

# **Genealogical Society of South Africa**

Durban and Coastal Branch

Volume 20 Issue 4/2004

## **New Members**

We would like to extend a very warm welcome to our new members, Elaine Gawne and Dave Campbell and wish them lots of success in their research and a fruitful association with the Society.

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## **Donations**

A big thank you to these members for the donations of books for our library.

Graham and Rona Bode for - 'Publications of the East Bank and West Bank Cemeteries of East London' and the list of the Dewey Decimal System which libraries use to file books.

Barbara Fabricius for - 'Tracing your Donegal Ancestors' by Godfrey F. Duffey and some copies of the Familia Quarterly Journal.

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## **Speaker – Kevan Mardon**

We would like to thank Mr. Kevan Mardon for a most interesting and enjoyable afternoon. Kevan's enthusiastic talk on Durban Transport of the last 100 years, and his personal memories of Springbok Radio, LM Radio, and Radio Port Natal, with many photos, lasted two hours, and he still ran out of time so wasn't able to show the video of the Royal Visit of 1937. We would very much like to have him back, and plan to do so in the future. Don't miss it!

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## **AGM – 15<sup>TH</sup> January, 2005**

Just a reminder to diarise this meeting, where among other things, we will select our committee members for the new year, so please give this some thought, and feel free to bring to the table anything else you might like to introduce.

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## **Important Information – Family History Centre**

The Family History Centre will be closed for the Christmas/New Year period from the 10<sup>th</sup> December, and reopen on the 12<sup>th</sup> January 2005.

The Director of the Family History Centre, Jenny Harries, is planning an exciting event of a Family History Fair, on a Saturday during the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2005. This will take place in the LDS Church complex, and our branch of the Society has been asked to provide an information kiosk. If any members have any ideas that could add to the success of this venture, e.g. other contributors, advertising etc., please let us know.

The FHC is short of Librarians, and if anyone is able to assist Jenny Harries and Delyse Brown, please let us know.

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## **Message from the Chairman**

In our previous newsletter, mention was made of the 'Death Notice Transcription Project' by Jaq Benade, and the U K General Office BMD Index Project by Adrian Rowe. Nigel appeals to members to give consideration to support the efforts of these two members in their endeavours that will ultimately benefit all.

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## Genealogical Institute of South Africa

GISA is happy to announce that Vol 11 (Scho-Sny) of the South African Genealogies, is now available and can be ordered from:

GISA, PO Box 3033, Matieland, 7602

Tel: 021-887 5070 Fax: 021-887 5031 or by e-mail Carol Greener (Orders): [cgreener@sun.ac.za](mailto:cgreener@sun.ac.za)

The price of the book is R324 plus R46 (postage and insurance), totalling R370. Volumes 1 - 10 are also available at R324 each; postage quote on request. Cheques to be made out to 'GISA'. Direct deposits can be made into GISA's account (and proof faxed to GISA or e-mailed to Carol Greener, with your postal address) at:

ABSA Bank, Stellenbosch: Branch code: 33 44 10, Savings acc. no: 909 075 978 5 (Please write your name on slip as deposit reference). Allow 3 weeks for delivery and 6 weeks during peak times just after a publication. (The office will be closed for orders to be posted, from 22 December to 10 January.) Postage on request for overseas orders.

Researchers are kindly requested to please submit their contributions for all 'T'-surnames (including Theron, Thom, Troskie, etc.) to be considered for inclusion in the next volume (SAG 13) to GISA at P.O. Box 3033, Matieland, 7602 or e-mail to - [gisa@sun.ac.za](mailto:gisa@sun.ac.za).

These contributions must be in before February 2005. Late contributions will be kept on file for inclusion in a reprint at a later stage. Please note that information on extensive families and those that have already been published (eg. Swanepoel and Truter) will only be included up to more or less 1850.

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### Story of a Research

Reprinted with kind permission of Sue McKay.

My brick wall John McQueen was indeed born John Quin but Christina McNicol was his mother and not his wife!!! I might just have found a John Quin, as it is always a good idea to knock the Mc/Mac off the front of Scottish names if all other attempts to find them fail. In this case, however, John's father had changed his name from Patrick Quin to Peter McQueen in the late 1840s, presumably to hide the fact that he was part of the huge Irish influx to Glasgow following the potato famine.

The note of caution is never to assume anything when dealing with ones family history. I could never find John McQueen's birth certificate in 1858 but both his marriage and death certificates said his parents were Peter McQueen and Christina Nicol, and he named his eldest daughter Christina Nicol McQueen.

All attempts to find a marriage between a Peter McQueen and a Christina Nicol failed. Any money that filtered down into our family came from John McQueen, who was both a prosperous merchant and a pillar of the local Primitive Methodist church - his wife laid the foundation stone and we have the engraved silver trowel to prove it.

It would never have occurred to me in a million years, therefore, that the answer to my brick wall lay firstly in the Glasgow poor law records, and secondly in the records of the Glasgow Catholic church. John's parents were married as Catholics, but unable to find work and perhaps being victimized as Catholics in the area where they lived John's father changed his name from Patrick Quin to Peter McQueen. He received poor law relief and even spent some time in the workhouse. No wonder John never spoke to his grandchildren about his origins!!

This article from Sue encourages us to be more open minded when doing our research!!

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### My Memories of Old Durban - by Elizabeth Robb.

Submitted by Doreen Nicholson

I am sitting at my window in a hotel high up on the Berea, looking out at the lush green trees and shrubs, to the lighthouse on the Bluff in the distance. The skyline is partly obscured by large concrete buildings, and

my thoughts wander down through the years to the old Durban, the town where I grew up and feel where I belong and partly belongs to me.

What a change has taken place in this lovely city, in the march of progress, and I feel that it has lost something, just the nostalgic feeling of the past and growing old.

I recall as children we used to picnic on the beach, the back beach we used to call it, we would set off to catch the tram, a single decker in those days, driven by mules with a coloured driver and a white conductor. We purchased our ticket for one shilling with twelve penny clips, and the conductor would come along and clip your ticket according to the distance you travelled.

In those days the tram only went as far as Baumans Bakery which today is called "Bakers Limited" we would pop into the bakery for a shilling packet of broken biscuits all crisp and fresh, from there on a duck-board went right down to the beach, we always took our house-boy along with us to carry the picnic basket with a kettle tied onto the handle. We would settle in the sand dunes in a hollow to protect us from the wind. Before we reached "Baumans" we had to wait for a while for the booms to be lifted to allow the goods trains to pass on their way to and from the docks. Now the old train line has disappeared, and the goods trains now proceed along the railway line at the edge of the Bay. The old Beach Hotel in its present site was the only hotel on the Beach. On the lower parade "Campbells" Tearoom was built on stilts to allow the sea to flow under when the waves came over the road. There was a flight of steps up to the tearoom and you could take your teapot and have it filled with boiling water for 6d.

You could take along some firewood and boil your own kettle in the sand dunes. We bathed in the open sea at the South Beach, which was known as the Scotsmans pool. Sharks were not heard of in those days. Later a bathing enclosure was built with a promenade with benches to sit on and gaze at the rolling seas. To keep it from being overcrowded a tram ticket was charged. Years later the bathing enclosure was washed away by storms and heavy seas.

To be continued.....

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### List of Occupations

CATAGMAN - Cottager.

CATCHPOLE - bailiff or sheriffs officer.

CATECHIST - teacher of religion.

CATTLE JOBBER - person who bought and sold cattle.

CAUSEWAYER - one involved in road repairs from the term causewaying (Scottish c1800).

CEMMER - person who hand combed the yarn before weaving.

CHAIR BODGER - travelling chair repairman.

CHAISE DRIVER - driver of a two wheeled light open carriage generally furnished with a hood that may be let down and capable of carrying one or two persons, used for pleasure or local travelling purposes.

CHALONER - person who made blankets.

- dealer in shaloon, material made in Chalons.

CHAMBER MASTER - shoemaker that worked from home as an outworker or selling direct.

CHAMBERLAIN - officer of the royal household, responsible for the Chamber, meaning that he controls access to the person of the King. Also responsible for administration of household and private estates. One of four main officers of the court, the others being the Chancellor, the Justi-cair, and the Treasurer.

CHANDLER - candle maker or candle seller.

- grocer or provisioner.

- usually associated with provisioning ships but also applied to any dealer of a specific trade.

CHANTY MAN - sailor who led the singing of shanties on board ship.

CHAPELER - person who made and sold hats.

CHAPMAN - dealer or pedlar of goods usually itinerant going from village to village.

- keeper of a booth or stall in a market.

CHARTMASTER - middleman that negotiated mining contracts and supplied the labour.

CHATELAINE - mistress of a castle or house.

CHAUNTER - street entertainer who sung ballads.

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### **Ned. Geref. Kerk in S.A. (Cont.)**

When and from where churches were seceded

**(These dates are very useful when sending for a film)**

<b>Congregation</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Seceded from</b>
Vanrhynsdorp (Troë – Troë)	1877	Clanwilliam / Calvinia / Namaqualand
Venterstad	1882	Colesberg / Burgersdorp
Victoria East (Alice)	1863	Albany (Albanie)
Victoria West	1844	Beaufort West
Villiersdorp	1858	Caledon
Vishoek		
(Simonstown- Kalk Bay)	1855	Wynberg
Voortrekker Registers		Kept by the ministers from the Cape Province
Vosberg	1895	Carnarvon/Britstown/Victoria West/Prieska
Vryberg (Stellaland)	1883	Originated independently
Wagenmakersvallei	1840	Paarl (Wellington)
Williston	1878	Carnarvon. Whites first ministered to by missionaries.
Willowmore	1864	
Worcester	1821	Tulbagh
Wynberg	1829	Cape Town.

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### **Membership Fees**

Please would members kindly pay their fees as early as possible for 2005 as this will greatly assist our Treasurer in the administration of our finances.

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### **Newsletter Articles**

Members are reminded that they are very welcome to submit articles for inclusion in our forthcoming newsletters. They may also submit names from their brick walls.

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### **Diary Dates for 2005**

15 <sup>th</sup> January	AGM
12 <sup>th</sup> February	Person Research
12 <sup>th</sup> March	Heritage Scrapbooking Workshop
9 <sup>th</sup> April	Personal Research
14 <sup>th</sup> May	Personal Research
11 <sup>th</sup> June	Speaker/Activity
9 <sup>th</sup> July	Person Research
13 <sup>th</sup> August	PMB Archives
10 <sup>th</sup> September	Personal Research
8 <sup>th</sup> October	Speaker/ Activity
12 <sup>th</sup> November	Personal Research
10 <sup>th</sup> December	Ancestral Tea
21 <sup>th</sup> January 2005	AGM

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## Committee Members 2004 - 2005

### Chairperson

Nigel McFerran, 22 Edgbaston Drive, Westville 3629

Phone: (031) 266-3177. E-Mail: [mcferran@eastcoast.co.za](mailto:mcferran@eastcoast.co.za)

### Vice Chairperson and Information Technology

Jaq Benade, P.O.Box 2337 Pinetown, 3600.

Phone: (031) 708-3746. E-Mail: [jaqb@telkomsa.net](mailto:jaqb@telkomsa.net)

### Treasurer and Membership

Joan Rachmann, 31 Adrienne Ave. Glenashley 4051

Phone: (031) 572-3184.

### Secretary

Cynthia McFerran, 22 Edgbaston Drive, Westville 3629

Phone: (031) 266-3177. E-Mail: [mcferran@eastcoast.co.za](mailto:mcferran@eastcoast.co.za)

### Librarian

Ann O'Brien - Phone: (031) 309-1771

### Preservations/Archives

Paul du Plessis - Ph: (031) 767-2676

### Octogenarian

Annelise Peters - Ph: (031) 208-2910

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## Our Venue for Meetings

Family History Centre,  
Church of the Latter Day Saints,  
144 Silverton Road.  
Entrance in Montgomery Road  
Phone: (031) 202 3024

Our meetings are held at 2.30 pm on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of every month except in August when we have an arrangement to go to the Pietermaritzburg Archives between 8.30am and 12.00pm. Our AGM is held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday in January.

For the record, the F.H.C. is also open at the following times:

Wednesday 9 am – 12 pm  
Thursday 9 am – 12 pm and 6.30 pm - 9 pm  
1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of every month from 10 am - 4 pm