed if anyone spots any errors!

Over the coming months, similar narratives and pedigrees will be added for Northamptonshire, Staffordshire, Nottinghamshire, Surrey, Hampshire, Kent, Montgomeryshire and Connecticut and any remaining counties. As mentioned above Cheshire will be the last county to be drafted to complete the project.

Ian A Worthington
(on behalf of Stuart G Worthington and Heather Lawrence)

NEWS AND NOTES

A prestigious home for our book...

As you may know, whenever a book is published, a copy has to be sent to certain libraries for safe keeping and posterity. Such donations are handled by the publisher, which in our case was in the United Kingdom. Hence copies were sent, as a matter of course, to the British Library in London and the Bodleian Library in Oxford.

Bill Worthington suggested we send a copy to the US Library of Congress and this has been warmly acknowledged in the following letter. Good idea Bill!

LIBRARY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

The Library of Congress
U.S./Anglo Division
101 Independence AVE SE
Washington, D.C. 20540-4270

August 20, 2021

William C. Worthington
2704 Dierick Drive
Mountain View, CA 94040

Dear Mr. William C. Worthington:

On behalf of the Library of Congress, we want to thank you and acknowledge the generous donation of your publication, **Worthington Families of the Seventeenth Century**. We are happy to inform you that the publication was selected for addition to the Library's General Collections and was assigned Library of Congress control number: **2020446763**.

Once again, thank you for your interest in enriching the collections of the Library, and your most kind donation.

Sincerely yours,

Jennifer Baum Sevec

Jennifer Baum Sevec
Head, U.S. Monographs Section
gifts@loc.gov

The Next Generation...

How fitting for a Family History Newsletter, news of the arrival of the next generation!

Congratulations are in order to our secretary Hannah Murphy, who was successfully delivered of a daughter on 30 October 2021. Grace Marie Horton came into the world weighing 8.12 lbs. We wish mum, dad and Grace all the best for a wonderful future together.



A Significant Photo:

My Oldest Ancestor's Likeness

Jan Worthington tell us about Ann Worthington, nee Jelly (1723-1801)



The proudly upright elderly gentlewoman with intense knowing eyes is my 4th great grandmother. She wears a comfortable dowager shawl and frilled bonnet held in place with a headband. I first saw this framed charcoal sketch of Ann Worthington hanging in the house of a cousin, John Francis Worthington D.S.C. Lt Cmdr. R.N.V.R. who is now deceased. Its provenance is otherwise unknown and who possesses it today is unknown. I was lucky enough to photograph her when I was in England about forty years ago.

Benjamin Worthington, a cooper, Freeman and Councilman of Dover, married widowed Ann in St Mary's Church Dover in 1751. By her first marriage to Samuel Dell, a churchwarden of St Marys, she had one known daughter, Affra. Benjamin and Ann had eight children but only five lived to adulthood. Their eldest child who died aged two years in 1753 was named Henry Worthington after his maternal grandfather and his uncle, Henry Jelly. Their only surviving son, Benjamin Jelly Worthington, commander of customs cutter *Tartar*, was my ancestor.

Ann Jelly was baptised in the parish of St Lawrence, Thanet on 20 November 1723. She was the first born child to Henry Jelly and his wife Affra Jelly, nee Rouse; and the only one of four daughters to marry. The family were very comfortable financially and lived in a three story house with views of the sea, the distant French coast and Dover Castle. Her father was a land surveyor and a stone road

marker with his initials on it can still be found in Dover. He was a Jurat and Excise Board Supervisor as well as Mayor of Dover in 1750 and 1754, the year before his death in 1755.

For SALE to the HIGHEST BIDDER,
At the ANTWERP TAVERN in DOVER,
On WEDNESDAY, the 26th Day of March instant,
At Five o'Clock in the Afternoon,



A Modern, genteel, and commodious Dwelling-house, compleatly finished, and fit for the immediate Reception of a Gentleman's Family, situate in the Centre of the Town of Dover, commanding a beautiful and extensive Prospect of the Sea, French Coast, Dover Castle, and Harbour, and consisting of three Parlours and a Kitchen, with suitable Out-offices; four Chambers on the first Floor, and six upon the Attic Story, with Closets and other Conveniences; and now in the Occupation of Henry Jelly, Esquire.

Possession may be had upon the first Day of May next; the Premises viewed, and Particulars known, by applying to Mr. JAMES LAMB, Auctioneer, at Dover.

Kentish Gazette, March 7-11 1788, p.1

In September 1782 Benjamin Worthington was elected Warden of the Almshouse for that year. When Dover Council meeting met in March 1783 Benjamin was listed as 'sick' and he died the following month, aged 64. He was buried in the large altar tomb on the eastern side of the chancel in St Mary's Church, containing Jelly and Rouse family members.

Benjamin's estate was left to his wife Ann who lived for a further 23 years before her death on 30 December 1801 aged 78. She was buried in the family vault with her husband on 7 January 1802, leaving many strong and able descendants.

September 2001

John Worthington Part II: Voyage to and Life in Australia

Christine Worthington

Part I described John Worthington's tough life in England. In 1805, John was found guilty of stealing a load of wood and as punishment was to be 'sent and transported to some point beyond the seas for the term of seven years'. Part II continues John Worthington's story including his voyage to and life in Australia.

Ship: *Fortune* (1806)

Departed: 28 Jan 1806 – Portsmouth, England

Arrived: 12 Jul 1806 – Sydney, NSW

Master: Captain Henry Moore (Lt, RN)

Particulars: Convict vessel; 622 ton; Contractors Mestaer and Locke.

Notes: Carried male convicts, one of whom was John Worthington. *Fortune's* muster of convicts was mixed with the muster of *Alexander*. Numbers aboard the two ships vary: 242 (Log of Logs), 298 (contractor Shelton) and convict Hawkins 306. Lord Hawkesbury wrote on 19 December 1805 to A. H. Bradley, Commissioner of Convicts, giving Bradley a list of convicts in his care and asking that he allow 150 free of any infectious disease to be selected from the list and put on board *Alexander* and *Fortune*. These transports were to be escorted by four other ships, including the *Lady Sinclair*, which carried William Bligh who was going out to become Governor of NSW. The *Fortune* departed the fleet after stopping at Rio. One soldier and three convicts died on the voyage. The Captain brought the news of the death of William Pitt which had occurred five days before the *Fortune* sailed.

Ship Muster Entries for John Worthington

220	John Worthington	20	20	Manchester
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The above entry in the transportation register was unfortunately indexed in Ancestry as stating he was 22 years old, but the entry itself seems to indicate 29 years old (in keeping with the information on other records). I can't make out the stated occupation, but in the final column it says he hailed from Manchester.

Martha Ogden	John Worthington	Delivered to the 1st of May 1805	7 years
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The ship muster entry lists both John Worthington and Martha Ogden as having been tried at the Quarter Sessions on 1 May 1805, and both receiving a sentence of 7 years.

Life in Australia

Below are the records found to date of John's life in England:

Moonlight

The Prisoner Worthington denies the charge Hogg came to sleep in his house Saturday night - he was his ship

Hogg, says he took the fowls

- 12/07/1806: Arrived at Port Jackson aboard the ship *Fortune*.
- 1806: **Convict Muster:** John Worthington, *Fortune*, prisoner, carpenter employed in the lumber yard, Sydney
- 27/06/1807: **Sydney Gazette:** John was one of nine prisoners in court for attempting to escape. John was one of four of the party that admitted the intention to leave the colony and he was found guilty and received 300 lashes.
- 05/01/1810: **Colonial Secretary's Papers:** John Worthington is one of 15 prisoners to be released from Sydney Gaol on the occasion of Lachlan Macquarie taking charge of the Government.
- 23/06/1810: **Colonial Secretary's Papers:** Convicted with two other men by the NSW Bench Magistrate for the crime of stealing fowls. The other men, Hogg and West, were shipmates from the *Fortune*. John Worthington denied the charge. Though Hogg admitted stealing the fowls, they were found at Worthington's residence, and he was sentenced to 12 months hard labour. Interestingly, a dead chicken was presented to the court as evidence.
- 1811: **Muster entry:** John Worthington; Tried Manchester May 1805; *Fortune*; 7 years.
- 02/08/1814: **Civil Jurisdiction index:** John Worthington – defendant owing £16 to a dealer named Thomas Rose.
- 1816-17: **Muster entry:** John Worthington; Arrived July 1806; *Fortune*; tried Manchester March 1805; sentence expired in 1812; left the colony.
- 1819: **Muster entry:** John Worthington; Arrived July 1806; *Fortune*; tried Manchester March 1805; sentence expired in 1813; left the colony.
- 1820: **Muster entry:** John Worthington; Arrived July 1806; *Fortune*; tried Manchester March 1805; sentence expired in 1812; left the colony.
- 1821: **Muster entry:** John Worthington; Arrived July 1806; *Fortune*; tried Manchester March 1805; sentence expired in 1812; left the colony.

It seems that the final documented appearance of John Worthington in the colony was on 2 August 1814 when Thomas Rose, a baker of Castlereagh Street Sydney attempted to recover funds owed from him.

Thomas Rose of Sydney, dealer ... Plaintiff and, John Worthington of Sydney ... Defendant Writ for Sixteen Pounds sterling on a promissory note dated 5th January 1814 drawn by defendant payable to Bearer on a day now past. Upon the defendant's voluntary confession and consent, the Court gives Judgement for the Plaintiff. Damages £12.0.0 Costs £3.15.4 Executive to issue pursuant to the confession.

Could

Just to Confuse Things: John Worthington of the Elizabeth, 1821

There was another John Worthington transported to Australia for life aboard the *Elizabeth* in 1820. *Elizabeth* John Worthington (also listed in the musters as a government carpenter) died in Sydney aged 47 in 1825 (i.e. born 1778). The 1825 muster confirms this:

The *Lancaster Gazette* report of this conviction dated 1 Apr 1820 reads 'William Eckersley, 32, and John Worthington, 46, for robbing Edmund Taylor, on the highway, at Eccles – Guilty.' If this report is right, he would have been born in 1774. There appears to be no evidence confirming that he was the same man



as *Fortune* John Worthington, especially as there is no evidence that *Fortune* John Worthington returned to England after he disappeared from the official record in Australia.

The third and final part of the story of John Worthington in the next issue will cover the children he left behind.

Worthington 17th Century Project

The First Three Years 2004 – 2006

Janet R Worthington

It all began with a *Memorandum* sent on 9 June 2004 from passionate genealogist, Philip Michael Worthington to the four founding members of the *Worthington Family Historical Society* (as it was originally named). I was one of them. Philip was the author of *The Worthington Families of Medieval England* which dealt with Worthington families from 1200-1600. My first contact with Philip was in 1997 through our mutual publisher, Phillimore, now called The History Press, when my book *Coopers and Customs Cutters – The Worthingtons of Dover and Related Families 1560-1906* was published. Philip had no idea the Worthington family had been living in county Kent for over 350 years; or that we both had a mutual long term interest in Worthington family history.

According to the Prospectus for the 17th Century Worthington Project published in August 2005: "Frank A Brimelow of Gate City, Virginia, USA, Lloyd Worthington of Farndon, Chester, UK, Janet R Worthington of Sydney, Australia and Philip M Worthington of Knossington, Rutland, UK united in the Summer of 2004 as a steering group with the purpose of forming a society devoted to

continuing research in Worthington genealogy and biography." The steering group was supported by three honorary officers: Lesley Munro (Frank Brimelow's sister) of Worsley, Manchester as treasurer; Judith S M Worthington of Knossington, Rutland as secretary (Philip's wife); and Stuart G Worthington (Philip's half-brother) of Malaga, Spain.

The aim, as stated in the original four page *Prospectus* was to "set in motion a five year project to research Worthingtons of the 17th Century worldwide, to put together and prove their pedigrees, to link, as far as possible, those pedigrees with the more ancient Worthington lines, and to publish a book on the subject." The full *Prospectus* can be found on the Worthington Family History Society website.

By November 2005 the total *List of Members* had grown to 18 supporters some of whom offered their expertise. This included sponsorship, research in repositories, genealogical and biographical work, data processing, typesetting and administration. These additional early members were Donald E Gradeless, Wisconsin USA; Stephen Read, Kendal, Cumbria UK;

John Griffin Richardson Rountree, Florida USA; Sir John Edward Shearer, Texas USA; Patricia Grace Ward (born Worthington), Virginia USA; Addison Worthington, Maryland USA; Neville John Worthington, KwaZulu-Natal South Africa; Philip George Worthington, Hampshire UK; Robert Paul Worthington, Cheshire UK; William Worthington, Penworthan, Preston, Lancashire UK; and William Chesley Worthington, California USA, some of whom are still current members and continue to support the work of the WFHS today.

On Thursday, 24 November 2005 the inaugural general meeting of the *Worthington 17th Century Project* was held at The History Shop, Library Street, Wigan, Lancashire at 11.00 am. Those present were Philip M Worthington who chaired the meeting, Lesley Munro in her role as treasurer, Stephen Read, Lloyd Worthington, Robert P Worthington and William Worthington. The following was resolved: that the name of the society is confirmed as *Worthington 17th Century Project*, that the emblem of the project be confirmed as *a goat passant regardant argent before a 3-pronged dung fork sable*.



Other resolutions confirmed included the continuation of the project's membership of the *Guild of One-Name Studies* which began in 2004; the cost of membership; the acceptance of the *Prospectus* dated August 2005 with the proviso: that research for and production of the *Register of Worthington References* of the 17th Century be commenced by members; and that it constitute the main endeavour of the project for the coming year. It was agreed that Stuart Worthington be editor of the *Register of Worthington References* and Edition 1 (examples) was tabled. It was resolved that "Janet Robyn Worthington be elected chairman of the Project from the close of the inaugural meeting until the close of the 2006 Annual General Meeting."

Written correspondence flowed back and forth between Philip, Stuart and me during 2006 focusing on production of the Registers. Stuart and Philip fine-tuned the format of the Register; and Stuart continued to add, extract, edit and typeset new references to the ever increasing volumes of references comprising 100 entries.

By January 2006 contributions to the Registers had been received from Addison Worthington, Stephen Read and William Worthington of Penworthan. Stuart Worthington was by far the biggest contributor as he had abstracted over 100 references from the *Victoria County History of Lancashire* which his daughter gave to him on CD for Christmas. William C (Bill) Worthington of California offered to index the Registers. Patricia Ward

opened a bank account in the USA where she lived to make it easier for members living there to pay their annual subscription. Marie Therese Worthington, of Cootamundra New South Wales and Sidney Worthington of Surrey, UK, our current DNA coordinator, joined the project.

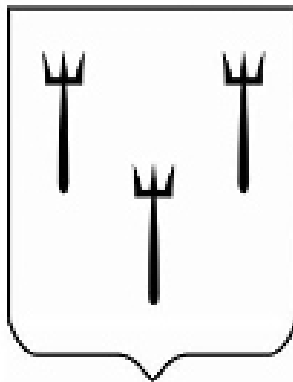
Lesley Munro had resigned as Treasurer by April 2006 and Philip proposed that Patricia Ward become treasurer in the USA; and an English member fill the role in the UK. Two months later, Stephen Read became our first UK treasurer. Philip and I discussed how we might get more members. There were now 21 members, spread over four continents, mostly in the UK and USA plus two in Australia and one in South Africa. The existing one page website had produced few results. Philip was not happy with the slow progress of the project and suggested postponing the start of Phase 2 (Pedigrees) for another six months or a year so the focus could remain on continuing to fill the Registers with extracts.

At the end of November 2006 Philip, in his role as secretary, archivist, co-ordinator of research and membership secretary, sent out the Agenda, Voting Papers, Reports and Questionnaires for the Annual General Meeting to 23 financial members. One of the questionnaires called for volunteers to transcribe old manuscripts, transcribing CDs and summarising for the Register of References; as well as for the role of archivist, membership secretary and word processing to replace Juliet, a professional secretary who the society employed. The other

questionnaire focused on planning for future Annual General Meetings, including the times and choice of venue.

The first Annual General Meeting of the *Worthington 17th Century Project* was held on Tuesday, 5 December 2006 at the Quality Hotel, Riverway, Wigan. I was hoping to attend in person. When this couldn't happen I hoped to take part by phone. However, the hotel would not accept conference telephoning for the full length of the meeting.

The meeting was followed by lunch at the hotel and a visit to St Wilfrids Church, Standish where this version of the Worthington Coat of Arms can be seen.



Nearby was the site of Worthington Hall, ancestral home of the Lancashire Worthington clan.



Painting of Worthington Hall, Lancashire c.1860 (mylessstandish.info)

The voting papers sent to members approved nine proposals, mainly to do with the structure and format of the Register. During the first year of the project 500 items from several sources were entered in the *Register of Worthington References*, contributed by ten research members: Frank Brimelow – Lancashire records; Donald Gradeless – Libraries; Stephen Read – Libraries and Lancashire records; Addison Worthington – Libraries and Maryland records; Janet Worthington – Kent and London records; Philip M Worthington – Libraries and English records; Robert P Worthington – Church records; Stuart Worthington, Libraries and Church records; William Worthington – Church records and William C Worthington – Irish records. The final edition of the *17th Century Register – Other Events, Volume 1* with 100 pages of indexed text, was due to be printed, bound and distributed to members by the end of December 2006. Other volumes of the Register with less than 100 pages were expected to be completed before the end of 2007 and more financial support was approved for this purpose. The development of pedigrees which according to the Prospectus was due to start at the beginning of 2007 was postponed.

The election of officers for 2007 remained the same as 2006 and I remained as President. The last item on the Agenda was from Addison Worthington proposing that the 2007 Annual General Meeting of the project be held at Annapolis, Maryland, USA. The location was well placed for a large proportion of members living in America to attend. His invitation was accepted. To be continued in future Newsletters...