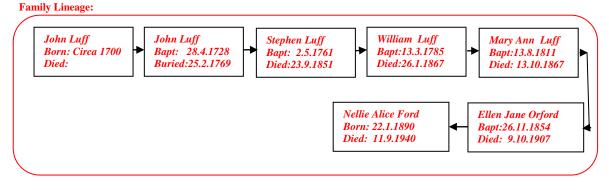
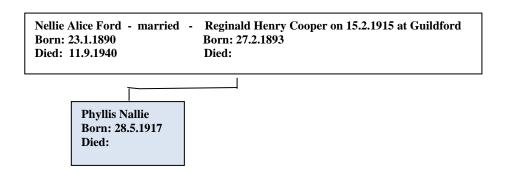
## Phyllis Nallie Cooper 1917 -

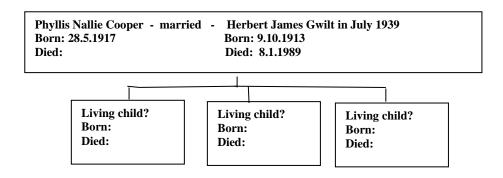
## (The author's 3rd Cousin once removed) web-site www.mike-jl.co.uk



Phyllis Nallie Cooper was born on 28th May, 1917. She is the daughter of Nellie and Reginald Cooper.



Phyllis Nallie Cooper married Herbert James Gwilt in July 1939 in Surrey.



Continued.....

The 1939 Registration shows Phyllis living with her husband at 22, Beech Grove, Guildford in Surrey. Phyllis was an assistant in a Tobacco shop. Her husband was a Butcher Cutter.

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	No.	Sub. No.	OTHER NAMES.		or F.	Day.	Year.	W.	PERSONAL OCCUPATION	500 INSTRUCT	Ste INSTRUCTION
1	2	3	SPRATIAN	5	6	7	8	9	10		11

In December 1938 it was announced in the House of Commons that in the event of war, a National Register would be taken that listed the personal details of every civilian in Great Britain and Northern Ireland. This Register was to be a critical tool in coordinating the war effort at home. It would be used to issue identity cards, organise rationing and more.

On September 1<sup>st</sup>, 1939 Germany invaded Poland, putting the wheels in motion for Britain to declare war on the 3<sup>rd</sup>. On September 5<sup>th</sup>, the National Registration Act received royal assent and Registrar General Sir Sylvanus Vivian announced that National Registration Day would be September 29<sup>th</sup>. Having issued forms to more than 41 million people, the enumerators were charged with the task of visiting every household in Great Britain and Northern Ireland to collect the names, addresses, martial statuses and other key details of every civilian in the country, issuing identity cards on the spot.

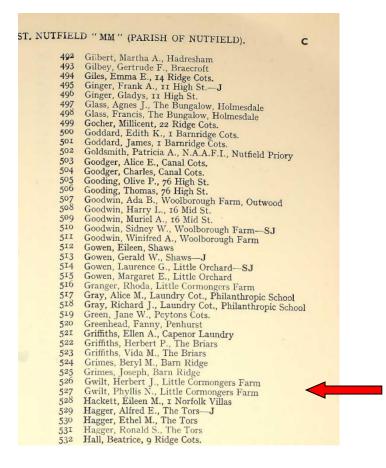
The identity cards issued were essential items from the point the Register was taken right up until 1952, when the legal requirement to carry them ceased. Until that point, every member of the civilian population had to be able to present their card upon request by an official (children's cards were looked after by parents), or bring them to a police station within 48 hours. The reasons were numerous – it was essential to know who everyone was, of course, and to track their movements as they moved house, as well as to keep track of the population as babies were born and people passed away. The 1939 Register, then, represents one of the most important documents in  $20^{th}$  century Britain. The information it contains not only helped toward the war effort, it was also used in the founding of the NHS.

In addition, the 1931 census was destroyed during an air raid on London and the 1941 census was never taken. The 1939 Register is therefore the only surviving overview of the civil population of England and Wales spanning the period 1921-1951. It bridges a census gap that risked losing an entire generation, and is a fascinating resource for anyone interested in understanding 20<sup>th</sup> century Britain and its people.

Phyllis's mother died on 11th September, 1940 in Guildford, Surrey.

Continued.....

The 1948 Electoral Register for Nutfield Parish, Surrey, shows Phyllis and Herbert living at Little Cormongers Farm.



It seems that Phyllis with her family emigrated to Australia in 1958.

Phyllis husband, Herbert died in Rye, Victoria, Australia on 8th January, 1989.