

A Hollow Newsletter – No 3

Hello again, I hope this newsletter finds you well and continuing to get a buzz out of this family history caper. The circle of people with an interest in HOLLOW is getting bigger and hopefully you have been able to share some information. I am going to try producing a newsletter every three months and send them at the beginning of January, April, July and October. Thanks for the positive feedback and remember any contributions are very welcome.

The Earliest HOLLOWs

In the last newsletter I listed the earliest records I have of the HOLLA/HOLLOW surname in Cornwall. There were HOLLAs in Madron, Paul, Penzance, Towednack and Zennor and I wondered whether the different families would have been in close contact with each other. Keith HOLLOW, who lives near Penzance, gives his response.

"Re "The Earliest HOLLOWs", Since commencing my own research I have been of the opinion that the HOLLAs probably originated in and about the Madron area. The earliest Parish Register entries appear to be those for Madron, which at the time, covered the town of Penzance as well as those rural areas on the higher ground North West of the town. The Penwith Peninsular is no more than 5.5 miles or so wide in this direction. Distances to known HOLLA population centres are relatively short; with Madron at the "hub", approximate "crow flight" distances (taken from the map rather than Parish Locator) are St. Just in the West - 5 miles, Paul in the South 3.25 miles, Zennor in the North 3.75 miles. To the North East Towednack 4.3 miles and St. Ives 6.5 miles. As you will no doubt know, not far from Morvah is a stone marking the conjunction of four parishes and it is possible to stand in Zennor, Morvah, Madron and Gulval simultaneously!

It was common place for people to be born in one parish, to marry, live and be buried in neighbouring or nearby parishes.

Your comments re the Parish Locator 6.9 miles between Paul and Towednack equating to 50 miles in the 1500's is probably not relevant in the case of Penwith as tracks between population centres have existed since the Bronze Age and were eventually developed into the main highways by tanners. This was particularly important in

accessing the main ports of Penzance, St. Ives and Hayle. Our ancestors would have covered the distances mentioned above quite comfortably in less than a day. In my youth, my friends and I frequently walked from Penzance to St. Ives where we spent the day, and then walked back home in the evening. My father's uncle in his book, "All for one and one for all - A chronicle of the Martin family", recalls how in 1913 when a child he was carried on his father's shoulders when he walked from Penzance to Lands End and back.

Farmers in Towednack, Zennor, St. Buryan and St. Just would walk their sheep and cattle to market in Penzance, usually over-nighting halfway. In West Cornwall, individual members of rural families were usually either employed in farming or mining or perhaps both and the tanners tended to move from mine to mine as the ore lodes became exhausted. 19th century census records show Zennor born families farming in Sennen and today a Towednack born family is farming at Paul.

All of the above is of course already well chronicled but does however show that as early as the 16th century it is quite probable that many Penwith families would have been known to each other. If the HOLLAs did originate in the Madron area it is quite conceivable that from this "stock" the family spread to Paul, St. Buryan and St. Just in the West and to Zennor, Towednack and St. Ives in the North to follow their farming and mining activities. This is certainly the case in the 19th century when migration continued to St. Erth, Phillack, Redruth etc.

On the other hand, as the derivation of the name is "of the moorland" it is also possible that as surnames were adopted in the 14th century, several unrelated groups become known as HOLLAs in Penwith! I guess we'll never know;

I would like to think the first explanation is the correct version and that we are all from the same roots and distantly related. If 20th century descendants from each of the various HOLLOW branches agreed to be DNA tested we might find out a lot more!!! Now there's a thought".

Best Regards, Keith
(CFHS 8979 - GOONS 3257)

HOLLOW spotting

From Pat Housego:

"Did you know that in Hayle, Con there is a row of houses known as Hollows Terrace? A Fred Hollow who was an illegitimate son of my great grandmother built these. My grandparents used to live at No 9 there and I spent many lovely holidays there in my youth. I do not know too much about Fred. He was a builder and I think married a Dutch woman. My grandmother and her sisters had income from his estates after Fred died and I am currently trying to get hold of his will to find out more."

Keith Hollow has a marriage certificate of a George Hollow in 1882; which is not one of his relatives.

The details which are as follows:-

At St. Saviour, Surrey, Church of St. Mary Magdalene, Southwark on 23 Nov 1882. George HOLLOW, Age 23, Profession Carman of 39 Alfreton Street, Father James HOLLOW, Shoemaker, and Harriet Ellen EVANS Age 21 of Alderminster Road, Father Henry EVANS, Carpenter.

Also he has a Birth Certificate, Croydon Surrey on 26 July 1891 at 14 Junction Road, Croydon, Surrey Reginald HOLLOW. Father George HOLLOW. Mother Harriet Ellen HOLLOW formerly EVANS. Keith adds, I note from the GRO that there are several other Hollow births in Croydon shortly after and are probably also from the same parents. Contact Keith if you want to follow this up. keith@khollow.freeserve.co.uk

NOTE: Could this be the Reg HOLLOW cook, jockey and horse trainer featured in Newsletter 2 HOLLOW spotting?

Help Wanted

I have recently been in touch with a descendant of James Wallis HOLLOW b 1890 St Ives, CON who migrated to America. Does anyone have any information about his ancestors or any other information? I have some details of his descendants in America.

From Colin Hollow
chollow@melbpc.org.au.

PS If anyone else has requests they would like put into the newsletter, let me know. This newsletter is going to 30 HOLLOW researchers.

A HOLLOW contact in Redruth

"If anyone is interested I can offer to do some photography of my local area, churches, mine buildings etc., I have already been producing photographic greeting cards for Australians, Americans etc visiting my area, tracing their ancestors. The parish churches and mine buildings are very popular. I am only doing this as a paying hobby at the moment".

Pam Prisk

Contact Pam at pamela.prisk@telinco.co.uk

The HOLLOW Homepage

The homepage is at:

<http://www.ozemail.com.au/~chollow>

There have been changes as the database is too large for the Ozemail site, you can click on it from there or via its own URL which is

<http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/Meadows/4284/database.html>

Research Data online

Judith Epps, a Hollow researcher from Adelaide has a new site on the web at:

<http://www.adelaide.net.au/~epps/index.html>

Cornwall GenWeb:

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~engcornw/>

This site that is for genealogists with Cornish interests it contains information and links to sources.

The Cornish Volunteer Look-up Library

<http://homepages.rootsweb.com/~yvonne/cornishlib/cornishlib.html>

This site is an offshoot of the Cornish lists and includes information and sources too, but there is little overlap with the Genweb site above. You can also make contact with people who will do look-ups of various indexes, books, lists etc. for you, without charge.

Cornwall One and All

<http://www2.whidbey.net/kernow/cornwall.html>

This site consists of links to other sites all with a theme of things Cornish. There are of course many links to genealogy sites but also links to little surprises like the Daphne Du Maurier site, which I found very interesting.

Colin Hollow

September 30, 1999

More HOLLOW researchers

If I am incorrect or you want to expand on what I have please let me know.

Lindsay Dally	l.dally@physiology.unimelb.edu.au	Descendant of John HOLLOW and Chessen THOMAS, Zennor , Mary DALLY m August William HOLLOW ~1876.
Pam Prisk	pamela.prisk@telinco.co.uk	Descendant of Matthew HOLLOW and Christian TERRILL, Redruth
Sean Hollow	Seanhol@aol.com	Born Redruth so quite probably a descendant of the Redruth HOLLOWs.
Dawn Kyllonen	kylonen@mich.com	Descendant of William HOLLA and Uslea COCK, Zennor,
Glenda Santee	GlendaNMom@aol.com	Descendant of John and Ann HOLLOW of Uny Lelant, daughter Grace married Uny Lelant 1856 to John HICKS, emigrated to America.