
NORSTER NEWS

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Issue 8

If you have any suggestions for other subjects you would like covered, I'd be pleased to hear from you.

Examples could be a section for notification of Births and Marriages, or perhaps a list of contact points - whatever you want, I will try to incorporate.

If any of you are on the 'net', I can send this newsletter via e-mail. If you wish this, please let me have your e-mail address.

Previous copies are available to anyone who would like one.

Please let me know if you would like to continue to receive a paper copy.

I will continue to send by e-mail, so please keep me up to date with your e-mail address if you wish.

As for me, my details have not changed: -

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the new website is www.norster.org.uk

If you have an e-mail address I could send this to you through, please e-mail me to let me know.

I apologise for not organising a Reunion or Family Gathering. Unfortunately, personal circumstances have prevented it. I will try soon, but will contact you all again when it is possible.

I thought this year that I'd mention some of my 'mystery' people.

Yet again, this involves the family of Samuel Norster who was transported.

He married Joan Gibbs and they had 4 sons :-

Samuel, born 15th January 1827, baptised twice, 23rd Jan 1827 at Conygar Lane Wesleyan Church, Weymouth, and again 9th Feb 1827 at Parish Church, Portland.
More about him later.

Francis, Baptised 25th January 1829 at Parish Church, Portland.
He appears on the 1841 census at Chesil, Portland, then disappears.

Christopher Gibbs, Baptised 11th April 1831 at Parish Church, Portland.
He appears on the 1841 census at Chesil, Portland, then he disappears too.

William Gibbs, Baptised 12th January 1834 at Parish Church, Portland.
He appears on the 1841 census at Chesil, Portland, and also on the 1851 census at Fortunes Well, Portland. Then he disappears as well !

Well, not exactly disappears. He marries Ann Hutchings on Christmas Day 1852 and they have a daughter Anne who was baptised 10th July 1853 at St Johns church, Portland. Anne went on the marry Richard Elliott from Hadlow, Kent on 2nd October 1869 and they produced 11 children between them.

I have a copy of a naval record showing a William Noster, born 7/12/1832, Portland Dorset volunteering to HMS Excellent on 10/3/1854 as a 2nd class ordinary seaman, signing on for 10yrs.

I have him as being christened Jan 1834 (see above). He could have been born Dec 1833 to be the right ages on the 1841 and 1851 censii. He could have added a year to his age (why? to be 21 on enlistment?), or the enlister could have written it down wrong. No age is given in the details.

His wife Ann went on to marry Robert Pearce on 25th April 1869 at Weymouth Register Office. I do not yet know if she claimed to be a widow, but I suspect so as divorce was not as easy or as cheap as it is today for ordinary folk.

Williams Naval career of 10 years would have taken him to 1864, and his daughter when she married entered her father's details without the word deceased, as if he were still alive - but that was in 1869 when Ann remarried.

I suppose she could have assumed him dead if she had not heard from him for 7 or more years...

But, and this is a big but, I cannot find any further trace of Francis or Christopher Gibbs Norster or Noster after the 1841 census. There is, as far as I can find, no marriage, burial, entry to the USA, record in Australia or New Zealand. They seem to have dropped off the face of the earth.

I promised more about Samuel, the first son.

At what time he moved I do not know, other than after his father was transported in 1835, and before the 1841 census, but he went to New Zealand, and married Elizabeth Priscilla Vinson (nee Wilson) on 12th August 1882.

They had 3 children, William Samuel 20th August 1882 who unfortunately lost his life in the First World War, Francis Robert 7th February 1885 and Charlotte Emily in 1890. From these are descended all the New Zealand Nosters.

For those of you who have access to the Internet and e-mail, you can contact me on:

norster@one-name.org

Or, please visit our (your) website at:

www.norster.org.uk

which has recently been updated. This newsletter will be on the website by the time you read it. It gives you the opportunity to see your ancestors in a normal tree format. Please e-mail me, or write, or phone, or leave a message on the guestbook and let me know what you think of it.

If you have a computer, but are not on the Internet, I can send you a copy of the website on a CD. Please let me know if you would like a copy.