

NEWSLETTER

Volume 2013 Issue 16

December 2013.



Editor:

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QUOTABLE QUOTES

*Some Family Mottoes—
most are for more than
one family so I'm not going
to list these, merely
mottoes:*

To a valiant heart, nothing
is impossible.

Flying, he keeps his eye on
the stars.

I love as I find.

The eagle does not catch
flies.

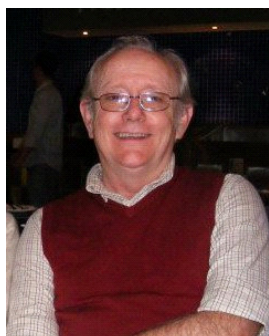
Either do not attempt, or
complete.

He conquers twice who
conquers himself.

He lives twice who lives
well.

Next Edition due:
Late March 2014

EDITORIAL



End of another year! As I prepared this edition I looked back to see how many I've edited. Can you believe it? My first edition was September 2009 and this is the sixteenth *Newsletter* I've edited.

One of the problems is that I've had to do more than 'edit' these newsletters. Inevitably I've also had to write many of the articles. That means you get in **your** Society *Newsletter* what interests me. So if you want something different, submit an article or even a theme—I willing to do some research on your theme (**NOT** research your own family tree for you!).

Our chairman believes that our newsletters is of a good standard and suggested 'strongly' that I submit a copy of our newsletter to the International Federation of Family History Societies competition for newsletters. Don't hold your breath for the announcement of the winners! We need to keep our standards up so it is up to you all!

Derek Pratt

NEWS FROM THE INTERNET

The GSSA Johannesburg Branch Newsletter always has a column entitled *Have you tried these sites?* I've lifted this column from their October Newsletter and I see that they have lifted it from the WDYTIA newsletter. They give ten websites that will help us find out more about our ancestors who migrated

1) The National Archives (the UK one) – TNA holds naturalisation papers and some alien registration cards. Although most records haven't been digitised, you can search by name to see if there is anything available.

2) Ancestry.co.uk – You can search here for incoming and outgoing passenger lists (1890-1960). If you are not a subscriber to Ancestry.co.uk, see if your library has a subscription.

3) Moving Here – This site is great for providing plenty of background information on migration but it also includes some records from TNA regarding the internment

tribunals during the world wars.

4) FamilySearch - If your ancestors came from overseas, then check out this free site to see if they have digitised parish registers for the area you are interested in. More are coming online all the time.

5) Immigrant ancestors project - This growing database uses a range of records, including some from TNA.

6) BMDregisters.co.uk - Not all migrants made it to their final destination. This site holds digitised copies of deaths of passengers at sea as well as foreign registers and returns of births, marriages and deaths.

7) BBC Family History Migration Timeline - This migration timeline links key migration events to the relevant records and where to find them.

8) The Child Migrants Trust – The Trust

(Continued on page 5)

The Strange Case of Dr Laurence Halloran

What would happen if you discovered that the reverend gentleman who had officiated at your marriage was discovered to be not a reverend at all? I'm sure this was the question of many Cape Town married couples asked when it was discovered that the Reverend Laurence Hyne HALLORAN was not ordained in the Church of England.



If you research Laurence Hyne Halloran's life you tend to find many strands to his life story and most biographies follow one of the strands but don't tie them together. One strain is the Anglo-Irish one, another is his time at the Cape and a third his time in Australia. In modern parlance we would say that HALLORAN was very good at 'stirring' and 'shooting himself in

the foot'. Wherever he went he seemed to upset those in authority over him by what he wrote or what he said.

Heather Macalister on the old ancestry24.com site had researched and made the connection between the different strands and this article is a summary of her article and also other information I found on the internet concerning this man.

Heather says that little is known of his early life. The *Australian Dictionary of Biography* (ADB), after calling him a "bogus clergyman, schoolmaster and journalist" has a bit more information of his early life. He was born on 29 December 1765 in County Meath, Ireland. He was orphaned at an early age and placed in the care of his uncle, Judge William Gregory. He was educated at Christ's Hospital and entered the navy in 1781 but was gaoled in 1783 for stabbing and killing a fellow midshipman. Acquitted in 1784, he married Mary Boutcher and ran a school at Exeter until 1788 and then an academy at Alphington until he became insolvent in 1796. He was also charged with immorality – the ADB gives no details of what he did that was immoral. He had been born a Roman Catholic, but he recanted his membership of this church in 1792 but was never ordained as an Anglican cleric.

During this period he published two collections of poems: *A Collection of Odes, Poems and Translations* in Exeter in 1789, and *Poems on Several Occasions* in 1791. In 1797-98 he was in the navy posing as a chaplain. In 1800 he was awarded a doctorate in divinity at King's College, Aberdeen¹. After service at sea he was posted as chaplain to the naval and military forces at the Cape of Good Hope in 1807.

At the Cape 1807-1818

Heather tells us that Halloran's career at the Cape during 1808 and 1809 seemed to have been fairly uneventful. He served not only as chaplain to both the military and naval forces in Cape Town, but also held Anglican church services for the civilian population in the Dutch Reformed Groote Kerk, in Cape Town, which was lent for that purpose. He also established a school for boys, and another for girls which was conducted by his daughters. Theal² and Laidler³ have both written extensively on the troubles he had at the Cape. The trouble began when, as Theal puts it, he "annoyed" Lt.-Gen. Henry George Grey, commander of the forces in the colony. The major cause of the 'annoyance' he caused with General Grey had to do with his role in a duel fought at the Cape. On Christmas Day, 1809, Captain R. Ryan and Paymaster Patullo fought a duel in which Patullo was slightly wounded. As a result of this, Ryan and his second, Captain W. Burke Nicolls of the 72nd Regiment, were arrested by Gen. Grey and court-martialled. Halloran undertook their defence, because, he states in his book⁴ (see below), the only barrister in the colony was engaged by the prosecution, and because "these gentlemen had long been my most intimate and valued friends". According to Laidler, Ryan was also Halloran's prospective son-in-law, a fact Heather proves this by showing a marriage in SA Genealogies⁵. Gen. Grey reprimanded Halloran for defending the two officers because Grey wished to suppress duelling and felt that a clergyman should not have concerned himself in the affair. So he charged Halloran with encouraging discord and duelling. Halloran's temper was fully aroused and he evidently expressed his feelings in a most unclerical fashion on several occasions during the months that followed. He is even said to have preached a sermon at the expense of the Governor himself.

As a result of all this Halloran was ordered to remove himself from Cape Town to Simonstown to continue his clerical duties as Civil Chaplain. He resigned his chaplaincy so as to continue his school in the city but a few weeks later he was suspected of having written anonymous, threatening and defamatory letters to Grey, was arrested and brought to trial for libel. Halloran was found guilty of defamatory libel, had costs charged against him, was heavily fined, and banished from the Cape.

While he was at the Cape, Halloran carried out many baptisms, marriages and burials. In those days all

ordained clerics were licensed to marry couples because the Church of England was by law the established church of the state. Today in South Africa clergy have to pass an examination set by the Department of Home Affairs on the Marriage Acts of South Africa and pass this test with at least 80%. They then become licensed Marriage Officers. In Halloran's time the English law would have applied and so as an ordained cleric he had permission to do marriages. The problem was he was not an ordained cleric! The question was, many years later when this was discovered, what was the status of the Marriages and baptisms he had conducted? The authorities at the Cape had to step in and re-assure those involved that their marriages and baptisms would be considered valid.

Halloran must have been very popular with his congregations here at the Cape as two testimonials were presented to him. Both these testimonials were printed in his book where he presented his own account of events. The Testimonials were signed by thirty-six and twenty-four members of the English church congregation, respectively. He was lauded for the manner in which he discharged all the professional duties of Colonial Chaplain 'for the civil inhabitants of this town.'

The second testimonial was also couched in the most complimentary terms with regard to his character and exemplary conduct, and his 'zeal, and exertions, for the promotion of religion in this Colony.' While he was in prison, he also received a very kind letter from the Fiscal, Mr. J. A. Truter, who was so closely concerned with the trial, expressing 'my sincere gratitude, for the useful and manly instruction, which my son has received at your establishment, and under your care, the future interruption of which I verily lament ... your name shall always remain in thankful remembrance in my family.' At the same time forty-nine English inhabitants of Cape Town addressed a memorial to the Governor, the Earl of Caledon, in which their high regard for Halloran was recorded, together with a plea for clemency. Among the signatories appear such names as J. B. Ebdon, Hamilton Ross, Alexander Tennant, and Robert Stuart. The same petitioners also presented him with 1,200 rix-dollars. The sentence, however, was carried out and Halloran left for England in the prize frigate La Manche in March 1811.

Back in England

Halloran was 46, ruined financially and professionally, and separated from his wife and family. The *ADB* gives Halloran the benefit of the doubt when it says "These disasters appear to have disturbed his mind and induced in him a sense of persecution and a passion for litigation"⁶. Between 1812 and 1818 he drifted penniless from one county to another trying sometimes successfully, to find employment as a curate by the use of forged letters of ordination. It was in trying to forge these letters that he counterfeited a tenpenny frank in the name of Sir William Garrow, M.P. Tried and found guilty, he was sentenced to transportation

What sort of a poet was the esteemed Dr Laurence Halloran? His lengthy epic poem entitled *Trafalgar 1805* is available in [Google Books](#). Here is the opening:

WHILE Gaul's proud Despot, with insatiate
Wastes prostrate Europe's subjugated lands;
And bids his blood-stain'd hordes, thro' realms
" Cry Havoc, and let slip the Dogs of War;"
Britannia's Genius, with indignant eyes,
The Tyrant's impotence of Rage defies;
And while, disdainful of his phrenzied boast,
She spurns Invasion from her menac'd Coast;
And sends her dauntless Squadrons o'er the main
To scourge her Foes, and vindicate her Reign

for seven years.

In Australia

When he arrived in Sydney in June 1819 Halloran was immediately granted probation by Governor Lachlan Macquarie. With the help of Simeon Lord and John Macarthur, he established a private school, 'Dr Halloran's establishment for liberal education' (also known as the Sydney Grammar School), which opened in January 1820 and quickly secured the support of the leading freed men in Sydney. Despite his eccentricities Halloran was a very gifted teacher.

In 1822 Halloran was reunited with his second family and their unmarried mother, Lydia Anne (Anna) Halloran, who may have been his own niece. He should have been able to contemplate a useful and comfortable life in the colony, but his obsessive sense of persecution and his fatal flair for the writing of defamatory doggerel kept him constantly engaged in litigation and impoverished him. From year to year he was forced to move his school to escape his creditors, and a series of libel suits and several periods of imprisonment for debt reduced him to beggary.

In September 1825 Halloran proposed the establishment of a public grammar school under the patronage of the governor and the management of thirty trustees, each of whom, by subscribing £50, would be entitled to nominate one pupil. A land grant and payments from the police fund were suggested as sources of income and the headmaster was to have the right to take twenty pupils on his own terms; every three years the government was to send two outstanding graduates to Oxford or Cambridge, after which they were to take holy

(Continued on page 4)

orders before returning to minister to the needs of the colony.

In November 1825 this new institution, the Sydney Free Public Grammar School, opened in temporary quarters with Halloran as its headmaster and his son as undermaster; within a month the trustees had to reprimand the father for his litigious behaviour and within four months to investigate complaints of unseemly behaviour which had been made against the son. The Colonial Office advised Governor (Sir) Ralph Darling of Halloran's shady career and rejected his appeal for a land grant for his establishment. In October 1826 the trustees resolved to suspend the operation of the school at the end of the year, giving as their reason the need to apply their limited funds to the erection of a suitable building, but Halloran's unsatisfactory behaviour, which culminated in his being imprisoned for debt in November, must have contributed to the trustees' decision to make a fresh start.

After numerous other attempts at starting schools or newspapers he continued with publication of defamatory material. His wife, Anna died in October 1823, after the birth of her twelfth child, and in August 1824 he married Elizabeth Turnbull, aged 17, who bore him several children. In 1830 Halloran tried his hand at drawing up memorials for persons with grievances. He died in Sydney on 8 March 1831.

This article has been culled from many internet sources in particular, Ancestry24.com and the Australian Dictionary of Biography .

EndNotes:

1. Ordination does not merely mean having an academic qualification in theology. In the Anglican Church it means have hands laid upon you by a Bishop and serving a title under a bishop in a church or parish.
2. G. M. Theal, *History of South Africa since 1795, vol. 1*, , in 5 Volumes 1899-1900, (London: George Allan & Unwin) p. 237-240
3. P. W. Laidler, *Tavern of the Ocean*, (Cape Town: Maskew Miller) p. 128-130
4. Halloran's book is over 700 pages long and entitled: *Proceedings, including original correspondence, official documents, exhibits, duly attested, and authenticated, as correct extracts from the records of the Court of Justice, at the Cape of Good Hope, in a criminal process for a libel, instituted at the suit of Lieut.-Gen. the Hon. H. G. Grey; and by order of the Right Hon. Earl of Caledon, Governor of that Colony, against Laurence Halloran, D.D. Late Chaplain to His Majesty's Forces, etc., in South Africa.*
5. Ryan was born in Tipperary, Ireland c. 1776 and married in Cape Town on 4th November 1810 to Maria Theresia HALLORAN from County Meath, Ireland. Source: SA Genealogies www.gisa.org.za
6. From his behaviour up to this point seems to indicate it was pretty disturbed already!

THE EMDEN FAMILY

By Louisa Mason

My journey into genealogy started quite by accident when Martin, Olivia and I visited South Africa in 2004.

We met my cousin on my father's side and were invited to his home together with a couple whose surname was Emdin whom he knew were relatives but did not know the relationship. I was shown photographs – did they resemble any other family members? I was also given two different family trees but we British Emden's were not on it (note the different spellings).

When I got home I started to investigate further. In my



Benjamin & Frances SIMON

baby book it was written that my great-grandmother was Frances Emden and my great-grandfather was Benjamin Simon. My father had already passed away but I was able to ask aunts, cousins and my mother questions. I also had a piece of paper written by my late father stating that Benjamin Simon married Frances Emden, and Edith Emden married Jack Myers. I also found photographs of South Africa taken in 1942 and a letter mentioning the Emden family.

I decided to visit the Family Records Centre in Islington (it has since relocated to Kew) with my large notebook. I knew that my father's family, the Simon's, only came from Middlesbrough and my mother's family the Rosenhead's only came from Leeds. I pulled out large birth, marriage and death ledgers and, luckily for me, 'R' and 'S' were in the same ledgers. I



Hyman Rosenhead



Alice Rosenhead (born Goldman)

(Continued from page 4)

also looked at the census and found the Simon's came to Middlesbrough about 1883 from Russia/Lithuania and Rosenhead's in the mid 1870's from Poland. I found out lots of information on that visit, but putting it together was another matter.

From my early research, things started to blossom extremely quickly. I joined ancestry.co.uk and also the Jewish Genealogical Society which had documented families from Leeds, and Jewish Gen where I posted a message and made contact with other Emdin/Emden descendants from South Africa. I started to match the records and things snowballed from there.

In 2005 I sent off for a birth certificate of one of my grandfather's siblings, as I had found from the Census

that he had not been born in this country, and this was a turning point in my early research. I had expected the parents to be Benjamin Simon and Frances Emden, but not so - it showed the mother as Fanny Myers. I then knew that Jack



Edith and Jack Myers

Myers was an assumed name and he really was Jacob Emden. I sent off for copies of the wills of Jack and Edith Myers, as I had been told they had left money to all the unmarried Simon great-nieces. This provided me with their children and grandchildren's names, and with the aid of *The Jewish Chronicle*, which came online in 2006, I was able to trace their granddaughter. When she called me, she said this was a 'Eureka Moment' as she had been researching the family for over seven years, had even visited Lithuania but not known of its existence. She gave me the Naturalisation Document of Jacob Myers which showed his parents as Elka and Myer Emden - they took their father's first name as their surname.

Also in 2005 Prof Eric Goldstein, a Professor of Jewish History at Emory University, posted a message on Middlesbrough Kehillat asking if anyone knew the Simon family and detailing lots of names. The message eventually reached me and we enjoyed many emails. I also found that someone had written a book chronicling the Simon family, which I bought. From the Simon Family Tree Book I was able to see that my great-grandfather

Benjamin had a brother. I previously found a photograph of him with the name Feivel on it - I traced his lineage in the book and was able to see that he had lived in Glace Bay, Nova Scotia. I googled his descendants' names and an announcement appeared of a birth only a couple of years old - I emailed the Shul and within 24 hours was in touch with the family.

In 2008 I found the birth of my great-grandmother Fruma Emden on Jewish Gen and this provided me with her parents' names as previously mentioned and her grandfather Jacob. It was at this point I was able to put all the family together and connect us to the Emdin's I first met in South Africa in 2004 - my cousin called me a super sleuth!

In May 2011 I visited the National Archives at Kew - again to do some more research on the naturalisation documents. Although, having been given a couple of pages on the naturalisation of Jacob Myers, I decided to look at all the documents and found something absolutely astonishing - scribbled between two lines it said Elka's (my great-great-grandmother) maiden name was Simon, but that was my maiden name also! When I got home I got out the Simon Family Book and there was only one Elka born in 1829. Emails went off to everyone all over the world including Prof Eric Goldstein and he had not known whom she had married. I now know that my great-grandmother and great-grandfather were first cousins.

I have been featured in *Woman & Home Magazine* and *The Jewish Chronicle*, and through my genealogical research I have discovered family all over the world. I keep my large notebook at hand at all times and write everything down and have over 2,500 people on my tree. I know we are related to the famous Rabbi Yaakov (Jacob) Emden; b. 4 June 1698; d. 19 Apr 1776, the son of Rabbi Tsvi Ashkenazi, the Chacham Tzvi.

Looking into my family history has been an exciting personal journey and it never ceases to amaze me how much you can find out at the click of a button. My family may think I'm crazy for devoting so much time to my research, but finding out where I come from and meeting family I never knew existed makes it all worthwhile.

Louise Mason

This article originally appeared in *The WoodsideArk* in 2011.

(Continued from page 1) **News from the Internet**

provides a professional service from its UK base in Nottingham and its offices in Melbourne and Perth, Australia, reuniting Britain's former child migrants with their families.

9) Barnardo's Australia - This website provides a very useful search facility for children brought to Australia by Barnardo's.

10) The Quarriers - Approximately 30,000 children spent some of their childhood in the Orphan Homes of Scotland and many were sent to Canada and Australia. Their archive service may hold details of family, reasons for admission and even photographs.

MARTILDA BATES' PRAYER BOOK

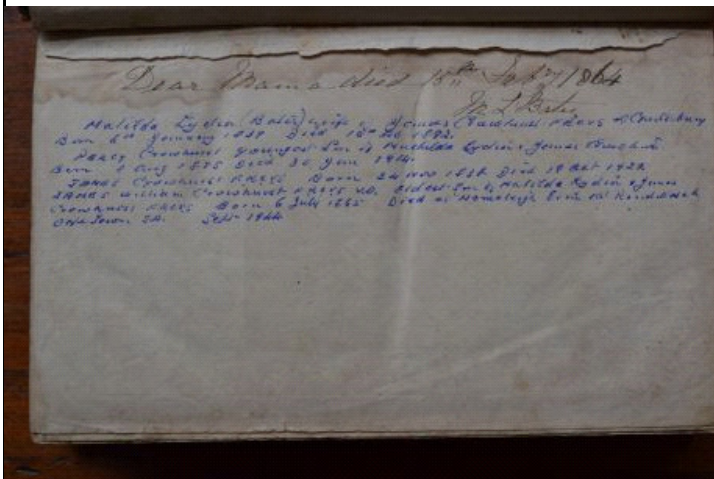
The other day a former parishioner from Camps Bay contacted me. She was clearing out her late mother's books and had found a very old Book of Common Prayer (BCP) and she wondered if I was interested in it. Many people pass on their parents and grandparents old prayer books to the Church. Usually they are late 19th century or early 20th Century editions of no monetary value and, as we no longer use the BCP, of no usefulness either. But when this parishioner said: "There is a sort of family tree written in the front fly leaf," I was more interested.

This Book of Common Prayer printed in 1811 was well



bound in leather and in good condition. A little sticker in the in the front cover says "Ticehust Booksellers and Stationers" in Battle, Sussex. Whether they were sellers or had re-bound the volume I'm not sure. The volume also had "The Companion to the Altar shewing the nature of preparation required in order to a worthy and comfortable receiving of the Holy Sacrament..." and two complete set of Metrical Psalms, one by Brady and Tate the other by Sternhold and Hopkins.

But it was the short family tree that really interested me.



Transcribed it read:

M Bates's Book

March 15th 1840

The Gift of Mrs Bates

*Mr Willsher Hurst Green died
of East Peckham*

*March 1840 aged 84 years
birth 1822*

*Mrs Willsher died 20th Feb 1858
died Nov 1856
aged 100
at Tonbridge*

Dear Papa died 21st January 1863

M L Bates

Dear Mama died 15th Feb 1864

M L Bates

[in blue ink]

*Matilda Lydia (Bates) wife of James Crowhurst FRCVS of
Canterbury*

born 6 January 1839 died 15 Feb 1892

*Percy Crowhurst youngest son of Matilda Lydia and James
Crowhurst*

born 8 Aug 1875 Died 30 Jan 1914

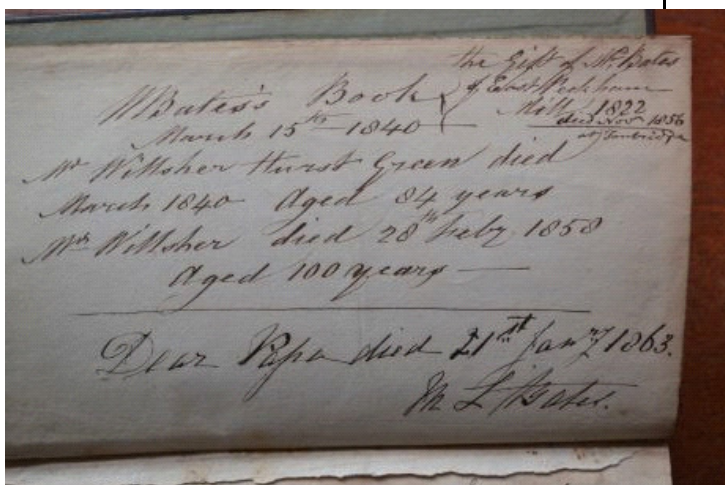
*James Crowhurst FRCVS born 24 Nov 1838 died 19 Oct
1922*

*James William Crowhurst FRCVS VD oldest son of Matilda
Lydia and James*

*Crowhurst FRCVS Born 6 July 1865 Died at Homeleigh Erin
Road Rondebosch*

Cape Town SA Sep 1944

A little bit of research soon had Matilda Lydia BATES and her husband James CROWHURST families' sorted out – see below. But an unanswered question also arose: who were Mr and Mrs Willsher and was Hurst Green a place or their



(Continued on page 8)

MEETINGS LAST QUARTER

OCTOBER 2013



At our October meeting, Tony van Ryneveld spoke about his distant uncle, Pierre van Ryneveld and the first flight from London to Cape Town in 1920.

Tony began his talk with a brief overview of the family history of the van Rynevelds. The family originally came from Ryneveld, a village on the Rhine and moved in stage through Utrecht and Amsterdam to the Cape with the VOIC. The *stamvader* was Daniel van Ryneveld

Tony told us that Pierre and his father were fourth cousins. Educated at Grey College he trained as an engineer at UCT and then London University just before WW1. In 1915 he joined the Royal Flying Corp (RFC) and saw service in Middle East and Turkey where he was shot down over the desert. He returned to France where he headed the 45 Squadron. He soon was known as a flying "ace" but was shot down once again and seriously injured. He was awarded the Distinguished Service Order (DSO) and the Military Cross. In 1920 the London Daily Mail offered a prize of £10 000 for the first person to fly from London to Cape Town. Within a short space of time a Vickers Vimy, piloted by Captains S Cockerell and F C Broome, accompanied by Dr Chalmers Mitchell of the Zoological Society, set off. However, General Smuts wanted South African aviators to blaze this trail, and authorised the purchase of a Vickers Vimy at a cost of £4500 and fitted with Rolls Royce Engines.

It was named the Silver Queen, and commanded by Lt Col Pierre van Ryneveld with First Lt Quinton Brand as the co-pilot. They took off from Brooklands, England on 4 February 1920. After an exciting flight crossing of the Mediterranean Sea, they arrived at Dema the next morning. Tony described this flight so well! The Silver Queen was however wrecked during a force landing in bad weather at Korosto in Sudan.

A second Vimy F8615 was purchased from the RAF in Cairo, and the Silver Queen II left Cairo on 22 February. This aircraft crashed at Bulawayo on 6 March. Fortunately, with some of the aircraft presented to the newly formed SAAF already in Pretoria, a DH9 called Voortrekker was put together, and dispatched post haste to Bulawayo. Van Ryneveld and Brand were therefore able to complete their flight to Cape Town where they arrived at Young's Field on 20 March 1920 after a total flying time of 109 hours and 30 minutes. Both van Ryneveld and Quinton Brand were knighted for this achievement.

Pierre married Enid Collard and had a son, John van

Ryneveld. In 1933 Pierre was made Chief of the General Staff in the SA defence force. In 1937 he married Betty Graham. He served as Chief of the General Staff during the entire WW2. In 1949 after the election of the National Party in 1948 he was retired. He moved to his farm near Bronkhorstspuit and died there in 1972 aged 81.

NOVEMBER 2013

Our November meeting was an opportunity for members to see how useful the internet can be in researching our family history. Kevin Turner and Cherie Wright made a presentation and shared their expertise and experience.

There were a few technical glitches but once the presentation was over members made full use of the opportunity offered. Our thanks to St John's Parish for making their online facilities available.

Kevin had made a useful list of useful websites and these were emailed to members and if any of our readers haven't received a copy contact Ann Smythe (annsmythe@gmail.com)



Cherie Wright and Kevin Turner studying their computer screen



Kevin helping members

DECEMBER 2013

See Page 12 for photo of our End-of-Year Party

(Continued from page 6)
surname?

But let me place my 'investigation' in chronological order.

Matilda Lydia BATES

As she was the owner of the book, it was natural that I should start with her. Being born in March 1839, she might not have appeared in the GRO records for Birth, Marriages and Deaths (BMD). In those early days, many parents didn't do so. However, her birth was registered.

Civil Registration event: Birth

Name: BATES, Matilda Lydia

Registration district: Battle, Sussex

Year of registration: 1839 Quarter of registration: Jan-Feb-Mar

Volume no: 7 **Page no:** 219

There were unfortunately no baptismal records on line for Battle in Sussex. So my next stop was the 1841 Census. We all know how inaccurate this census was with many of the ages being given to the nearest five years but I found Matilda Lydia BATES and her family.

The family was living at Whatlington Mill, Whatlington, in the Battle Registration District of Sussex. Matilda Lydia BATES was born in 1841 the youngest child (of five) of William and Lydia BATES. William was a miller and must have been fairly successful as they had two servants. Matilda Lydia's had in 1841 three older sisters and a brother two years older than her.

In the 1851 Census Matilda is visiting another Mill, at Lamberhurst in the Ticehurst registration district. She is with her older sister, Elizabeth, staying with William and Anne Tindale.

In the 1861 Census I found no Matilda Bates in Sussex however I did find the family entered as BATER! [Warning to researchers – try various spellings of names in Census records]. William and Lydia are still alive and still living in Mill House, Whatlington. The three youngest children, Georgina, William and Matilda are still at home.

In the September Quarter of 1864 Matilda Lydia BATES married James CROWHURST.

CROWHURST Family History

In the 1841 Census James CROWHURST is listed as living at Pleydell in Warbleton, Sussex. James's parents were James, Sen. and Ann CROWHURST. In 1841 James had three older brothers (William, Eusebius and Charles) and two sisters (Ann and Emily).

In the 1851 Census the family is living at Rushlake, Warbleton and James, sen. is listed as being a farmer. Eusebius is not on the family list.

In the 1861 Census, James jun., now 23 years old is a visitor at 166 Great College Street, Pancras, London at the home of James Stone.

On 30 April 1862, James CROWHURST jn. Graduated as MRCVS in London and moved to Canterbury to practice as

a veterinarian mainly in farm animal practice.

In the September Quarter of 1864 in the Battle Registration District, James CROWHURST married Matilda Lydia BATES.

James and Matilda CROWHURST

The 1871 census has James and Matilda CROWHURST living in Dover Road, St Mary Bredin, Canterbury. By that time they already have a family, a son (James William 5y) and two daughters (Edith G 4y and Ann W 1y)

By the 1881 Census they are living at The Paddocks (Paddock House), Canterbury. James is listed as a MRCVS. The three children from 1871 (James William b1866, Edith G. b1867, Ann W. b1870) still appear but now with an additional four children (Charles b1872, Maud B. b1874, Percy b1877, Mabel M. 1880)

In 1891 census the family was living 31, St Georges Place, Canterbury. Daughters Edith Ann and Maud and Mabel are still at home as is son Percy. There is also a veterinary student, Charles Spurgeon staying with the family. James William CROWHURST is not at home. He had graduated from the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons in 20 December 1887 and was in practice in London, living at 119, Finsbury Pavement, St Luke, London as a boarder in the home of Alfred and Ellen Thompson.

In 1892 he was awarded Fellowship of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (FRCS) and the following year came out to South Africa

But before her eldest son headed to the Cape Colony, Matilda Lydia CROWHURST (born BATES) died in Canterbury in the March Quarter of 1892. She was only 53 years old and had born seven children in her 29 years of marriage. Presumably James William CROWHURST brought his mother's prayer book with him to the Cape.

James William CROWHURST in South Africa

James William CROWHURST arrived in the Cape in 1893 and he served as Veterinary Officer to the Cape Colony's Veterinary Department. Thereafter he transferred to the College of Agriculture at Elsenburg where he lectured on animal diseases. In 1901 CROWHURST accepted the post of Veterinary Surgeon to the Table Bay Harbour Board in which capacity he served until World War I when he saw service as a Captain in the SAVC. In October 1914 the position of Senior Veterinary Officer of the British Army Veterinary Service in South Africa was handed over to him by Col. A.F. Appleton when the latter left South Africa.

After the war he returned to Elsenburg College of Agriculture where he was in charge of the health of all college animals as well as lecturer in Veterinary Science.

James William CROWHURST's "Who's Who" entry from the 1930s fills in some gaps in his life. He was born on 6th July 1865, in Canterbury, Kent. His education was at King's School, Canterbury, and the Royal Veterinary College, Camden Town, London.

CROWHURST married in March, 1902 to Tillie Margaret May, WOLFE. She was the youngest daughter of Richard Wolfe, of "Forenaghts", Wynberg and granddaughter of Major Wolfe, at



James William Crowhurst

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one time
Commandant of
Robben Island and
Magistrate of
Wynberg. There is
a Wolfe Street in
Wynberg,
presumably named
after the WOLFE
family.

It would appear
that James and
Tillie CROWHURST
had three daughter,
but this is still to be
researched. James

CROWHURST had quite a military career. We forget that horses and mules were the major form of transport for the army and thus veterinary surgeons had a major role to play. CROWHURST served in the Cape Field Artillery, 1903, reaching rank of Captain in 1908. He was transferred to the S.A. Veterinary Corps list and served until 1921. On outbreak of War in 1914 was mobilised for active service. In Oct., 1914, he was appointed Sen. Vet. Officer for the S.A. Military Command until April 1917. He was placed on Reserve of Officers in 1924 with rank of Major, and awarded the Colonial Auxiliary Forces Officer's Decoration. In 1925 he was placed on retired list. It appears that his hobby was bowls, being member of the Cape Town and Rondebosch Bowling Clubs. His address is given as "Homeleigh", Erin Road, Rondebosch, C.P.

The final entry in the Prayer Book cover tells us that he died in September 1944 at "Homeleigh", Erin Road. This was confirmed with an entry in St Paul's Burial Register (see photo). There are no other CROWHURST entries so I'm not sure if James William survived his wife Tillie or vice versa. I suspect his Death Notice would tell us that as well as.

Post Script:

A search on NAAIRS brings up some interesting details that need further research. Firstly, there is a Death Notice for CROWHURST, Lillie Margaret May (nee Wolfe) So, was she Tillie or Lillie WOLFE? The one source was *Who's Who* and the other NAAIRS. Her DN is MOOC 6/9/5057 Ref 58646 dd 1938 – if anyone is going to the Archives? James William CROWHURST's DN is MOOC 6/9/11275 Ref 95027 dd 1955. In 1951 (after the death of both Lillie and James) we have a City council file dealing with drainage to house and garage at premises, "Homeleigh", Erin Road, Rondebosch in the name of P. B. W. CROWHURST – presumably a son or daughter who inherited the house.

P J Posthumus's book, *Past Veterinarians in South Africa, Volume 1: A – L* says that James William CROWHURST comes from a family which had fourteen veterinary

surgeons in it. I wonder if any of his children or grandchildren carried on the profession.

Finally the WILLISHER family. I found in the 1851 census details for: Hurst House, Etchingham in the Ticehurst District of Sussex, WILLISHER, Esther a widow of 94 (born abt 1757) occupation Annuitant having been born in Rolvenden, Kent. She had two servants living with her in Hurst House.

In the GRO record I found her death occurring in the March Quarter 1858 in Ticehurst Registration District in Sussex.

MY INTERESTING UNCLE

by Betty Nelson

I've divided Betty's delightful story about her Uncle into two parts as it runs to seven pages. This First Part places her uncle, Nehemiah James Henry KENNEY within his, and Betty's, family circle. The Second Part will deal with his extraordinary journey from Brisbane to Palmerville and a trip to Maytown in the rainy season as told by Uncle Henry himself in the Brisbane Telegraph. [Editor]

Part 1: The Uncle's family

There is a particular member of my family who really interests me. He was either a full or half brother of my grandfather - I will never be able to prove which.

His name was Nehemiah James KENNEY who later added the name Henry to his Christian names so one can imagine the amount of extra research that required!

My intention was to find out as much as possible about Uncle Henry (as he liked to be called) and also about his descendants so the following is an account of how I did this.

I had known a few salient facts about my great-uncle's life so, at least, I had them as a starting point.

The family came from Norfolk, England, so it wasn't difficult to obtain a copy of his birth certificate. But this gave only a mother's name - Mary Ann Kenney - and the date of birth as 16 February 1856. Mary Ann subsequently married a Robert Abbs in 1860 who was to become my paternal great-grandfather. I discovered this when I found in the 1891 Census of Acton, Middlesex, Henry Kenney and his wife, Sarah Ann, and four children, Winifred Ada, Madeline Irene Margaret, Kathleen Norah and Dudley Austin. Living in the same house was a William John Abbs, born in Litcham, Norfolk, in 1861. This latter entry aroused my suspicion so I ordered a copy of the birth certificate and this proved that W J Abbs, was, in fact, my grandfather as both 'boys' had the same birthday - 16 February - which I already knew. I do not know exactly when my grandfather changed his surname to Kenney

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but I am very grateful that he did as I do not particularly like the name of Abbs although it is a very old Norfolk name.

The only information I have of Uncle Henry after this time is given in a letter from my father so here are excerpts from it:

"Now about your uncle. He was certainly an exceptional man. I first met him when I was about five years old - about 1900 - when he came to stay with us before he left for Australia. I remember he started the Castle Cheque Book Co., when he invented the basic machine which issues the bills when purchases go through the cash registers. Owing to some disagreement with his partner he left the business. The years passed and the next time we met was when he came back from Australia where he had large mining interests in the Northern Territory and was the J.P. over 25,000 square miles. He wanted to take me back with him but I was only about twelve years old and my mother would not agree. The next time I saw him was just after World War 1 broke out. Unable to get a ship his Mine was taken over by his manager. The law in Australia was such that if a man did not turn up on his property within a year anybody could take over. He was then living in Rochester, Kent, and I came to know through my cousins that he was in the Army as a Major engaged in official battle photography. I did not know this until when I was stationed in Maidstone during the short time before I was sent to France when I often visited my girl cousins then all grown up. Later my Uncle told me that the only dishonest thing he ever did was to keep copies of the photos which he was not supposed to do."

(I wonder what happened to them!)"After the War he started the Kenney Limb Co. Ltd. but sold it to his partner because he would not pay commission to the medical department people. He was fantastically honest. He came out to see me in Colombo. I had some very wealthy good friends and we wanted to start the "Kenmuri Gold Mining Co." using his knowledge of the Australian north and using air planes to overcome the vast distances involved. He had always had to travel with several pack horses! There again it all fizzled out through a silly misunderstanding over finance. This was the last time I saw him and I don't even know when he died."

I have since found out that he died in Chatham, near Rochester, in April 1940.

What my father didn't mention was that Uncle Henry was also quite an artist as I remember that my grandparents had some beautifully painted terra-cotta plates which he must have given them.

All this information about Uncle Henry aroused my interest even more and it is thanks to the Mormon Church library and the information they have on the Internet, that I have been able to find what he did in Australia. One thing I discovered was that there are three boxes of his papers in the John Oxley Library in Brisbane

and through emailing the Curator she was most helpful in giving me a list of the contents. (More of this later)

My task then was to find Uncle Henry's descendants!

First of all I felt the first person to look for was Dudley Austin Kenney as being a male it would be easy to find him. What a big mistake! After spending hours looking for him in England it was my friend, Lorna Murray at the Meadowridge Mormon library, who found him in Australia! I then discovered that he had gone over on the s.s. Bremen in 1911 obviously to join his father. I was unable to find where he had been living so I took the advice of an Australian family history friend and asked the editor of the Sydney Herald to publish a request asking for information on the descendants, if any, of Dudley Austin Kenney. Within a few days I had an email from his granddaughter, Trude. She gave me a lot of information on her side of the family but because Dudley hadn't treated her grandmother very well, she didn't really want anything to do with the Kenney family. I told her that I respected her wishes but that should she change her mind, she could contact me. Unfortunately, I haven't heard from her. Dudley died in 1945 and is buried in the Anzac Part of the Lutwyche cemetery in Brisbane. He was only fifty-six years old but he suffered from various illnesses contracted in Egypt and Gallipoli. In fact he was medically boarded in 1916.

Then to find out what had happened to Uncle Henry's daughters.

As there is very detailed information on births, deaths and marriages in the Medway (Rochester) region of Kent, I was able to find that his second daughter, Madeline Irene Margaret Kenney, had married a Harry Howard Meadus, in 1916. They had a daughter, Madeline Ann, the following year and in February 1919 they sailed on the ss Metagama for Canada. (More about this family later.)

His youngest daughter, Kathleen Norah, married Reginald Walter Jones in 1917 and in 1918 sailed to Australia to join her husband, an Australian she met in Rochester. As this is the first family I found I will carry on with them.

Once again, in the Mormon records I found the family in Victoria but the information wasn't quite accurate so a great deal of unnecessary searching was carried out. However, I did manage to find out that Kathleen (known as Kitty) died in Melbourne in 1920 and yet she had had twin sons in the same year. I was then fortunate enough to have a friend who was able to go to the PRO in Melbourne and she was able to get a copy of Kitty's death certificate. This proved that she did, in fact, die in 1920 when her twins were about seven weeks old. The babies survived and were well. Their father was devastated but when the children were a little older he married again and had more children. Now the sad part follows as he never got over his love for Kitty and even when he had his second family the first daughter was called Kathleen which was the name of his first wife. The twins were not told that their real mother had died but when they were about

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sixteen years old, a neighbour told them the news. One of the twins, Llewellyn accepted the fact but the other, Kenney, went 'off the rails' and because of this was sentenced to prison. After a while he escaped but was caught in Sydney and returned to Coburg Prison in Victoria. Then in 1945 he died when he fell after having a fight with another inmate. Years later his twin, Llew (as he was known) met the assailant in the prison and forgave him.

So on to Llew's family! This time a letter to a paper in Victoria also achieved a good result as it was seen by someone who passed it on to the eldest daughter of Reginald's second marriage. The email I received from Nancy Jones asked me what connection I had with the family as before the writer would give me any information she wanted to know if I was genuine or not! Needless to say I was able to satisfy her and in just a day or two I had an email from Llew's eldest daughter, Brenda Noonan, who happened to be the family historian. She was overjoyed to hear of the contact. So since 1 June 2011 we have been in constant touch either through emails or Skype and so I know all about her brother and three sisters. Sadly, Llew was killed in a car accident in 1976 but her mother is still alive and lives in Melbourne. We have exchanged lots of photographs so know what we all look like!

I was able to give her lots of information on her great-grandfather including the fact that there were papers of his stored in the John Oxley Library. As Brenda's husband is a professional photographer they decided to go to the library in Brisbane and make copies of as many of the documents they found which would be of family interest. This resulted in them making up a CD for me. It was here that Brenda and Bob found the reports which I shall attach to this article. There was also some information on his daughter and son-in-law who went to Canada.

Because of all the information they gleaned from their great-grandfather's papers they decided to follow in his footsteps but this time by Landrover and with a trailer. This trip they did in 2012 and, very thoughtfully, I had regular emails from them letting me know how they were getting on. This year they plan to visit one of the mines he developed known as Kitty's Own just to see what they can find.

Finally the Canadian side of the family. Once again the Mormon records proved invaluable because I was able to find Madeline and Harry Meadus as having died in Surrey, British Columbia, in 1981 and 1982, at the respective ages of ninety-three and ninety-five years old. So this meant another letter! Again I was fortunate and in no time there was a reply from one of their grand-daughters, Carol Mellish. She told me that her

grandparents had had only one daughter, Madeline Ann (known as Ann), who was now ninety-four years of age and still driving! Carol gave me details of her sister, Gail Erickson and of her half-sisters and brother, as her mother was widowed during World War 11 and married again. Her husband, Thomas Roland Mellish was a pilot in the Royal Canadian Air Force who was shot down over Germany in 1944 and buried there. I have a photo of him with Ann and the two girls. He was a handsome young man.

As with Brenda and Bob in Australia, I am also in regular touch with Gail and her husband, Ron Erickson and also with Carol. The latter is divorced so has reverted to her maiden name. Skype and emails are a real Godsend as without them I would never have found so much information on these families.

At this stage I must mention that Uncle Henry's eldest daughter, Winifred, didn't marry but became a teacher. She died in Eastbourne, East Sussex, England, in 1977. She was ninety-one years old.

Earlier this year Gail and Ron visited Brenda and Bob in Australia and spent a most enjoyable month with them and so were able to meet all the members of the family. I envied them!

To be continued next Newsletter with the story of two of Henry Kenney's journeys



Uncle Henry on the horse that he rode on his long journey from Brisbane to Northern Queensland. Read more about this next Quarter.

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 2013-14

CHAIRPERSON:

David Slingsby

SECRETARY:

Ann Smythe

TREASURER:

Vacant

NEWSLETTER EDITOR:

Derek Pratt

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY:

Sandra Cruywagen

GREETING SECRETARY:

Margaret Robinson

LIBRARIAN

Cynthia Winstanly

MEMBERS WITHOUT PORTFOLIO

Cheri Wright

Kevin Turner

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.

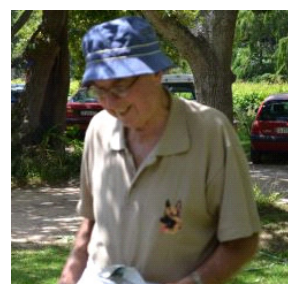
IN NEXT QUARTER'S NEWSLETTER: (so far but might change)

- Betty Nelson's interesting Uncle and his journey
- Plus any articles you submit by mid March 2014

END-OF-YEAR PARTY



Many members took the advantage of good weather and the last opportunity to enjoy Ann Smythe's lovely garden to attend our end-of-year party. Good time had by all many leaving well past 4pm!



Braaimaster—Stan Eddy