

## A Hollow Newsletter – No 4

Best wishes for Christmas and the New Year/Millennium to you all. I am sending this out a little before it is due, largely because I don't expect to be doing much family history between Christmas and mid January. So the newsletter is not going to get any better than this. I am indebted to Keith Hollow of Penzance for the newspaper article about his great great grandfather, Richard Hollow. He has also provided me with another article written when Richard Hollow turned 100 in 1936, which I plan to put in subsequent newsletters. I have a couple more similar articles or obituaries that I will include in later newsletters but I am always looking for more to publish. So if you have any thing similar please send me a copy.

Colin 21 Dec 1999

### The HOLLOW Homepage

Many of you will be aware that I have had trouble fitting the Hollow database on my web sites. It outgrew the first site at Ozemail and threatened to become too large for the Geocities site, even though their size limit is quite large at 15Mb.

I think the problem is solved!! Rootsweb have recently commenced providing free web sites of unlimited size for genealogy pages. I have spent some time setting up the site and hopefully by the time you get this newsletter it will have all my pages including the database.

I have included files that can be downloaded too. The Hollow census data for each year up to and including 1881 available, also the Hollow births deaths and marriages for Victoria. The files are Microsoft Excel spreadsheet files and are zipped to keep them small. If anybody has suggestions of a better or more universal format for them please let me know. I am not sure how accessible Excel files are for people. Early in the New Year I expect to be able to include births deaths and marriages for the other Australian States and New Zealand.

The **new** homepage is at:

<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~chollow/>

### HOLLOW spotting

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission website contains personal and service details and places of commemoration of the 13 HOLLOWs who died in the First or Second World Wars:

**Arthur Hollow**, Private 1745, 16<sup>th</sup> Bn., Australian Infantry, WWI

**George Samuel Hollow**, Driver T/98255, Royal Army Service Corps, WWII

**Howard Hollow**, Private 22714, 10<sup>th</sup> Bn., Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry, WWI

**H M Hollow**, Private 65016, 16<sup>th</sup> (Royal Devon and R.North Devon Yeomanry) Bn, Devonshire Regiment, WWI

**John Hollow**, Private 33613, 10<sup>th</sup> Bn., Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry, WWI

**James Hollow**, Private 1290, 32<sup>nd</sup> Bn., Australian Infantry, A.I.F, WWI

**John Crocker Hollow**, Seaman 4467B, H.M.S. "Indefatigable.", Royal Naval Reserve, WWI

**James Harry Hollow**, Master M.V. Shillong (London), Merchant Navy, WWII

**John Theodore Hollow**, Sergeant 1606440, 463 (R.A.A.F.) Sqdn, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, WWII

**James Walker Hollow**, Lance Corporal 8/2012, 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn., Otago Regiment, N.Z.E.F., WWI

**T R Hollow**, Leading Seaman 3471/C, S.S. "Dunedin.", Royal Naval Reserve, WWI

**William Dingle Hollow**, Sapper 504370, 61<sup>st</sup> Div. Signal Coy., Royal Engineers, WWI

**W E Hollow**, Private 11120, 1<sup>st</sup> Bn., Devonshire Regiment, WWI

If you want to see the full details of any of the people listed the site is at:

<http://yard.ccta.gov.uk/cwgc/register.html>

## Research Data online

Maps and Gazetteers - these can be useful to find out of the way places our ancestors lived in.

- Australia - <http://kaos.erin.gov.au/database/MAN200R.html>

Provides a State map showing proximity to main towns/cities.

- New Zealand - <http://www.linz.govt.nz/databases/geographic/index.html>

No maps here but map references are given.

- United Kingdom  
I have mentioned this one before  
<http://www.multimap.com>

- Whole world  
There are two whole world map sites (that I know of) the claim is that you can find any place in the world. Great for finding those obscure birthplaces of ancestors.

<http://www.expediamaps.com>

You can print out the map as well.

The other whole world site is The Worldwide Directory of Cities and Towns at:

<http://www.calle.com/world/index.html>

The maps produced show only the town/city you are looking for, no adjacent or main centres.

On matters Cornish,

- Historic Town of St. Ives Cornwall Official Website This site gives information about St Ives and has a zoom-able map of the town as well.

<http://www.stives-cornwall.co.uk/>

- The Redruth Town Walk. Take a virtual tour of Redruth, the site includes some history, a map and sketches of many of the buildings.

<http://www.chycor.co.uk/redruth/>

- A map of the Cornish registration districts for births, deaths and marriages is at:

[http://www.cfhs.demon.co.uk/reg\\_map.html](http://www.cfhs.demon.co.uk/reg_map.html)

There are links to maps of each district which show the parishes within it.

## Hollow History

This report is from THE CORNISH EVENING TIMES, SATURDAY, February 10, 1934.

I have kept the precise language and grammar that is in the original, it is quite different to the way features are written today. I am hoping that the report will be of added interest if you know the town of Penzance.

## MEMORIES OF OLD PENZANCE

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### INTERESTING INTERVIEW

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#### AN OLD GENTLEMAN LOOKS BACK

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Born ninety-eight years ago and still Going strong! That is the record of Mr Hollow, of St Mary's-street, Penzance, who is probably the oldest person in the borough, and who has as great a wealth of memories as anyone you are ever likely to meet.

I found Mr Hollow to be a well-preserved old gentleman who bore his years lightly, and was happy in the possession of faculties that age had done little to dim. He spoke inconsequentially of Penzance as he had known it through the years, and of the many changes that had taken place. The town whose principal aspects he resurrected in memory was as strange to younger years as old prints are to modern eyes. It impressed one with the objective feeling that the whole of life, in its smallest as well as its largest manifestations, is held in eternal flux, that everyone is in a sense, a child of transition.

But let our friend tell the story himself.

I mentioned the fire that had occurred at Mr John James' premises in the Market-place and the letter concerning it that had appeared in these columns. Mr Hollow replied that he remembered the outbreak and had been referred, to the letter the facts of which he did not challenge. The fire had occurred about eighty two years before, when he was scarcely fourteen years of age. "It was on a Saturday night," said Mr. Hollow. "No one seeing such a great blaze could ever forget it afterwards, no matter how long he happened to live. I have seen other fires, but nothing so big as that one. Of course, it was such a long time ago that I can't be sure of the details, but I remember there was some talk of gunpowder. Someone shouted 'are the barrels there?' and I think someone answered 'Yes!'

## MURDER AT PENZANCE.

"The fire was near where the True Form bootshop is now. It caused a great sensation at the time, as there were certain suspicions about. It was supposed that the building was set on fire.

"I remember," Mr. Hollow continued, "that it happened after the foundation stone of the Albert Pier was laid. That occasion I remember well, although I was only about nine years old. It was in '45, if I'm not mistaken. I wouldn't be sure, but I think Mr. Edward Bolitho, of Trewidden, was Mayor of Penzance then. His brother, Mr Thomas Simon Bolitho, held that office either before or after.

"That was a great day! The town was swarming with people. All the clubs turned out, and there was a dinner in the Corn Exchange. The townspeople used to give great dinners there --- there was one when the Prince of Wales was crowned."

"I recollect that on the day the foundation stone of the Albert Pier was laid a woman was murdered. She had her throat cut by her husband --- or by a man supposed to be her husband. Her name was Mrs. Seymour, and she lived beside the Catholic Church. Just, past St. Joseph Cottages there are some small houses; ---she lived in either the first or second of these. The murderer was called Ellison. Everybody was down seeing the foundation stone laid, and he thought it was a good opportunity to kill her. So he cut her throat. But it was a bad day's work for him, for he was hanged --- at Bodmin --- if I remember correctly."

Mr. Hollow remarked later that there was a "grand to-do" when the Crimean War, which lasted from 1854 to 1856, was settled. "They had a fine spree in the Exchange then," he said. "And they had another one when King Edward was married. The celebration of the Queen's Jubilee was nothing to compare with it. They don't do these things; as grandly as they used to. Nowadays they just have a cup of tea, and that's about all."

## BEER IN WASHTRAYS!

Mr. Hollow's eyes flashed with remembered pleasure as pictures of those far-off days came to his mind.

"You should have seen the celebrations on the Promenade when the first train ran from Penzance to Truro," he said. "That was a great turn-out. I was about thirteen then, and I remember seeing them carrying the beer, up and down in washtrays."

"I suppose they had a spree when Feast came round?" I asked.

I should say they did!" replied Mr. Hollow, with a laugh. "On Madron Feast they used to have tables in the streets and have rafflings at a penny each.

"How Penzance has altered during the last twenty years! Think how the Market House has altered even in ten years! There used to be a fish market out-of-doors, the fish being displayed on stalls in the Market-place. The stalls stood on the right-hand side where the new shops are now. A man called Beer (or Beare) used to look after them. Then they were moved to near Sir Humphry Davy's monument, where there was a proper place built of slate. From this place the market was moved to Prince's-street.

"There used to be a big Corn market over the Market House, Afterwards the place was used as a Drill Hall. I can see the men now, carrying great sacks of corn up the steps.

"The shoe market was out-of-doors, held on 'standings' round the Market House every Thursday and Saturday.

## THE TRIUMPH OF TIME,

"Then Corpus Christi Fair was held where the Public Buildings are now. It used to run right out into the streets. There was a big turn-out when the Public Buildings were opened.

"Once there used to be many dwelling-houses in Market Jew Street. All the area at the back was much different from what it is now. St. James-street, Alma-terrace, and Belgravia-street were built on Mr. Reynolds' land. The place was called Hill's Fields.

"In those days there was no Alexandra-road. Alverton was as far as you could go unless you went over hedges and through orchards.

"All the bottom of the town was very much different. The railway station, which was smaller then, stood where the road is now. When the alterations were made there was a law-suit between the railway company and the Town Council. The company wanted to, buy a lot of property and the town wanted a lot of money for it. In those days the sea came up to where the parking place is now. There was a slip where Albert-street is.

"The quarter was a very poor one. There was a court there called Friggen's court, and a lot of old places since torn down.

"I remember the first, boats to come here. Before they used to put in at Hayle, and the cargoes would be taken to town by road. Then two boats ran to Penzance in turn once a fortnight. One was a paddle-boat called the *Grand Turk*, and the other was called the *City of Limerick*.

## BACK TO METHUSELAH.

"The ground where the Queen's hotel stands was owned., by Mr. William Matthews, of the Comwall-terrace family, who was Mayor for a time. He had large gardens --- not nurseries --- in front of Gothic Row, where the garage has been built in now."

Mr. Hollow spoke of past and present friends of his, including the late Mr. Inch, who went to Australia in a small boat when Ballarat was a lure to young and old. He also referred to Mr. Courtney and Mr. Scobey, who like himself have lived to see a changing world, and are happily able to accept, life with zest in spite of their great years. In the best tradition of interviewers, I asked Mr. Hollow to what he attributed his longevity. He replied that he did not smoke, but that for the rest, he had little

use for restrictive theories. "What does it matter," he laughed, "so long as you have a good appetite and food to satisfy it?"

I said good-bye with the thought that there are many roads leading Back to Methuselah, and that it matters little how long one lives if only one can live intensely with all the senses held in balance, and poised in harmony with the world about one.

CASTLE-AN-DINAS.

## More HOLLOW researchers

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

Kate Curtis	<a href="mailto:rkcurtis@mail.smartchat.net.au">rkcurtis@mail.smartchat.net.au</a>	Descendant of William HOLLOW Jane PEARD of Redruth, William seems likely to have been the son of Matthew HOLLOW and Mary COCKING. Jane PEARD was possibly his second wife, the first was Mary DUNSTONE.
"Melissa (Bruno) Ward"	<a href="mailto:sarafina@delcarsdungeon.com">sarafina@delcarsdungeon.com</a>	Descendant of James Wallis HOLLOW b.1890 in St Ives, Cornwall, England *Came to U.S. thru Fla in Summer; NYC in winter *Worked in Kansas City d. 1960
Kylie J. Veale	<a href="mailto:kylie@immortal.net.au">kylie@immortal.net.au</a>	Descendant of Richard HOLLOW b: Abt. 1837 in Penzance, CON, ENG + Harriet WALLISH b: Abt. 1836 in Penzance, CON, ENG m: 31 March 1857 in Madron, CON, ENG
Holly Shaw	<a href="mailto:jonandholly@dellnet.com">jonandholly@dellnet.com</a>	Holly's HOLLOW line: Thomas HOLLOW (abt. 1670, Zennor) and Chessen THOMAS John HOLLOW (abt. 1700) and Sarah EDDY John HOLLOW (abt. 1730 Zennor) and Catherine OSBORNE Thomas HOLLOW (abt. 1779) and Elizabeth CURNOW Thomas HOLLOW (abt. 1808 Zennor) and Hannah NEWTON Thomas HOLLOW (abt 1828 Zennor) and Cordelia Thomas NANKERVIS (1870) and Cordelia HOLLOW (1872, St. Ives) (great grandparents)
David Perry	<a href="mailto:dperry@cardet.com">dperry@cardet.com</a>	John HOLLOW. He was married to Catherine OSBORNE on 2 Feb 1757 in ZENNOR.
Clem Viney	<a href="mailto:clem@majestic.net.au">clem@majestic.net.au</a>	Descendant of Matthew HOLLOW and Christian TERRILL, Redruth, antipodean ancestor John HOLLOW (1836-1893)

