



THINE NAME IS THINE HONOUR

## Shucksmith

This name, with variant spellings Shorsmith, Shewsmith, Shoosmith, Sixsmith, Shuxsmith, Shucksmith etc., derives from the medieval English "Schoosmith", itself from the old English pre 7th Century "Scob", reflected in the old High German "Chuch", a shor, plus "smith". Smith itself is a derivation of "Smitan", to strike, and it is at least arguable that this refers, not to a worker in metals, but to a soldier - one who strikes. The surname is presumably occupational in origin for a "shoing-smith" i.e. a whitesmith (one who worked in hot iron) who specialised in the making of horseshoes. Curiously the accepted word for a shor-smith is normally 'larrin', which itself has produced several surnames in Farrer, Farrer, Ferrers, etc. The surname was first recorded in the latter part of the 13th Century, (see below) and other early recordings include: William Sosmyth - the 1296 "Subsidy Rolls of Sussex", and Bryan Shucksmith of London city, recorded in the reign of Elizabeth I, (1558 - 1603). On January 18th 1573 John Shorsmith, an infant, was christened in St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, London and in 1576 Bryan Shusmith of Warwick was entered in the Wills Records at Chester. The christening of Marc, daughter of John Shewsmith, took place in St. Thomas the Apostle, London on June 18th 1577, and on October 23rd 1694 John Shoosmith married a Deborah Alman in St. James, Dukes, Place.

The first recorded spelling of the family name is shown to be that of William le Shosmith, which was dated 1288, in the "Middle English surnames of Occupation", by G. Fraisson, during the reign of King Edward I, known as "The Hammer of the Scots", 1272 - 1307.

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