

NEWSLETTER

Volume 2013 Issue 8

March 2013.



Editor:

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QUOTABLE QUOTES

When a society or a civilization perishes, one condition can always be found. They forgot where they came from." -- Carle Sandburg

I don't know who my grandfather was, I am much more concerned to know what his grandson will be. -- Abraham Lincoln

You live as long as you are remembered. -- Russian proverb

Next Edition due:
June 2013

EDITORIAL

Only when things are no longer with us do we realise just how important they are in our life.

I battled to use *ancestry24.com*, never really mastering its search-engine but now that it is no longer available I realise just how much I used it and needed it. Like a faithful hound walking alongside me as I researched families, *ancestry24.com* was always there.

Now it is gone and I get very frustrated that I can't just do a quick search to see if I can find some missing ancestor. Frustration leads to anger that such a wonderful resource can be 'switched off' merely on commercial grounds. Sure, Naspers is a commercial company, but...

Hopefully all that data is still around and not just been wiped clean off its hard drive. I see *findingmypast.co.uk* is offering Australian/New Zealand and Irish data now as well as UK and perhaps we will see "South Africa" added to that site or some similar international genealogical site.

TREVOR ROBINSON

Final whistle for railway man



■ Trevor Robinson, 83, a retired railwayman and former chairman of the Plumstead Civic Association, died on Tuesday February 19. Mr Robinson was very involved in community during his 24 years as a member of the Association and the Diep River Community Police Forum, among others. Mr Robinson grew up in Sea Point and moved to Plumstead in 1963, where he bought the house he was still living in at the time of his death. He leaves his wife, Margaret, two stepchildren and four grandchildren.

It was with great sadness that we learnt of the death of Trevor Robinson, member and husband to Committee member, Margaret Robinson.

Margaret is what we call our Greeting Secretary and while she was busy greeting members and visitors before each meeting, Trevor used to wander around the hall greeting and chatting to those attending the meeting.

Trevor's quiet presence will be missed by members and visitors alike.

The attached obituary appeared originally in the *Constantia Bulletin*.

Famous Families in Census Records: No 3: The WESLEYS

I suggested that perhaps we could have an article on a famous person who is likely to appear in the UK Census records so we can plot their family history via these vital resources. Many people sent me suggestions but unfortunately most of them were by no means 'famous' and it looked like they were hoping I'd do their family research for them! Some others were good suggestions and I'll be pursuing them in this and subsequent editions of the Newsletter.

The Wesley Family

When Ann Smythe said that she believed she was related to the family of the founders of the Methodist Church, John and Charles WESLEY, my interest was piqued as my academic qualification is in Church History. Let me start with John and Charles Wesley, perhaps the most famous people in this tree.

John Wesley

John Wesley was born in 1703 in Epworth, near Lincoln.



John Wesley

He was the fifteenth child of Samuel Wesley and his wife Susanna Wesley (born Annesley). *[Don't worry I'm not going to go through all fifteen children before John or those that came after him – another four – except for his famous hymn writing brother Charles. So, Ann if your ancestor is comes from one of the other seventeen children, I apologise!]*

John's father, Samuel, was a minister in the Church of England. In 1689 he had married Susanna, twenty-fifth child of Samuel Annesley, a Dissenting minister. Susanna bore Samuel Wesley nineteen children, but only ten lived.

At the age of five, Wesley was rescued from the burning Epworth rectory. This escape made a deep impression on his mind and he regarded himself as providentially set apart. Initially educated at home by his parents, John was later sent to the Charterhouse School in London, where he lived a studious, methodical and religious life in which he had been trained at home.

In June 1720, Wesley entered Christ Church, Oxford. He was ordained deacon in 1725. He received his Master of Arts in 1727. He was his father's curate for two years, and then returned to Oxford as a fellow of Lincoln College.

John pursued a rigidly methodical and abstemious life, studied the Scriptures, and performed his religious duties diligently, depriving himself so that he would have alms

to give. He began to seek after holiness of heart and life.

On 14 October 1735, Wesley and his brother Charles sailed for Savannah in the Province of Georgia in the American colonies to be minister of the newly formed Savannah parish. Wesley's mission in Savannah was not successful, and he and his brother Charles were constantly beset by troubles in the colonies. John was also accused of promising to marry Sophia Hopkey after he had broken off his relationship with her. Wesley's problems came to a head when he refused Hopkey communion. She and her new husband, William Williamson, filed a suit against him. Although found not guilty through a mistrial his reputation had been tarnished too greatly and he returned to England.

Wesley's Oxford friend, the evangelist George Whitefield, had begun preaching out of doors. Wesley hesitated to copy this bold step as Wesley believed the Anglican Church had much to offer in its practice. However, he did recognise that the open-air services were successful in reaching men and women who would not enter most churches. As the followers of his societies grew they needed houses to worship in, and Wesley began to provide chapels, first in Bristol then in London and elsewhere. The question of division from the Church of England was urged by some of his followers, but most strenuously opposed by his brother Charles. John Wesley refused to leave the Church of England.

Wesley was a keen abolitionist and friend of John Newton and William Wilberforce who were also influential in the abolition of slavery in Britain.

John Wesley is described as below medium height, well proportioned, strong, with a bright eye, a clear complexion, and a saintly, intellectual face.

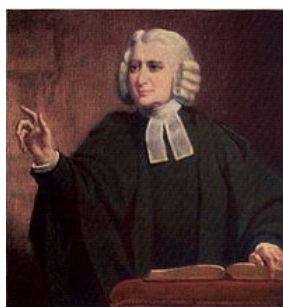
Wesley married very unhappily at the age of forty-eight to a widow, Mary Vazeille, and had no

children. Vazeille left him fifteen years later, to which Wesley wryly reported in his journal, "I did not forsake her, I did not dismiss her, I will not recall her."

Wesley died on March 2nd 1791, in his eighty-seventh year. Because of his charitable nature he died poor, leaving as the result of his life's work 135,000 members and 541 itinerant preachers under the name "Methodist".

Charles Wesley

Charles Wesley (18 December 1707 – 29 March 1788) was the younger brother of Anglican clergyman John Wesley and seventeen other siblings ten of whom died early. Charles was the father of the musician Samuel Wesley, and grandfather of musician Samuel Sebastian Wesley [see below]. Despite their closeness, Charles and his brother John did not always agree on questions relating to their beliefs. In particular, Charles was strongly opposed to the idea of a breach with the Church of England into which they had been ordained. Charles Wesley is chiefly remembered for the many hymns he wrote.



Charles Wesley

Charles Wesley was educated at Westminster School and Christ Church, Oxford, and formed the "Oxford Methodist" group among his fellow students in 1727 which his elder brother, John joined in 1729 soon becoming its leader and moulding it to his own notions. After graduating with a Masters' in classical languages and literature, Charles followed his father and brother into the church in 1735. He went with his brother to Savannah, Georgia (see above). Charles was largely rejected by the settlers. He returned to England in August 1736.

Charles lived and worked in the area around St Marylebone Parish Church, London and so, just before his death, he sent for its rector John Harley and told him "Sir, whatever the world may say of me, I have lived, and I die, a member of the Church of England. I pray you to bury me in your churchyard." On his death, his body was carried to the church by six clergymen of the Church of England, and a memorial stone to him stands in the gardens in Marylebone High Street, close to his burial spot. One of his sons, Samuel, became organist of the church. [See register below]

In April 1749, Charles Wesley married the much younger Sarah Gwynne (1726–1822), also known as

Sally. She was the daughter of Marmaduke Gwynne, a wealthy Welsh magistrate who had been converted to Methodism.

Only three of the couple's children survived infancy: Charles Wesley junior (1757–1834), Sarah Wesley (1759–1828), who like her mother was also known as Sally and Samuel Wesley (1766–1837). Their other children, John, Martha Maria, Susannah, Selina and John James are all buried in Bristol having died between 1753 and 1768. Both Samuel and Charles junior were musical child prodigies and, like their father, became organists and composers. Charles junior spent most of his career as the personal organist of the English Royal family, and Samuel became one of the most accomplished musicians in the world and often called "the English Mozart." Furthermore, Samuel Wesley's son, Samuel Sebastian Wesley, was one of the foremost British composers of the 19th century.

Descendants of Charles WESLEY

1. Charles WESLEY junior

Charles Wesley junior (b 1757 in Bristol – d 1834 in London) was an English organist and composer. He is usually referred to as "Charles Wesley junior" to avoid confusion with his more famous father. He never married, living for most of his life with his mother and sister. Although Charles Wesley junior is much less well known than his brother Samuel Wesley, he was like Samuel regarded as a musical prodigy in childhood, and he was playing the organ before the age of three. He became a professional musician in adulthood, and the *European Magazine* of 1784 reported that "his performance on the organ has given supreme delight". However he did not enjoy public performance, and worked mainly as a private organist, at one time to the Prince Regent; he was connected with the royal family through much of his life, having first played at the Queen's House at the age of 18. A handful of his compositions are still played, and a keyboard sonata in F minor was recently discovered.

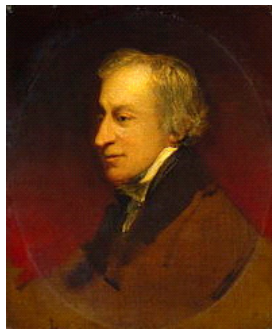
2. Sarah WESLEY (1759–1828), who like her mother was also known as Sally

3. Samuel WESLEY (b 1766 in Bristol – d 1837 in London)

Samuel seems to be the rebel of the family. As a young man he informed his mother of his philosophical conviction that his marriage had been constituted by sexual intercourse, precluding the

(Continued on page 4)

need for any civil or religious ceremony, but after a scandalous delay he married Charlotte Louise Martin in 1793, and they had 3 children. A book published in 2001 provides a fascinating account of how Samuel



Samuel Wesley

Wesley's marriage to Charlotte finally broke up with her discovery of Samuel's affair with the teenage domestic servant Sarah Suter. Samuel and Sarah never married but had 7 children together, among them Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810–1876) who was a most famous composer of Anglican

Church music and a cathedral organist at many Cathedrals around England. (See below)

Samuel showed his musical talent early in life. He played the violin as well as the organ, and worked as a conductor as well as a music lecturer. Many of his best-known compositions were written for the church; they include the motet *In exitu Israel*. His secular compositions include the five part madrigal *O singe unto mie roundelaie* set to the well known poem by Thomas Chatterton.

In 1784, Samuel Wesley converted to Roman Catholicism.

Samuel died in 1837 and was buried in St Marylebone Parish Church, London.

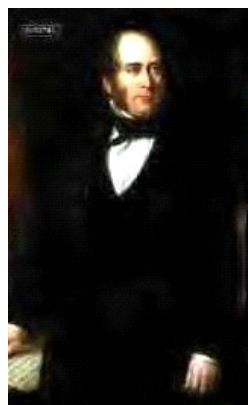
The most famous of Samuel WESLEY's Children

Samuel Sebastian WESLEY (b1810 in London d1876 in Gloucester)

Know generally as S. S. Wesley, Samuel Sebastian Wesley was the eldest child in the composer Samuel Wesley's second family, which he formed with Sarah Suter having separated from his wife Charlotte. Samuel Sebastian's middle name was derived from his father's lifelong admiration for the music of Bach.

After singing in the choir of the Chapel Royal as a boy, Samuel Sebastian embarked on a career as a musician, and was appointed organist at Hereford Cathedral in 1832. He moved to Exeter Cathedral three years later, and subsequently held appointments at Leeds Parish Church (from 1842), Winchester Cathedral (from 1849) and Gloucester Cathedral (1865-1876).

Famous in his lifetime as one of his country's leading organists and choirmasters, he composed almost exclusively for the Church of England, which continues to cherish his memory. His better-known anthems include *Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace* and *Wash*



Samuel Sebastian Wesley

me thoroughly. He also wrote several rather late examples of verse anthems, which contrast unison and contrapuntal sections with smaller, more intimate passages for solo voice or voices. *Blessed be the God and Father, The Wilderness* and *Ascribe unto the Lord* are of considerable length, as is his Service in E.

The popular short anthem *Lead me, Lord* is an extract from the lengthy *Praise the Lord, O my soul*. Several of his compositions for solo organ have enduring value and continue to be played in recitals.

Here follows a Register of the WESLEY FAMILY with some added comments to the more contemporary WESLEY's

Generation One

1. **Herbert WESLEY**. He married ??? WESLEY.

Children:

2. i. Bartholomew WESLEY b. 1596.

Generation Two

2. **Bartholomew WESLEY**, b. 1596, d. 1670. He married Ann COLLEY.

Children:

3. i. John WESLEY b. 1636.

Generation Three

3. **John WESLEY**, b. 1636, d. 1670. He married ??? WHITE.

Children:

4. i. Samuel WESLEY b. 17 Dec 1662.

Generation Four

4. **Samuel WESLEY**, b. 17 Dec 1662 in Whitchurch, Dorset, d. 5 Apr 1735 in Epworth, Axholme, Humberside. He married Susannah ANNESLEY, 1688, b. 20 Jan 1668 (daughter of Samuel ANNESLEY and Mary WHITE), d. 23 Jul 1742.

Children:

14 Other children before...

- xv. **John Benjamin WESLEY**, b. 17 Jun 1703 in Epworth, d. 2 March 1791 in London. He married Mary VAZEILLE, 1751.

5. xvi. Charles WESLEY b. 18 Dec 1707.

Generation Five

5. **Charles WESLEY**, b. 18 Dec 1707, d. 28 Mar 1788. He married Sarah GWYNNE, Apr 1749, b. 1726 (daughter of Marmaduke GWYNNE), d. 1822.

Children:

- i. Charles WESLEY junior, b. 11 Dec 1757 in Bristol, Gloucestershire, d. 23 May 1834 in London.
- ii. Sarah WESLEY, b. 1759, d. 1858.
6. iii. Samuel WESLEY b. 24 Feb 1766.

Generation Six

6. **Samuel WESLEY**, b. 24 Feb 1766 in Bristol, d. 11 Oct 1837. He married (1) Charlotte Louise MARTIN, 1793. He married

(Continued from page 4)

(2) Sarah SUTER, in Never married.

Children: from Charlotte MARTIN

i. Charles WESLEY, b. 25 Sep 1793, d. 1859.
Became Chaplain to the Queen and Sub-dean of Chapel Royal

ii. John William WESLEY, b. 1799.

iii. Emma Francis WESLEY, b. 1806, d. 1865.

Children: from Sarah SUTER

7. iv. Samuel Sebastian WESLEY b. 14 Aug 1810.
Famous composer and organist

8. v. Rosalind Suter WESLEY b. 1818.

vi. Eliza WESLEY, b. 1819, d. Jun Qrt 1895 in Islington, London.

A professor music

9. vii. Matthias Erasmus WESLEY b. 1821.

Civil Engineer

viii. John WESLEY, b. 1823.

ix. Thomasine WESLEY.

x. Robert Glenn WESLEY.

London organist

Generation Seven

7. Samuel Sebastian WESLEY, b. 14 Aug 1810 in London, d. 1876 in Gloucester, Gloucestershire. He married Mary Anne MEREWETHER, 4 May 1834 in Ewyas Harold, Hereford,, b. 1807/8.

Children:

i. John Sebastian WESLEY, b. 20 Nov 1836 in Exeter, Devon, d. Sep 1924 in Exeter, Devon.
Medical Doctor

10. ii. Samuel Annesley. WESLEY b. 28 Dec 1837.

Went to Australia and become a publican

iii. Mary WESLEY, b. Dec 1839 in Exeter, Devon, d. 12 Feb 1840 in Exeter, Devon.

iv. Francis Gwynne WESLEY, b. 29 Jan 1841 in Exeter, Devon, d. 21 Nov 1920 in Winchester, Hants.

Priest in Anglican Church

v. Charles Alexander WESLEY, b. 4 Feb 1843 in Leeds, Yorkshire, d. 1914 in Hereford, Herefordshire.

Priest in the Anglican Church

vi. William Kenn WESLEY, b. 9 Jul 1845 in Houghton Bishop, Herefordshire, d. Jun Qrt 1879 in Chichester, Sussex.

Medical Doctor—served in Ceylon

8. Rosalind Suter WESLEY, b. 1818 in London, d. 1898 in Isle of Wight. She married (1) Robert GLENN, pre1835, b. 1776, d. 1844. She married (2) Oliver William SIMMONDS, b. 1816, d. Dec Qrt 1874 in Croydon.

Children: from Robert Glenn

i. Rosalind Eleanor Esther GLENN, b. 1835.

11. ii. Robert George GLENN b. 5 Jun 1842.

Children from Oliver Simmonds

12. iii. Annesley Oliver Wesley SIMMONDS b. Mar Qrt 1859.

iv. Florence M Simmonds, b. 1856.

v. Jessie Maria Simmonds, b. 1862 in London. She married Charles WHEATLEY, Jun Qrt 1889 in Croydon, b. 1859 in London, d. Mar Qrt 1903 in Isle of Wight, Hampshire.

9. Matthias Erasmus WESLEY, b. 1821 in St Pancras, London,

Middlesex, d. 20 Aug 1901 in Kensington, London. He married (1) Caroline JEFFREYS, 18 Jul 1843 in St Andrew-by-the-Wardrobe, London, b. 1823 in London, Middlesex, d. Sep Qrt 1869 in Staines, Middlesex. He married (2) Matilda Mary SNOSSWELL, Mar Qrt 1879 in Holborn, London.

Children:

i. Caroline Maria WESLEY, b. Dec Qrt 1844 in Clerkenwell, London.

ii. Henry WESLEY, b. abt 1845, d. Mar Qrt 1847.

iii. Erasmus WESLEY, b. Dec Qrt 1847 in Clerkenwell, London.

iv. Edwin WESLEY, b. 28 Feb 1850 in Clerkenwell, d Sep Qrt 1923 in Islington, London.

v. Edward WESLEY, b. 6 Jan 1854 in Clerkenwell, London, d. Mar Qrt 1854 in Clerkenwell, London.

vi. Arthur Wellesley WESLEY, b. Jun Qrt 1855 in Clerkenwell, London. He married Margaret MARWOOD, Sep Qrt 1897 in St Andrew's Holborn, London.

vii. Samuel WESLEY, b. 1857, d. Mar Qrt 1921 in Hackney, London.

viii. Annie WESLEY, b. 1865 in Ashford, Surrey, d. Mar Qrt 1870 in Islington.

ix. Harry WESLEY, b. Jun Qrt 1862 in Islington, Middlesex, d. Sep Qrt 1947 in Edmonton, Middlesex. He married Ethel Blanche JOYCE, Sep Qrt 1892 in Pancras, London, b. 29 Dec 1872 in Islington, d. Sep Qrt 1966 in Dover, Kent.

Generation Eight

10. Samuel Annesley. WESLEY, b. 28 Dec 1837 in Exeter, Devon, d. 1893 in Brisbane, Australia. He married Mary Ann BELL.

Children:

i. Fanny Cecilia Helena WESLEY, b. 1866 in Australia, d. 1899 in Australia.

11. Robert George GLENN, b. 5 Jun 1842, d. Dec Qrt 1901 in Croydon, Surrey. He married Eleanor HAYWARD, Dec Qrt 1871 in Croydon, Surrey.

Children:

i. Cecil Hayward GLENN, b. Mar Qrt 1874 in Croydon, Surrey.

ii. Frank Wesley GLENN, b. Sep Qrt 1875 in Croydon, Surrey, d. Mar 1876 in Croydon, Surrey.

iii. Hugh Wesley GLENN, b. Sep Qrt 1878 in Croydon, Surrey.

iv. Elsie GLENN, b. Sep Qrt 1878 in Croydon, Surrey.

12. Annesley Oliver Wesley SIMMONDS, b. Mar Qrt 1859 in Islington, London, d. 28 Dec 1897 in Staines, Middlesex. He married Rosalie IZOD, Jun Qrt 1887 in Paddington, London, b. Dec Qrt 1853 in Watford, Hertfordshire.

Children:

13. i. Eileen Dora SIMMONDS b. Jun Qrt 1890.

Generation Nine

13. Eileen Dora SIMMONDS, b. Jun Qrt 1890 in Croydon Surrey. She married Clive Wesley DEAN, 19 Dec 1913 in Streatley-on-Thames, Parish Church, Berkshire, b. Dec Qrt 1886 in Croydon, Surrey - Norwood, d. Dec Qrt 1968 in Tonbridge, Kent.

Children:

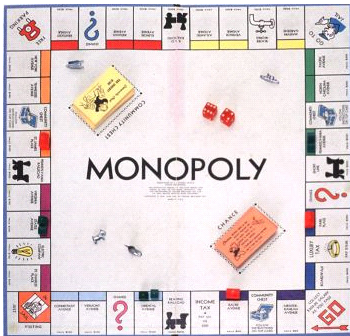
i. Peter Wesley DEAN, b. 22 Apr 1916 in Wharfedale, West Riding.

MONOPOLY



Did you know...?

Starting in 1941, an increasing number of British Airmen found themselves as the involuntary guests of the Third Reich, and the Crown was casting about for ways and means to facilitate their escape...



Now obviously, one of the most helpful aids to that end is a useful and accurate map, one showing not only where stuff was, but also showing the locations of 'safe houses' where a POW on-the-run could go for

food and shelter.

Paper maps had some real drawbacks -- they make a lot of noise when you open and fold them, they wear out rapidly, and if they get wet, they turn into mush.

Someone in MI-5 got the idea of printing escape maps on silk. It's durable, can be scrunched-up into tiny wads, and unfolded as many times as needed, and makes no noise whatsoever.

At that time, there was only one manufacturer in Great Britain that had perfected the technology of printing on silk, and that was John Waddington, Ltd. When approached by the government, the firm was only too happy to do its bit for the war effort.

By pure coincidence, Waddington was also the U.K. Licensee for the popular board game, Monopoly. As it happened, 'games and pastimes' was a category of item qualified for insertion into 'CARE packages', dispatched by the International Red Cross to prisoners of war.

Under the strictest of secrecy, in a securely guarded and inaccessible old workshop on the grounds of

Waddington's, a group of sworn-to-secrecy employees began mass-producing escape maps, keyed to each region of Germany or Italy where Allied POW camps were. When processed, these maps could be folded into such tiny dots that they would actually fit inside a Monopoly playing piece.

As long as they were at it, the clever workmen at Waddington's also managed to add:

1. A playing token, containing a small magnetic compass
2. A two-part metal file that could easily be screwed together
3. Useful amounts of genuine high-denomination German, Italian, and French currency, hidden within the piles of Monopoly money!

British and American air crews were advised, before taking off on their first mission, how to identify a 'rigged' Monopoly set -- by means of a tiny red dot, one cleverly rigged to look like an ordinary printing glitch, located in the corner of the Free Parking square.

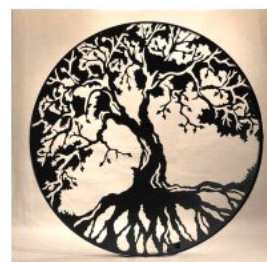
Of the estimated 35,000 Allied POWs who successfully escaped, an estimated one-third were aided in their flight by the rigged Monopoly sets. Everyone who did so was sworn to secrecy indefinitely, since the British Government might want to use this highly successful ruse in still another, future war.

The story wasn't declassified until 2007, when the surviving craftsmen from Waddington's, as well as the firm itself, were finally honoured in a public ceremony.

It's always nice when you can play that 'Get Out of Jail' Free' card!

Most of us are (probably) too young to have any personal connection to WWII, but this is still interesting.

Submitted by a member.



MEETINGS LAST QUARTER

JANUARY 2013

Talk by Richard Wood on the Jones/Twentyman / Berry/ Wood Family

Thomas Jones was born in 1813 in London to a straw hat maker. He came to the Cape in 1838 as a 25y.o. Here he married **Sarah Twentyman** in 1848. She was a school teacher and from the Twentyman family who were renown silversmiths at the Cape.

Thomas Jones worked for and later become a partner of Henry Rudd in the firm Rudd and Jones. He had property at Rondebosch – Ecklenberg (in the 1850s) and built a house Stanmore later the home of principals of Bishops Prep. Jones had 11 children. Thomas Jones died in 1869 and was buried at St Paul's Rondebosch. **Sarah Jones** now widowed ran a boys school and sold Stanmore to Tait.

The Children

Alfred George Twentyman JONES - had a son Percy who was an advocate and later a judge and judge-president of the Cape (1956) Author of a book on Magistrates and Legal Practice (Jones & Buckle)

Sidney Twentyman JONES – became a judge at 32y in Kimberley later Grahamstown and Cape Town and finally legal advisor to Standard Bank.

Both Alfred George and Sidney married daughters of Thomas Arderne

Louise Anwin JONES m in 1872 **Thomas BERRY**

BERRY Connection

Thomas & Louise had 6 children with 4 daughters who survived to adulthood. Thomas Berry worked for Standard Bank and later the South African Charter Company moving to Rhodesia in 1896. He worked with Jamieson until the Jamieson Raid when the British government insisted on a better administration sending out Lord Grey (3rd Earl Grey).

Berry had left his family in Cape. His daughters were Muriel and Lorna BERRY

The WOOD Connection

Lorna BERRY married **Richard Holroyd WOOD** (b1878) in 1906. Richard was an administrator later a trader and a farmer in Rhodesia. They had 5 children, the second child, a son, also **Richard Wood**, was father of our speaker.

Richard WOOD Sen. served in 1st Rhodesian Regiment in WW1 in SWA. He married daughter of Frank Ireland editor of the Diamond Field Advertiser. Their only child was **Richard Wood** our speaker.

In his talk Richard shared some very interesting slides of his family in Rhodesia during the early days and it was fascinating to see the link through to our speaker. I hope many other members will share their family histories as Richard did.

FEBRUARY 2013

Talk by David Slingsby on using a digital camera to copy photographs and documents.



Our Chairman, David Slingsby

In February, our chairperson, David Slingsby presented a very informative talk on Digital Photography and its uses in Family History.

Whenever we have a practical input talk such as this one we are fortunate to discover among our members those who are experienced in the field so that the presentation becomes more of a discussion and we all learn more.

David demonstrated how he uses digital images of damaged photographs to repair the damage before including them in books or webpages. He also encourages the use of taking a digital photograph of a document rather than scanning it as a photograph can usually be enlarged more before the pixels become too obvious.



MARCH 2013

Chrischené Julius from the District Six Museum.



Chrischené Julius was the guest speaker at our AGM in March. She is the Collections Manager at the District Six Museum and she spoke about the oral history collection at the Museum.

Chrischené's slides were fascinating for all old Capetonians. Not only could we see how the waste land we

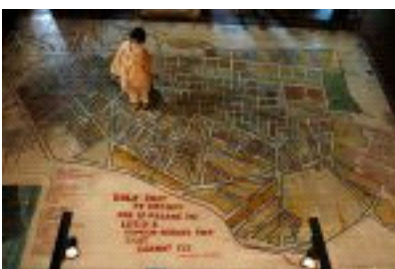
still call District Six developed we could also see what rest of Cape Town looked like in the 1960s and 70s. Her slides often had District Six in the foreground and the rest of the city behind. The old Dock Road Power Station was an easy building to spot with the smoke pouring from the chimneys as was the old Trust Bank building (now ABSA) and the Sanlam Building (now Naspers) on the Foreshore – the only two skyscrapers in those days.

But it is the appalling disappearance of some very architecturally attractive buildings,



demolished in the name of social engineering – *apartheid* which were the most poignant. Other slides of the current activities of the Museum were also fascinating.

As an historian, the more philosophical aspects of Chrischené's talk fascinated me. She presented the dilemma that all community museums face but one that is more significant for the D6 Museum. This dilemma is "how do we re-capture the past vigour and excitement of D6 without literally rebuilding the buildings?" Although acknowledging that the old District Six cannot be re-created, she says that the Museum still feels sad that the new housing being built will not be able to capture the same ethos.



Truly a dilemma which the Museum is trying to fill through their exhibitions, events and activities.

History of September 1752

An interesting historical fact about the calendar we use

Have a look at the calendar for the month of September 1752.

September 1752						
S	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

In case you haven't noticed, 11 days are missing from the month. Here's the explanation:

This was the month in 1752 during which England shifted from the Roman Julian Calendar to the Gregorian Calendar. A Julian year was 11 days longer than a Gregorian year. So the British Calendar Act of 1751 ordered that Thursday 3 September 1752 would become Thursday 14 September

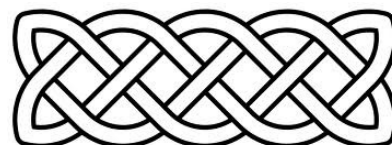
Many believed their lives would be shortened and protested in the streets, "Give us back our 11 days!"

The workers worked for 11 days less that month, but got paid for the whole month. So was this when the concept of "paid leave" was born?

Nothing happened in British history between 3 and 13 September 1752!

In the Julian Calendar, April used to be the first month of the year, but the Gregorian Calendar observed January as the first month. Even after shifting to the Gregorian Calendar, many people refused to give up old traditions and continued celebrating 1st April as the New Year's Day. This caused the King to issue a royal dictum which stated that those who celebrated 1st April as the new year's day would be labelled as fools. From then on, 1st April became April Fool's Day.

Who says history isn't interesting?



Lady Ernestine Mary Alma Georgiana Brudenell-Bruce

Lady Ernestine Mary Alma Georgiana Brudenell-Bruce – with a name like that, is it any wonder that Ernestine became too difficult for her family to handle?

She was born on 6th September, 1871 to Henry Augustus Brudenell-Bruce, 5th Marquis of Ailesbury and his wife, Georgina Sophia Maria Pinckney.

Her father was a Lieutenant-Colonel in the 3rd Battalion of the Duke of Edinburgh's Wiltshire Regiment and a Member of Parliament but he is more likely to be remembered as the father of this dynamic adventurous lady.

She has done everything a lady may do and a lot of things that are meant for the enjoyment of the stronger sex.



Lady Ernestine Brudenell-Bruce whilst young

At twenty she had trained steeplechasers and had ridden them;

She was a nurse in South Africa after the Jameson raid;

She had been to Australia in a small sailing ship and had rounded Cape Horn in a small skiff.

So how she came to change her name from Bruce to Hunt was typical of her.

She was an accomplished yachswoman but by the time she was 26 this was not enough for her and she wanted it certified by the Board of Trade so she decided to sit for a Master Mariner's Certificate in Liverpool and she passed brilliantly. Despite this, the straight laced officials refused to give her the certificate.

From the *New York Times*, Wednesday, 27th October, 1897

At first thought the impulse is to condemn the English Board of Trade for refusing to grant a master's certificate to Lady Ernestine Brudenell-Bruce. The reason assigned by the board for not allowing this experienced and competent yachswoman to command her own vessel in person, instead of by proxy, is a most absurd reason. The word "master" they say, is applicable only to men,

and as "or mistress" does not appear in the law, obviously the lawmakers regarded women as ineligible to these positions. This is mere slavery to the dictionary, or else it is a miserable masculine subterfuge, designed to serve as a specious excuse for preserving a little longer one of the few monopolies still possessed by men. Maturer consideration, however, though it does not add any respectability to the board's argument, does excite commendation of this particular act.

Suppose Lady Ernestine Brudenell-Bruce's yacht were in a position such that only instant obedience to the Captain's orders could save it from destruction and all on board from death. No doubt Lady Ernestine Brudenell-Bruce could issue the necessary command as quickly, and, if the emergency absolutely demanded it, as profanely, as any Captain alive, but how about the execution of that command?

Nothing, as is well known, can be done on shipboard until after at least one ordinary or able seaman has said "Aye, aye, Sir." It would not do to make this reply even to an untitled woman, and it would be highly, almost shamefully, improper if addressed to a lady of quality. Probably a youthful sailor could say "Aye, aye, Mum!" after a little practice, but none of them, young or old, could manage "Aye, aye, Lady Ernestine Brudenell-Bruce!" in less than a minute and a half, and before that the yacht might have collided with another, or have been capsized by a squall. So the Board of Trade, though impelled by an unworthy motive, has evidenced its underlying and instinctive wisdom."

One of her fellow students was a strapping young sailor from Limerick, Mr. Harry Brady Hunt and despite parental opposition to marrying a commoner, Lady Ernestine who was of age, married Harry very quietly in St. Michael's Church, Liverpool on the 13 January 1898.

A ROMANCE OF THE SEA.

The *New York Times*, Wednesday, 27th October, 1897.

(Saved in the National Library of New Zealand).

"Lady Ernestine and Mr. Hunt frequently met each other while pursuing their nautical studies and a friendship sprang up between them, which speedily ripened into affection. Having passed his examination satisfactorily and obtained his certificate as master mariner, Mr. Hunt quitted Liverpool and went on a visit to his friends, while his sweetheart again took up her abode under the parental roof. The couple returned to Liverpool soon

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after, Lady Ernestine going into a quiet lodging in a middle-class residential quarter. The happy couple were evidently bent on keeping the affair as secret as possible, and consequently no one except the officiating clergyman and one or two friends of the bridegroom seemed to know anything of the intended wedding. On the morning appointed Lady Ernestine and her sailor bridegroom presented themselves at St. Michael's Church, Upper Pitt Street, where the nuptial knot was tied by the incumbent. Mr. Hunt has been appointed master of a sailing vessel, and it is stated that his wife goes with him to spend the first part of her married life, at any rate, at sea."

In theory they lived with his parents at 83 George Street, Limerick but always seemed to be away. They often sailed over to the United States where Ernestine trained and raced horses.

They had one son, Hamo Lewis Brady Hunt born in 1898. He was an only child and probably had a lonely upbringing with his father at sea and his mother busy doing pioneering feminist activities.

At the age of 13 he was sent to the Cadet training ship HMS Conway but after 2 years ran away to join the Prince of Wales' Leinster Regiment (Royal Canadians) as a drummer boy – he was too young to be a soldier.

In 1917 when he had turned 18 he was sent to France where he was promoted to Corporal.

In March 1918, he was wounded and on the 15 April 1918, age 19, he died of his wounds. He was awarded the Military Medal "For Bravery in the Field".



Lady Ernestine Brudenell-Bruce in later years

Lady Ernestine was also a FANY (First Aid Nursing Yeomanry). A rather select higher-class organization formed in 1907. FANY worked with the Red Cross principally as ambulance drivers being the first women to officially drive for the British Army. There were just fewer than 120 members of the group in France in August 1918.

Meanwhile Harry became a Lt. Commander in the RN Reserves.

By 1919, Harry's father was a very ill widower and living in Glin, Ireland. Ernestine and Harry moved in with him to help care for him until he died in the November.

They must have had very itchy feet as they had many more voyages and even after Harry died in 1926, Ernestine continued sailing for many years.

Eventually she settled in Portsmouth, living quite near some nieces and still a formidable force in the family.

She died aged 81 on the 18 May 1953.

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Refreshments

After all the talking it's great to have a cup of tea with a bite to eat - Thank you to Betty and Lucille - for organising this and to those members who from time to time assist.

Conclusion

Vote of Thanks to Lois Harley who continues to provide any one with help and runs three separate lecture venues for the University of the Third Age.

The society continues to expand, retaining a level of interest - we do appeal to our members to come forward to assist the committee. There is still much work to be done - we are all busy with our private time, our hobby is expanding worldwide, the society is being asked to provide more services - we need new blood and fresh ideas.

The Society has been fortunate in having a committee of Ann Smythe, Margaret Robinson, Sandra Cruywagen, Cynthia Winstanly, Eric Settle and Derek Pratt who have given me as Chairman all the assistance to make it a continued success.

I thank you for your continued support.

D.J. SLINGSBY

CHAIR 2012 (March 2013)

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT MARCH 2012

Another year has passed us by, giving me great pleasure to report to the Society on the past year. We started the last AGM with a great enthusiasm, a full committee, members who looked forward to a full year. This was short lived, our first meeting after the AGM we received the sad news of Tony Allan's illness coupled with Steven Peel's notice of a new employment contract in the far North. This left us without a Webmaster and Treasurer.

We were lucky - Eric Settle stepped up to the plate and took over the Web Site - sadly we did not have an eager member to step forward to look after the books of the society. We had to 'wing' this one managing with Sandra and Margaret's assistance.

On a sadder note Tony Allen passed away during the past year and recently Trevor Robinson. I would like pay tribute to both these members. Tony developed our website and ran it for a number of years, not a regular meeting attendee but had the interest of the society for 100 % of the time.

Trevor Robinson was one of those quiet men, not a big talker but a big doer, he always came to the meetings with Margaret and without fuss gently set out the chairs, went to Cynthia with some or other document for the library and more often or not a chocolate for her. He loved taking a photograph and always wanted me to pose with the speaker of the day. I personally shall certainly miss the chair steward!

The closing of Ancestry 24 saddened us all, to date we have had no information as to the future operation of the Web Site or what will become of the information collected. Heather MacAlister who founded this society put her life and soul into Ancestry 24. The site helped many persons in finding lost family, already we are seeing the spin offs from this with many questions being directed to the Cape Town Family History Society. We owe Heather a vote of thanks for her tireless efforts.

Meetings - During the past year we have presented a balanced number of speakers on a variety of topics. This has attracted our members and many visitors to our meetings. The programmes vary to provide a broad spectrum of interest. At times the speakers do not suit one portion of the society however they impress others. 'How To' meetings have been introduced, a variation on the speaker theme - these were well received and we would like

to extend these. We did not have a Heritage Day Expo this last year as there was a run on the venue competing with a wedding - this will be included during this year's programme.

As always we appeal to you all to introduce speakers especially for members to come forward with their own stories.

Venue

Venue - We continue to use the present venue - occasionally clashing with the modern dancers or the odd wedding, Brenda the Parish Secretary looks after the society's interests to the best of her ability.

Equipment

A big thank you to John Cross for looking after the sound system. Regular complaints were received with regard to the audio. John has checked the equipment and found no major flaws - not all speakers use the microphone correctly as some are shy of it - we have invested in a new head piece which should resolve the problem.

Website

A vote of thanks to RSA Web for sponsoring our website. Without this support the society would not be able to host this facility. As mentioned earlier Eric Settle offered to act as Web Master, he has done so with calm efficiency - Thank you Eric. Once again we request our members to forward articles of interest to Eric.

Newsletter

Derek Pratt continues to produce a News Sheet of an extremely high standard. Derek would also benefit from the members articles of interest, however trivial they may appear to the member - Derek will turn it into a great article. The Society has much appreciation to Derek for all his dedicated hard work.

Library

Cynthia Winstanly jealously guards our literary assets, resulting in growth. Cynthia has a perpetual war on space - soon we are going to have to look for another storage system to store allowing for easier browsing of the books. I appeal to members once again to return the borrowed items as requested. Cynthia Thank You.

Administration

No organization can survive without an efficient administration - an immense vote of thanks to Sandra, Margaret and Ann for their support and management skills.

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CAPE TOWN FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

WEBSITE:

<http://www.family-history.co.za/>

Contains lots of interesting and useful information

MONTHLY MEETINGS

Third Saturday of each month at St John's Church Hall, Wynberg

COMMITTEE 2012-13

CHAIRPERSON:

David Slingsby

SECRETARY:

Ann Smythe

TREASURER:

Vacant

NEWSLETTER EDITOR:

Derek Pratt

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY:

Sandra Cruywagen

GREETING SECRETARY:

Margaret Robinson

LIBRARIAN

Cynthia Winstanly

TEA LADIES

Betty Nelson

Lucille le Roux

WORKSHOP CO-ORDINATOR

Lois Harley

WEBMASTER

Eric Settle

WORKSHOP PROGRAMME

Just a reminder that Lois Harley runs workshops on Family History at the University of the Third Age at the following venues:

Claremont U3A – First Thursday in each month from 2 pm to 4pm at the Claremont Library Hall. The meeting in February was "Historic Events that may have influenced our families."

Athlone U3A – Second Wednesday of each month from 10.30 am to 12.30pm at the Rylands Library Hall. The meeting in February covered the topic "Using your computer for family history research."

False Bay U3A – Fourth Saturday of each month from 10 am to 12 noon at the ARP&P Centre, Recreation Road Fish Hoek. The first meeting was on 23rd February and the topic was "Getting Started – systematising your information."

IN NEXT QUARTER'S NEWSLETTER:

- Preface without premonitions—thoughts on starting to write my memoirs by Janice Gardiner-Atkinson
- Is she a BLOOR or not? Joyce Settle tries to discover whether Mary Ann TOWNSEND was really a BLOOR
- Another famous family researched (suggests welcome!)
- More graveyard humour

Back Page Humour:



The above cartoon will be appreciated by anyone who has had to spent time going through microfilms

