

eGGSA Newsletter

No. 2: August, 2007

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From the Editor:

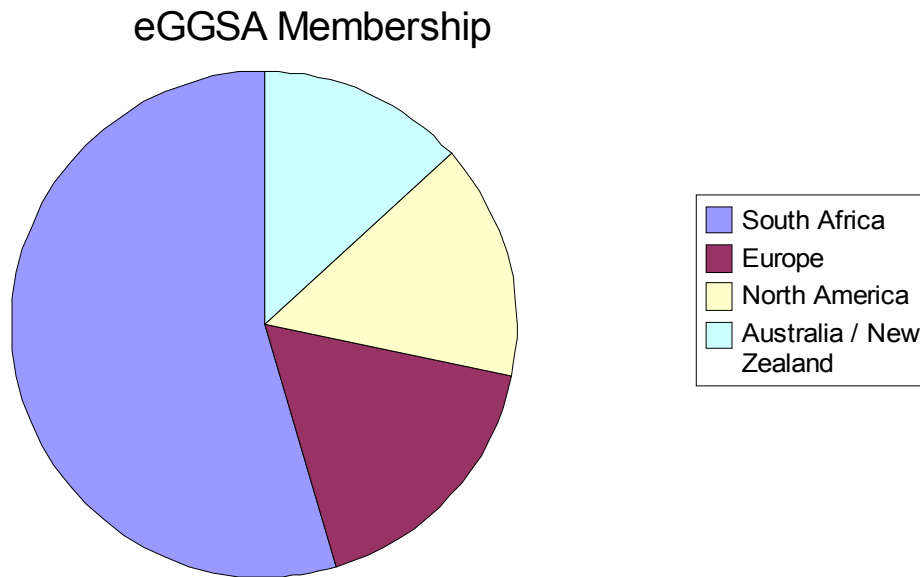
This is the second issue of the eGGSA newsletter. It puts us on our intended publication schedule of each mid-quarter: The middle of February, May, August, and November.

This issue features our first Member Profile, and other items I hope you will find interesting and helpful. Remember: This newsletter is for the members of eGGSA. If you have any suggestions, comments, or contributions, please send me an e-mail.

Keith Meintjes
umfundi@usa.net

eGGSA Snippets

Membership: eGGSA membership continues to grow. The eGGSA branch now has about 250 members, and the distribution by region is shown in the chart:



Another 160 or so are members of other branches, but subscribe to *genesis* and receive Member access to the eGGSA web site.

Capensis: *Capensis* is the journal of the Western Cape Branch of GSSA. Back issues for the years 2002 – 2007 can now be purchased from the eGGSA Online Shop. The index of *Capensis* can be found at http://www.eggasa.org/capensis_contents.htm

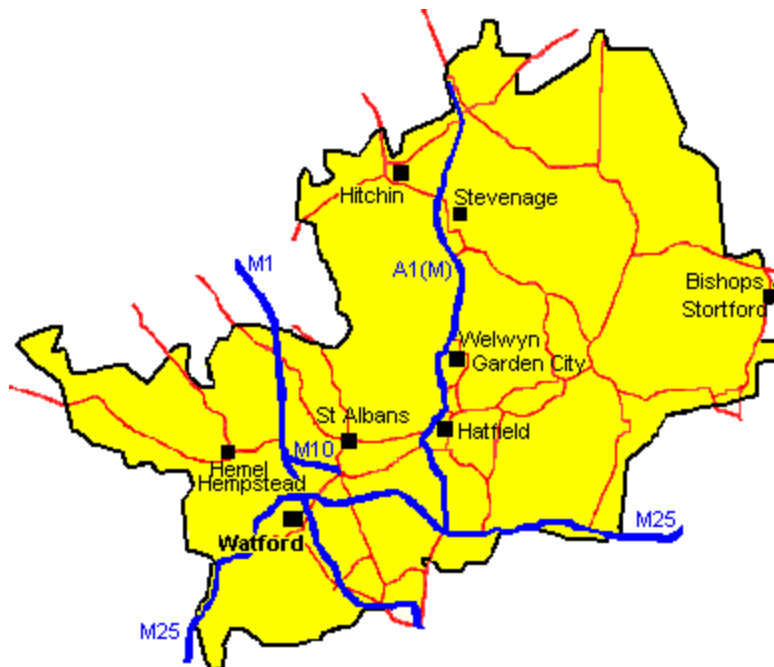
Farm Owners, 1850: In 1848 Sir Harry Smith ordered an enumeration of all land owners and their property, in the 30 Districts that comprised the Cape at that time. The series *Bewaarders van Ons Erfenis* contains records of farm names and their owners. The first 14 publications in the series are on a single CD (an Introduction plus records of 13 districts). The next seven are newly available as individual pdf files and cover the districts Beaufort (West), Cradock, Colesberg, Richmond, Uitenhage, Somerset (East), and Albany. Look in the Historical Items section of the webshop. (This publication is in Afrikaans only.)

Lookups and Document Photographs in the Hertfordshire (England) Archives

Jocelyn Norden, a customer of the eGGSA photo service, writes:

Again many thanks. This means so much to me. I am trying to find a way of 'putting back' a little in gratitude for what I have received

I don't know if this is of any help/use, but I live in Hertfordshire, England and visit my local 'County Archive' on a regular basis. If anyone on your list requires 'look ups', photos etc., of ancestors details that may have started life in Hertfordshire, I am most willing to offer my services free of charge.



(Source: www.touruk.co.uk/hertfordshire/hertfordshire_2_3.gif)

Hertfordshire is north of London. If you would like to contact Jocelyn, please e-mail her at buntline-betty@ntlworld.com

Suid-Afrikaanse Geslagregisters 15

GISA maak hiermee bekend dat Volume 15 (Vis-Wal) van die Suid-Afrikaanse Geslag-registers so pas verskyn het. Dit kan bestel word by:

GISA, Posbus 3033, Matieland, 7602; Tel: 021-887 5070; Faks: 021-887 5031

of per e-pos by Elbie Endemann (Bestellings): orders@sun.ac.za

Volumes 1-14 is ook beskikbaar.

Navorsers word gevra om asseblief hul bydraes t.o.v. alle 'X,Y,Z'-vanne voor Jan. 2008 te stuur aan GISA by: Posbus 3033, Matieland, 7602 of e-pos aan: gisa@sun.ac.za om vir insluiting in die volgende volume in aanmerking geneem te word.

(Volume 15 of SA Genealogies is now available. Send enquiries to: orders@sun.ac.za)

Place Names, Maps, and Farm Surveys

A good site to search for a South African place name is

<http://www.fallingrain.com/world/SF/>

Or, simply search on Google for *fallingrain placename*. For example, search on *fallingrain Tulbagh* and you will find that Tulbagh is at latitude -33.2833 and longitude 19.1500. There are also maps and weather information.

A most amazing site is that for the South African Geographical Names System:

<http://sagns.dac.gov.za/>

On the left of the page, click on Search, then SAGNS (Official Database). Then wait for the page to build.

On the search form, enter *Tulbagh* for place name, and click Search. (The Enter key does nothing.) Wait for the page to build! There is one result. Click on the link for map.

On the resulting map, click once on the "T" in TULBAGH. Then, wait.

This is an official SA government topographical map. Note the historical sites (in Old English script), and also the words "KRUY'S VALLEY" in the upper right part of the map. This is the official farm name (and number).

Now, go to the site for the Chief Surveyor-General:

<http://csg.dla.gov.za/>

and click on where it says: For scanned images click here. On the next page, click on

Search on Town/Region/Farm Name which should bring you here:

<http://csg.dla.gov.za/esio/searchproperty.jsp>

In the first box, select *Cape Town* from the drop-down menu. In the last box (Enter Farm Name) type *kruys valley*. Click on Search

You should get a results display with six lines, all for the same farm. For the second last one, *Portion 00018*, click on Search.

The next page is a list of images of deeds recorded for the farm. Choose page 1 of the 1923 survey, which is:

<http://csg.dla.gov.za/esio/viewTIF?furl=/images7/b4/10NQ3901.TIF&office=SGCTN>

and you will find a survey drawing, and the information that Kruis (sic) Valley was granted to E.A. Buyskes on 6th October 1817.

This is just one example. If the place name is not found on sagns, you can search on longitude and latitude.

I have spent hours exploring the maps of the Slagtersnek area. Search sagns for slagtersnek, then pan northeast. You will find Glen Lynden, the site given to Pringle's party of 1820. Further to the northeast you will find Lyndoch (Lynedoch?), which is Pringle's farm, and Cameron's Glen, including the location of Bezuidenhout's cave and Bezuidenhout's grave.

I feel that I must apologize in advance for the hours you may spend.

Member Profile: Basil Garnet Royston

Basil G. Royston, the first son of Garnet Basil Royston (1929-1999) and the gt-gt-grandson of an 1851 pioneer of D'Urban, Natal, William Robinson Royston (1822-1887), was born in Durban, Natal in 1952.

Primary and secondary education was in Durban and I matriculated from Christian Brothers College, Stellenbosch in 1967, after which I embarked on a ministerial vocation in the Catholic Church, first as educationalist and then as a priest – studying at Teachers Training College, Pietermaritzburg, the Universities of South Africa, Bloemfontein, and Stellenbosch, and completing the *Sacra Theologia* degree from the *Pontificia Universitas*



Urbaniana in Rome. I was ordained to the priesthood in 1981 by the late Archbishop Denis Hurley O.M.I. After two years a chaplain in the SADF in Simons Town, Wynberg the Cape Flats I returned to Durban where I ministered as assistant priest at the Emmanuel Catholic Cathedral and as teacher and chaplain at Marist Brothers College.

In 1987 I transferred to California, USA to continue my studies and ministry – as I jokingly tell my friends – as a missionary to the Californian pagans! In 1992 I completed a tertiary degree at the University of Santa Clara, California and in 2006 a terminal degree at the Graduate Theological Union Campus at San Anselmo, California.

Genealogy hooked me way back in my youth, listening to the family conversations held whenever Grandfather came to visit. Who was related to whom, how, when and where; how various statesmen and soldiers from various parts of the British Empire were related to our family; how the villages of Royston got their names; the inevitable “family castle, heraldry and titles,” and so on. In fact, in the beautiful innocence of youth I wondered just when I would be invited to visit aunt Elizabeth Windsor!

In 1975 looking around for a subject for further studies, I saw the possibility of making a through and scientific study of the Royston family in S Africa, “all of whom of course are related”. So it all seemed to be quite easy. Well, the fool’s paradise was soon to disappear and to date “all the related S. African Royston’s” myth shows that there are some 10 different and distinct Royston families in S Africa without any immediate connection, that is within 7 generations.

I have discovered through my research, many interviews throughout S Africa, England, Australia, USA and Canada that the old adage, “Our ancestors are promoted with each successive generation” is so true, and has proved a source of amusement but at times a source of valuable research leads!

The greatest help in all my research and interviews have been two larger than life family members, namely:

1. Leonard Dooley Royston (1897-1985) who started the Royston family tree on a large “blueprint” sheet, which although far from complete was a great help, and
2. A well-known family member who seems to be known to some extent or the other by most of the family members, namely. Brigadier-General John Robinson Royston (Galloping Jack) DSO, CMG who began his distinguished military career in the Zulu War of 1878 and served S. Africa throughout his life.

I currently have a genealogy book with a layout designer. This volume is a memoir, travelogue and the genealogy of Helen and Jose Palacio of California. Helen, a native of Mexico “adopted” me when I arrived in California, since I had no family of my own and having once been an immigrant she knew how difficult this could be.

I publish an eight page annual ROYSTON letter, which I distribute to family through snail and email. This research communication tool has helped me maintain contact with many while surfacing others who have been silent or hidden and have been coaxed into responding by my patient diligence.

My research on the S Africa Royston and related families remains my passion as I plough through the 12 and counting linear yards of binders of research documents I have gathered. I am writing biographies for each family member while researching the ancestral and descendant lines around the world.

I continue my membership of the Durban and Coastal Branch of the GSSA of which I am a past Chair. During my tenure as Chair of this branch, together with members of the branch and my matriculating classes from Marist Brothers College I started the Monumental Inscriptions of the West Street Cemetery in Durban, Natal.

Over the past 30 years I have collected a relatively large genealogical library of S African interest and continue to add to this library through staying abreast of new publications and adding important missing books through the aid of the amazing search engines available on the Internet.

Finally I am very grateful to be a member of the eGSSA as it has afforded me the opportunity to continue an immediate involvement with the genealogical community in S. Africa through its various activities. I was a reluctant volunteer at first with eGSSA's Tombstone Indexing Project but thoroughly enjoyed the possibility of once again becoming a fully integrated and participating member of the eGSSA. eGSSA in many ways has been an answer to a prayer!

Copyright Guidelines for Genealogists

We have recently found that a CD purchased from eGSSA has been copied and offered for sale by an eGSSA member.

There are other recent examples of clear copyright infringements:

- My own Meintjes genealogy was packaged on a CD and offered for sale, without my knowledge or permission, and in violation of the copyright notice.
- The first ten volumes of SA Genealogies have been scanned to CD and distributed.

There is no question that the above examples are copyright violations. But, for genealogists, the issues are often much more subtle. Here is a good article:

http://www.pddoc.com/copyright/genealogy_copyright_fundamentals.htm

Most genealogy complaints about "copyright" are really about plagiarism, failure to document sources, and failure to acknowledge others' contributions. Here are some practical guidelines:

- Document your sources thoroughly, and cite them when you publish your work.
- If someone else gives you information, ask them (then and there) if you may include their work (with proper acknowledgment) with your own.
- Be generous when acknowledging others' contributions.

- Never include verbatim information without acknowledging the source. If the quote is lengthy, for example, a chapter from a book, get permission to use it.
- Protect your own information and research. Once you give it to someone else, you have lost control over further distribution.

For complete works, the rules are fairly simple. If you purchase a CD, you probably have the right to make a copy, for example, on your computer's hard drive, for your own use. You may not make copies to sell or to give away. If you give or sell the original to someone else, you should destroy any copies.

The eGGSA Code of Conduct sums it up. It reads, in part:

As a member of eGGSA I will

- 1. behave at all times with integrity;*
- 2. give proper credit for the intellectual property of others.*