

# A Hollow Newsletter

No 5

March 2000

Hello again,

I hope you like the changes to the newsletter; I am experimenting a little bit and open to any suggestions.

Welcome to eight more researchers including three HOLLOWs researchers who are getting the newsletter for the first time.

The Hollow History section this time is from New Zealand and features a pioneering woman, Mary Elizabeth HOLLOW, a descendant of John and Chesen HOLLOW of Zennor.

I am looking for photographs to include in the newsletter, also I need more articles from other HOLLOW researchers - keep those cards and letters coming in.

Colin Hollow

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## **HOLLOW spotting**

Last newsletter included a list of HOLLOWs that died in war taken from the Commonwealth War Graves Commission Site. One of those mentioned was **Howard Hollow**, Private 22714, 10<sup>th</sup> Bn., Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry, WWI. Keith Hollow sent this photo and says, "Howard volunteered for service shortly after the outbreak of war and apparently, in order to gain acceptance, increased his age by one year. I believe he must have been 17 at the time. His memorial in Ramscappell Road, Military Cemetery in Belgium gives his age as 21 but that in Penzance erected by his parents states 20". ♦

Reg Hollow AGAIN!!! - three times in "HOLLOW spotting and not claimed yet. This time a photograph of him with the following caption was found in the joint images database

at the Australian War Memorial Site. <http://www.awm.gov.au>

"July 1941. Gaza. Chef to officers' mess R. Hollow claims to be the smallest man in the A.I.F. being 5ft in height. He is from Mornington and fought in the last war."

There is a great photo of Reg but it is covered by copyright so I cannot print it here.

My Uncle Colin (Colin Charles HOLLOW) was also in the AIF during WWII, he was 5ft and 1/2 inch. I wonder if Reg knew another Hollow was pushing him for the record.



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

Photo from Keith Hollow

While looking at the photo database I found references to five photos that my own father (Robert Keith HOLLOW) featured in taken at Goodenough and Kiriwina Islands in New Guinea during WWII, unfortunately the photos are unavailable at the moment but I was thrilled to see the reference to them. There were also three photos that featured Corporal O. C. HOLLOW RAE. □

The last newsletter's feature report was on Richard Hollow who lived until he was 104. There was another Hollow that reached this age. Holly Shaw sent me this excerpt from "WICCA, the Story of my farm" by Jean Nankervis.

"Elizabeth Hollow was born in 1839 and lived to be 104 years old. As a child she collected money to build the Bible Christian Chapel at Wicca. BY 1900 it was a ruin as the mining industry had collapsed, the tinnerns emigrated and the parish population fallen from more than 1000 to 332. When

Aunt Elizabeth was over a hundred and bedridden, she still made patchwork quilts. One is treasured today by the owner of WICCA who threaded needles for her when she was a little girl." ♦

## HOLLOW spotting cont.

And from Chris Harris (a descendant of Daniel Hollow, mariner of St Ives.

".....concerning the headstone at Barnoon.

This actual headstone takes the form of a large Cornish granite Celtic cross and it stands out at the cemetery because its one of the only pair of Celtic crosses there. This second family grave, I think, is linked to the Hollows in some way. I intend to visit this when we go down next month."

"Have you ever seen the film Raise the Titanic? Near the end of the film there is a scene that was actually shot at Barnoon and the above two crosses can be observed. (There you are - the Hollows on the big silver screen! ) The location is breathtaking, especially when the Atlantic Ocean, which is only a matter of a 100 or so metres away, is in storm force conditions." ♦

## Data Collection

Through this newsletter and the HOLLOW family history website I want to encourage the exchange of information relevant to family history research. When I am sent family trees and descendant lists I include them in the HOLLOW database. To access this information people can contact me or look at the database published on the website. There is also other data such as births, deaths and marriages available in the same way. I can provide hard copies for people without internet access but there would be a charge to cover printing and postage.

Any additional data is always welcome. For example the 1841, 1861 and 1891 Census data is incomplete. If you have hollow records from any of these or other records please send them to me as it will help to enlarge the information available for everyone. To avoid more than one person collecting the same information a list of work in progress is being created. The list so far:

- New Zealand Births, Deaths and Marriages - (almost completed) Colin Hollow
- English Births Deaths and Marriages - (almost completed) Keith Hollow
- NSW Births Deaths and Marriages - (almost completed) Colin Hollow.

- South Australian Births Deaths and Marriages - (almost completed) Colin Hollow.
- Western Australian Births Deaths and Marriages - (almost completed) Colin Hollow
- Queensland Births Deaths and Marriages - to be done
- Tasmanian Births Deaths and Marriages - Debbie Woolmore.
- Victorian shipping - Colin Hollow.
- South Australian shipping - Walter Hollow.
- The International Genealogical Directory for the British Isles - (almost completed) Colin Hollow
- Victorian and NSW Cemetery records. - Debbie Woolmore

Additions and corrections are welcome, ♦



**Elizabeth Anne Hollow born 1861  
Eldorado, Vic., married John Patrick Allan  
1881 in Tasmania.**

Photo from Berenice Woolmore

## HOLLOW researchers

An updated list of HOLLOW researchers has been sent with this newsletter. Each person's line of research is included to show the different groups that people are working on. As you will see there are two separate groups originating from Zennor. Surely they are connected! It will take some good detective work but I am sure we will make the connection in the end. ♦

## Research Data online

### Cornish Lists

Another way to use the internet to further research is to join mailing lists. A list is made up of a group of people who have a similar interest and wish to exchange information. Each person on the list gets every e-mail that is posted to the list. Rootsweb sponsors hundreds of genealogical lists and they are easy to subscribe to. There are lists for countries, states,

counties, districts, surnames and many other topics.

There are two Cornish lists, one is for just genealogy and the other is about anything Cornish, but the mail is mostly about genealogy too. Although occasionally they break out and talk about pasties, saffron cakes, St Piran,

or whether being able to touch your nose with your tongue is a Cornish trait. It can be quite entertaining.

I have included the links to both and for the digest version. The digest version bundles up messages in groups of ten or more and sends them to you in just one message. You get about two of these a day from the genealogy only list and two to four from the other list.

Many people subscribe to both as there can be quite different topics covered. The lists can help with specific family history information but they can also be helpful by explaining how or where to find and use resources

If you join and watch for a couple of days you will see the type of request people make.

The details are:

### 1. The General Cornish List

To subscribe to CORNISH-D, send a message to [CORNISH-D-request@rootsweb.com](mailto:CORNISH-D-request@rootsweb.com) that contains the word: "subscribe" (w/o the quotes) in the body and no other text. No subject line is necessary, but if your software requires one, just use subscribe in the subject, too.

### 2. The Cornish Genealogy list

To subscribe to CORNISH-GEN-D, send the same message to

[CORNISH-GEN-D-request@rootsweb.com](mailto:CORNISH-GEN-D-request@rootsweb.com)

After you subscribe details of how to post a message etc are sent to you.

Some parishes have a list and many Cornish surnames have their own list. To find out what is available try:

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

If you want to look up a topic that may have featured last month, last year or two years ago you can do this through the archives, go to:

<http://searches.rootsweb.com/cgi-bin/listsearch.pl>

Enter the list name you want to search eg Cornish or Cornish-gen

A page will come up that asks for the word, surname etc. you wish to search for and the year of the archives you want to search. ♦

## Odd Spot

HOLLOW is the 22,964th most popular last name (surname) in the United States, based upon the 1990 United States Census. ♦

## The HOLLOW Website

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

I am gradually adding files of HOLLOW records that can be downloaded from the website. These are all zipped Microsoft Excel 97 files. Currently these files are available.

English Census files

- Hollows in 1841 Census (9KB)
  - Hollows in 1851 Census (17KB)
  - Hollows in 1861 Census (8KB)
  - Hollows in 1871 Census (18KB)
  - Hollows in 1881 Census (18KB)
- This data is the same as the data available in the archive section, some years are not complete
- Hollow BDMs Victoria, Australia (54KB)
- Vic BDMs 1850 - 1920, + Deaths 1921-1985, ♦



Zacharias Hollow 1843 - 1901

Photo from Ellen Hollow

## HOLLOWS connections

I have made contact with HOLLOWS descendants, from Hong Kong, Canada and America. If anybody else has a HOLLOWS contact please let me know. There does not seem to be many HOLLOWS into family history. ♦

## HOLLOW variations

These are rough count HOLLOW and variants from the IGI for the British isles. HOLA (6), HALLEW (7), HALLOW (246), HOLA (282), HOLLAH (34), HOLLAS (704), HOLLAW (3), HOLLO (26), HOLLOE (5), HOLLOH (6), HOLLOW (574), HOLLOWE (10), HOLLOWS (939), HOLLOW (5).

Of course there is quite a bit of overlap but the predominant counties for each of the most common names are:- HALLOW FIF, SCO, HOLA, CON, HOLLAS, YKS, HOLLOW, CON and HOLLOWS, LAN. This was going to be just a filler but it has awakened my curiosity. I will do a more precise analysis for the next newsletter. ♦

## Hollow History

From 'The Dominion' Wellington, date unknown.

# CAPTAIN SEABURY WAS FOXTONS FIRST PILOT IN HEYDAY AS PORT

"If you can control a ship's crew you can control a family," Captain Seabury, first pilot at Manawatu Heads, used to say. His daughter, who lives at Foxton, has every reason to remember this dictum of her father's, upside down as it seems, because she was the family. But she loved the discipline and took pride in the command which her father had over other men.

This big, well-built man, with the flowing beard, blue eyes and fair skin of the Norsemen was not given to saying much, but "what he said went," and he seemed born to command. Also, he expected to be obeyed, and he had never known trouble with men in his ships.

Few more fitting men could have been found for the post of pilot at such a busy place as the Manawatu once was. The sea and Andrew Seabury were inseparable. He had even been born in a ship, for his father was a Swedish captain whose wife used to go to sea with him. Captain Seabury's daughter says that it was about 1838 or 1840 that her father was born aboard his father's ship in Upsala harbour, Sweden.

After some schooling ashore he went to sea again at 12, and roamed the world. At one time he was in the American Navy, and later in the British Navy. At the age of 21 he was in command of a merchant ship taking Irish emigrants from Liverpool to New York. He used to tell how on arrival there he took the ship's papers ashore. An official said to him sternly, "Young man; doesn't your captain know that he should hand over these papers himself?" "I am the captain answered Andrew Seabury.

### Settled Ashore

In the end his journeyings brought him to New Zealand, and like many, another sailor, he decided to stay. A job was ready for him, and he took it - that of assistant pilot at Wanganui. But he stayed there only two years. In 1872 he was appointed pilot at the Manawatu Heads, and the letter of appointment to the £150 a year post, signed by Sir William Fitzherbert, is still treasured by his daughter.

So it came about that this burly, taciturn Norseman left the sea when still in his early thirties, and settled ashore, for he was to spend the rest of his days within sound of the waves on the Manawatu bar.

A house had been built for him at the Heads, in the lee of the sandhills, not far from the beach. In another cottage, known as the Pioneer Cottage, nearby, lived his two assistants, the assistant pilot, an Italian named Nicholas Sciascia, and the boatman James Wilson. All the same it was lonely at times, until in 1876 a Cornish family from Redruth arrived as settlers and provided a bride for the sturdy pilot of the Manawatu. Mary Elizabeth Hollow was 22 when she became Mrs. Andrew Seabury at a ceremony held in a private house in Foxton.

She did not regret her choice. They lived happily there, dreary as the dunes were, and with the constant sound of the waves pounding on the beach there was seldom an empty moment. The Manawatu was building up steadily then, and the ship traffic was considerable. That was Foxton's heyday as a port. Nearly all the "shopping" (as the captain's daughter puts it) for Manawatu used to come by sea to Foxton. "Sometimes she said the wharf was so crowded that ships had to lie off in the river."

### River Inspector

Captain Seabury's job involved seeing that the river was clear for shipping as far as Paiaka, so when he was not piloting ships in or out he would be making inspection trips up the river. He knew he would be sure to find come wire cables stretched, across from one bank to the other, (against regulations) by which bundles of flax were conveyed across.

The Seaburys had to wait many years before a child was born to them, and she was the only one they had. Looking back, she does not feel that her life in the dunes was in the least lonely or indeed uncomfortable, in spite of the fact that everything became so covered in sand that the beds had to be covered with newspapers every day directly they had been made. "It was the only life I knew," she says, "and I was happy."

Her mother was happy, too, and so staunchly devoted to the captain that once in their early days at the Heads when he tried to make her take refuge in Foxton from threatening Maoris, she refused to leave him. It had happened that on that morning the two occupants of Pioneer Cottage had reported to the Captain that they could hear a strange sound from over the sandhills. "Can't think what it is Boss," they said, "Sounds something like thunder."

The captain ordered one of them to climb to the yardarm of the signal mast to see what he could. He reported a huge crowd of Maoris advancing down the coast toward them from Rangitikei. Before long the little cottages were surrounded by Maoris who were in an ugly mood. They took all the Seaburys' supplies of food, their clothing and

anything else removable, and informed, the captain that they intended to burn down his house and cut down the signal mast because it was on their property, which had not been paid for.

The captain was in a quandary, and unable to speak Maori well enough to argue the details. All he could do was to persuade the Maoris to wait till an interpreter and messenger should be sent from Wellington. So, for some days, the Seaburys lived with the hostile Maoris' encamped around them. At last the messenger arrived and all was well. The land had been paid for after all.

The result was a complete change from hostility to what became a lasting friendship. The chiefs sent at once to Wellington to replace what been taken, and to her last days Mrs Seabury refused to listen to anyone detracting from the Maori character. "If you find a Maori who is not fair or honourable in his dealings" she used to say stoutly, "it's probable that he has a drop of white blood in him."

There were times, too, when ships came to grief in storms on the coast. Then the crews would be taken in and given shelter by the Seaburys till help arrived.

"I learnt a lot about ships and currents and winds, and about seafaring men as well, from those people," says his daughter, and one may picture the little girl sitting at the table, trying to do the

**All the same it was lonely at times, until in 1876 a Cornish family from Redruth arrived as settlers and provided a bride for the sturdy pilot of the Manawatu.**

lessons which her father regularly set her, while the shipwrecked men huddled round the fire and spoke of the ordeal they had just endured.

For Captain Seabury, after some 30 years at the Heads, the Manawatu had become as much part of him as the sea, which he had left, and he ended his days at Foxton in 1909 by the river and the little port that he had served so well. -- By Celia and Cecil Manson. ♦

*This next article would have appeared in 1944, paper unknown but was probably The Manawatu Herald.*

### Pioneer of Foxton Beach is 88

On Friday, April 27, Mrs Seabury, whose name is linked for all time with Foxton Beach, celebrated her 88<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Born at Gravesend, London, on April 27, 1857, and leaving England on June 21, 1875, in the sailing ship Waikato, she reached Port Lyttelton on October 28, 1875 and arrived in Foxton on February 27, 1876. Her marriage to Captain Seabury took place on March 4. At That time the beach was called "Wharangi" and Capt. And Mrs Seabury lived at first in what was called "Pioneer Cottage" near the corner of Linklater Avenue, beyond the Post Office store. This was the only house at the beach at that time. The name "Wharangi" is still in existence, being that of a house standing where "Pioneer Cottage" Once stood. Before long, Capt. And Mrs Seabury moved to the "Old Pilot's House" in Seabury Avenue where they lived for thirty years, Capt. Seabury being the first pilot and harbour master for all those years. The next house built was for an assistant.

Looking remarkably well for her great age, and surrounded by intimate friends and members of her family, Mrs Seabury obviously enjoyed the occasion and the beautifully arranged table with the birthday cake occupying the place of honour. This had been made by Mrs Bowater of Seabury Avenue and iced by her husband, and was a really beautiful work of art. Instead of candles, the figure of a lovely old lady adorned its artistic surface.



**Rotorua N.Z. 1911, Mary Elizabeth Seabury nee Hollow (in dark clothing)**

Photo from Dana Huthnance

Mrs Seabury has one daughter, Mrs R.A. Easton, of Foxton, 3 grand children and 7 great grand-children. The grand-children are Mrs W.J Williamson, Otaki, Mrs A.A. Webb, Opotiki, and Mrs R. Easton, Dargaville.

Mr Bowater proposed the toast to the guest of honour, Mrs Anderson replying on behalf of her grandmother. Mrs Seabury was quite equal to cutting the birthday cake for all the guests, and a generous slice came down to "L'Allegro," Seabury Avenue at the Manawatu Heads where it was much appreciated.

From the standpoint of beach residents, perhaps the most interesting information supplied by Mrs Seabury in her reminiscences of the early days, was the fact that at that time the sea came up to the end of Seabury Avenue. All those acres of play area and plantations from NASH Parade to the Manawatu River are reclaimed land., due to the action of the elements over those

comparatively few years. All friends had great pleasure in wishing Mrs Seabury "Many More Happy Birthdays." ♦

*From the Manawatu Herald 30 April 1948*

### OBITUARY

#### Mrs Mary Elizabeth Seabury (nee Hollow). In her 92<sup>nd</sup> year

The death occurred at her residence, Norbiton Road at an early hour on Thursday morning last week, of a highly esteemed Foxton resident and one who could lay claim to a residence locally of 74 years, the last 44 of which were spent at Norbiton Road, Foxton. She was Mrs Mary Elizabeth Seabury, relict of the late Captain Seabury, who was in her 92nd year. Deceased was born at Redruth, Cornwall, England in 1857, and came out to the Dominion in the sailing ship Waikato in 1874.

Arriving at Lyttelton on October 23 she proceeded to Wellington and arrived in Foxton early in 1874, where she was married to the late captain Seabury on March 4<sup>th</sup>. Until 1904 she resided at Manawatu Heads where her husband was pilot but in the latter years he retired and they took up their residence in Norbiton Road. Captain Seabury died on April 25<sup>th</sup> 1909. Mrs Seabury led a particularly active life and in the early days of the beach she experienced many of the hazards of the pioneers of this country. She well remembered seeing a Maori war party arrive from Rangitikei when the Maoris disputed the rights of the pakeha to the

land on which the first pilot-house and station then stood, about four miles north of the present river mouth. The Maoris surrounded the buildings and told her and her husband to leave but they stayed on despite an attempt to remove their furniture. However negotiations finally prevailed and they were not disturbed and Captain and Mrs Seabury were on the friendliest of terms with the Maori people thereafter. During her sojourn in Foxton the deceased took a very keen interest in the social life of the community and "Gran" as she was familiarly known to all was a great helper on ball and bazaar committees and especially in connection with any effort connected with the children. She was a keen

supporter of All Saints Church and a foundation member of the Foxton Horticultural Society and the Women's Institute. She leaves one daughter, Mrs R. A. Easton of Norbiton Road, Foxton and there are three grandchildren, Mesdames A. A. Webb (Waikanae Beach), W. Anderson (Otaki Beach), and Mrs Roy Easton (Foxton). There are also nine great grandchildren.

The funeral took place locally on Saturday afternoon, the services at all saints Church bend the grave side being conducted live the Rev. N J. S. Wheeler. The pallbearers were Messrs K. and H. Easton, R. N. Speirs, C. Taylor (Palmerston North); W. Anderson (Otaki) and A. A. Webb. ♦