

NEWSLETTER

Volume 2023 No 1

March 2023

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT MARCH 2023

I have much pleasure in reporting on our Society's progress during the past few years. As we all know we had to cancel all meetings from March 2019 and only resumed in June 2022.

As you know no one was sure how long the 'lockdown' or state of disaster would last. It took us some time to start with 'Zoom' meetings. These meetings had their pros and cons, but we managed to keep in touch. Those who cannot attend our in-person meetings have requested a possible Zoom projection of meetings to keep attending. It may be possible technically but that is a task for the new committee.

As Ann noted in her notice of this meeting, Annette and I have purchased a cottage in a retirement village in Langebaan. People ask: "Why Langebaan?". I am fortunate to have a share in a cottage in the West Coast National Park, which is my family's retreat, so at least we can spend quality time with our busy children and grandchildren. Sadly, one of my pleasures I must give up is as Chair of the society.

I joined CTFHS in May 2006. The society then met in the staffroom of Wynberg Boys High School. The library consisted of two green Pick n Pay shopping bags, filled mostly with those large GSSA books. Betty made the tea; I think members had their own mugs then! Shortly after joining, this facility became too small, and we moved to the present venue. I was elected into the Chair in 2009, taking over from Lois Harley.

I would like to pay tribute to those members who assisted in building up our society who, sadly, have passed on: Tony Allan, an enthusiastic member who started and ran our website for several years; Cynthia Winstanley, who took over the reins as librarian – her attention to the library supervised the growth from the original shopping bags, first to the cupboard now used for equipment storage, to nagging the Rector to allowing us the use of the present storage cupboards; John Cross, who although partially deaf kept the sound system up and running with his patience and deft touches; and Margaret Robinson who managed the front desk.

Fortunately, we have a steady and determined hard core of long-standing members who started out in the staffroom and have ensured the continued growth and success we enjoy, I would like to thank them all, in no particular order, all still active members: Derek Pratt, Ann Smythe and Sandra Cruywagen.

Today the base of dedicated members has grown to include Cherie Wright, Mike Hart, Steve Peel, Gus Anderssen and Jenny Leak. Many thanks to you for all your efforts.

Members, we cannot continue to have a vibrant society without your support – we do need others to assist in order to make this a happy relevant society. The library books have been organised and catalogued, started by Amy Mostert and completed by Mary Shelton. While Gus and Mike assist, we require help with receiving and recording books taken out. We all enjoy the tea, but we cannot expect one member to take on this task alone; the tea duty does also require preparation before and cleaning afterwards. I have been told that this duty is able to extend to the male members.

We will shortly elect new office bearers for the committee, please come forward to assist to ensure the continued success of the Cape Town Family History Society.

In closing: thank you all for your support over the years and all the very best going forward. Break down those brickwalls!

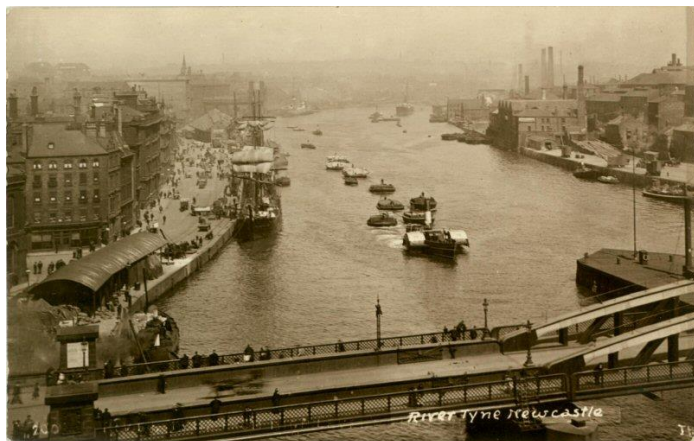
D.J. SLINGSBY
CHAIR 2022/3
March 2023

Monthly meetings this Quarter:

21 January 2023

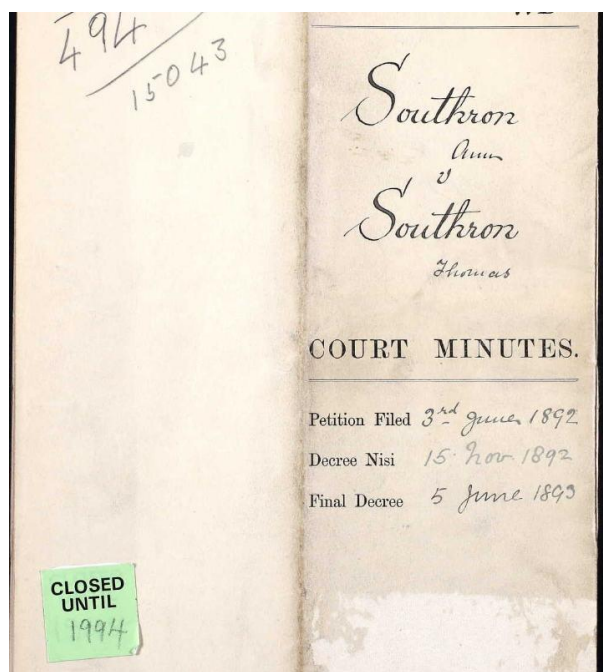
A Talk by Mike Hart to the Cape Town Family History Society on 21 January 2023

Mike Hart's maternal grandmother Barbara Evelyn Southron was born in 1888 in Westoe, County Durham, England, south of the River Tyne. At the time Tyneside was a major industrial area, with thousands of ships being built and launched there. Barbara died when Mike was four years old – he knew very little about her, and wanted to find out more about her and her ancestors.



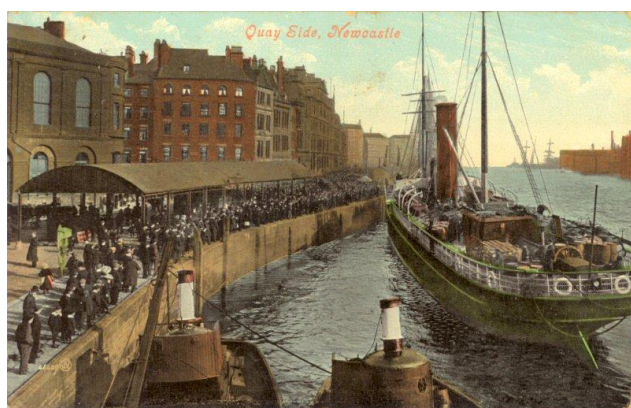
Newcastle on the Tyne River

His family history research showed that Barbara's mother was Ann Chisholm, who married architect Thomas Southron in 1872, when both were aged 20. In the 1881 UK census, Thomas and Ann are living in Westoe, Durham with four children. The 1891 census shows Ann living at another Westoe address, with seven children, the youngest being Barbara, aged three. There is also a lodger, James O Davidson, but Thomas Southron is not there. So where was Thomas Southron? His memberships of three Masonic Lodges had all stopped around 1887, and his architectural partnership had been dissolved in 1886. No trace was found of him elsewhere in the 1891 census or in 1901 either.



Another search found 1892 divorce proceedings initiated by Ann, and uncontested by Thomas. A stamp on these documents said "Closed Until 1994", but inside them was a 1988 request for copies from a woman in Ohio, USA, claiming to be Thomas' granddaughter from his 2nd marriage in the USA. Another family tree claimed that Thomas had "reinvented himself" in the USA as the architect John Armstrong Spencer. But further research into Spencer showed this to be a strange figment of their imagination, as Spencer was born elsewhere in England four years later than Thomas.

The unsavoury parts of the divorce petition claimed that Thomas



had consorted with a "woman of the night", caught syphilis, and passed it on to Ann. At that time, it was very difficult for women to apply for a divorce, but Ann was assisted by a local solicitor, James Oswald Davidson – the lodger in the 1891 census! Interestingly, Ann's child born immediately before Barbara was called Oswald – the first with that name in Ann's family tree. In 1893, straight after the divorce, the solicitor lodger James married Ann, and their only child Bessie was born in 1898. Sadly, James died suddenly a year later, and Ann died in 1904, leaving Bessie an orphan. Barbara's elder brother Oswald gave his surname as Davidson in the 1901 census, and his father as James Davidson on his 1911 marriage certificate. Mike was now seriously wondering whether his grandmother's biological father was also James Davidson, and not Thomas Southron.

Another great discovery was a family tree for George Southron, elder brother of Oswald and Barbara. It led Mike to a 2nd cousin in Canada who he hadn't known existed. And importantly, George had kept letters from his relatives, also

in the family tree. There was one from Oswald saying that 'Tom' (not 'father') had died in 1907 in Kobe, Japan. Also, two letters from Ann, shortly after James' sudden death, and the only letter that Mike had ever seen from his grandmother Barbara, written to George in 1948, when Mike was two years old.

Barbara and Bessie became lifelong friends – but were they half-sisters or sisters? Mike followed their trail (of shipping records, weddings, etc.) – first to Cape Town, with Barbara a teacher and Bessie a pupil at Rhenish, and where Barbara was married. Next to Melbourne in Australia, then back to London, where Bessie married, then to Massachusetts, USA, where Barbara helped with some of Bessie's seven children, and to Somerset West where Barbara and family settled. But while visiting England in 1950, Barbara died suddenly in Cheltenham. Mike visited Bessie's youngest daughter Jane on Long Island, New York in 2019 to build the family tree further. But Mike found no evidence of Barbara and Bessie realising they had a common father.

A final way of finding out whether or not James Davidson was Mike's great grandfather may be through DNA. Recently Mike was able to trace descendants of James' brother (and father) to South Africa. Although none had yet had their DNA tested (Mike has), was there a future chance of this happening, and would a match prove conclusive either way so many generations later? The mystery still has to be solved!

18 February 2023



Welgemeend in the grounds of Jan Van Riebeeck School.

Our speaker was Helena le Roux, secretary of the Friends of Welgemeend (the historical homestead) as well as the Boerneef Collection, an NGO set up to preserve the house and the art collection which is housed in the grounds of Jan Van Riebeeck High School. Helena shared with us "The Families of Welgemeend 1693 to 1945, Krotoa to the Hofmeyrs". Helena very briefly summarised the early history of people who might have lived in and around where Welgemeend is situated as well as giving us an overview of the Dutch owners of the property.

Perhaps the most well-known, were the Hofmeyr family. These included 'Onze Jan' Hofmeyr as well as Jan Hendrik Hofmeyr also known as 'Slim Jannie'. He was the nephew of 'Onze Jan' and minister of finance in Jan Smut's cabinet.

The Boerneef collection consists of 64 paintings owned by the late Afrikaans writer, Izak Wilhelmus van der Merwe (1897–1967), who is better known under his pen-name of Boerneef. Paintings in this collection are by such well-known names as Cecil Higgs, Pranas Domšaitis, Irma Stern, Enslin du Plessis, François Krige, Erik Laubscher and Jean Welz. Today the collection is worth a fortune of many millions of rand. Boerneef donated the core of his collection in 1962, five years before his death, to the Jan van Riebeeck High School in Cape Town.



Jan Hendrik Hofmeyr and General Jan Smuts

In 2007 Lilyane Mendel, the art teacher at Jan van Riebeeck High School, formed the Friends of Welgemeend and Boerneef Collection, an NGO to look after the wellbeing

of Welgemeend and the Boerneef Collection. Besides being the secretary, Helena is also involved in fundraising to restore and protect the collection and the building. Her talk was very interesting and I wonder how many of us have ever visited Welgemeend or attended the annual art exhibition from the Boerneef Collection and other well-known artists loaned for this annual event?

18 March 2023

The March meeting began with the AGM. The Chairman's report is included in this Newsletter. The financial statements were distributed to all members on our email list. David Slingsby stood down as Chairman and Mike Hart was elected unopposed to replace him. See the last page of this Newsletter for the full committee for 2023.



Gus Anderssen (alias
Bjørn Johansen)

The chairman, Mike Hart, introduced the speaker for the afternoon who was Gus Anderssen. Gus (really Gustav Friedrich) began by telling us his history as a 3-year-old adopted by Friedrich Gustav Anderssen and Marjorie from Pretoria. He went through his schools, the different residences they lived in, his occupations, his marriage, and his children.

Gus had always known that he was adopted and was from Norway, but he only asked his father for more information about it when one of his children wanted to get an ancestral visa to travel to Norway. His father produced a trunk-full of documents which Gus used to build up the lifestory of his other self – Bjørn JOHANSEN.



Bjørn Johansen (alias
Gus Anderssen)

What followed was a fascinating yet poignant story of how Gus met up with the daughter of his biological mother – she had died by the time Gus tried to trace her. His biological father was at first not keen to meet him as he was a married man but after a 'family meeting' Gus was able to meet his half-brother and the rest of the family. Gus showed us many photos of their trips to Norway and the Norwegian family's trips to South Africa.

WHAT IS A WORKHOUSE?

Derek Pratt

As you trace your family you might, as Lois Harley did (see below), come across an ancestor who was resident in a workhouse. We all remember Charles Dicken's, *Oliver Twist* where Oliver was in the workhouse and had the audacity to ask for more food. The workhouse was run by the Parish Beadle (Harry Secombe in the movie *Oliver!*). But what is a workhouse?

Wikipedia tells us:

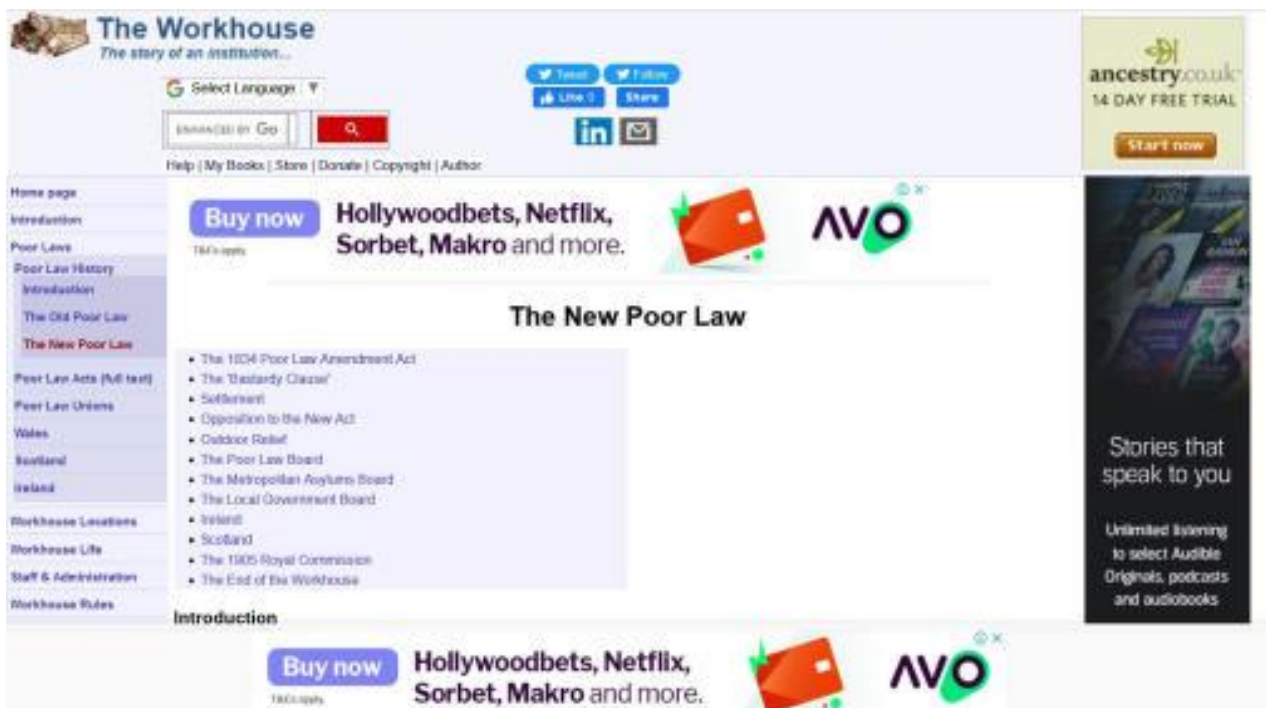
In Britain, a workhouse was an institution where those unable to support themselves financially were offered accommodation and employment. In Scotland, they were usually known as poorhouses. The earliest known use of the term workhouse is from 1631, in an account by the mayor of Abingdon reporting that "we have erected wthn [sic] our borough a workhouse to set poorer people to work".

Numerous parishes set up simple buildings to house the poor and unemployed and set them to work. Their growth was bolstered by the Relief of the Poor Act 1782, proposed by Thomas Gilbert. Gilbert's Act was intended to allow parishes to share the cost of poor relief by joining together to form unions, to build

and maintain even larger workhouses to accommodate the elderly and infirm. The able-bodied poor were instead either given outdoor relief or found employment locally.

Mass unemployment following the end of the Napoleonic Wars in 1815, the introduction of new technology to replace agricultural workers in particular, and a series of bad harvests, meant that by the early 1830s the established system of poor relief was proving to be unsustainable. The New Poor Law of 1834 attempted to reverse the economic trend by discouraging the provision of relief to anyone who refused to enter a workhouse. Some Poor Law authorities hoped to run workhouses at a profit by utilising the free labour of their inmates. Most were employed on tasks such as breaking stones, crushing bones to produce fertiliser, or picking oakum using a large metal nail known as a spike.

As the 19th century wore on, workhouses increasingly became refuges for the elderly, infirm, and sick rather than the able-bodied poor, and in 1929 legislation was passed to allow local authorities to take over workhouse infirmaries as municipal hospitals. Although workhouses were formally abolished by the same legislation in 1930, many continued under their new appellation of Public Assistance Institutions under the control of local authorities. It was not until the introduction of the National Assistance Act 1948 that the last vestiges of the Poor Law finally disappeared, and with them the workhouses.



The busy look of <http://workhouse.org.uk>

Workhouse.org.uk

Peter Higginbotham has set up a very comprehensive website on workhouses throughout the UK. I have often been sent to this webpage when googling a particular workhouse while researching someone's ancestor - including my own. Arriving on a particular page from Google Search for a particular workhouse is great. What is not so great is just going to the site, <https://www.workhouses.org.uk/> You arrive at a generally chaotic page with visually busy advertisements at the top and bottom of the page as well as on either side, making the page hard to read. Only when you see the amount of data Peter must have accumulated and displays on the multiple webpages do you realise that in order to keep this site going, advertising is absolutely necessary to help defray costs.

Peter has also wisely made it impossible to simply highlight text and/or photos and then copy them to download. Once again, I can appreciate the hard work, time, and effort it must have taken to collect old photos and plans as well as photos of old workhouses. Today, rather ironically, most of these workhouses have been converted into luxury flats. Peter must have driven all around the country collecting this information and he does not want it simply 'stolen' by illegal mirror-site operators.

Do visit the website <https://www.workhouses.org.uk/> and explore around it to just see the wealth of information available.

Workhouse Woes

Lois Harley

I can remember my mother's frequent cries when we were children and asked for money that the school required.

"They'll send us to the workhouse," she would wail, running her hand through her hair. We would stand there, puzzled, wondering what she was going on about. It was only when I started researching her family, I realised the significance of what she was saying.



The Prestwich Workhouse in Crumpsall, Manchester

Her maternal grandfather died in the Prestwich Workhouse in Crumpsall, Manchester, England in 1881. According to his death certificate, he died of "General Paralysis of the Insane" which indicated that he had probably had syphilis at some stage. The Prestwich Workhouse was built only a few years before he died there and was regarded as a model institution. I have no idea whether my mother knew this, but I have no doubt that her mother had frequently referred to the fear of ending up in a workhouse.

John Shallcross had been born in 1825 in Kingsley, Cheshire. The family was thrown into poverty by the death of his father, a shoemaker, while the children were still small. John and his mother were recorded as paupers in 1841. He then appears as a labourer in an iron foundry in Salford, Manchester. He married a widow with two daughters in 1862 and the couple had two daughters together. My grandmother was the youngest child, who at the time of his death was working as a general servant in the home of a coal dealer. I've often wondered whether my mother knew that.

When I researched my father's family, I found another workhouse connection, this time in Scotland. His great grandfather died in the James Murray Royal Asylum for Lunatics in Perth in December 1858, having been transferred there six months earlier from what I think was the poorhouse. William Shanks had been born in 1811 in Brechin, Angus. He married Jane Rose in Aberdeen in 1832 if my information is correct. He was a flax dresser by trade. The flax was prepared by heckling the stems, breaking the fibres up for the spinners and was known as a dangerous occupation – dressers often developed a debilitating lung disease. He died of typhoid and pneumonia, no mention of flax dressers disease.

I was interested to discover that workhouses were called poorhouses in Scotland because the inmates were not expected to work to pay for their keep. Both institutions were built to provide for the indigent and many had very poor

reputations, so there was great fear among the poor that they might be forced to go into such a place. However, they were also the only places that the sick poor could go for treatment.

When researching my son-in-law's family history, I found that one of his ancestral families also spent a spell in a workhouse in Somerset, England. This also seemed as a result of ill health on the part of the breadwinner. No doubt this was the fate of many families. In a time when there were no unemployment benefits, the line between just coping, or going under was very narrow.

IMMIGRATION AS GIVEN ON GENDATABASE

Derek Pratt

I do not know how many of our members are subscribers to www.gendatabase.com? I have found them very useful for the more modern searches, even if they only give transcribed details of marriages, deaths (often labelled 'unconfirmed') and Maseti files. Maseti files are the Estate Files as found on the Department of Justice website. Many of these Estate files have already been digitised by www.familysearch.org, but even if they have not, you get a number to use to search in the archives or master's office.

Among the databases available for searching is one called **Immigration**. The comment on the side of this page says: *This database consists of transcribed records for people who immigrated to South Africa the past 80 years. Here users have access to search more than 1 million immigration records.*

I have often found a South African-born individual appearing in this list and wondered how they immigrated here when they were born here! Often, as I researched the family further, I have found Death Notices of children of the individual, labelled as being born in Rhodesia/Zimbabwe. So, it looked like not just overseas immigrants but those who might have gone to Rhodesia or Zimbabwe to work and returned to SA later are listed.

Recently I asked the SA Genealogy Facebook Group what they understood by the word 'Immigration' especially when a South African-born individual appears on the list. Skye Coston responded. She had also queried the discrepancies on the list and Gendatabase responded. It is quite a useful response, which explains a lot.

I asked Gendatabase about discrepancies I found and this is the explanation:

"Immigration are verified records too. More information must be obtained from Home Affairs. But, I need to give you some background information first.

Back in the 1970s the South African government made a decision to revoke the citizenship status of all South Africans who have been out of the country for some specified time. We do not know why this decision was made, but just short of 1 million people were affected by this move and their South African citizenship was cancelled. This included people who lived in now-neighbouring countries or those who moved for work purposes. I am not sure if Home Affairs required people to visit an office or report in some manner. This was immediately followed by a court case and the court ruled that the Government acted illegally and that the citizenship status of South Africans affected needed to be reinstated.

With the new Electronic Population Register, the only way for Home Affairs to correct the citizens' statuses was to mark them as immigrations and have identity numbers restored. Some were even recorded as being Asylum Seekers.

We [i.e. Gendatabase] had a choice to remove these records from being verified by our services provider. We decided to keep the records for various reasons:

- 1. Many people might not have known that some family members lived or worked in neighbouring countries.*
- 2. Many people might not have known that some family members were outside of South Africa during that period of time.*
- 3. It may simply be interesting to some to know that their family members were part of the million people affected by this illegal decision in the 1970s."*

The case I was researching was a peculiar one. That was why I asked the Facebook group. **Edward Douglas HAMILTON** was born 9 Aug 1892 in Cape Town. He married numerous times and finally died in Krugersdorp on 6 Apr 1976. I had entered his name in the Gendatabase search, and he came up on the Immigration Search screen (see fig 1 below)

This showed the same name and date of birth I had already for Edward Douglas HAMILTON but it says he immigrated to this country in Feb 1981 which was five years after he had died.

My conclusion is that he must have been in the group whose South African citizenship had been removed but with the subsequent court case it had to be restored, and so he is listed with twenty other HAMILTONs who according to Gendatabase 'immigrated' to South Africa in Feb 1981. Notice too, that there is no 'Date Naturalised' given because his South African Citizenship was merely being restored.

I was completely unaware that the removal of citizenship had taken place or restored via the courts.

If you have any experience of this let me know.

Names :	EDWARD DOUGLAS
Surname :	HAMILTON
Date of Birth :	0092-08-09

Immigration Information	
Date Immigrated :	198102
Date Naturalized :	

FOR THE CLELAND or CLELLAND FAMILIES FROM SCOTLAND

Are you a CLELLAND or have an ancestor name CLELLAND, CLELAND or MacClelland? If so, then maybe you will be interested in this folksong with its history. Kindly submitted by Paul Schlaphoff.

Bonnie Susie Cleland: SONG – Traditional – Child Paul Schlaphoff

The song 'Bonnie Susie Cleland' is adapted from The Child Ballads 'Lady Maisry', which tells a particularly brutal tale of a young Scots woman being burned at the stake by her family for falling in love with an English lord. [Editor: The current feelings of independence-seeking Scots to the politicians at Westminster makes this action understandable!]

Bonnie Susie Cleland is an adaptation of this tale set in Dundee, with Susie Cleland meeting a similar fate.

The name Cleland was not common in the Dundee area, and there are no records which show the song to be based on fact, but it is not without historical context. There is a local tradition that many women were killed for consorting with English soldiers who were stationed in the city in the years after the storming of the city by General Monck in 1651.

Burning or hanging was also the prescribed penalty in medieval Scottish law for sexual indulgence by an unmarried woman, unless her family protected the offender or found a father for her child.

The words given here are those as sung by Cilla Fisher. To hear a YouTube version, click on this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hggLW4T9uIU>

There lived a lady in Scotland, Hey my love and oh my joy,
There lived a lady in Scotland, Wha dearly lo'ed me
There lived a lady in Scotland, And she's fallen in love wi' an Englishman
And bonnie Susie Cleland's,
Tae be burned in Dundee

The faither tae the dochter cam, Hey my love and oh my joy
The faither tae the dochter cam, Wha dearly lo'ed me
The faither tae the dochter cam, Saying, Will you forsake yon Englishman
And bonnie Susie Cleland's
Tae be burned in Dundee

I'll no that Englishman forsake, Hey my love and oh my joy
I'll no that Englishman forsake, Wha dearly lo'ed me
I'll no that Englishman forsake, Though ye maun burn me at the stake
And bonnie Susie Cleland's
Tae be burned in Dundee

Oh where will I find a bonnie wee boy, Hey my love and oh my joy
Oh where will I find a bonnie wee boy, Wha dearly lo'ed me
Oh where will I find a bonnie wee boy, Tae carry the tidings tae my joy
That bonnie Susie Cleland's
Tae be burned in Dundee

Then gie tae him this gey gowd ring, Hey my love and oh my joy
Then gie tae him this gey gowd ring, Wha dearly lo'ed me
Then gie tae him this gey gowd ring, Tell him that we'll no meet again
For bonnie Susie Cleland's
Tae be burned in Dundee

Her faither he's ca'd up the stake, Hey my love and oh my joy
Her faither he's ca'd up the stake, Wha dearly lo'ed me
Her faither he's ca'd up the stake, And her brother he the fire did make
And bonnie Susie Cleland
Was burned in Dundee

The story on the next page is a follow-up on the mysterious wife of Edward Augustus RUDD who called herself Francis DICK. Was she really one of New South Wales first woman doctors? Or was her identity stolen by Emily Beatrice GUTTRICK? In an article in the June 2022 Newsletter, I presented my theory on this. If you wish to read this before reading the article on the next page, you can do so by clicking on link below and then going to the bottom of the page and clicking on 2022 June Newsletter and a pdf of that Newsletter will be downloaded.

<https://www.thefamilyhistorian.co.za/cape-town-family-history-society-newsletter-archive/>

THE MYSTERIOUS WIFE OF EDWARD AUGUSTUS RUDD:

A NEW THEORY GIVING A DIFFERENT AND UNEXPECTED ANSWER

Derek Pratt

Finding coincidences seems to be the family historians' *raison d'être*. In the story below, the unexpected coincidences opened new branch-lines of research and led me to a vastly different conclusion.



Dr Frances DICK

Although I have presented the story of the mysterious wife of Edward Augustus RUDD both in the Newsletter and at a meeting of the CTFHS, there were a few questions still unanswered which worried me about Dr Frances DICK. If you remember, Edward Augustus RUDD was divorced by his wife here in Cape Town in 1896 for adultery with, among others a Frances DICK. In 1897, Edward RUDD married Frances Mary Lily DICK in London. No mention of her being a doctor was made on the passenger list for her coming to the Cape, or on their Marriage Certificate. Was she the Dr Frances DICK I had found in Sydney, Australia? There were also a few questions about Edward Augustus RUDD's new wife and her name-change according to the 1901 census onwards to Emily Beatrice RUDD instead of Frances Mary Lily RUDD.

I went back to research Dr Frances DICK in Australia and subsequently, her trip to Europe with a friend, who is listed in all the Sydney newspapers simply as Miss Josephson. Before the two of them left Sydney in 1893 they had a farewell party at the Double Bay home of what the newspapers called "her brother-in-law" Thomas Hussey KELLY, a wealthy industrialist. Kelly's wife was Mary Ann KELLY presumably born DICK. There was quite a large age gap between Mary Ann and Frances for them to be sisters but this was answered in the theory that was later put to me.

Because of the doubts and unanswered questions, I started to look up the KELLYs and the DICKs in Australia on Ancestry.com. There I found a public family tree managed by a Roger Jeffrey. When he responded to my email, I discovered that Roger Jeffrey is the Professorial Fellow in Sociology and Associate Director of

the Edinburgh India Institute at the University of Edinburgh, School of Social and Political Science. I sent him an email giving him my research and my theory of someone (Emily Beatrice GULLICK) having stolen Dr Frances DICK's identity. Roger Jeffrey responded very quickly. He was obviously more interested in the real Dr Frances DICK and not the lady I had presumed to have stolen her identity. He told me he was researching women doctors who had trained in Ireland before 1914. He had asked for genealogical assistance from genealogist, Dr Juliet Gayton from Winchester who also contacted me because I had a copy of the marriage certificate of Edward Augustus RUDD and Dr Frances DICK. She was hoping that might help. I sent this and my side of the story to her. I then noticed [another coincidence?] that one of the witnesses on the marriage certificate was a Mary Ann KELLY. Mary (aren't all Irish girls called Mary?) and KELLY are common names or was it Frances DICK's mother/sister who witnessed the marriage?


CERTIFIED COPY OF AN ENTRY OF MARRIAGE **GIVEN AT THE GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE**
 Application Number 125815191

1897. Marriage solemnized at Registrar's Office in the District of <i>Temple</i> in the County of <i>London</i>								
No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Residence.	Rank or Profession of Father.
101	18th February 1897	<i>Edward Augustus Rudd</i>	41 years	<i>Married</i>	<i>Attorney at Law</i>	<i>The Grange Hotel, Searston Road</i>	<i>Thomas Hussey Kelly</i>	<i>Bank Manager</i>
		<i>Frances Mary Dick</i>	34 years	<i>Spinster</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>46 Cherry Street, Portico</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>—</i>

Married in the *Registrar's Office* according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the *Anglican* by Mr. *Edmund A. Rudd*
 This Marriage was celebrated between the *Frances Mary Dick* in the Presence of *Mary Anne Kelly* *Edwin Thomas Dwyer* *Joseph Thomas Lloyd*

After I sent my side of the story, which you all know from my talk (it is still available on YouTube <https://youtu.be/FXeoXZodH1Y>) and Newsletter article, Dr Gayton responded with what she had researched and gave her theory which turned mine on its head and hence my need to update you all on the current thinking re: Dr Frances DICK. This is where more of the coincidences come into play.

Dr Gayton initially wrote: *I have only just begun looking at her [Dr Frances DICK], and am beginning to wonder if she was actually the daughter (birth 1862) of Mary Ann Dick before the latter married Thomas Hussey Kelly in 1864. [This could explain the age gap between the 'sisters', see above.] The Kelly children born after 1864 were an astonishingly accomplished lot it seems, with the boys being educated at Eton College and variously becoming MPs and Olympic rowers! One daughter married a relative who became an Admiral. So perhaps Thomas Hussey Kelly sort of took her [Frances] in with Mary Ann and provided the funds for the education and medical training of Frances.*

Dr Gayton second response: *In brief, (and I do find this case fascinating!) it **was** Frances Dick (who often used the name Lily apparently) who married Edward Augustus, – who I think puffed himself up as a barrister? I can only find him mentioned as a Magistrate's Clerk in South Africa. But as your records show she had sadly declined into an alcoholic and became a poor thing. In fact, she died and was buried in Oxfordshire in 1899 under the name of Frances RUDD. [I never thought of looking for a Death under the name Frances RUDD, more on this at the end of this article.]*

This explains why she behaved so erratically leaving poor Edward Augustus RUDD at his wits' end and also why she did in fact know Sir Saul Samuel, the NSW London Agent by name, because she **was** Dr Frances DICK married to Edward Augustus RUDD.

Dr Gayton continued: *So what we think must have happened is that she lost touch with EA Rudd [I suspect he avoided her as much as he could] and that he probably didn't know that she had died. He probably lived in fear of her turning up again. So when he found Emily Gullick (well done you for finding out her identity) they lived as man and wife but thought they should pretend that Emily was surnamed Dick in case anyone ever checked up on them – or he was had up for bigamy. They then continued the pretence by making sure they gave the correct year of marriage for him in the 1911 census – again in case anyone ever checked.*

There was a further coincidence that I mentioned in my talk but brushed it aside as being a simple clerical error in the 1939 Register. Dr Gayton explained: *It is interesting that by the 1939 Register EA Rudd describes himself as a 'widower' and Emily as 'housekeeper' and Violet is still there of course. They seem always to have lived in Southampton and he was employed in various parts of the railway. [By 1939 and having not heard from his alcoholic wife in over forty years EA RUDD was still scared to name the woman he was living with as wife so called her 'housekeeper' - how sad!]*

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REGISTER OF GRAVES. Rose Hill Cemetery.

Established by the Mayor, Aldermen, and Citizens of Oxford, under the Public Health (Interments) Act, 1879.

London: KNIGHT & Co., 90 Fleet Street. — (6412-95)

Number or Mark of Grave or Vault.	Description of Grave or Vault.		If Purchased No. of Entry in Register of Purchased Graves.	Name of Person Buried.	Age.	Date of Interment.	No. and Folio in Register of Burials.	
	Bricked or Unbricked.	Depth.					No.	Folio.
A 1 193	Unbricked	12 ft 6 in	63	Frances Rudd	37 yrs	Oct 13 - 1899	216	15
	M							

During this correspondence I started looking for proof of this new theory. I thought we needed to find that the Frances RUDD buried in Oxford was 'my' Frances RUDD. I found the entry for the Rose Hill Cemetery, which falls under the Oxford City Council. I notice that this Frances RUDD was buried in a purchased grave and there was a column giving the entry in the "Purchase Grave Register". I hoped that this register would name the purchaser who would be someone connected to Frances DICK from Australia. Dr Gayton told me that Mary Ann KELLY (Frances's mother or maybe sister) had come to the UK with their sons, who were attending Eton, and she had lived in Oxford as well. At first, I could not make contact with the Oxford Council but finally an email went through, and the response was:

Sent: 22 February 2023 11:08

To: Pratt, Nick

Subject: [External] RE: Frances Rudd - Grave Register detail

Hi Derek

I have checked the registers for the grave and the deeds and found Frances recorded as Frances Rudd and unusually in the deeds register it says wife of Edward A Rudd, Barrister. The Purchaser of the grave is T H Kelly of Double Bay, Sydney.

I have attached 2 photos of the deeds register.

Regards

Caroline

This simply blew me away! Here was proof that Edward Augustus RUDD had married the real Dr Frances DICK who then went off the rails. We think he must have left her and moved to Southampton with Emily Beatrice GUTTRICK. At first Emily pretended to have a maiden name of DICK, but as time passed, she returned to having GUTTRICK as her maiden name.

Poor Dr Frances DICK must have moved to her sister/mother in Oxford where she died in 1899. Professor Jeffries and other researchers have written about the pioneering women who trained as doctors in the early days and how their celebrity status often led to their downfall, as with Dr Frances DICK and her addiction to alcohol.

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