
THE HOLLOW LOG

Issue 35, July 2009

The Hollow Family Researchers' Newsletter

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Hollow Spotting

On this page we report mentions of Hollow family members found in print, film, TV, or on the web without going into their family history. In this issue we have more Hollows in print, an obituary, and Hollow marriages and deaths from Cornwall in the 1840s.

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Big Family Big Move

Cornish people have a proud history of migration to all parts of the world. Often because of their mining skills but more often because they wanted to improve their family's situation. This is the story of a Hollow family from Ludgvan who were miners but after moving to New Zealand worked in completely different fields.

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The story of a great grandson of Thomasine Maria Hollow - crashed in WW2.

Bruce McLennan contacted me with this account of a Hollow descendant caught up in a tragic incident of WW

Hollow Spotting

Hollow authors

From time to time we have listed Hollow authors, here are a couple more that turned up on Googlebooks.

Ohio University, 1804–2004, The Spirit of a Singular Place

By Betty Hollow.

An avid reader and local history buff, **Betty Hollow** has been a resident of Athens since 1968 and worked for Ohio University from 1975-2005. She is now retired. Betty is the wife of John Walter Hollow, (also an author see Hollow Log 25). John and Betty Hollow are part of the Hollow family from Missouri who featured in Hollow Log 34.

Michele C Hollow

Michelle is a journalist and author living in New Jersey and has published several books the latest being **The Everything Guide to Working with Animals** (Arms Media, April 2009) also in 2009 she published **The Grateful Dead: What a Long, Strange Trip It's Been** (Enslow Publishers, Inc., February 2009). She has also co-authored books with her husband Steven M Hollow. In researching Michelle I found that she is married to Steven M Hollow who is worthy of his own Hollow spot, he has been described as a professional story teller, puppeteer, actor, teaching artist and puppet theatre director. He also wrote a comic as part of a Traffic safety program for teens published by the borough of Queens, New York. Steven attended Central High school Scranton,

Pennsylvania. The Pennsylvania Hollows will feature in a future issue of the Hollow Log. Michele's picture comes from her website at <http://www.michelechollow.com/>

From Ann Belmont

West Briton and Cornwall Advertiser 15 May 1846 – MARRIAGES -At Madron, on Sunday last, Mr. Mark HOLLOW, of Paul, to Miss M. J. NICHOLLS, of Penzance.

West Briton and Cornwall Advertiser, November 29, 1844

At St. Clement's, on the 28th instant, Mr. John REYNOLDS, cabinet-maker, to Miss Christian HOLLOW, both of Truro.

West Briton and Cornwall Advertiser. Friday 20 December 1844. - DEATHS. - At St. Just In Penwith, on Saturday last, Mrs. MARY HOLLOW.

Weekly news, 20 Sept 1844 At Hayle, on Monday last, At St Ives, Catherine, wife of Mr. John HOLLOW, aged 46 years;

West Briton and Cornwall Advertiser, Friday, 23rd December 1842. - DIED. on Monday, At Marazion, Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Mr. Stephen HOLLOW, aged 14 years.

Keith Hollow sent this cutting early last year. ♠

Big Family Big Move

HELLO THERE

The main story in this issue is a work in progress. My research into the family has been aided by a New Zealand website that has commenced to present, in a searchable form, Newspapers from the 19th and early 20th century. The website is at <http://www.paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/cgi-bin/paperspast> Sometimes the information the papers contain is not all good news but it can provide some colour and depth to a family's story. If you have a New Zealand family try it.

THE HOLLOW WEBSITE

<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~chollow/>
I am updating the website monthly now so it is worth checking. The database is changes quite a lot and recently I have added to the Hollows in Uniform page and the Movement to Australia and New Zealand page. In the near future I hope to have passenger information on Hollows travelling to America.

ODD SPOT

While Victoria sweltered and quite a lot of it burnt in early February this year it was quite the opposite in Cornwall. The snow started to fall on the Isles of Scilly and the North Coast of Cornwall early on Monday 2 February 2009. By Tuesday morning all of Cornwall was covered. Some areas were reporting as much as ten centimetres of snow. Later in the week Launceston, Bude and Camelford were all affected by further heavy snowfall. During the week many people found it impossible to leave their villages. It was the Saturday of this week that the fires hit Victoria with devastating consequences.

CONTACT

Colin Hollow edits the Hollow Log, comments and contributions are always welcome.

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Or e-mail: chollow@one-name.org

Hollow and variants Holla, Hollah, Hollaw and Hollowe are registered with The Guild of One-Name Studies.

The Guild member is Colin Hollow (Mem.No. 3056).

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Just the thought of moving a family of eleven with nine children ranging from one year old to seventeen on a nineteenth century sailing ship is daunting. But this Hollow family made the journey from Ludgvan in Cornwall to Christchurch, New Zealand in 1874. From mine workers in Cornwall they came and made a new life in the building trade, commerce and the performing arts.

John Hollow and Mary Kissel Jenkin were married at Towednack, Cornwall on May 7th 1854. John was the second son of John Hollow and Margaret Richards and was baptized in Ludgvan on January 23rd 1820. John, the father, was a miner and mine labourer; the family lived at Curcuryan, Ludgvan. Mary K was born 1836 to William Jenkin and Mary Ann Kissel, she was sixteen years younger than her husband John. John was a miner in the 1851 census and is then listed as a tin dresser in the 1861 and 1871 censuses. A tin dresser was a surface worker at the mine, preparing the ore for smelting. In the first census after their marriage, 1861, John and Mary K were living at Crowlas a village near Ludgvan. They had two sons, John and William and a newly born daughter, Mary Ann. Their first child Mary Ann Ellis Hollow had been born in 1854 but died in 1860.

It was quite common for families to name a subsequent child after one that had previously died. The Ellis in the name came from Mary K's stepfather, Robert Ellis, he must have been important in her life as the name is also used for a later child. It seems that William died and Mary remarried quite early in Mary K's life.

John and Mary K went on to have sixteen children, the last four in New Zealand. They emigrated to New Zealand on the 26th of January 1874 on the ship Apelles. The whole family is listed on the ship's register although the three oldest boys, John, William, and Thomas were transferred to single men's quarters on another ship, the Dilharree that sailed on December 13th 1873. They were 17, 16 and 11 years old at the time. The boys arrived at Lyttelton on March 11th and had to wait a few weeks until their parents and brothers and sisters arrived on May 5th.

The family now consisted of nine children, John (17 years), William (16), Thomas Henry (11), Emma Jane (9) Ernest (7), Angelina (6), James Jenkin (4), Herbert Henry (2) and Philadelphia (1). Three children had died in infancy, Mary Ellen Ellis in 1860, Thomas in ~1859 and Mary Ann in 1862.

The family settled in Christchurch, John was listed as a carpenter in the 1878 Wise's Post Office Directory at Aldred St. (later years at 33 Aldred St.).

Carpentry was a new occupation for John, in Cornwall work centred on mining. On the ship's registers John and his two eldest boys were listed as farm labourers although there is no evidence that they ever worked as such.

It could have been an occupation that aided their emigration or simply the easiest listing for unskilled workers by the ship's bursar as an inspection of the passenger list shows that most of the men were listed as farm labourers.

In Christchurch John and Mary K had four more children, Richard Ellis in 1877, Lavinia Mary in 1878 (died 1879), Albert Kissel in 1879 and Percival Vincent in 1882. John must have been successful as they appeared to own at least two houses in Aldred street. In 1879 John advertises a new six-roomed house to let in the Christchurch Star newspaper. He may have built this himself; this seems more likely than buying a newly built house or advertising rooms to let in his own house.

John Hollow died in 1886; he was 67 years old. Mary K stayed on at 33 Aldred St. and ran the house as a boarding house. At the time of John's death only the eldest son John appears to have moved out of home so many of her boarders could have been her own family, it looks like there could have been up to eleven of them at home. We know this because the 1887, 1890 and 1893 electoral roll lists William, Thomas Henry, Angelina, Ernest and Herbert Henry as living at 33 Aldred St. The other five children were too young to vote. New Zealand had extended the vote to women in 1893. Philadelphia had died in 1888 aged 15.

The 1899 electoral roll shows the family lived at two addresses in Aldred Street. Mary K, William and Herbert Henry lived at 33 and Richard Ellis at 29 Aldred Street. As the children married most moved away except William who stayed on with his wife in Aldred Street, more of this later. In 1948 the council

Descendant Chart of John and Mary Kissel Hollow

- John HOLLOW, b. circa 1820 at Ludgvan, CON, d. 28 Jun 1886 at Christchurch, N.Z.
- +Mary Kissel JENKIN, b. 1836 at Towednack, CON, m. 7 May 1854 at Towednack, CON, d. 16 Aug 1922 at Christchurch, N.Z.
- Mary Ann Ellis HOLLOW, b. 1854 at Ludgvan, CON, d. Nov 1860 at Ludgvan, CON,
- John HOLLOW, b. 1856 at Ludgvan, CON, d. 16 Sep 1936 at Palmerston North
- +Ellen ORGAN, b. circa 1855, m. 1874 at N.Z.
- +May WATSON, b. 1890 at Sheffield, m. 1926 at N.Z, d. 9 Apr 1971 at Christchurch, N.Z.
- William HOLLOW, b. 1857 at Ludgvan, CON, d. 26 Nov 1904 at Christchurch, N.Z.
- +Janet THOMPSON, b. 1862, m. 31 May 1900 at N.Z, d. 18 Aug 1922 at Christchurch.
- Thomas HOLLOW, b. 10 Mar 1859 at Ludgvan, CON, d. before 1862
- Mary Ann HOLLOW, b. 6 Jan 1861 at Ludgvan, CON, d. Mar 1862 at Ludgvan, CON,
- Thomas Henry HOLLOW, b. 9 Mar 1862 at Ludgvan, CON, d. 1946 at Christchurch.
- +Jeannie HOSKINS, m. 1887 at N.Z
- +Evelyn TRELEAVEN, b. circa 1871, m. 1900 at N.Z, d. 1957 at Christchurch, N.Z.
- Emma Jane HOLLOW, b. 4 May 1864 at Ludgvan, CON, d. 6 Mar 1960 at Christchurch,
- +Frederick William HATCH, b. 1849, m. 1889 at N.Z, d. 19 Nov 1917 at Christchurch
- Ernest HOLLOW, b. 10 Apr 1866 at Ludgvan, CON, d. 1940 at Christchurch, N.Z.
- +Elizabeth Eva GAWEN, b. 1872, m. 17 Sep 1896 at N.Z, d. 1960 at Christchurch, N.Z.
- Angelina HOLLOW, b. 1867 at Ludgvan, CON, d. 3 Feb 1956 at Christchurch
- James Jenkin HOLLOW, b. 1869 at Ludgvan, CON, d. 3 Sep 1918 at Auckland
- Herbert Henry HOLLOW, b. 1871 at Ludgvan, CON, d. 15 Jun 1932 at Christchurch.
- Philadelphia Ann HOLLOW, b. 1873 at Penzance, CON, d. 6 Jun 1888 at Christchurch.
- Richard Ellis HOLLOW, b. 3 Jan 1877 at Christchurch, N.Z, d. ? 1941 Melbourne, AUS
- +Ada Violet GEARY, b. 1882 at N.Z, m. 1907 at N.Z, d. Aug 1964 at Auckland, N.Z.
- Lavinia Mary HOLLOW, b. 1878 at Christchurch, N.Z, d. 1879 at Christchurch, N.Z.
- Albert Kissel HOLLOW, b. 1879 at Christchurch, N.Z, d. 1923 at Wellington, N.Z.
- Percival Vincent HOLLOW, b. 11 Aug 1882 at Christchurch, d. 1941 at Sydney, AUS

changed the name of the name of the street from Aldred Street to Beveridge Street.

Marriages

Of the eleven children who made it into adulthood, five of them remained unmarried; they were Angelina, James Jenkin, Herbert Henry, Albert Kissel and Percival Vincent. The first to marry was the eldest John who married Ellen Organ in 1874. Then followed Thomas Henry in 1887 and again in 1900, Emma Jane in 1889, Ernest in 1896, William in 1900 and finally Richard Ellis in 1907.

Now we will look at each of the children separately. The first

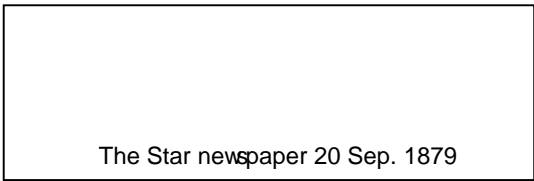
one John I will look at last as his story is the most involved. Briefly from beginnings as a railway porter he established a career as a singer and musician both as a performer and a teacher but more of this in a later Hollow Log.

William Hollow (1857 – 1904)

William was working as a tin dresser while living at home with his parents in Curcuryan, Ludgvan in the 1871 census. He would have been fourteen at the time. It was not unusual for boys to be working at this age and many worked as tin dressers on the surface as a sort of introduction to becoming

a miner as they got older. William escaped this fate though and travelled to New Zealand with his two closest brothers on the Dilharree in 1873/4. In Christchurch he worked as a labourer, living at 33 Aldred Street. In 1900 he married Janet

Thompson but the marriage was short lived, as he was to die on November 22 1904. The couple lived in Aldred Street during their marriage but strangely in the electoral rolls they are recorded at different addresses. William at 33 Aldred



Street and Janet at 29 Aldred Street. It could have been that the houses were joined as some of the family is listed at 33 and some at 29. After William's death Janet continued to live at 29 along with Albert Kissel and Herbert Henry at least until 1906. Perhaps she was part of the boarding house

From Star newspaper 29 November 1904

enterprise and kept the house at 29 while her mother-in-law Mary K looked after the boarders at 33. In the 1911 Wises Post Office Directory Janet is shown as living at 53 Clare Rd. St Albans a neighbouring suburb of Christchurch where she lived before her marriage. It is less than one kilometre from Aldred Street. According to the directories she remained here until she passed away on August 18 1922.

Thomas Henry Hollow (1862 – 1946)

Born on the 9 March 1862 Thomas Henry is listed in the 1871 census where has the occupation of tin dresser, the same as his brothers John and William although he is only 9 years old. I am not sure of the accuracy of this but children did start to work at a very young age. When he made the trip to New Zealand on the Dilharree he was 11.

In New Zealand his marriage to Jeannie Hoskins is registered in 1887 and in the 1887 Wises Post office Directory he is shown as living at 339 Asaph St Christchurch close to central Christchurch on the west of the city. In 1894 he is living at Pirie St Wellington and listed as an agent for the firm Aulsebrook and Co. Then in 1896 he is living close by at Scarborough Terrace in Wellington. Aulsebrook and Co. were a famous biscuit and confectionary company in New Zealand Their head office was in Christchurch, actually in Asaph St where Thomas Henry lived. Thomas Henry must have worked for them in Christchurch then when he became the North Island representative of the company was stationed in Wellington. There is a gap in entries for him in the directories between 1896 and 1902. This may have been the time his marriage ceased as in 1900 he married Evelyn Treleven in the 1902 directory he is working as a commercial traveller (Maybe still with Aulsebrooks) and living in Palmerston North. He

From The Cyclopedia of New Zealand, Vol 3
Canterbury Provincial district

HOLLOW, Ernest, singer

Mr. Ernest Hollow, one of the Tenor Lay-Clerks of Christchurch Cathedral, is a Cornishman by birth, and was born in 1866. Arriving in Lyttelton with his parents in 1877, he attended the Wesleyan school in Durham Street, and was one of the first pupils at the Normal School. As a lad he was a member of the choir in the Wesleyan church. He was for several years in Australia, residing in Sydney and Brisbane, where he gained his early musical training, and commenced his career as a tenor singer. He was a member of the Philharmonic Society of Sydney, and the Musical Union of Brisbane. Mr. Hollow returned to Christchurch in 1887 and had two years' further training under Mr. T. W. Wells. He joined the Motett Society, and has been well known as a tenor soloist of the Musical Union. Mr. Hollow was married in 1896 to a daughter of the late Mr. J. Gawen, of Christchurch, and has one daughter.

stayed in Palmerston North until around 1924, living in College St (1904 – 1906), Roy St (1907 – 1909) and two addresses in Church St, 83 Church St, from 1910 to 1917 and then at 213 Church St. until 1924.

For almost all of this period he worked as a commercial traveller but for two years 1907/8 he is listed as a carpenter. Remember his father was a carpenter so he may have learnt skills from him that he could use in a bad time.

In the 1927 Directory Thomas Henry, now 65, is back in Christchurch at 23a Dyers Pass Road where he stayed until around his death in 1946, at 84 years old. In that year he was living at 31 Barrington St Christchurch, his wife Evelyn remained there at least until 1954. She died in 1957 aged 86.

There is no record of any children from either of his marriages. His first wife Jeannie's fate is unclear, I have found no death recorded for her but a Jeannie Watson Hollow married Andrew Thomas Fleming in 1926, this quite likely to have been Jeannie Hoskins.

Emma Jane Hollow (1864 – 1960)

Emma Jane married Frederick William Hatch in 1889; together they had four children. They seemed to put a lot of thought into naming the children as each had three forenames. The children were Lucy Victoria Angelina (born 1890), Myrtle Winefride Avonglade (b 1892), Evelyn Ethelwyn Verna (b 1901) and Basil Melville Roosevelt (b 1906). The names provide a genealogist's puzzle with family names, contemporary references and maybe some originality all included. Avon Glade was the name of the house they lived in but it may have had some further significance. Emma Jane's husband Frederick died in a house fire in a boarding house in 1917 aged 68. Emma Jane died in Christchurch in 1962 aged 95.

Ernest Hollow (1866 – 1940)

The family's connection with music arises again with Ernest Hollow. The details of his musical career do not show up in the directories or electoral rolls but in the publication *The Cyclopedia of New Zealand*. *The Cyclopedia of New Zealand*s published in six volumes between 1897 and 1908 by the Cyclopedia Company Ltd. Each volume deals with a region of New Zealand and includes information on local towns and districts, government departments, individuals, businesses, clubs and societies. The individual, who paid to have

the details included in the publication, supplied their own biographical notes. Volume 3 the one for Canterbury which includes Christchurch was published in 1903.

From the publication we learn that Ernest was a member of the Wesleyan church choir and went to the Wesleyan school in

Christchurch. This may be where is brother John's interest in singing and music commenced too. He spent some years in Sydney and Brisbane gaining his musical training and returned to Christchurch in 1887.

Ernest would have been only 21 when he returned so we are left with the question of how he supported himself at this young age in Australia.

From the electoral rolls and Directories it is clear that Ernest did not claim to be a professional singer.

In the 1890s he is listed as a grocer living at the family home at 33

Aldred St. In the same period Ernest took every opportunity to sing with local groups. In the Christchurch newspaper, The Star, Ernest is

mentioned often. In 1890s he was singing at Students of Truth meetings. The Students of Truth

were a sect established by a charismatic American A.B

Worthington. Worthington proved to be a fraudster and eight times bigamist. The students of Truth had

built their own temple in

Christchurch but the sect

disintegrated in 1895 under the

weight of the scandal. Ernest's

involvement seemed short-lived as by

1895 he was singing at the

Christchurch Cathedral. At the same

time Ernest was performing as a solo tenor at a festival in Christchurch, the Man and Woman carnival. The carnival was held over two weeks and Ernest sang each evening of the festival. Unfortunately the festival organizer went bankrupt and Ernest is listed as an unsecured creditor to the tune of \$2-2-6.

At other concerts reported in the Star Ernest shared the program with his nephews, Herbert and Reginald Hollow, sons of his brother John, and also possibly his brother Richard.

Ernest married in 1896 to Eva Gawen. Ernest may have met Eva through the Students of Truth, as her father C.A. Gawen was a trustee of the Students of Truth. It must have been hard to survive in the 1890s despite working as a grocer and he continued to sing locally. A hint of the hardship is shown

when Ernest's wife is listed in the magistrate's court as owing T.H. Papps, the grocer in High Street Christchurch, the sum of \$2-11-9.

The couple first lived at 111 Stanmore Road in Linwood, then in Sumner in 1900 to 1904. Ernest and Eva had four children and continued the tradition set by his sister Emma in giving each child three forenames. The children were Phyllis Gwendoline May (born 1897), Kathleen Olive May (b 1899), Norah Isabel Sylvia (b 1901), and Trevor Gawen Balfour (b1903). He and Eva had three girls before having a boy also like his sister Emma.

Ernest's job changed to warehouseman and then to commercial traveller around 1905. He seems to stay with this occupation for the rest of his working life. In 1905 Ernest and Eva live at 44 Holly Road St Albans, they stayed there until 1911 then there was a short stint at 125 Cambridge Terrace before they finally settled at 15 Pratt Street Redcliffs where they lived when Ernest died in 1940 aged 74. Eva lived for another 20 years but did not appear in the directories. She possibly lived with one of her children; in 1957 she is known to have lived with daughter Phyllis at Rangiora. She died in Christchurch in 1960 aged 87.

Ernest's pursuit of music centred on church music, his early experience was with the Wesleyan choir but later his biographical notes record his position at Christchurch Cathedral an Anglican church. Records from local papers have references to his daughter Phyllis studying music and pianoforte at the

Sister of Mercy convent in Colombo St. North in Christchurch, a Catholic school. Another daughter, Norah, is listed as prizewinner in Scripture and Progress at St Matthew's Day School in 1909. St Matthew's was an Anglican school. So Ernest could be considered ecumenical in his interest in music and choice of schools. His daughter Phyllis went on to do teacher training at the University of Canterbury and taught for many years, 1923 to 1953, at Rangiora High school where she was senior mistress at the time of her retirement. She had studied for a Bachelor of Music at University.

Angelina Hollow (1867 – 1956)

Angelina remained a spinster all her life, when women were given the vote in 1893 she was living at 33 Aldred Street. But after 1894 moved to Wellington where she lived until about 1930 when returned to Christchurch and lived at 2 Valley Road. At one point, 1933, she is listed as a confectioner at 797 Colombo Street (a main street of Christchurch), then by 1942 she is living at 58 Bealy Street which was renamed Champion Street in 1948. At her death in 1956 she was recorded as 81 but her true age was closer to 89.

James Jenkin Hollow (1869 – 1918)

James was a hard person to find information on. He did appear in court as a witness to an incident when he was 16. The incident involved a horse drawn delivery van that was damaged. James was a passenger in the van that was owned by the D.I.C. suggesting that he may have worked for them. The D.I.C. or Drapery And General Importing Company Of

New Zealand, Ltd. was a well-known New Zealand company that commenced operations in Dunedin and had established itself in Christchurch in 1885. It was what we know as a department store but particularly dealt in drapery, haberdashery and furniture. James' brother, Herbert Henry, also worked for the D.I.C.

In 1890 to 1896 he is recorded as a rail employee, a porter, in Petone. Petone is now a suburb of the city of Lower Hutt on the north side of Wellington harbour. There is no other record of him in the NZ directories but in 1906 to 1911 a Jas J Cornwall is listed as a music teacher at the Allan & Co Music Warehouse at 276 Collins Street Melbourne. This is the same period that James Jenkin Hollow's brother John is teaching singing at the same place under the name of Kistle Cornwall. His story next Hollow Log. It is quite possible he went to Melbourne with his brother John who also worked as a rail porter and became a head porter. He may have helped his brother James into that line of work.

James died in 1918 and is buried in the Hillsborough cemetery in Auckland, he was aged 49

Herbert Henry Hollow (1871 – 1932)

Little is known about Herbert Henry, he once made the local Christchurch Star when he was sixteen appearing as a witness in a robbery trial. He had been working for a local company the D.I.C as a messenger and inadvertently delivered goods stolen from the company by another employee. This was probably Herbert Henry's first job. Herbert Henry lived at 33 Aldred Street until 1900 according to the Christchurch electoral rolls; by then he was a blacksmith by occupation. He is not listed in Directories. During WW1 he served as a rifleman in the N.Z. Army. Herbert did not marry; he died in 1932 in Christchurch and is buried at the Bromley cemetery, Christchurch.

Philadelphia Ann Hollow (1873 – 1888)

Philadelphia was only one when the family arrived on the Apelles at Lyttelton in 1874; sadly her life was cut short at fifteen when died in June 6 1888. The inquest into her death determined that she died of asphyxia following an epileptic attack. Her brother Thomas, who found her, said she had been suffering from epileptic attacks for two years prior to her death. She was buried at the Linwood cemetery, Christchurch on Friday June 8 1888.

Sourced from LINZ . Crown Copyright reserved.

Richard Ellis Hollow (1877 -1941?)

Richard Ellis Hollow was very active in the music, singing and acting world of Christchurch in the 1890s. At the age of 18 he is reported in the Star as having played a character in a play and sang at a Students of Truth evening. Then right through the 1890s he is found acting in plays and playing either piano or organ both as a solo performer and as the accompanist to singers. While still 18 he is on the bill at a concert that was part of the International Exhibition in Christchurch. Richard performs at Students of Truth functions, the Caledonian Society, and was often involved with evenings put on by the NZ Railway Officers Institute. There was a family link with the railways as brother John was head porter at Christchurch station and another brother James was a railway porter.

Richard must have left Christchurch in the early 1900s, as he is not mentioned in the papers, he marries Violet Ada Geary in 1907. Violet Ada was a divorcee; she had married William Thomas Kyle in 1903 and divorced in 1905. Richard is listed as an accountant living at Paeroa. Paeroa is a small town on the Coromandel Peninsula south of Auckland. It came into its own as a river port servicing local gold mines. I am not sure how long he was there but in the same year Richard and Violet Ada had

the first and only child, Richard Philip Eric Hollow at Ohura, which is also on the North Island. A place that on its own website today is described as a remote town in the wilds of New Zealand's central north island. It was once a bustling little coal

town and probably that is what attracted Richard and his wife to the town. Google Earth tells me Paeroa is 243 kilometres from Ohura so Richard may have been working for a bank or perhaps he went to areas where mining companies needed accountants. They remained in Ohura until about 1915. In 1917 he is listed as a clerk living at 296 Willis Street Wellington and the following year Mrs Richard Hollow is listed in 1918 as living at 44 Broadway Terrace Wellington. He appears to be living separately to his wife as his army recruitment papers list him as coming from Motueka another small town in the north west of the South Island. After the

war in 1919 he and his wife are recorded as living in the Motueka Hotel; he is an accountant. Neither Richard nor Violet Ada is listed again in the directories. The next record I have found of Richard is in the Australian electoral rolls of 1931 and 1936 living in Victoria. 1931 saw him living c/o Watson in Wedge St. Dandenong. Dandenong was a town some 18 miles from Melbourne; his occupation was a clerk. In 1936 he listed as an accountant and living at 54 Tivoli Road, South Yarra an inner city Melbourne suburb.

Richard's death has not been found in New Zealand, a Richard Hollow died in 1940 in Victoria. The death is registered at Prahran a suburb next to South Yarra. Richard did not appear in any of the Victorian directories during this period. There is no other Richard Hollow living in Victoria that fits so I have a strong suspicion that this is him. It is possible that he separated from Violet Ada some time in the 1920s. She was not found in the Australian Electoral Rolls. Violet Ada died in Auckland in 1964. Their son Richard Philip Eric Hollow (note three forenames) married Sheila McLaughlin in 1934 and had six children, five boys and a girl.

Albert Kessel Hollow (1879 – 1923)

Albert did not marry and lived his life at Aldred Street from at least 1906; firstly at number 29 then at number 14 from 1912 until his death in 1923, aged 44. The fact that he does not appear in the directories until 1906 suggest he lived elsewhere for a period. He had attended the Normal School in Christchurch where he won a prize when at level IV in 1891. Normal Schools were far from normal, they were schools established for teacher education. Within each there was a "model school" where training teachers were able to work with classes of students. The Christchurch Normal School was established in 1876 and it was probably an achievement to be able to attend the Normal School.

Albert's occupation in the directories is as a grocer's assistant; in his spare time he may have been an athlete and a musician. In 1898 at a Mr. A Hollow was at a presentation night of the Post and Telegraph presentation night where he provided the accompaniment for the choral items of the night. That group sponsored cycle races, which Albert was interested in as he entered the Grocers' Employees annual cycle road race in 1904 and 1905. If the report is correct it must have been him



Normal School, Christchurch 1880s, where at least two Hollow boys were schooled

Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington, New Zealand – Ref: PA1-o-497-17.

as he is the only male "A. Hollow" living in Christchurch at the time. His address is given as Kaiapoi, a town about 19km to the north of Christchurch. This poses a query as Albert was also listed at Aldred St. at the time. It is possible that it was his brother Richard and that "A" was inserted instead of R. We know that Richard was often the accompanist at Choral items.

Albert was a member of the 1st Army Reserves during WWI. He died in Wellington in 1923, aged 44.

Percival Vincent Hollow (1882 – 1941)

Percival Vincent Hollow does not appear in any NZ directories at all. In 1913 he is registered as a voter in Australia at Herbert in Queensland. On 6 Dec 1915 he enlisted in the Australian Army in Townsville in far North Queensland, at that time he was working as a labourer and living at the Tower Hotel in Townsville.

In Australia the service records of all members of the armed forces during WWI are available free on-line. Percival Vincent Hollow's records run to 49 pages and are the most intriguing records I have ever seen. He was discharged from the army on 18 November 1918. In the almost three years he was in the army his records show he was either AWL, in jail, in hospital, or in training. There is no record of him actually being in a war zone. After his initial training he embarked on the troopship *Clan McGillivray* on 7 September 1916 at Brisbane. His first period of AWL occurred at Fremantle, Western Australia on 18 September. He re-embarked on the troopship *Suffolk* on 10 October as part of the third reinforcements of the 44th Battalion. He went AWL at Capetown, South Africa the next port, for six days and missed embarkation on the *Suffolk*. He re-embarked from Capetown on the troopship *Port Macquarie* on 5 November and then went AWL at Freetown, Sierra Leone (presumably the next port) on 25 November. He re-embarked from Sierra Leone on the troopship *Borda* on 28 November and disembarked at Plymouth, England on 9 January 1917. From there he spent a month at a training camp at Perham Down, near Andover in Hampshire until 16 February when he was moved to another training Camp at Durrington in Wiltshire, only 12 miles away. He went AWL from there on March 1st. After each of his periods of AWL he was docked pay and given periods of detention. On 15th March Percy was taken to nearby Bulford where he was admitted to the Australian Defence hospital with VD. He remained there for 38 days after which he was returned to Durrington and immediately went AWL. Thus he life continued, more AWL, more hospital, now with bronchitis three times and once with influenza, and more detention. In December 1917 he was court martialled after going AWL from hospital and given 21 days detention. By February 1918 he had been moved to another camp in Weymouth, Dorset. There were more

periods of hospital and AWL until 24 April 1918 he embarked on the troopship *Suevic* for return to Australia for discharge because of his bronchitis. He arrived in Australia on 7 June 1918 where he deserted and was later found in far north Queensland. He was finally discharged on 8 November 1918 as being medically unfit.

When totalled up Percy's army experience from when he enlisted until he returned show that he spent approximately 75 days in hospital, 81 days AWL and 97 days in detention and 141 on board ships. He was docked 191 days pay in that period.

Percival Vincent Hollow was awarded the 1914/15 Star, The British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

Percy's war records give us a little more. He was apparently of dark complexion with blue eyes and dark brown hair turning grey when he enlisted. He was 5' 9" weighed 11 stone 2 lbs and had vaccination scars; his religion was Church of England. In 1920 the Auckland Public Trustees Office wrote to the Australian Army seeking Percy's whereabouts in relation to him being a beneficiary to the estate of his brother James Jenkin Hollow who had died in Auckland in 1918. The letter states that prior to enlistment says he was working for B.H.P. in Iron Knob in South Australia before he enlisted. Iron Knob was and still is an iron-mining town; B.H.P. was the mining company. However he did enlist at Townsville in Queensland, which is about 2500 km from Iron Knob. In reply the army could only say he was discharged in Sydney and gave his address as care of the Sydney GPO.

Also in the file is a letter from Percy himself written in 1937 seeking his discharge papers. The letter was written from the Lidcombe State Hospital in Sydney. Percy died in Sydney in 1941.

The war records don't tell the full story; he remains a man of mystery. He was plagued with illness and his frequent AWL episodes beg the question of why? The army seemed to be remarkably patient with him although it did punish him for his misdemeanours. The act of desertion from the armed forces can have very dire consequences.

This story will continue next issue with the story of John Hollow, the eldest child. There are still more revelations to come of this remarkable family.

My thanks to Gwyn Gillard and Heather Forrester for their help with this story.

Images from newspapers came from the Papers Past website at <http://www.paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/cgi-bin/paperspast>



Colin Hollow

The story of a great grandson of Thomasine Maria Hollow - crashed in WW2.

Thomasine Maria Hollow (1827-1897) is one of the great characters of Hollow genealogy¹. Her granddaughter, Thomasine Williams, married Frank Douglas Powell in Sydney in 1922 and they lived at Clifton Gardens, overlooking the Sydney Heads. Their son, Vernon Douglas Powell, born in 1923, was on secondment to the RAF in WW2 as a Flight Officer serving on Lancaster Bombers. In this article we explore the intriguing circumstances surrounding his early death.

During June 1940 Northern France had been overrun by German forces. On 10 June the French government had fled to Bordeaux and on that same day Italy had declared war on France and Britain. On 22 June, France formally surrendered in the same railway car which had been used for Germany's surrendered in 1918. "Metropolitan" France was divided into two zones: a German occupied zone in the North and West and a collaborationist government, headed by Philippe Petain, set up in the spa town of Vichy.

Meanwhile, Charles de Gaulle, who had been in the former government, had set up "Free France" which included a number of French colonies in equatorial Africa and Indochina. Vichy controlled French North Africa. The French navy – some 50 ships and 3,700 men - effectively operated as an auxiliary force to the British Royal Navy. After the allied forces invaded French North Africa in November 1942, the Nazis suspected Vichy determination and occupied Vichy France as their own. Meanwhile, the French Resistance had become more co-ordinated and they were involved in re-taking Corsica in October 1943. About 130,000 Free French soldiers were involved in the Italian campaign. By the time of the Normandy Landings in June 1944, there were over 500,000 personnel in the Free French forces.

Paris was liberated on 25 August and Strasbourg by November 1944. Two "Pockets" of German occupation remained near Royan on the Atlantic coast.

The small town of Royan is a seaside resort on the north end of the large Gironde estuary – formed where the Dordogne and Garonne rivers merge near the regional capital, Bordeaux, at the southern end of the estuary. The region is famous for tourism and wines. In Napoleonic times soldiers from the Grande Armee would go to Royan to convalesce. Between 1875 and 1895 Royan became one of the most luxurious sea resorts in France. In 1895 the largest casino in France was built there.

During the Second World War, two German fortresses defended the estuary: Gironde Mündung Nord (or Royan) and Gironde Mündung Süd (or Pointe de Grave). These garrisons prevented shipping into the important port of Bordeaux and became known as the Atlantic "Pockets". The Germans held on to them grimly well after the liberation of the rest of France.

Following training, by 1944 Vernon Powell was seconded to RAF 106 Squadron based at Metheringham airfield in Lincolnshire, on the East coast of England. The airfield had been built on cleared farmland and woods only in 1943. The Squadron operated the legendary Avro Lancaster bombers. These four-engined bombers he flew had been created during WW2 and could carry their own weight in bombs. Over 7,000 Lancasters were to be built before War's end. They were involved in the

Thomasine Maria Hollow

Photo from Kerry Davis

Loading a Lancaster Bomber

Battle of Hamburg, the dam busting on the Ruhr and bombing of Berlin. After the War, Sir Arthur T. Harris, Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Bomber Command from February 1942-September 1945 was to say: "The Lancaster, beyond doubt, was a major factor in beating the Nazi enemy down to defeat -

as even the enemy admitted. No aircraft.....can be an effective weapon of war unless the aircrew that man them are of superlative quality."

Late in 1944, as the allies overran the rest of France, the task of besieging the town of Royan had been given to 12,000 men of the French Resistance commanded by Free French officers appointed by General de Gaulle. The commander of the German garrison recognised the

Resistance units as regular forces and the normal rules of warfare were observed. The French, lacking artillery, made little progress with their siege. Since the War, some commentators have found evidence that the Germans were willing to surrender.

The German commander gave the inhabitants of the town the opportunity to

leave but many preferred to stay to look after their homes and other possessions. It is believed that there were 2,000 civilians still in Royan in early January 1945.

It was reported that a meeting took place on 10 December 1944 at the town of Cognac between French officers and an American officer from one of the tactical air force units in France. After a meal, at which much alcohol is supposed to have been consumed, the American officer suggested that the German garrison at Royan should be 'softened up' by bombing. He is said to have been assured by the French that the only civilians remaining in the town were collaborators - which was not correct. The suggestion that the town be bombed was passed to SHAEF (Supreme

Aerial view of Royan after the bombing of January 5th 1945

Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Force), and it decided that the task should be given to the RAF's Bomber Command:

'To destroy town strongly defended by enemy and occupied by German troops only.'

It is said that SHAEF ordered a last-minute cancellation as a result of doubts about the presence of French civilians in Royan but the order, if issued, was not received by Bomber Command in time. The operation involved 347

The crucial telegram from the USAF to Bomber Command

Lancasters and 7 Mosquitoes – the latter undertaking reconnaissance and marking the target zone.

The attack was carried out by 2 waves of bombers, in good visibility, in the early hours of 5 January 1945. 1,576 tons of high-explosive bombs - including 285 'blockbuster' (4,000 lb bombs) - were dropped. Local reports say that between 85 and 90 per cent of the small town was destroyed. The number of French civilians killed is given as '500 to 700' and as '800' by different sources. Many of the casualties were suffered in the second part of the raid, an hour after the first phase which caught many people in the open trying to rescue the victims of the first wave of bombings, trapped in their houses. Because the garrisons were on the edge of the town, and their soldiers had bunkers for protection, the number of Germans killed is given as only 35 to 50. A local truce was arranged and, for the next 10 days, there was no fighting while the search for survivors in wrecked houses continued.

The 206 Squadron's Diary reports that "4 Lancasters were lost and 2 more collided behind Allied lines in France and crashed". Vernon

Powell and six others were in one of the two Lancasters that collided and crashed. The next-of-kin were promptly notified by telegram that their relation had been a member of a crew involved in the operation over Royan and had "...failed to return to base". The Sydney Morning Herald listed Vernon under "Missing, Air Operations". This started a long period of anxiety for the families of the airmen. It wasn't until March 1946 that a letter was received from the department of Air in Melbourne setting out their

understanding of the fate of the crew: "...It is thought that your son's aircraft collided with another Lancaster aircraft piloted by Flying Officer J. Milne and that both aircraft were destroyed as a result. It is apparent from the condition of the wreckage that your son's aircraft exploded in the air and that all members of the crew were killed instantly". A further letter in May advised where the crew were buried. These letters gave no indication to the relatives of the scope of the operation – that 347 Lancasters had been in the air over a small town.

Vernon Douglas Powell's name is recorded on panel 129 in the "Roll of Honour" Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial. His Service number was: 422982.

He was buried at the Cimetiere Communal, St. Palais-sur-Mer - about 5 kilometres west of Royan, on the north shore near the mouth of the Gironde estuary - in Row 5 Grave 4. Five other members of his crew are buried in the same grave. The body of Flight Sergeant Walter, the remaining member of the crew, was found later in a wood some distance from the

others and is buried separately. Their grave is marked 3251. The Commonwealth War Graves Commission has erected and maintained the grave for the five airmen and another for F S Walter – reading:

Flying Officer A H
Scott, RAAF - age 25
433733 Flight Sergeant
C R Mangnall, RAAF -
age 19
Flying Officer C A
Cassidy, RAAF - age 23
1810413 Sergeant P A
Lane, Flight Engineer,
RAF
Flying Officer V D
Powell, RAAF - age 20
Flying Officer B T
Roberts, RAAF, age 20
And close by:
434485 Flight Sergeant P
W K Walter, RAAF -
age 20

There were many recriminations. Bomber Command was immediately exonerated.

Grave of the six airmen at Cimetiere Communal, St Palais-sur-Mer.
Inset: Vernon's details

The American Air Force officer who passed on the original suggestion to SHAEF was removed from his command. The bitterest disputes took place among the Free French officers and accusations and counter-accusations continued for many years after the war. A French general committed suicide. The German garrison did not surrender until 18 April 1945 after further serious bombing from the US Air Force.

In 1948, General de Larminat, who was in charge of French forces in the West (that is, the Bordeaux region) for the last six months of the War, broke a long silence to reply to bitter criticism of both the January and April bombings by local leaders. He exonerated the French military command at Cognac, saying they were not responsible for directing the English planes to Royan. It was rather a "tragic error" by the Allied Command and went on to say "...we pay homage to those who died in the war and help the survivors and repair the ruins; but we do not linger on the causes because, in truth there is only a single cause: War; and the only ones truly responsible are those who wanted war." (from 'Royan – Ville de la Mort' Botton (Père et fils) 1965).

Bruce McLennan – a relation of FO Bruce Roberts - would be interested to hear from any connections of the airmen (bamclennan at optusnet dot com dot au or +61 (0)2 9400 9898).

Footnote 1: Thomasine Maria Hollow, who was born in Cornwall, with her first husband, John Trannick Williams, had nine children, before marrying John's brother, Francis Trannick Williams, in Victoria, Australia, had two more children, and then took a third husband, John Birch, and had one more child - called William Williams Birch. Her unusual first name, Thomasine, skipped a generation before emerged again with the fourth child of Charles John Trannick Williams (the youngest child from her first marriage) when he had Thomasine Alice Williams, born in 1897. The story of Thomasine Maria Hollow is told in Hollow Log 9. ♠

Hollow – How many in the U.S.

The White pages website in the U.S. actually calculates How numerous a surname is. There are 278 Hollows listed in the U.S. The Hollow surname is ranked 56274th in between Hiraoka 56273rd and Hopler 56275th. Further to that the website ranks the most popular forenames and the most popular states where Hollow s live.

Most Popular first Names for **Hollow**

1. John 15 listings
2. Horn 13 listings
3. Richard 8 listings
4. Michael 7 listings
5. Mary 6 listings

You will notice the name Horn comes up as a popular forename. There is a Native American name of Hollow Horn Primarily from Dakota, which the website's search engine includes with the surname Hollow.

Top States for last Name **Hollow**

1. Michigan 34 listings
2. California 24 listings
3. Pennsylvania 24 listings
4. Washington 24 listings
5. Massachusetts 19 listings

This information is from

<http://names.whitepages.com/last/Hollow> ♠