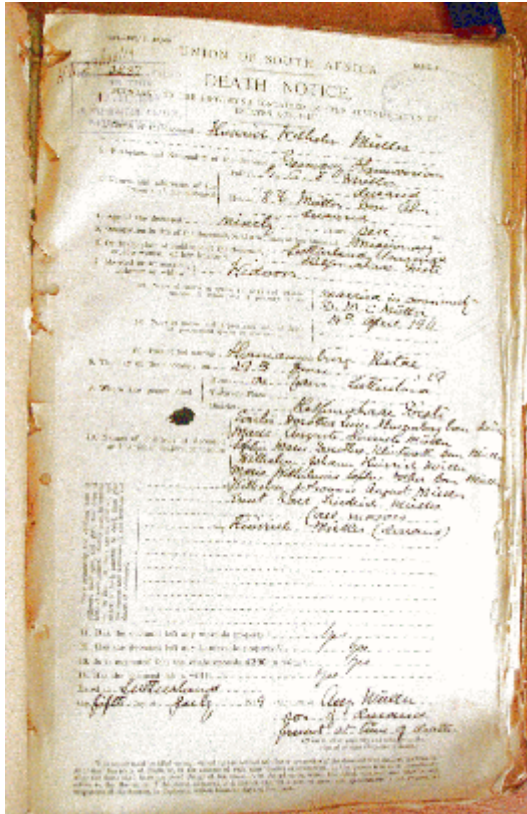


GNUS



Valuable source for family history data

**The Quarterly Newsletter of the
Natal Inland Family History Society and
Natal Midlands Branch of the Genealogical Society of South Africa**

No. 1/2005



The Natal Inland Family History Society



The Natal Midlands Branch of the
Genealogical Society of South Africa

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2005 Annual Membership Fees (Due by 1 January 2005)

Natal Inland Family History Society (NIFHS): R75 (Overseas R190)

Natal Midlands Branch of GSSA (NMGSSA): R100 (Familia hard copy) plus R43 for quarterly newsletter.

GNUS Subscription for Non-members: RSA R43,00 per annum; Overseas price will be given on application.

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2005 Family Exhibition at the Tatham Art Gallery - Information Sources

EDITOR'S NOTE

Dear Reader,

Much thoughts and discussions have been made by concerned members of the society about the diminishing number of members. What are the causes of it and how can we attract new members?

One of the causes is perhaps that we allow non-members (distributed by eGSSA) to get this publication free of charge, but our members have to pay for it. Crime is another problem. Most of our members are older people and do not feel safe to go out at night. Lastly there is always a turnover of members, people join to get aid with their research and once they have obtained the necessary information, disappear again. The problem is that we have not done much to attract new members. How can we do it? An ideal situation to publicise ourselves was offered to us by the Tatham Art Gallery. One of their planned exhibitions was cancelled and they had to replace it in a short space of time. As family day fell in the relevant period they came up with the idea of having a Family Exhibition. David Moon, one of our members, suggested that they contact us, and now we have an exhibition in a prominent place in town for a period of two months. Please

do make an effort to look at it. In addition we are also going to have a workshop immediately after the exhibition to teach interested people on how to do family history research. If successful we will look at doing something similar on an annual basis. So please give us suggestions on how to improve the exhibition and the workshop. A big "Thank You" to the Tatham Art Gallery. We are indebted to you.
Eckhard von Fintel

ABOUT THE ARCHIVES & MUSEUMS OF SOUTH AFRICA

(Places where family historians can do research)

AREND DIEPERINK MUSEUM, POTGIETERSRUS

Address: Street: 97 Voortrekker Road, Potgietersrus, 0600
Postal: PO Box 34, Potgietersrus, 0600

Telephone: (015) 491-2244

Fax: (015) 491-2244 X 2222

E-mail: <berdrien@mweb.co.za>

Enquiries to: The Curator

Hours of opening: Mon-Fri 07h30-16h00

Access: By appointment and under supervision.

Brief history: The collection consists mainly of objects collected by Mr Arend Dieperink. The collection has been housed in Potgietersrus since 1968 and the museum was affiliated with the Transvaal Provincial Administration in 1972.

Acquisition policy: History of the town and vicinity. This includes the world renowned Makapansgat Valley.

Areas of specialisation: Pioneer history. Development of town.

Core holdings: The total collection comprises 15 000 objects. Almost 4 000 are books, documents and photographs.

Finding aids: Accession register and locality cards, which are manual finding aids.

National register participation: No.

THE ARMAMENTS CORPORATION OF SOUTH AFRICA LIMITED (ARMSCOR), PRETORIA

Address: Street: 370 Nossob Street, Erasmuskloof Extension 4, Pretoria ; Postal: Private Bag X337, Pretoria, 0001

Telephone: (012) 428-1911

Fax: (012) 428-5635

E-mail: <info@armscor.co.za>

Website: <http://www.armscor.co.za/>*

Enquiries to: The Records Manager

Hours of opening: Will be arranged with approved researchers on an individual basis

Access: Open to bona fide and approved researchers who are in possession of the necessary security clearance. An application form must however be completed and submitted to the Records Manager in this regard.

Brief history: Was established in 1985 as part of Armscor's Historical and Archive Services Section which was at the time not subjected to the Archives Act of 1962, Act No.6 as amended. The Armscor Archive has since its creation been developed and organised in accordance with the principles of modern archival practice and theory.

Acquisition policy: All records created and received by Armscor in conducting its mandate and business in terms of the Armscor Act.

Areas of specialisation: History of South Africa's armaments acquisition, manufacturing and development from 1948 to date.

Core holdings: Correspondence files in respect of Armscor departments and projects. Minutes of top level Armscor meetings i.e. the Board of Directors, Top Management and the present Management Board. Documents of senior Armscor officials. Annual reports. Commission of inquiries. Research and study material. Publications. Photographic collection.

Finding aids: Unpublished inventories and lists. Electronic retrieval system.

National register participation: No.

NATAL MUSEUM, PIETERMARITZBURG

Addresses: Street: 237 Loop Street, Pietermaritzburg; Postal: Private Bag 9070, Pietermaritzburg, 3200

Telephone: 033 - 345 1404

Fax: 033 - 345 0561

E-mail:

Website: <<http://www.nmsa.org.za>>

Hours of opening: Monday to Saturday: 09:00 to 16:30 Sunday: 14:00 to 17:00

Closed on Christmas Day and Good Friday

Brief history: The Natal Museum was part of the Natal Society from its inception in 1851. In 1902, the Museum was established as a separate institution and a new building was erected at the present site. The Natal Museum opened its doors on 30 November 1904 and it is now home to several of South Africa's most important heritage collections.

Areas of specialisation: The Museum is the largest national museum in KwaZulu-Natal and is dedicated to the collection, preservation, study and exhibition of objects of cultural and scientific value, concentrating on both the Natural and Human Sciences. The exhibition galleries are continually being upgraded to make the museum even more efficient and enjoyable.

Publications: Journal of Humanities; Natal Museum Research Journals.

Exhibitions: Old Pietermaritzburg (Theophilus Shepstone Place; The Street; The Chemist; The Pawnbroker and Jeweller; Dressmaker and Haberdasher; The Cottage; Wheelwright Shop; Highbury Forge [Blacksmith]) Human Science; Natural Science

Library: Their collections have been built up carefully since the formal inception of the Natal Museum in 1904, and prior to this, from 1851, when the early Museum was part of the Natal Society. The Library acquires material through purchase and donation, and in exchange for the Natal Museum publications, in accordance with the Library acquisitions policy. In addition to the list of subjects below, the Library houses a unique collection of historical photographs and special collections of rare books and manuscripts. Access to

the collection is through the Library OPAC of the University of Natal, Pietermaritzburg, or through the Sabinet databases.

The Library currently specialises in the following subjects:

Indo-Pacific Mollusca

Afrotropical entomology (particularly Diptera)

African lower invertebrates

African arachnology and herpetology

South African archaeology (particularly KwaZulu-Natal Stone & Iron Ages and rock art)

KwaZulu-Natal history (particularly 19th & 20th centuries)

Museology (including exhibit techniques, taxidermy, conservation etc)

Education (particularly in the museum and non-formal sector)

South African natural history in general (zoology, botany, geology)

Library & information studies (as they relate to special & museum libraries)

The Museum Library collects journals, monographs, maps, photographs, slides, videos, audio tapes, CD-ROMs, sound recordings, news cuttings, films and unpublished materials. The Library will also collect original artwork if relevant to the Museum's fields of interest (e.g. scientific illustrations, portraits, etc).

The Library holdings are currently in the region of 2 500 journal titles, of which 1 000 are current; 12 000 books, including many rarities; 61 000 pamphlets/reprints; 8 000 historical photographs; 900 maps and 8 000 slides.

Special Collections:

The library houses some unique special collections of old and rare books, maps, photographs and reprints. These have been amassed over the years through purchase and also through the donation of valuable individual collections

INFORMATION SERVICES: Ready access to the Library collections is provided to bona fide researchers and students. In addition, the Library staff offers a variety of information services to those making use of the Natal Museum Library collections. Access to the Library collections and long-distance services are available via the Inter-Library loan and photocopying service and the extensive journal exchange programme. Please contact the Library for further information or assistance.

Exploring English Family Names:

FARRAR: Variations Farrier, Farrow, Ferrier, Pharaoh, Varah

Iron-working existed long before the Industrial Revolution changed the face of a predominantly rural landscape. "Farrier" still means a blacksmith, and all the surname variations are closely linked to the early smelted-iron trade. Kathleen Ferrier (1912-1953) had a vividly-rich and instantly recognisable contralto voice, her early death cutting short a rare quality which gave great pleasure to a music-loving nation.

FIRTH: Variations Frith, Freeth, Freed, Fridd, Fright, Freak etc.

Few names in the English language have so many intriguing variations. Apart from the above there are also Frift, Frid, Fryd, Freake, Freke, Firk, Firks, Vreede and Thrift, and others yet. The trouble was that the Old English *firhpe*, meaning "frith, wood,

woodland”, was difficult to pronounce, and so as time went by it came to be spelled and said differently in different parts of the country. In dialectal Devonshire and Somerset, for example, it transferred into Freeth and Vreath; in Lancashire Firth became general; in the south, notably Essex, Sussex, Hertfordshire and Wiltshire, Frith is widely found, and Fright, although the owners might wish it were otherwise, is a common surname in Kent.

GALE: Variations Gayle, Gail, Gallon, Gayler

Nothing whatsoever to do with bad weather, this surname is linked to the Old English *Gal*, which meant someone who was happy, merry or raucous. It was also associated with the French word *Gail* meaning cheerful or joyful. A more sinister connotation was that of a mediaeval prison-keeper, forerunner of the modern “jailer: or “gaoler”, or even a former prison inmate sometimes known as a “jailbird”.

GRILL: Variation Grille

No, the first Grills weren't chefs, though like many chefs they were often hot-blooded. The word was a nickname for a fierce, quick-tempered, even cruel man from the Middle English *grill(e)* for angry, vicious, which in turn came from the Old English *gryllan* to rage and gnash the teeth. Do not feel annoyed, however, if Grill happens to be your name - it is also descended from the German *grille*, a cricket, applied in total contrast to the English to a person of good cheer - on the supposition that the cricket, with its bright chirrup-chirrup and its habit of infesting hearths and other warm places, is of a cheerful disposition.

HALE: Variations Haile, Haill, Heal(e), Hele

A topographic name for someone who lived in a nook or hollow, from the Old English *hale*, dative of *h(e)alh* for nook, hollow recess. In Northern England the word often has a specialised meaning, denoting a piece of flat alluvial land beside a river; in the south-east it seems often to have referred to a patch of dry land in a fen. In some cases, the title may be a habitation name for any of the several places in England so called.

HARDCASTLE:

A name containing the word castle might have referred to an individual who lived in the vicinity of a castle, but is more likely to be the equivalent of **Castleman**, as one employed within its walls. The meaning of the Middle English word *hard* was severe or harsh in reference to *castel* (fortress, castle), could either have meant impregnable or gloomy. Alternatively, someone of this surname might have obtained it through living near the Hardcastle Crags, a huge mass of rocks set in a wooded valley near Hebden Bridge, in the West Riding of Yorkshire.

HATHAWAY: Variations Hathway, Hadaway

“Dweller by the heathway” is the usual interpretation of this name, which comes from the Middle English *hath* (heath) and *way*. It occurs in Gloucestershire, Herefordshire and, of course, in Warwickshire as the name of William Shakespeare's wife. A rare derivation is from the Old English *headuwig*, meaning war warrior.

Where in KwaZulu-Natal is that place?

(Taken from Where on earth? **Place Names** of Natal and Zululand" by Don Stayt)

KAFFIR DRIFT: Original name for Drummond, between Pietermaritzburg and Durban.

KAHTS' CORNER: The southwestern corner of West and Gardiner Streets, Durban, was known as Kahts' Corner, so-called after Mr. J. F. Kahts, a landing-agent who had property there in the 1850's. At one stage he also was Consul of Hamburg.

KAMBERG: 40km by road from Rosetta in the foothills of the Drakensberg is the Kamberg Nature Reserve, a resort popular with trout anglers and nature lovers. It is overlooked by Gladstone's Nose, a curiously formed mountain.

KANDASPUNT: Near Vryheid.

KANDI: A 1529m mountain in Northern Natal.

KARKLOOF: The river and range of hills known as the Karkloof take their name from a long, steep valley along which the road to the interior from Howick used to climb. It is said that it got its name in 1854 when a farmer's cart swerved, overturned and was abandoned, becoming quite a landmark. The Karkloof River, is known to the Zulus as Mhlambemunye or "The Single Stream." The Karkloof Falls are 104m high and Karkloof itself is the site of Goodman Household's bid to fly 30 years before the Wright brothers.

KARRIDENE: Natal South Coast resort founded by Lt. Col. Walter Karri-Davis, who came to South Africa from Karridene in Western Australia and started the import of karri timber to South Africa. The resort came into being during the First World War.

KEARSNEY: A farm bought, developed and named by Sir Liege Hulett after his birthplace, a hamlet near Dover. He built a mansion there in 1880, established tea plantations and a factory and after his death the house became a school for boys which was subsequently moved to Botha's Hill. Kearsney is about 13km inland from Stanger on the North Coast.

KEATE'S DRIFT: Post Office between Helpmekaar and Greytown on the Mooi River. See Impanza Valley.

KELSO: Post Office and railway station near Scottburgh on the South Coast. Kelso was originally called Alexandra Junction but the name was changed at the time of Union to Kelso, the name of the adjoining farm owned by S. J. Abrams who had family connections with Kelso in Scotland.

KENNINGTON: J. K. Pringle bought land north of the Umtamvuna mouth naming it first "Banner Rest" because it was here that he planned to "lay down his banner." He laid out a township which he called Kennington, basing it on his own Christian name, but changed his mind and named it Port Edward in honour of the then Prince of Wales.

KENSINGTON HILL: Adjoining Glenashley near Durban, 324 hectares of which were sold for R900 000 for the establishment of a township in May 1970.

KENTERTON: Post Office, railway station and RMT halt near Umzinto.

KENVILLE: Durban suburb adjoining Greenwood Park and north of the Umgeni River. Railway station on North Coast line.

KERKENBERG: Literally "Church Mountain," a vast flat-topped mountain which Piet Retief and his followers reached on October 7, 1837. Here the Voortrekkers

waited while Piet Retief and 14 men and four wagons went down to reconnoitre Natal. **KETELFONTEIN:** The first outspan from Pietermaritzburg in the old Republican days and called kwaKHEHLEFANTINI by the Zulu who could get no closer to the European word than that. It stood on the farm Groenkloof and is now known as Hilton.

KEY RIDGE: On the National Road between Durban and Pietermaritzburg near Alverstone.

KHAHLAMBA: The name by which the Drakensberg was known to the Zizi tribe, it means simply "the Mountain Barrier" though Lugg suggests a "crushing" mountain barrier, giving alternatives uLundi or eNdini, the locative of uLundi.

uKHALWE: "The Distant One" — one of the Kosi Bay lakes.

eKHAMANZI: "The Water Gatherer," Roy (Rooi?) Spruit near Seven Oaks.

emKHAMBATHINI: "The Place of the Camel-thorn Trees" ?— the 958m flat-topped Table Mountain near Pietermaritzburg. Incidentally, the Egyptian coffin containing a mummy in the Durban museum is made of camel-thorn wood.

kwaKHAMBULE: "The Unknown" — the scene of a battle fought during the Zulu War. Near Vryheid.

IKHANDANLOVU: A river which empties into the sea south of Port Shepstone, the name means "The Place of the Head of an Elephant" and was so called because for many years an elephant skull marked it as an old elephant stamping ground.

kwaKHANGELA: More correct spelling of Congella, Durban, it signifies "The Place of the Watcher" and refers also to a kraal of Dingaan on the Empangeni road about 12 km from Eshowe.

KHARWASTAN: Durban Indian suburb named after a Mr. Kharwa. Formerly Cavendish.

emKHOBENI: "Among the Yellowwood Trees", a tributary of the Umkomaas River near Richmond.

umKHOBI RIVER: "The River where the Wild Vines (rheicissus rhomboidea) grow". South of Port Shepstone on the Lower South Coast.

emKHOLOMBO: "The Dry Barren Mountain" — in the Weenen District.

iKHOTSHWANA RIVER: Beyond the Umzumbe on the Natal South Coast is the iKhotshwana River whose name suggests a small stream dried up and covered over in long grass.

oKHUNWINI: "The Place of the Fireweed", one of the Kosi Bay lakes.

esiKHWEBEZI: A stream rising in the Ngome Range near Nongoma, it was named after the Ubukhwebezana, an indigenous lantana growing in large quantities along the river banks. Scene of Cetshwayo's surrender in 1879.

emKHUBANA: A river "With a Small Semi-Circular Course" or mkhumbe, it flows through Dingaan's Mgungundlovu. There is another stream of the same name at Cato Manor, Durban.

emKHUZANA: "The Little emKhuze" — near Durban.

emKHUZE: Or Mkusi, "A Violent River", in northern Zululand.

kwaKHWELA: Zulu name for Otto's Bluff (957m) between Pietermaritzburg and Greytown, the name means "The Hill with the Stiff Climb".

KILLARNEY ROAD: Railway station in the Mid-Illovo, Umlaas Road area.

KINGHOLM: Railway station on the Durban - Golela line.

KING OSCAR HILL: 154m hill between Lake St. Lucia and the sea.

KINGSBURGH: Name invented, possibly to honour Dick King, for a borough which incorporates Doonside, Warner Beach, St. Winnifreds, Winklespruit, Illovo Beach and Karridene on the Natal South Coast. Each village has its own railway station and the area achieved borough status in August 1952.

COMPUTER CORNER

DO WE REMEMBER THEM?

We have been approached by Col Graham Du Toit of Pretoria, who is researching South African War Graves with the aim of producing a comprehensive book listing the graves, names, details, photos, etc of the soldiers who died during WW II. These graves are very distinctive as they are simple, have a neat wall around them, and on the headstone the head of a springbok appears. Below is normally a white cross, and then the details of the soldier concerned.

We are now appealing to all readers.

(a) If you have any family members who died during WWII and you know where they are buried, and have photographs of them, please would you be kind enough to (i) photograph the grave and also a close up of the head stone, (ii) please scan the photograph of said soldier, and send it to us. (all photos will be returned)

(b) If you have a cemetery in your area, and you want something to photograph, how about making a little project for a good cause and go looking for these specific graves. The same can be applied if you are driving around in various areas and come across these graves. Again a photograph of the grave and a close up of the headstone would be highly appreciated. If you have the means of taking co-ordinates at the same time, that would be a marvellous bonus for the person who is subsequently going to acquire this book with the aim of finding the war grave of family members, a friend, or just out of interest.

(c) If you work in a school, or have contacts in schools, please would you be kind enough to have a look at the roll of honour in the school for WWII. There are sure to be the names and details of pupils from that school who gave their lives for the war.

Also: Should there be a blockhouse near you, in your area, or should you drive past one, again please, we are looking for photos of the various blockhouses around the countryside.

Any assistance from anybody would be highly appreciated. Thank you.

For more details or to send on any photos please contact:

Ozzie Radford TEL: (044) 2133557 or e-mail: ozbee@xsinet.co.za

Shipping List

Found this site while researching the British India Shipping line for info re member of my family's maritime career. - could be of some help
 "'TheShipsList' was established to assist those seeking information on the vessels which brought their ancestors to their new home, be that the United States, Canada, Australia, or another part of the world. Some ships passenger lists, schedules, wreck data, and other information which is not readily available, has been collected, along with links to other sites of interest."

<http://www.theshipslist.com/index.html>

websites for Irish research.

A few URLs that provide useful information:

Civil register: http://www.nireland.com/genealogy/births_marriages_and_deaths.html

Irish Civil Registration Records: <http://www.allaboutirish.com/library/gen/civreg.shtm>

General Register Office Northern Ireland: <http://www.groni.gov.uk/index.htm>
 Irish Birth Films: <http://www.genfindit.com/ibirths.htm>
 Irish Marriage Films: <http://www.genfindit.com/imarrs.htm>
 Irish Death Films: <http://www.genfindit.com/ideaths.htm>
 Research in Irish General Register Office: <http://www.groireland.ie/research.htm>
 Civil Registration History: <http://www.groireland.ie/history>
 Useful Genealogical sources: <http://www.nationalarchives.ie/birthsmarrdeaths.html>
 Superintendent Registrar's Districts by County:
<http://www.rootsweb.com/%7ebifhsusa/irishregnc.html>

Family History Scotland

The following CDS are now available to purchase online.

Greenock Post Office Directory 1906
 Paisley and Johnstone Commercial Directory 1848
 Lothians Trade Directory 1878
 Southern Counties Trade Directory 1878
 Central Counties Trade Directory 1878
 Lanarkshire Trade Directory 1878
 Counties of Scotland Trade Directory 1878
 Peebles Burgh Records 1652-1714

<http://www.familyhistoryscotland.co.uk>

SHIPTON UNDER WYCHWOOD TO WYCHWOOD UNDER ZWARTKOP:

Salome Welayo and Catherine Barter

Talk to the Pmb. Branch of the Genealogical Society of SA, 21 April, 2004.

Many stories surround Salome Welayo (later Mrs A J Tyler of *Wychwood*, Winterskloof, near Pietermaritzburg), the African girl adopted in the 1860s by Miss Catherine Barter, and brought up as an English lady. She was the daughter of Catherine's retainer, Uluhunga. About ten years before her birth, Uluhunga had accompanied Miss Barter to England during her extended visit from 1855 to 1857. During this period she and Uluhunga visited her friends the Moberlys in Winchester, where Revd George Moberly was Headmaster of Winchester College. One of the Moberly daughters, in a 1931 letter to her nephew G S Moberly in Natal, recounted how the Moberly servants were frightened of Uluhunga and refused to eat with him, so he was obliged to dine with the family! More is known about Uluhunga, as in 1864 a sojourner in Natal Charles Hamilton, author of *Sketches of life and sport in South Africa*, met him when staying in a cottage 'on the Zwartkop'. Hamilton calls him Lahunga, and states that he introduced himself to him, saying he had been to England which, Hamilton considered, 'had not improved him'. He had 'been taken up and made much of by a lady, a great promoter of the Society for Propagating the Gospel, and other institutions of a similar character, and had been exhibited as a specimen of the good work wrought by the missionaries'. Hamilton maintains that when Lahunga had 'made a great deal of money in London', he had come back to Natal and had settled. 'He very shortly became a polygamist and lived as all "Kaffirs" do'. He had tried to borrow money from Hamilton, 'which he promised

to work out with the oxen' - 'his great idea being to get the money before the work commenced', but Hamilton would have nothing to do with him, 'as truth is not amongst the virtues of the Christianized "Kaffirs"...' From this extract, it is evident that Hamilton had imbibed well the prevailing colonial viewpoint!

Catherine was the sister of Charles Barter, pioneer horse-breeder, M L C, and finally Magistrate of Maritzburg, and she devoted much of her time whilst in Natal to missionary work. She had the theory that an effective way of christianizing and civilizing the African population would be to take away and educate children of a family, and then at the age of about 16, restore them to the family circle, where they might act as leaven in the civilizing process. It was with Salome that Miss Barter was able to put her theories into practice.

Differing oral versions of Salome's life exist, but solid facts are few.

It would appear that the first time she received attention from the Natal press was on the occasion of her marriage in 1882, and from newspaper accounts of the wedding one gleanes a certain amount of detail. The *Natal Witness* stated she was the daughter of one Uluhunga, whom Miss Barter had encountered while doing missionary work on her brother's farm *The Start* 'in the Zwartkop' [*sic* - this should be the Karkloof]. Uluhunga, in due course, had been baptised and Catherine had adopted his daughter and taken her to England, where she was educated with Miss Barter's nieces. The account stated that Salome had been an apt scholar, was an excellent pianist and spoke two of three European languages 'and not a word of Zulu'. Miss Barter was reported to have built the young couple 'a house high up in the Zwartkop'. The *Witness* version, except for its translocation of *The Start* from Karkloof to Zwartkop, seems fairly reliable, but that in *The Times of Natal* (which was repeated *verbatim* in the *Natal Mercury*), was filled with inaccuracies. So many, in fact, that Charles Barter (himself a previous *Times* editor) felt compelled to write a letter of protest to the editor. In the *Times* account, which lays emphasis on the uncouth behaviour of bystanders outside St Saviour's Cathedral after the ceremony (rice and flour were showered on the couple and Mrs Tyler was hit on the cheek by a rotten egg), Miss Barter was described as being late of Shipton, Yorkshire (untrue), and Salome's husband, whom she is stated to have met in England, was said to be the son of the American missionary, the Revd Josiah Tyler (untrue).

With not much more to go on than these press extracts, an appeal was made to Mr Desmond Craib, the present owner of *Wychwood* at Winterskloof. Mr Craib supplied the information that Catherine Barter had been granted *Wychwood* (100 acres) in 1874, and that in 1883 she had transferred it to Tyler - this was the year after the marriage. Mr Craib also produced an undated newscutting given him by Mr C P W Francis of Maritzburg, entitled *Salome Melayo [sic]: the tragedy of a native girl ruined by education*. This was written from information supplied by the sister of one of Salome's schoolfellows. It was stated that Miss Barter wanted Salome to have the normal upbringing of an upper-middle class English girl, mixing with children of her own age. For these reasons an 'ordinary girl's school would not meet the case', and neither would a governess, so Miss Barter started a girls' boarding school. She engaged good teachers and endeavoured to make a success of the school, with the result that it became 'a popular institution'.

Where was this school? The only clue in the article was that it was in Oxfordshire

(Oxfordshire happened to be the Barter's home county, their father having been the Rector of Sarsden-cum-Churchill there).

Clues from the press reports of Salome's wedding helped to narrow the field. The *Witness* account stated she had been educated with the Barter nieces - one of Catherine's brothers, the Revd Henry Barter, was the Rector of Shipton under Wychwood in the county. This combined with the inaccurate *Times of Natal* statement that Miss Barter was late of Shipton, Yorkshire [*sic*], led to the conclusion that Shipton under Wychwood was the site of the school.

Mr Ron Brown, University Librarian of the Pietermaritzburg campus, who had retired to Oxford, kindly researched the problem in 1982, in both the Oxfordshire County Record Office and Bodleian Library, but without success. On his suggestion the Wychwoods Local History Society was approached.

The query was laid before a meeting of the Society by its archivist, Mr J T A Howard-Drake. He reported that there was a fair amount of 'folk memory' of at least one girls' school at the time Salome would have been there, and that he would make further enquiries. In due course he wrote that the 1871 Census confirmed the existence of Miss Barter's school. It was situated in two adjoining houses, and the establishment consisted of Miss Barter, 11 pupils and two teachers, a cook and a housemaid. Salome appears first on the list of pupils - her age is given as 7 [i.e. born c.1864], and her birthplace as Natal. With the exception of a girl born in Madras, the others were all English-born. The school is not mentioned in either the 1861 or 1881 Censuses. Mr Howard-Drake was later able to identify the buildings - two houses facing the village green.

Authentic details of Salome's life are sparse. There is one reliable story about her before her marriage which came from a lady whose parents were prominent in Maritzburg's social and official circles. She recalled her mother relating how she and her husband were invited to a *soirée* at Mr and Mrs Charles Barter's home *The Finish* (the site of today's Sobantu Village). This was Salome's introduction to Maritzburg society, at which she sang and played the piano for the guests. Salome lived at *The Finish* until her marriage.

Many stories surround Salome's courtship and marriage. The only published one is the highly-coloured newscutting already mentioned. It states that once in Natal, she was not allowed to mix with the whites, who tried to 'put her in her place'. The majority of them ignored her altogether, or, at best, treated her as a curiosity. She could not go to any public place of entertainment, and when she went into town she was jostled off the pavement and told to 'keep with the other "kafirs"' (in those days 'Kafir' was not a term of abuse. However, blacks had to walk in the street, not on the pavement). This account says she was heartbroken at this treatment, and tried to take her place as a Zulu. However, she could not even do this, shrinking from the thought of returning to her father's kraal, and living in a hut. She wanted to go back to England, but Miss Barter persuaded her to stay in the hopes that the situation would improve with time. It is stated that Tyler, who was farming in the Hilton district, near the kraal where Salome had been born [*sic*], met her in Maritzburg and fell in love with her. She did not love him, but longed for companionship and a quiet life away from the insults to which she had been subjected. People were horrified at the engagement and tried to dissuade Tyler, but he refused to give her up. However, after their marriage he soon tired of her, and she was 'desperately unhappy'. All the people in the district cut them, and her relations would hang around the house 'pestering her for money'. When Tyler realised these were her

kith and kin, he was disgusted and rejected her.

Oral tradition has at least two versions of how Tyler came to marry Salome. One is that he met her and fell in love with her on the voyage to Natal. Not having been to Africa before, he had no idea of the repercussions such a match would have. Another story is that he was bribed to marry Salome by Miss Barter, who wished to bring her experiment to a successful conclusion with a suitable union for her protégé. She is said to have offered him *Wychwood*.

Of the three accounts of their courtship it would seem that the least likely is that Tyler became infatuated with her while farming at Hilton, because one would think that after living in Natal for a time he would have become so conditioned to the local prejudice that he would not have transgressed the *mores* of the time by marrying a Zulu, however attractive and well-educated she might have been. The norms frowned on cohabitation between black and white, but marriage was that much worse! The story of their meeting on board ship also seems to fall by the wayside when one weighs up the facts in an item on Tyler which appeared in 'Jennifer's Journal' in the *Natal Witness* on 25 September 1947, at the time of his 91st birthday. He is stated to have come to the Cape in about 1878, where for a while he was lay assistant to the Revd Dr Arnold at Worcester [*sic*]. (Further investigation reveals that the Revd Dr J M Arnold started a special mission to the Muslims at Woodstock, not Worcester, and that from about 1878 he was assisted by two lay catechists. After Arnold's death in 1881, this mission lapsed entirely.) Thereafter Tyler had travelled in other parts of the country before coming to Natal. The version of Tyler's having been bribed may have a certain amount of truth in it, in that Miss Barter transferred *Wychwood* within months of the marriage, also that Tyler did have a quantity of the Barter silver. (He sold *Wychwood* in about 1945, and moved to Ladysmith, where he lived with his friends, Dr A E Pinniger and his wife. According to Mrs Gillian Tatham, a former Ladysmith resident, the Barter silver went to Dr Pinniger, and he would hand it out, piece by piece, as presents to bridal couples to whose weddings he had been invited).

There are two reliable stories of Salome's life after marriage. One comes from the late Mrs Anna Holliday (née Masson, the widow of Ralph Holliday). She was born in 1881 and recalled that, as a child, poring over the window of 'Cockney' James's general store and toyshop in Church Street, Mrs Tyler emerged from the store. Anna and her small companion gaped at this elegant African woman, something quite new in their experience. Salome chided them, saying in 'upper class' English, 'Little girls, don't you know it's rude to stare?'. Another story comes from Mrs Tatham, who heard it from the daughter of a man who used to deliver meat to *Wychwood*. On occasion he would see Mrs Tyler, in fashionable riding attire on a beautiful horse. However, she always wore a navy-blue veil on her hat, covering her face, when out riding.

The report in 'Jennifer's Journal' makes no mention of the marriage, merely stating that Tyler had 'acquired' *Wychwood* 61 years previously (i.e. 1886 - incorrect), and that from 'virgin veld' had created one of the most beautiful gardens in Natal. He is said to have gone to Zululand in 1883, and to have lived there for two years, during which time he had represented *The Times of Natal*. It was after his Zululand days that he settled at *Wychwood*. However, it is known that the Tylers lived at *Wychwood* from their marriage in 1882, so one can only presume that Tyler's memory, at least, was fading, even if age

had not dimmed the 'old world courtliness and gallant charm of manner, and his impeccability of dress' referred to by the reporter. The *raison d'être* for this article was Maritzburg's first Azalea Week, linking Ladysmith with the festival in that Tyler was a Ladysmith resident. He was described as famous for his *Wychwood* azaleas, the property having become known 'all over South Africa and beyond' for its wonderful azaleas. These had originated with a bunch of blooms given him by Henry Pepworth from imported plants growing in Maritzburg's Botanical Gardens. (Pepworth had a great interest in the Gardens. He imported azaleas from China and Japan, and also from Asia, trees such as cork, rubber and cinnamon). It was during his mayoralty [1874-1875] the road to the Gardens was constructed. At first it was called Pepworth Walk, but later came to be known as Mayor's Walk).

Tyler died 17 days after the *Witness* article appeared. Dr Pinniger was his executor and residual heir. As executor, he was called on by the Master of the Supreme Court to supply information on Tyler's pre-deceased spouse. His reply was that she had died in England 40 years previously (i.e. 1907).

What is the story behind this bald statement? No reliable information has been found as to Salome's later years. The story in the unidentified newscutting of her family hanging around *Wychwood* has a dramatic local version in which her father, who is said to have been an *induna* at *The Start*, is supposed, after having seen what a good marriage his daughter had made, to have demanded *lobola*, and to have pestered Tyler to such a degree that to extricate himself from the situation, he shot and killed his wife! Another story which also mentions a firearm is that of Mr C P W Francis, whose family lived at Winterskloof. The tale he heard was that, on showing Salome how to load a gun Tyler shot her. This was the final straw that decided her to leave him.

Miss Barter died at *Wychwood* in 1895, and was buried there. From the lines about her death in her brother Charles's poem *Stray memories of Natal and Zululand* it would seem that Salome was with her at the end, viz.

I was not with thee, sister dear,
 When thy last hour was drawing near; ...
 Yet loving hands and hearts were there,
 And tender touch, and watchful care
 The pillow smooth'd, the potion gave,
 Nor wearied in the hope to save;
 But all in vain: for thou art gone,...

Barter also describes Catherine's grave:

And now, in *Wychwood*'s shelter'd grounds,
 Midst rural sights and rural sounds,
 Just under *Zwartkop*'s forehead brown,
 That looms upon the distant town,
 Their slender tops above thy grave
 The cypresses incessant wave!
 A tiny streamlet bubbles by;
 A rocky screen, uprising high
 Subdues the glare of cloudless sky.

Salome seems to have left Tyler some time after Miss Barter's death. One version maintains she ended up singing in the streets of London and died of tuberculosis, while the sister of her school friend claims she took part in the film of *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, but was not a good actor, and was not offered any further parts. She then became a waitress in a low-class café, 'but the sadness and misery of her life broke her heart and she died soon afterwards'.

For further information on the Barters, see *British settlers in Natal, 1824-1857: a biographical register*.

Catherine Barter - Volume 2 pp.36-38, Volume 3 (Addenda & Corrigenda) p. 117, Volume 6 (Addenda & Corrigenda) p. 264 and Volume 7 (Addenda & Corrigenda) p. 294.

Charles Barter - Volume 2 pp.38-40 and Volume 7 (Addenda & Corrigenda) p. 294-5.
Charles' wife Emma Henrietta Arabella Butler - Volume 3 pp. 104-5.

SHELAGH O'BYRNE SPENCER

Q & A

Q

In transcribing the will of John JESSON of West Bromwich dated 1608 I came across the following:

I will that my executor undernamed shall make penny dole after my burial.

What's a penny dole anybody? Is it meant to go to the poor?

Rita

A

A penny dole is charity for the poor. It can be a penny or more. It is usually money left in a will for the poor and distributed at the funeral.

Lewis

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

RIGG FAMILY

Hello,

I am trying to look for the graves of Isaac Rigg and Sarah Elizabeth Rigg. I was wondering if they were in the Mountain Rise Cemetery records? Is it possible to search them? I would like to know when they died if possible. I have an idea that Isaac died in 1970 and Sarah died in 1954.

Thank you for your time.

Kristi Nee

Canada

kristi_nee@hotmail.com (please note underscore between kristi and nee)

William Campbell

I'm looking for information re William Campbell and his wife Maria. He was the first

Presbyterian minister in Pietermaritzburg and he and his wife should be buried in Pietermaritzburg. He arrived in 1850 and died January 30, 1873

Thanks,

From: Sally Hemingson (Canada)

shemings@island.net

TRACING CHERRY (ALSO KNOWN AS WHEELER) RELATIVES

Dear Sir,

I am writing for advice on tracing two relatives. Two of my great aunts came to South Africa, I understand, as servants to Gladstone the First Governor. They stayed there and had descendants. I remember as a child posting letters written by their sister here in England (my grandmother) to an address in Durban, but I no longer have any more details. The two sisters were born in Quainton a small village in Buckinghamshire in southern England. I remember that one of them had the married surname of Vine (that is a phonetic spelling from my aural memory). The maiden names of the two sisters were

1. Rosa Lucy Cherry (also known as Wheeler), born 1876
2. Annie Louisa Cherry (also known as Wheeler), born around 1883

I do not remember which one married Mr Vine or whether she did so before she came to South Africa or after she was there. Both sisters were writing to my grandmother in Quainton in the 1950s but I no longer remember when they died.

I wonder whether you can tell me of any steps I might take to find the descendants of these two relatives. Presumably census information has a 100 year embargo, but I have no idea whether registration data is held at province level or at national level or how easy it may be to access it. Has, for example, the Mormon church made any compilations as they have in England and Wales for a century earlier? Any advice you can give me would be greatly appreciated. I was, just a couple of weeks ago briefly in Durban, St Lucia, Piet Retief and Wakkerstroom and it stimulated my memories of my family from my childhood.

Yours very sincerely,

Dr Basil Smith,

13A, Rawlinson Road, Oxford, OX2 6UE, UK

Basil.Smith@ukgateway.net

Pay Family

I am trying to find out in what year my great great Grandfather Mr. Percival George Pay emigrated to South Africa. He was born in Wimbledon, Surrey, England in 1877 and was in the army (London) till 31.3.1901. I know he was in South Africa in 1930 and lived in SA till his death in 1957 (31 Dec). I am just not sure which ship he came to South Africa on, and in what year. Also am not sure if he was married or single when he emigrated. Would appreciate any information you might have.

J. Clark (Mrs) bears@snarf.co.za

FROM THE LIVES OF OUR GRANDPARENTS

Fritz Heinrich Thomas Küsel (29.01.1862 - 29.09.1921)

and

Anna Catharine Amalie Küsel, nee Filter (13.09.1865 - 10.08.1953)

(Part 7 - Final)

After the war the whole community had to start from scratch. It was a tough beginning, but it drew the Lüneburg community closer together, similar to the situation after the Zulu wars. Grandmother often told us that these were the best years in the congregation. For the last 14 years of his life grandfather had been a church elder and one of the leading personalities in the congregation. He and his sons actively participated in the reconstruction after the war. As a result of his calm and level-headed nature, he was held in high esteem by the community. He was always chosen to negotiate tricky situations with the young Pastor Schwarz.

The first years after the war was tough with many privations. In spite of this they prospered. They prayed and worked, were modest and thrifty.

There was a spring on a hillock close-by. From here they dug a furrow to the house. This water was used for man and beast as well as the garden. There was a steep decline close to this furrow. Grandfather dug it out so that he could stand upright in it. He could then divert the water to it and do the water cures exactly according to "Pfarrer" (vicar) Kneipp. (Kneipp was well known amongst the Germans for his water cures). As a cure against blindness and migraine he let the water run down from his head down his back. His eyesight improved noticeably. Grandmother also used Kneipp's cures. There was no doctor in those days.

As soon as possible grandfather planted black wattles. Ploughing was done with donkeys. After 8 years the trees could be felled. The bark was cut into small pieces with a hatchet, packed into bags and transported in a donkey cart to Vryheid. (Already in 1912 the railway line from Pietermaritzburg was built up to Vryheid). This trip took a week. This was an income for the family.

With a deposit and a loan from the Land Bank farms could be bought in the Commendale area (Piet Retief district) for the three eldest sons. These sons, Friedrich August and Johannes each started their own families. The youngest son, Theodor, helped on his parent's farm. The youngest daughter, Emilie, also stayed at home. Two of the daughters, Bertha and Elisabeth, were married, and Frieda was a teacher at Lüneburg.

It was a rainy day on 29 November 1921. The wagon was left outside overnight. After breakfast, Grandfather, Theodor and a few farm labourers pushed the wagon into the shed. Once in, Grandfather turned to walk out, slipped and hit a gash in his temple on the corner of the foundation. He died on the spot. All resuscitation attempts by his son were in vain. The donkey cart was immediately sent to fetch Pastor Schwarz. Telephones did not exist in those days. All he could say was "How can I manage without this church elder? How are we going to function without this man in the congregation?" repeatedly he said it. He said whenever differences in the congregation came up, and this calm, taciturn man spoke, it seems as if everybody changed their minds. Now a life, full of meaning and consisting of hard work, came to an end.

Life went on. Son Theodor continued with the farming operation. When daughter Emilie

got married on 27 February 1932 Grandmother took over the household again. This she did until Theodor got married on 13 July 1939.

Grandmother had to undergo many operations. Especially a hernia, for which she underwent many operations, caused her much discomfort for the rest of her life. Her main occupation was sewing. Up to a ripe old age she sewed for many people. She had the pleasure to see the seven grandchildren of the house grow up. Again the rocking chair came in full use. Grandmother was sick a lot. In her 87th year she visibly got weaker. Her heart could not cope any more. As she could no longer lie down, she spent her last hours in the rocking chair. On 10 August 1953 she passed away. Her eldest son and a 16year old grandson died before her. She was outlived by 5 children, 6 in-laws, about 40 grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren.

Let us have a look at the life of Grandmother life for a while. Her youth was characterised with unrest and terrors of all sorts. War and threats of war were the order of the day. Her father was a missionary stationed in Zululand, two years at Emhlangane and seven at Emyati. From there King Cetshwayo expelled him. Missionary Filter, his wife and 5 children left on a sledge. Then he became Pastor in Lüneburg (1870). Here they lived in peace for five years till, in 1875, the Zulus under Chief Umbelini started their looting and killing expeditions in the Lüneburg area. Repeatedly they took the livestock from the Whites and Blacks, who lived on the farms, during their raids. As the inhabitants of the Lüneburg region, about 18 families, expected worse times to come they fortified the area around their church by building a 10foot high wall with a trench in front of it. This was the place of refuge for 120 people. For 9 months they lived in small wooden barracks inside the fort. Living so close to one-another caused many sicknesses. If circumstances permitted it, the men worked on the farms during daytime and returned to the lager at night. Two-thirds of the homesteads of the community were burned down. Grandmother's oldest brother was murdered. In the same year her father died of typhoid. Grandmother's fiancé, Karl Ahrens from Hermannsburg, died of malaria during their engagement time. The Boer War with all its misery and its after-math, the re-building and the sudden death of her husband - they all leave scars. We are thankful to the caring and loving Lord, that he carried her through all this, and for his grace to ensure that she did not break down under the burden.

Since the Boer War the grandparents lived with their son Theodor and later with his family in the house erected after the Boer War. Ten years after Grandmother died, she was followed by her son, Theodor.

During a west-wind in October 1964 the thatched-roofed house with its contents burned down. Also, the rocking chair with all its factual memories was reduced to ashes. Only memories remain.

FAMILY HISTORY CENTRE

The LDS Family History Centre is situated at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (Mormon Church), 321 Alexandra Road, Pietermaritzburg, and is open on Tuesday evenings from 17h30 to 20h00 (by appointment only) and Thursday mornings from 09h00 to 12h00. Closed for public and school holidays. Contact Mrs Ruth Cockbain (Tel: 033-3965419 for further information.

DIARY OF EVENTS

MARCH 2005

Date & Time: Wednesday 16 March 2005 at 19h30
Event: Chris Morewood will give us a talk on **Clocks of Pietermaritzburg**
Venue: Our Club House at the Natal Carbineers' Drill Hall
Tea Duty: Pam Barnes, Neil Bloy, Sue Bowes-Taylor

APRIL 2005

Date & Time: Wednesday 6 April 2005 at 19h30
Event: **Library Evening**
Venue: Our Club House at the Natal Carbineers' Drill Hall

Date & Time: **Saturday April 16 at 14h30** (Note change of time)
Event: Herbert Badstübner will give us a talk on **Louis Leipolt**
Venue: Our Club House at the Natal Carbineers' Drill Hall
Tea Duty: Rodney Coyne, John Deare, Bob Dunn,

MAY 2005

Date & Time: Wednesday 4 May 2005
Event: **Library Evening**
Venue: Our Club House at the Natal Carbineers' Drill Hall

Date & Time: Saturday 14 May 2005 at 9h30
Event: **Workshop on how to do family research** (Booking essential as space is limited - Phone Pieter Nel on 033-3424712 during office hours)
Venue: Pietermaritzburg Archive Repository

Date & Time: Wednesday 18 May 2005 at 19h30
Event: Monica van Niekerk will give us a talk on the **Bessingwaite** family
Venue: Our Club House at the Natal Carbineers' Drill Hall
Tea Duty: Don Ecob, Vanessa Ford, Lyn Gilbert,

JUNE 2005

Date & Time: Wednesday 1 June 2005 at 19h30
Event: **Library Evening**
Venue: Our Club House at the Natal Carbineers' Drill Hall

PIETERMARITZBURG ARCHIVES REPOSITORY

The Pietermaritzburg Archives Repository in Pietermaritz Street is open on the 2nd Saturday of each month from 8.30 am to 12noon. Take this opportunity of using these facilities if you are unable to visit during the week.

Dates: 09.04.2005, 14.05.2005, 11.06.2005, 09.07.2005, 13.08.2005, 10.09.2005, 08.10.2005, 12.11.2005, 10.12.2005