

eGSSA Newsletter



virtual Branch of the GSSA

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New President of the GSSA elected

Hendrik Louw, who recently joined the management team of eGSSA, attended the Annual General Meeting of the Genealogical Society of South Africa this weekend past, 6th and 7th March, at Bloemfontein as a member of eGSSA, but returned home as President of the Society!

He has now resigned his eGSSA post in order to take up the more prestigious one of President of the South African Genealogical Society, having been elected a member of the National Executive and President at the Annual General Meeting.

A profile of Hendrik Louw can be found in this Newsletter.

Johan Janse van Rensburg, the retiring president, will remain a member of the national executive, concentrating on technological aspects and the GSSA web site.

While at the meeting, Hendrik took photographs of the jollities that accompanied the meeting and has written an account which can be found on the [eGSSA website](#).

We congratulate him and wish him well in his new post.

GSSA Google Earth Cemetery Initiative

Still at the AGM in Bloemfontein. On the Sunday Peter and Beverley Moss presented the GSSA Google Earth Cemetery Initiative to the GSSA AGM in Bloemfontein. This uses Google Earth to display the locations of the cemeteries for which we have the GPS coordinates, and has a link between the cemetery location on Google Earth and the relevant eGSSA photograph album (when available).

The presentation was very well received, and a fuller account and description can be found later in this Newsletter.

*This issue of the eGSSA
Newsletter was produced by
Richard Ball.*

Hendrik Louw

President van die GGSA

Hendrik de Waal LOUW is gebore op 9 September 1959 te Kenhardt hospitaal as die 2de kind van vier seuns uit die huwelik van Willem Jacobus Nicolaas (Willouw) LOUW geb. "Vaalkop" distr. Kenhardt 25 Desember 1931 en Elizabeth Maria (Bessie) DE WAAL geb. Gibeon, Suidwes-Afrika 16 Mei 1939, vandag nog boere op die plaas "Loogkolk" distr. Kenhardt .

Hy begin sy skoolopleiding in 1966 te Kenhardt, maar die droogte van 1967 bring mee dat sy ouers vir ongeveer 18 maande Suidwes toe trek waar hy vir daardie tyd te Stamprietfontein, Suidwes-Afrika skoolgaan, dit is ook die dorp waar sy ouers getroud is en naby aan sy Suidwes Oupa se plaas Klawer.



Na hul terugkeer uit Suidwes, sou sy skoolloopbaan voort gaan te Hoërskool Kenhardt, maar in 1975 word besluit om eerder na Hoërskool Martin Oosthuizen te Kakamas te verskuif. Die kinder getalle was meer en sportgeriewe dus beter. Matrikuleer in 1977 te HMO Kakamas, waarna die Universiteit te Oranje-Vrystaat roep. As oud-inwoner van Pres. Reitz kamerwonings sou hy daarna soos alle ander Suid-Afrikaners weermag toe gaan. Eers te Potchefstroom (3SAI) en daarna Oudthoorn (Infanterie skool). Hy word 'n 2de Luitenant in 1980 en is die volgende jaar amper twee derdes daarvan aan die grens. Later Luitenant, Kaptein en Majoor het hy menigte kampe as bevelvoerder Suidwes grens toe aangevoer en was vanaf sy diensplig jare in grens operasies betrokke. Tree op Burgermag vlak uit as Majoor.

Sy bank loopbaan begin aan einde van 1979 te Upington waar hy later vir 29 jaar sou werk tot en met Maart 2008. In 1984 verplaas na Bloemfontein, 1985 opgeneem in Streekhoofkantoor Bloemfontein as opleidingsbeampte, in 1987 verplaas na Brandfort, 1989 na Ficksburg en in 1990 na Volkskas Hoofkantoor Pretoria wat in Oktober 1990 saamsmelt met United en Allied Bank om ABSA BANK te vorm. Na sy bedanking in Maart 2008 het hy sy eie besigheid "Hesha Eiendomme" begin en doen ook Belasting konsultasie en Finansiële en beleggings advies.

Sy groot belangstelling en passie is natuurlik familie navorsing (genealogie) wat hy al amper 30 jaar be-oefen. Hy is tans besig met die finale verwerkings, aanpassings ens. t.o.v. die Louw familie Bond se databasis om sodoende 'n opgedateerde Louw familie nageslagsregister daar te stel tesame met die fees vieringe van die Bond September 2009 om die 350 jarige bestaan van die Louw's aan die "Kaap de Goede Hoop" te herdenk.

Hy is getroud met Sharon Gail Lockhart op 6 Desember 1986 te Bloemfontein en het 3 kinders, Chantel Louw * Kimberley 13 Desember 1981 (Sy is gebore uit Sharon se eerste huwelik en Hendrik het haar aangeneem), Jacobus de Waal (Jaco) Louw * Bloemfontein 9 Oktober 1987 en Sindy Louw * Bloemfontein 15 Desember 1988. Beide Jaco en Sindy is studente aan die Universiteit van Pretoria (Tukkies).

Tans woon Hendrik te Kempton Park en geniet dit om deel te wees van GGSA

GSSA Google Earth™ Cemetery Initiative

Explore 1593 Cemetery locations in 6 countries using Free Google Earth software!

The GSSA Google Earth™ Cemetery Initiative also provides the link to actual cemetery and headstone photographs in the eGSSA library, where available.

When our volunteers were recording cemetery information they often noted the “GPS” coordinates of the cemetery, in the early days by using the 1:50000 map series and then, more recently, by hand held GPS. Thus the Cemetery Recording Project built up a database of cemetery location information. The development of free internet based mapping systems such as Google Earth™ provides a useful platform for visual display of coordinate information, and adds to the range of research services available for genealogists.



Links with the Gravestone Photo Project run as a free service by the eGSSA BRANCH are being developed, and this data is shown where available. Of the 3182 cemetery locations captured by the Project to date, 1593 (50%) have GPS coordinates and are shown on the GSSA Google Earth™ Map.

The Project is concerned with all cemeteries of SA interest; the Map shows relevant cemeteries as far afield as Bermuda and Egypt.

The GSSA Google Earth™ Map opens with a high level view of Southern Africa showing all the GSSA cemetery locations with a GSSA icon. The standard features of Google Earth™ can be used to zoom in or out, rotate the image, or “Fly to” various Placemarks or coordinates. Places of interest shown in the default Google Earth™ maps also assist with navigation.

By zooming down in the general area of interest, the icons separate and the Cemetery Name pops up.

For more information please refer to the [information on the GSSA web site](#).

The GPS data was collected from the many volunteers who have over the years provided information to the Cemetery Recording Project and the Photo Project. This information is collated for annual DVD publication by Peter Moss and Beverley Moss. Their sons Stewart and Adrian Moss, who spent many happy hours of their childhood sitting in hot cars while Peter and Beverley recorded yet another cemetery of interest, provided the initiative and technical expertise.

- Stewart conceived the initial idea and undertook the software development and complicated programming so that GE could read and display the Cemetery Index data
 - Adrian designed and built the new web page
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Some useful Baptism, Marriage and Death records

Ancestry24.co.za is a commercial, pay to view site, but they do have some useful records which one is able to use without subscribing. I found out about these only recently when Heather MacAlister, who runs that web site, drew attention to them on the Rootsweb South Africa genealogy email list.

To find these records point your browser to The Open content on Ancestry24.co.za.

In the menu on the left, headed 'Table of Contents', click on the second item 'Open Content'. This will then expand to show the various information available without a subscription. Each of those headings will expand again when clicked.

Heather has provided information on the following data sources which seemed to me likely to be of most interest to our members. In each of them the data is arranged by name.

St George's Cathedral, Cape Town, baptisms 1921-1970.

St George's Cathedral, marriages 1823-1880.

The originals of the above registers are housed in the Cape Town Archives and are in poor condition and deteriorating badly from daily use. It is a pity they are not photographed so that they may be removed from public access and the photographs used instead. Although these records have, in fact, been filmed by the Anglican Church Archives, the early baptisms from 1815 onwards are poor copies, some hardly legible, and the Cape Archives does not have a copy of this film.

Cullinan, Premier Mines births. These were done by a gentleman who has done large amounts of research in Cullinan and written numerous articles on the town, mine and the golf course. Only records which referred to people working on the mine were extracted. These registers are still in the original churches.

Eastern Cape burials, 1820-1994. This is an arbitrary selection, organised by a University, as a field study project on longevity for high school children using a number of cemeteries.

St Peter's Cemetery, Observatory, Cape Town, transcripts of gravestones and the burial register. This cemetery is long gone as it was closed down when a shopping centre was built. The transcribing was done by Lorna White and was converted into our access database with permission and a contract that we have with the St. Peters Trust.

Commercial Road Cemetery, Pietermaritzburg, was transcribed by the Natal Family History Society - they typed it up and Ancestry24 sent the typed pages to volunteers to put into a database. It is believed that all the gravestones in the cemetery have been transcribed.

Slave Deaths 1719-1721

Slave Death Notices 1719-1789. These were transcribed by Professor Robert Shell from the Cape Archives series C 2432-2652, known as *Attestatien*. The volume that each notice comes from is listed in the database entry.

eGGSA web site update

Just one set of bible photographs has been donated to our Family Bible collection since the last newsletter: [The Belinfante Family Bible](#), pictures taken and donated by Lucky Belinfante.

Recent contributions to the [Stamouers](#) web site:

Additions and corrections by Demornay du Toit:

[Barend Pieterse BLOM](#)

[Jean Prieur du PLESSIS](#)

And the POSTMA stamvader/founding father by Frik Venter, Navorser van die Vrystaat Venter familie, sowel as die Postma familie van Suid-Afrika Researcher of the Free State Venter family, and the Postma family of South Africa.

[Dirk POSTMA](#)

Houses and their inhabitants

Keith Meinjtes has recommended the the web site of the [Vernacular Architecture Society of South Africa](#), as having some very interesting articles in their Journals, the earlier ones of which are online. The accounts of houses and farms included accounts of the people living there and have maps and plans as well. The later journals can be bought but, as usual, only by transfer to a South African bank account, prohibitively expensive for most people living outside South Africa.

Can we remind you?

That we need articles and contributions for **genesis** issues during the coming year, please – without your contributions there is no **genesis**, no eGGSA.

And we need volunteers to help with various aspects of running the eGGSA web site - please help. Specifically a **VOLUNTEER IS NEEDED** to help with the document ordering system. This volunteer would receive the photographed documents and prepare them for sending out, then sending on the details to another volunteer who sends out the invoices. It is necessary that this person has a broadband connection with a reasonable download allowance. **YOUR HELP** would be much appreciated.

If you have anything you would be suitable for these newsletters, such contributions would also be gratefully received. In fact, if anyone would like to take over editing and producing the newsletter then that could easily be arranged too!

If you can help, please contact Richard Ball richard@eggssa.org

Omnibus 2009

Daar word beoog deur die GGSA om weer vanjaar 'n nuwe Omnibus saam te stel. Die vorige twee Omnibusse was uitgegee onder redakteurskap van Daan HAMMAN. Die omnibus is 'n geleentheid vir vir enige van GGSA se lede wat nie self 'n register wil uitgee nie, 'n webblad wil bedryf nie om sy register te publiseer en daarmee saam te verseker dat sy data tot op datum van aflewering aan die redakteur bewaar sal bly.

In die verlede is daar elke keer saam met die omnibus 'n groter familieregister bygevoeg. Die laaste omnibus het dan die FOURIE familie se register ingesluit.

Hierdie keer word die 2009 Omnibus uitgegee onder redakteurskap van Johan POTTAS. Hy beoog om met die samewerking van al die lede van GGSA die omnibus te wy aan die kleinere familieregisters, dit wil sê registers wat tot so 90 bladsye lank is. Die oogmerk is nie net om datums te plaas nie, maar ook as daar "stories" is watter e vertelle is oor persone om hulle "lewendig" te maak in te sluit.

Daar is reeds 'n klompie sulke registers beskikbaar gemaak: Uit Johan POTTAS se eie navorsing: vanne STULTING, MADGWICK, BAUMANN, FERDINAND AUGUST SCHMIDT, AUPIAIS, WEPENER and WOCKE, en uit Zouna Fornernel se navorsing: die van FONTERNEL. Daar is ook die MOOLMAN register wat beskikbaar gestel is vir publiserings.

Hy beoog om sowat twintig families of meer indien dit beskikbaar is te plaas. Die data kan of as 'n klaar verwerkte register elektronies gestuur word of as 'n gedcom aan [Johan Pottas](mailto:PottasJ.RD@ufs.ac.za)

The Genealogical Society of South Africa (GSSA) intends to compile a new Omnibus volume this year. The previous three Omnibus volumes were compiled by Daan Hamman, currently treasurer of the eGSSA branch, and edited by Linda Zöllner.

An Omnibus volume provides the opportunity for any GSSA member not intending to publish his or her family research either in book or web format, to submit such research for publication in the omnibus, at the same time making it available to others and preserving their work to date.

In the past, along with the smaller family trees, each edition of Omnibus has also included a larger family tree. The most recent edition, Omnibus 3 of 2007, for instance, included the Fourie family tree.

This year the 2009 Omnibus is being compiled under the editorship of Johan Pottas, chairman of the Free State branch of the GSSA. With help from all the members of the GSSA he aims to devote the volume to smaller family trees, that is those whose registers are less than about 90 pages each. It would be nice to have not only names and dates, but if available, the inclusion of stories and anecdotes to flesh out the skeleton would be very welcome.

A number of such trees have already been submitted. From Johan Pottas himself, from his own research: surnames STULTING, MADGWICK, BAUMANN, FERDINAND AUGUST SCHMIDT, AUPIAIS, WEPENER and WOCKE, and from the research of Zouna Fonternel, the FONTERNEL family.

Johan aims to include around twenty families if possible. Data can be supplied either as a finished manuscript Family register, or in the form of a GEDCOM file.

If you are interested please contact Johan Pottas PottasJ.RD@ufs.ac.za

Two Requests for research assistance

Please reply direct to the enquirer's email address

Herbert Alfred BATES

Is there a member living in or near Kroonstad who could photograph a particular grave?

Michael Allbrook sent this request to eGGSA. It was referred to the Free State Branch of GSSA and to Derek Walker who specialises in South African war graves, initially with no result but, just before sending out this Newsletter, some news has come in. See after Michael's request.

From: Michael Allbrook michael@allbrook.com

I am trying to track the military careers of the ex-pupils of my old school who served in the military from 1837 to 1950. I have established the following information which indicates that Herbert Alfred BATES is the first military death where a grave is known.

Herbert Alfred BATES, Oakham School 1888-1891 Cricket and Rugby Colour

Born 1872 in Blaxhall, Suffolk, he was the son of Reverend Alfred N and Emily E Bates, Humberstone Vicarage, Leicester.

Corporal, Cape Mounted Rifles Army number 2387

He died from his wounds on 6 November 1900 at Kroonstad. At this stage of the war, the Boers had formed themselves into guerrilla groups and attacked the British Army as opportunities arose. It is probable that Herbert Bates was wounded in such a skirmish.

Although he is recorded in the Oakhamian as attending Durham University, their records indicate that he was not there beyond the end of the first academic session.

1881 Census age 8 living at home

1891 census Oakham School

Marriage – unlikely

There is a memorial plaque in St Mary's Church, Humberstone.

2387 Cpl. H.A. Bates Cape Mounted Rifles is shown as died of wounds at Kroonstad 6/11/1900. He is buried in grave 858 at North Road Cemetery, Kroonstad. His grave is marked with a named metal cross and his name is on the cemetery memorial.

13 March 2009, Update. Email received from Derek Walker, dedicated war grave photographer:

One of our SA War Graves photographers came through with a reply and a pic which is attached.

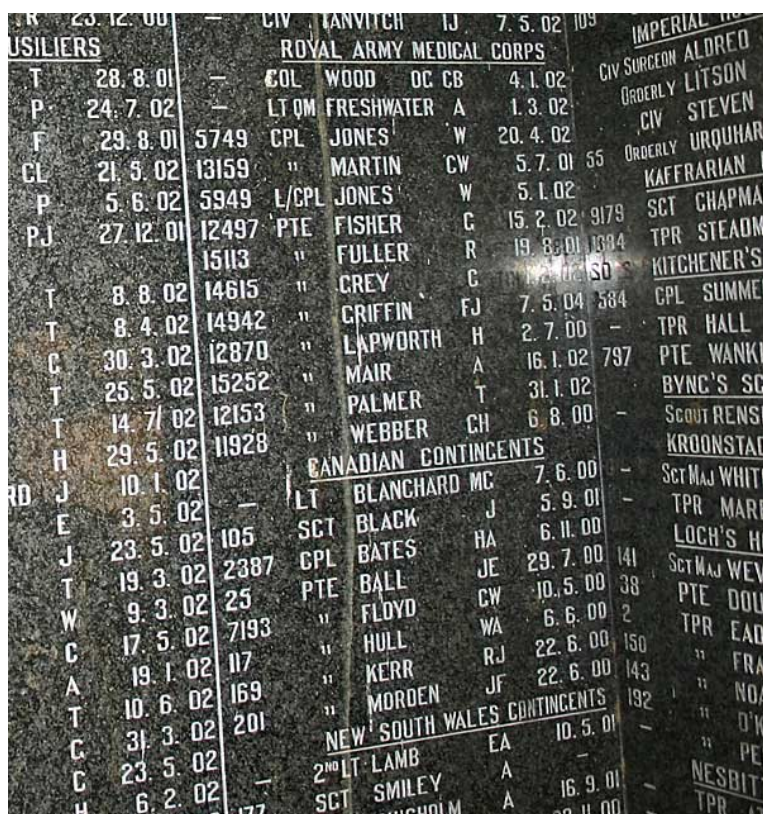
I also include his comments: Yes, I have been to Kroonstad (plenty of graves) and photographed the marble memorial with all the names of the chaps buried there. I had checked my references and seen that he was recorded under the Canadian Contingent. I was able to locate his name on the memorial and the photo is attached. If you have some photo formatter you can crop the section with his name on.

Out of the 500 plus headstones I photographed that day at the cemetery, I don't have a Bates. Now, this could mean three things. One, his cross is missing from the site (there were a few notably missing), two - I missed it in the blur of crosses (like to think not!!) or three - the inscription was not too clear and it has been named and filed incorrectly (skimmed over the long lists but nothing struck me).

So, short-term, here is the memorial wall - his name towards the bottom right of the picture.

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

So, still a chance to help if you have easy access to Kroonstad Cemetery.



MARENGO - Surinaam

From: R.Marengo maren124@planet.nl

Ik ben zoekende naar informatie over mijn voor ouders afkomst. Mijn naam is Ronald MARENGO en ben geboren in Suriname.

Nu wil ik graag weten of de naam marengo uit Afrika afkomstig is. Ook wat voor verband het heeft met Jacob MARENGO (de hero of Namibie)

Graag wil ik in kontakt komen met de klein kinderen van Jacob MARENGO. (Zie biografie of Jacob Marengo). De vraagen die bij mij oproepen zijn bv "Waren Jacob zijn ouders slaven? en zijn deze toen als slaven verscheept naar Suriname?"

De naam MARENGO komt heel veel in Suriname voor. Zelfs woon ik nu in Nederland (Rotterdam)

Alvast bedankt, R. Marengo

Records of the Cape Colony

Compiled by George McCall Theal, published 1897

In the [Rootsweb Eastern Cape email group](#) 5 March 2009, Sue Mackay wrote:

It seems I have been re-inventing the wheel! (Sue has been transcribing [1820 Settler correspondence](#) from the British Archives at Kew). I have discovered that The Records of the Cape Colony are available as free PDF downloads on the Internet Archive. These are printed transcripts of correspondence at Kew (including Government answers) compiled by George McCall Theal and published in 1897. And if you click on Flip Book on the left hand side you can flick through the pages without having to download it.

Dorothea Rowse added: I am sure that you have not been rediscovering the wheel. I used Theal's Records for my MA and have used it for a couple of other projects and discovered that he was quite selective in what he copied. The documents re Bradshaw's party that you put up on the web are definitely not available in Theal and my guess is that many of the other personal Settler letters were also left out - unless the writer was someone who later achieved fame at the Cape such as Pringle.

[Vol 1 30Mb \(covers Feb 1793 - Dec 1796\)](#)

[Vol 2 29Mb \(covers Dec 1796 - Dec 1799\)](#)

[Vol 3 30Mb \(covers Dec 1799 - May 1801\)](#)

[Vol 4 30Mb \(covers May 1801 - Feb 1803\)](#)

Can't find Vols 5 and 6

[Vol 7 30Mb \(covers May 1809 - Mar 1811\)](#)

[Vol 8 36Mb \(covers Mar 1811 - Oct 1812\)](#)

[Vol 9 28Mb \(covers Oct 1812 - Apr 1814\)](#)

Can't find Vols 10 and 11

[Vol 12 28Mb \(covers May 1818 - Jan 1820\)](#)

[Vol 13 29Mb \(covers Jan 1820 - Jun 1821\)](#)

[Vol 14 29Mb \(covers Jun 1821 - Aug 1822\)](#)

[Vol 15 29Mb \(covers Aug 1822 - May 1823\)](#)

[Vol 16 37Mb \(covers May 1823 - Jan 1824\)](#)

[Vol 17 28Mb \(covers Jan 1824 - Jun 1824\)](#)

[Vol 18 27Mb \(covers Jun 1824 - Oct 1824\)](#)

[Vol 19 34Mb \(covers Oct 1824 - Feb 1825\)](#)

[Vol 20 30Mb \(covers Feb 1825 - Apr 1825\)](#)

[Vol 21 35Mb \(covers Apr 1825 - Jun 1825\)](#)

[Vol 22 34Mb \(covers Jun 1825 - Aug 1825\)](#)

[Vol 23 37Mb \(covers Aug 1825 - Nov 1825\)](#)

[Vol 24 37Mb \(covers Nov 1825 - Dec 1825\)](#)

[Vol 25 37Mb \(covers 1 Jan - 6 Feb 1826\)](#)

Can't find volumes 26-33

[Vol 34 32Mb \(covers Oct - Dec 1827\)](#)

[Vol 35 29Mb \(covers Dec 1827 - Apr 1831\)](#)

Another correspondent, Russell, wrote:

- 1) Every 5th book contains an index to the previous 5 books.
- 2) Vol 36 contains the index for the entire series. It can be found here:

[Vol 36, containing the complete index](#)

Hendrik Louw

President of the GSSA

Hendrik de Waal LOUW was born on 9 September 1959 at Kenhardt hospital, the second of four sons born to Willem Jacobus Nicolaas (Willouw) LOUW born “Vaalkop” district Kenhardt 25 December 1931 and Elizabeth Maria (Bessie) DE WAAL born Gibeon, South West Africa 16 May 1939, still farming on the farm “Loogkolk”, Kenhardt district.

He started his education in 1966 at Kenhardt, but the drought of 1967 meant that his parents had to spend 18 months in South West Africa, and during that time he attended school at Stamprietfontein, South West Africa. That is also the town where his parents were married and is close to his South West African grandfather’s farm, Klawer.



After their return, his school career continued at Kenhardt High School, but in 1975 it was decided that he should move to the Martin Oosthuizen High School at Kakamas. The number of pupils was greater and the sports facilities better. He matriculated from that school in 1977, then attended the University of the Orange Free State. As a past resident of the President Reitz Residence, like all other South Africans he went into the army, first to Potchefstroom (3SAI) and then Oudtshoorn (infantry school). He became a second lieutenant in 1980 and spent almost two thirds of the following year on the border. Later, as Lieutenant, Captain and Major, he was Commanding Officer in many operations on the South West border.

His banking career, where he would work for 29 years until March 2008, began towards the end of 1979 in Upington. In 1984 he was transferred to Bloemfontein, promoted to Education Officer at the Regional headquarters at Bloemfontein. In 1987 he was transferred to Brandfort, 1989 to Ficksburg and in 1990 to Volkskas headquarters in Pretoria which, in October 1990 was merged with United and Allied Bank to create ABSA Bank. After his resignation in March 2008 he started his own business “Hesha Properties” and also provides tax consultation and financial and investment advice.

His great interest and passion is naturally family research (genealogy) which he has pursued for nearly thirty years. He is currently busy with the final revisions of the Louw Family Union's database in order to produce a revised Louw Family register for the celebration in September 2009 to commemorate the 350th anniversary of the founding of the Louw family at the Cape of Good Hope.

He married Sharon Gail Lockhart on 6 December 1986 at Bloemfontein and they have 3 children, Chantel Louw born Kimberley 13 December 1981 (She is a child of Sharon's first marriage and Hendrik has adopted her), Jacobus de Waal (Jaco) Louw born Bloemfontein 9 October 1987 and Sindy Louw born Bloemfontein 15 December 1988. Both Jaco and Sindy are studying at the University of Pretoria (Tukkies).

Hendrik currently lives in Kempton Park and very much enjoys being part of the GSSA.
