

## INTRODUCTION

Welcome to this eleventh edition of The Folker Phyles. For a change, this edition follows hot on the heels of the previous issue.

This edition is prompted by a number of recent discoveries from my mother's attic and a new contact in Canada

## THE DISCOVERIES

Since my mother (Neé Folker) passed away, I have been discovering various items which had been previously unknown to me.

One substantial item was a travelling dressing case which would appear to have belonged to my great-grandmother, Hannah Folker (1853-1929).

The case is about 12" x 9" x 7" and holds silver-topped containers. There is a drawer at the bottom which is released by a button inside the case. The inside of the box is lined with fabric which conceals an opening panel in the lid.

In one of the containers in the main body of the case we found some pieces of paper folded up, each on containing a curl of hair.

Some of the writing on the pieces of paper are hard to read and it may take me a while to decipher them. However, names that we can read are Hannah, Vivien, Oscar and Evelyn.

Under the button hooks we found a book listing all the wedding presents for Hannah and Alfred in 1880 including the names of the givers. Also, there was a penknife with the initials EP which would be Eliza Pocock who married Alfred Hanley Folker in 1856.

In this secret panel we found some letters about the birth of children. The letters, still in their envelopes, date back to Alfred Hanley Folker.

In the drawer were a couple of tunic buttons, one for the RAMC which probably belonged my paternal grandfather. The other for the National Fire Brigade Union belonged to Horace Shepherd Folker (1859-1938).

All in all an exciting discovery.

A cardboard box provided some more interesting items which had belonged to my great aunt Evelyn Folker (1881-1955).

The box contained clothes and accessories which had been worn by Evelyn. There were silk dresses and a silk cape. There were a number of fans, a mantilla and also feather arrangements for wearing on the head.

A delightful item was a child's red velvet dress. Somewhere I have a photograph of Evelyn wearing that dress.

The most interesting item was her VAD nurses cap, apron and belt from her service during the first world war.

## NEW CONTACT

I have recently been contacted via e-mail by Wayne Folker from Canada and am continuing correspondence with him.

Wayne is descended from Folker's in Snettisham. Something is already known about this branch of the family but the connection of Wayne's ancestors needs to be established.

Wayne tells me that he has done a good deal of research on his part of the family so there is a chance that a few loose ends can be tied up.

## TO MAKE CONTACT

My new home address is :-

Malcolm A Smith  
1 Pine Walk  
VERWOOD  
Dorset  
BH31 6TJ

My E-Mail remains as :-  
[mail@malcolm-smith.com](mailto:mail@malcolm-smith.com)



The dressing case opened up

The inside of the lid drops forward to release a mirror behind which are pockets in which we found the old letters.

The drawer below is released by a catch inside the case. The tunic buttons were found in the drawer.

The forward part of the case lifts out to reveal a space below where we found various keepsakes.