

INTRODUCTION

Well, here I am again after a long absence. I have been hard at work at my genealogy therefore, by default adding to the Folker story.

Having been researching for a long time now, I have been putting more emphasis into writing up the information into presentable form.

I tried to establish a standard format at an early stage and despite changes in technology have managed to maintain that reasonably well. I have kept my original paper filing system whilst developing the computer output as both systems have their benefits. I recently took part in a presentation on that subject for the Guild of One-Name Studies. The conclusion was that whatever works best for you is the correct method.

That leads me on to the purpose of this newsletter ...

NEW WEBSITE

My general Family History website is at <http://www.14november1940.com/> and that is where all my current information on my branch of the Folker family is displayed. Other unconnected branches are not included here.

My original Folker One-Name Study website is still visible at <http://www.reocities.com/heartland/woods/7208/> but is now static since Geocities went out of business. This means that no new information has been displayed for some years.

To correct these two shortfalls, I have started a new website at <http://www.folker.org.uk/> which is still in it's early stages. I am in the process of uploading information that is readily available then will follow on with more

detail. This website will be devoted to anything connected with the Folker name and will run in parallel with my own family website.

One matter that I have to work out is how to balance information on the Folker biographies between my own website and the new Folker website. I have some ideas already, some of which may be intermediate measures.

NEWSLETTERS

With regard to the newsletters, I will replace them with news bulletins on the website and have already started that. I have also posted copies of all the earlier newsletters as .pdf documents so they can be read or even printed off.

THE INTERNET

The internet has proved to be an excellent means of both finding new information and publishing it. Having the website attracts enquiries which often prove fruitful. Besides have a permanent search for Folker on Ebay, I frequently search on Google and have had some remarkable finds.

The first was to find a carved figure which Samuel Folker, my 4 x great grandfather had brought back from the antipodes. I knew of it's existence but had been unable to trace it. It now resides in the Kelvingrove Museum in Glasgow so I have been able to view it and pass on information to the curator.

The second was being able to recover the medals awarded to my grandfather's brother, Edgar Reginald Folker, who was killed in WW1.

The third was finding a rare Drill Book published by the National Fire Brigades Union and which carries the name of Horace Shepherd Folker who was General Honorary Secretary.

The fourth was actually a failure. Arthur Lawrence Folker, another brother of my grandfather, was a baritone singer between the wars. I had been on the lookout for any of his recordings and one came up on Ebay but my bid was not successful. However, it has given me information which has led me to finding some early record catalogues which list his work.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

My original publications comprised photocopies placed into a binder, with updates sent out as necessary. More recently I had created some quite presentable booklets using the CEWE photobooks from Jessops. As they have now gone out of business I can no longer reproduce those and would have to start again elsewhere. I used these books for illustrated biographies of various branches of my family and also reproduced old photograph albums to share amongst relatives.

CONTACT

As always, I am always glad to hear from anyone with an interest and am willingly share information. I can be contacted through my websites or directly by email at malcolmsmith@hotmail.com

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