

The FOLKER PHYLES

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INTRODUCTION

Greetings to you in this sixth edition of The Folker Phyles.

This newsletter is proving not only to be irregular but also infrequent. This is due, in part, to the fact that as my research is taking place on those ancestors further back in time, the information is more scarce and harder to find.

However, work has progressed on the Folker and other branches of my family. I have spent some time on the Swinnerton family in order to produce a booklet to coincide with a family reunion in the summer.

LINK WITH U.S.A.

Since my last newsletter, I have made contact with a relative in America. Our common ancestor is George Newton Folker (1858-1943) who emigrated to America at the end of the last century.

Our finding each other is good fortune indeed, however, better still is the fact that Mildred has also done much work on the family history. As a result we are in the process of exchanging information which compliments each others work to a great degree.

The international flavour extends also to South Africa from where I have recently received word back from another Folker emigrant.

It would be nice to find other relatives abroad as in this area of research is often so difficult to find information. Even finding statutory records can be difficult without somebody local to assist in visiting the record offices.

CURRENT WORK

The work in which I am primarily engaged at present is to attempt to take the family tree further back in time.

As you know, there are two main branches to the Folker family in Great Britain and I have not yet been able to link them together.

I have lists of many names for which I have not been able to establish a direct connection to either branch of the family. It is from these names that the link may well be discovered.

The enclosures with this edition of the newsletter are my lists of the Folker name taken from sources such as parish registers, the International Genealogist's Index, Trade Directories, Etc.

The International Genealogist's Index is the best source of names for the period prior to the introduction of registration in 1837. Unfortunately it is not a complete document as not all parishes are included.

I have been able to put some of the names together into family groups and I have enclosed these as well.

I have made some progress with a few of the unconnected names from my lists. There are some Christian names which follow a trend in a geographical location with the Folker family which are likely to be from the same family group. The question is were they father and son, uncle and nephew or grandfather and grandson?

One such group is that of Ambrose, John and William which I mentioned in an earlier newsletter. They have a further common link in that they each were riders for the Excise. I have now searched all references in the Record Office but no solid information has arisen. There are clues about locations of postings which may help with searches of parish registers at a later date.

THE INTERNET

I have joined the ranks of those who use Electronic Mail and subscribe to the Internet.

The volume of information on the internet relating to genealogy is growing rapidly. The information varies from lists of material available at record offices to family trees published by individuals.

I have created my own homepage in which I have listed all the surnames that appear in my family tree. This has attracted a number of enquiries from people around the world who find a name in that list which is of interest to them for their studies.

My homepage can be found at :-
<http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/smithys>.

TO MAKE CONTACT

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