

Members Surname Interests

Surname Interests are now available on the Society website.

Where To Find Them:

On the Home Page is a Green Panel telling you about our latest upgrade - Surname Interests. You can simply click the box to access Surname Interests. Surname Interests can also be reached from “The Society” page where there is a button on the left hand side which gives access to Surname Interests.

How It Works:

For the last two or three years we have been collecting members’ Surname Interests and building up a database of these interests. This has now reached a number where we feel it worth making the details available for searching through the Society website.

The names will be made available to everyone looking at the website, not just LFHHS members.

Enter the name you are searching for. All matches will be displayed showing, where held, the membership number of the member who owns the record, the surname, the location or town, the county, the time period the entry covers and in a few cases the occupation.

There is an option for the enquirer to download the records into a .csv file which can easily be loaded and viewed in Excel.

If a member asks for further information on a surname record they will be asked to enter their name and address which will then be held and registered on the website. After verifying that the person is indeed a current paid up Society member, the Society Members Surname Interest Coordinator will send an email to the person who has placed the record on the website notifying them that another member is interested in contacting them about their family member and giving the contact details.

If the contact is from someone who is not a member then the Surname Interests Coordinator will email them advising that details can only be passed on to paid up Society members and inviting them to consider joining the Society to be able to take advantage of the scheme.

What Do I Do?

Type in the surname you want to check and if it exists on the website database the website will display all entries held that match the record of the surname you want more information about.

If the name is not found then the system will display a “Warning” message telling you that the name you have input does not exist and suggesting that you try alternative spellings or try using Wildcards such as “*” or “?”.

Optionally by entering a location it will provide all surnames at the location.

Wildcards

The search routine is capable of supporting searches including wildcards (and substrings) such as “*” or “?” so searching for “Cap*” will display instances of “Capstan”, “Cape” or “Capital” for instance and search for “Cap?” would similarly display “Cape”. The asterisk “*” searches for any before or after the asterisk whereas the “?” searches for the first character before or after only or if you want more than one use more “?”s eg Smith* will return Smithson, Smithwood, Smithson or Smithy or Smith but “smith?” will only return “Smith” or “Smithy” – to use the wildcard “?” and find “Smithwood” you would need to enter “Smith????”. A search for “*ith*” will find all varieties of Smith but also anything else containing “ith” in the middle of it.

Why Not Send In Your Interests?

If you have not submitted your Surname Interests in the last three years , or wish to add further names, perhaps now is the time to do it to take advantage of the new website search facility. Download the form from the Members Only Area of the website and send the completed form to Mrs Jennifer Benson at 32 Slater Lane Leyland PR25 1TN or email surnames@lfhhs.org.uk

My Surname Interests do not appear in the list – Why?

If you submitted your details more than three years ago we do not have permission to share them. At that time we changed the form to include permission for us to hold and share the data to meet Data Protection Act requirements. If your Surname Interests were submitted prior to this you will need to resubmit them on the new form.