

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to another edition of The Folker Phyles. This edition reports on a period during which new information has been received from contacts over the internet and followed up by more research.

I have been reviewing the information that I now have with a view to building up the family charts. These have improved quite well but there are still some areas where I am finding it very difficult to make connections. Once you are searching for records prior to the start of civil registration in 1837 you need to know the parish where a person was living and that can be frustratingly hard.

NEW CONTACTS

In the last edition I reported on a contact from Canada. That was from Wayne Folker who is descended from William Folker of Snettisham, born in 1837 and who emigrated to Canada. Wayne has traced his line of descent in its entirety from William

A second contact was from Janelle Foster whose son-in-law is descended from Robert Folker, also of Snettisham, born in 1851. He emigrated to North Dakota with his wife and family.

Both Wayne and Janelle have sent comprehensive information to add to the Folker history. I have been able to reciprocate

with information from my files and Caroline Jeffery has kindly researched and

copied items from Snettisham parish records. Caroline is consistently helpful in tracing Norfolk records.

An e-mail from Ian Bourne in Australia revealed that he was connected to Sailor-Sam's side of the family. Moreover, he has the details of a pedigree that goes back to the time of King Richard I and shows the development of the Coat of Arms registered by Horace Shepherd Folker as shown on this page.

According to the pedigree, the name was originally spelt FOLCAR.

It had been a matter of interest and conjecture why the Folker and Shepherd families were linked. From information provided by Ian, the two families had been connected by marriage and had fled to Holland together during the reign Queen Mary. The lineage on the pedigree is broken during the families time in Holland

The two families were joined again at the marriage of Samuel Folker to Sarah Shepherd in 1784.

This pedigree also shows the link to Sir Isaac Newton, a piece of information that has been elusive to me up to now.

The information that has come to hand from all these new sources has prompted me to follow up on some of the blanks. I have obtained some more registration certificates which has helped to enlarge the picture of the Folker family. Work continues ...

At present, the Folker name exists in two main family branches. I am certain they connect somewhere as they both have strong ties with Norfolk. Besides these, I have details of a number of small family groups which I have not been able to tie in yet.

Some up-to-date family charts are included with this newsletter but, as always, there will be more to add in due course.

