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Description: A mailing list for the discussion and sharing of information regarding the Fooks surname and variations in any place and any time.

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FOWKE

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Fowkes from Florida and Friend from Georgia Visit New Zealand

On 8th February, 2002, John and Patsy Fowke (Florida) and friend, Jake Carlton (Georgia) arrived at Auckland, New Zealand, ready to commence a 3-week vacation in the South Pacific. Accompanied by Ray and Mavis Fowke from Hamilton, NZ, who acted as tour guides, they travelled both North and South Islands extensively by road and met several distant Fowke 'cousins' along the way.

An account of their journey and sightseeing is scheduled to appear in the next issue of Fowke/Fooks Focus.

If you are planning to travel to New Zealand, give Ray and Mavis a call. Travel information and hints offered to everyone.

E-mail: rayfowke@clear.net.nz

PEOPLE MEETING PEOPLE

You are welcome to contact the following individuals who would like to hear from you about your family, country, and your interests.

E-mail:

Ray Fowke, New Zealand: rayfowke@clear.net.nz
Steve Fooks, FL, USA: Steve@fooks-robb.com

Let us know if you would like to be listed here

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The Guelph Fowkes

Erasmus Fowke Senior was a clerk in London, England. He was drafted into the British navy and fought in the War of 1812. After the war he married Mary Wilson and came out to Canada and settled in Port Hope on Lake Ontario. Later he became a Colonel in the army militia. His son, Erasmus Fowke Jr., was George Alba Fowke's grandfather.

Erasmus Fowke Jr. married Mary Halstead. The Halstead family arrived in America in 1636, settled in New York. Later one of them became a pirate with Captain Kidd. He escaped to New Jersey when Capt. Kidd was arrested. Later several Halsteads became doctors. Mary Halstead's father was a doctor in Ronseter, N.Y. and went to Canada in the War of 1812. Two of his sons came back to the U.S. and fought for Lincoln in 1864. One lost a leg. After the war they went west. There is a town in Kansas named after them.

George Alba Fowke was born in the village of Hampton, Ontario, Canada, a short distance east of Toronto. Woodworking was a family trade so the house was decorated all around with "gingerbread" work. They moved to Guelph, Ontario where he, his father, and brother Sam, gained employment at the Bell Piano Company. George married Sara Ann Welch.

Sara and George had two children, Frederick and Mary. Sara died in 1891 and George remarried three years later to Jean Dillon. They had four children, Robert, Wilfred, Ronald and Alba. Alba died at age 6 due to a playground injury.

George had a house built on Dublin Street in Guelph where Mary was born and the four boys and Mary were brought up. The house was near the edge of town when it was built, with a large amount of property surrounding it. According to Ronald, the children got along with each other very well, enjoying the

creation of circuses in summer and building skating rinks in the winter.

After finishing high school Mary went to Normal School (teacher's college) and then on to teach grades one and two in primary school until she retired. Mary loved to travel, seeing many parts of the world during her summer vacations. Mary was never married.

Wilfred and Ronald both signed up with the Canadian Army in Guelph during World War I, Ronald in the Artillery and Wilfred in the Signal Corps.

Ron was with a unit that was on the famous Vimy Ridge campaign but was not involved at the time due to an injury he suffered prior to the battle. He was in hospital in England at the time.

When Wilfred got back to Canada from England he received an invitation from his Uncle Sam in Boston to come down and work with him. After a short time Wilfred filled an opening in the maintenance department of Harvard University. He stayed at Harvard, rising to Manager of Maintenance for the whole university by retirement. Wilfred married Evelyn Bradley in 1924 and they had two sons, Donald and Bruce.

When Ronald came back from England he rejoined the bank he left to join the army but the only opening was in London, Ontario. There he met Wilhelmina Darch at church functions. An opening occurred at the Ontario Agricultural College (OAC) in Guelph and Ronald came back to Guelph where he spent the rest of his life. He met Wilhelmina again at the OAC where she was taking courses in Home Economics and married her shortly after. They had no children. The OAC was elevated to full university status by the time Ron retired. He was Bursar of Guelph University when he retired.

Robert also went to Boston where he became a lithographer in a printing company. He married Margory Redy. They had no children.

After finishing school Frederick travelled to Toronto where he was employed by the Robert Simpson Co. in the yard goods department. When an opportunity came up to travel to Vancouver, British Columbia, selling yard goods along the way, Fred headed west.

He got as far as Brooks, Alberta where he met a boyhood friend who had taken up farming on land granted by the government. Fred decided this looked good for him too. He sent the samples on to Vancouver and proceeded to get a land grant, setting himself up as a farmer.

Vernie Belle Owen's family had come from Bellingham, Washington and had a farm nearby. Vernie and Fred were married in 1915, setting up housekeeping on Fred's farm on the prairie.

Vernie and Fred had three children, Marion, Fletcher and Wilfred. Wilfred died at age 20 months of medical complications. Fred farmed until several years of crop failures wiped them out. They traded the farm for a large rooming house in downtown Toronto and moved there in May, 1924. Fred had several vocations during the next few years. He was active in local politics until he received the appointment as Bailiff of the First Division Court of Ontario in Toronto. He continued in this job until he retired in 1958. Fred died in 1974, Vernie in 1989.

Their son, Fletcher, wanted to join the Royal Canadian Air Force early in WWII but was persuaded to first finish his apprenticeship in the printing trade. He signed up as soon as his apprenticeship was completed, taking his pilot training in Western Ontario. He became a pilot of a Lancaster bomber in the RAF after he got to England, participating in many trips to bomb targets in Europe. On 29 July 1944 he and his crew were on a mission to bomb Dusseldorf, Germany, when they were shot down over France; crashing with a full bomb load. There were only a few artifacts left to identify the plane and crew. Just before he left for England, he married Rita Dyardin. They had no children.

Marion married Richard Taylor in 1938. They had three children, Richard, Mavis and Fletcher. Marion continues to enjoy her retirement in her house in Toronto, knitting infants clothes for her senior's club and visiting her four grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

There are no Fowkes left in Guelph. Mary looked after her mother and father until they died, continuing to live in the Dublin Street house until death in 1983. Ronald was the last Fowke living in Guelph. He died in 1988.

A transcribed interview with Vernie Fowke is available in Acrobat PDF format if anyone is interested. It covers Vernie's early life and Vernie and Fred's life after they were married. A similar interview with Ronald Fowke is being prepared and will be available in the near future.

Contact **Richard Taylor** at email address: rwt@total.net.

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FAMILY NOTICEBOARD

Having a get-together or family reunion? What are your genealogy interests? What are your hobby and travel interests? Looking for someone? Announce hatches, matches and dispatches. List them here.

IS YOUR SURNAME CONNECTED TO THE FOWKE'S ?

In recent months quite a large number of correspondents have been making e-mail enquiries because their family name has been connected in some way to the Fowke surname. Often such enquiries can lead to information hitherto unrecorded and both parties gain information important to their research.

In my book, 'Fowke Family Tree', I have a large index of spouses' surnames and decided that it might be appropriate to list them here for all to see. If your surname appears here, make contact with me please, as we may both be able to provide each other with some important or, at least, interesting data.

The list is quite extensive so it will be broken down into alphabetical sections and published over the next few issues of this Newsletter. Read left to right on each line.

Surnames A to C

Alden	Alexander	Allen	Anaka
Anderson	Andrew	Andrews	Arant
Arbois	Archie	Armstrong	Arnold
Ashfield	Ashworth	Austin	

E-mail: Ray Fowke - rayge@hnpl.net

Bailey	Baker	Banbury	Barbour
Barnett	Bartilini	Bartlett	Bashford
Basse	Batten	Baumer	Bayley
Bryne	Beal	Beaudry	Becthol
Bedford	Beekman	Bell	Benham
Bennett	Berry	Besson	Biggs
Billing	Bingham	Bird	Bishop
Bladen	Blakemore	Blatherwick	Bleakney
Bolton	Bonnington	Booth	Boothroyd
Borthwick	Bourassa	Bovill	Bowen
Bowker	Boyd	Bradford	Bradley
Bradshaw	Brannon	Brazier	Bridgforth
Briggs	Brion	Bronaugh	Brown
Bruce	Bryan	Bunbury	Burbage
Burdett	Burgess	Burnaby	Burnett

E-mail: Ray Fowke - rayge@hnpl.net

Campbell	Cannon	Capewell	Carey
Carr	Carriere	Carswell	Carter
Cater	Cattermole	Causey	Chandler
Chapman	Chelsham	Chichester	Chisholm
Clark	Clarke	Clemens	Clift
Clutterbuck	Cochran	Cogan	Cole
Conant	Congreve	Conner	Conyers

Cooper	Cootie	Corbet	Cork
Cornwell	Cotten	Coulbourne	Cowan
Coward	Cox	Creech	Cresswell
Crippen	Culpepper	Cupper	Curtis

E-mail: Ray Fowke - rayfowke@clear.net.nz

Hamilton, New Zealand.

Herbert C. Fooks and the The Fooks Family

I am interested in being contacted by anyone who has knowledge of Herbert C. Fooks, author

The Fooks Family, or his descendants, my article

Volume 1, be contacted



of Herbert C.

of *The Fooks*

family and

as requested in

published in

Issue 2. I can

be contacted by mail at:

Steve Fooks
3511 N.W. 19th Place
Gainesville, Florida 32605-2650
USA

or send email to:

Steve@fooks-robb.com.

Traditional Family Recipes

Family gathers...loved ones gathered around a table, chatting and laughing as familiar dishes are passed back and forth. It seems our memories are often filled with these images and the smell and taste of the food plays an integral part in our traditions. Passing family recipes along is another way of passing along our history. We are interested in compiling a collection of Fooks/Fowke family recipes. Send us your favorite family recipes (ingredients, instructions, cooking or baking directions), who the recipe originated with along with the history behind it. If you can, include information on the person you most remember being associated with this recipe and even a picture of that person or a family gathering where it was served. Recipes received will be included in future issues of the family newsletter.

Send recipes and information to:

Steve Fooks at Steve@fooks-robb.com or

Ray Fowke at rayfowke@clear.net.nz