



# **eGSSA**

**The virtual branch of the  
Genealogical Society of South Africa**

**Annual report – year ending 2012**

# Introduction

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The eGSSA volunteers continue to do a tremendous job unlocking new information and publishing it on the website. We survived the Go Country!! 2012 AGM, our Facebook page was launched, new products appeared in our eShop and our projects are going from strength to strength.

On the down side – we wanted to expand our eLibrary, however, the goal proved to be more challenging than what was initially anticipated and we will have to continue to build on the idea in 2013.

Our webmaster proofed his mettle in December, when he received notice that the eGSSA server was about to crash. Fortunately, all the backups were in place and we were only offline for a short time.

Herewith then a detailed report for all our 2012 activities.

## Member news

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### The committee members

#### Management

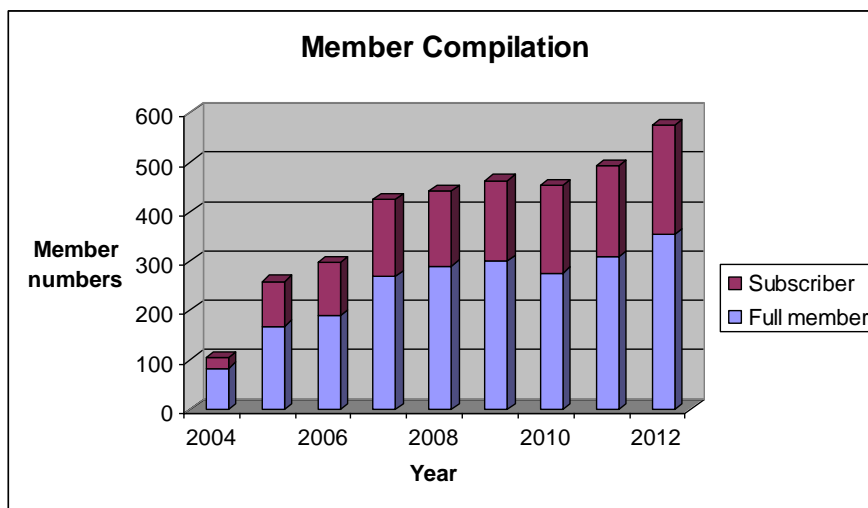
- Alta Griffiths - Chairperson + cemetery project
- Daan Hamman - Treasurer
- Lynn Couperthwaite - Membership Services, communication and marketing
- Richard Ball - Web Services
- Judi Meyer - Genesis
- Johan Hefer - Stamouers

#### Additional members

- June Barnes - Genesis Editor
- Daan Botes - Post cards
- Corney Keller - Transcriptions
- Annelie Els

### Member numbers

The number of members increased to a record high of 575 members (354 full members and 221 subscribers).



By definition a full member is a person who nominated eGSSA as his or her primary branch. A subscriber is a person who selected one as the land based branches as his or her primary branch, but is also subscribing to eGSSA's Genesis.

Couples (husband and wife) were counted as a single unit.

The male to female ratio is more or less consistent with previous years

- Male members: 315
- Female members: 259
- Public library: 1

We currently have 251 Afrikaans speaking members and 324 English speaking members.

## Member distribution

The great majority of our members are South African residents, with substantial minorities from elsewhere in the world.

MEMBER DISTRIBUTION WORLD WIDE	
RSA	462
Africa (excl RSA)	5
Australia / New Zealand	36
Europe (excl UK)	11
UK	32
Northern America	25
Asia	4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>575</b>

## Member achievements

Several of our members received awards at the 2012 Annual Award Ceremony in Uniondale:-

- Daan Hamman (Fellow of the Society Award) – the awarded for years of service rendered to GSSA
- Jos le Roux (GSSA's President Extra Mile award) – for donating *Die Krynauw Familie van Suid-Afrika*; which can be downloaded from the GGSA website.
- Gina Shepherd (GSSA's President Extra Mile award) – Updating the register: *Familia Raubenheimer*
- Rentia Landman (GSSA's President Extra Mile award) – for various management actions
- Charlie Els (*Familia*-award) – awarded by the Northern Transvaal branch for the best article published in the *Familia* during 2012. Charlie wrote the article: *Johannes Els - The Progenitor of the Els family in South Africa Familia 48 (1) 2011 bls 5-23.*
- Eleanor Garvie (Merit award) – for her role in photographing and transcribing the Stellawood cemetery registers and thereby adding 114 054 names to the Cemetery DVD.

Other members who received nominations were:-

- Martie du Toit (nominated for the merit award) – for the project 'Bewaar ons erfenis' she initiated at Huis La Belle, in Bellville
- Carol Beneke (nominated for the merit award) – for contribution over 40 000 gravestone photos to the eGSSA Cemetery Project during 2011
- Johan Pottas (nominated for the genealogist of the year award) – for the publication: *Alexanders SA.*

## In Memorium



It is with great sadness that we had to say farewell to some of our members, volunteers and friends during the year.

Staal Burger (member + volunteer – archive photographic service)  
Chris Maritz (member + volunteer - cemetery project)  
Reon Meij (member)  
Christo Heymans (volunteer - cemetery project)  
Keith Thomson (volunteer – passenger list project)  
Curly Schnettker (volunteer – cemetery project)

## Member communication

E-mails are the main form of communication. Constant Contact is used to manage bulk e-mails. .

Summary of the bulk e-mails send via Constant Contact					
	Sent	Bounces	Opens	Clicks	Forwards
Overall	13189	1.80%	53.70%	60.40%	0.10%
		-239	-6957	-4202	-9

## GSSA's Genealogical Guidelines (aka Rentia se Genealogiese Handleiding)

The Genealogical Guidelines, a GSSA initiative, was designed by NEC member Rentia Landman and only available to GSSA members. The branches were commissioned to distribute the guidelines to their members.

We opted to make the guidelines available to the members via e-mail. A message was sent to all our members and those interested could request a copy of the guidelines from either Alta or Lynn.

We received 90 requests. 85 zip files were dispatched. The 5 non-members who requested a copy were referred their principal branch or advised to join GSSA.

# Archive Photographic Services

by Richard Ball

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Although the ban on photography at the Western Cape Archives is still in place, our service provides many document copies to GSSA members and non-members from the Bloemfontein, Durban, Pietermaritzburg and Pretoria Archives. Unfortunately, in one of these archives, the number of documents that a researcher can request on one visit has recently been considerably reduced, so that orders during 2013 will probably take longer than heretofore.

The orders are received via the web site by David van der Merwe. David sorts them where necessary (a fair number include orders for more than one archive repository) and sends the relevant orders to the four photographers who work in the four areas mentioned above. Richard Ball did the invoicing during the past year. We are grateful to Dick McClelland who agreed to take the invoicing over from Richard.

During 2012 we received 440 orders for document photographs via our web site.

The vast majority of these document copies will be suitable for making available in our eGSSA Document Library on the web site once volunteers have captioned them. Currently Corney Keller and Dorothy Mowlam work on the captioning.

To all those contributing to the above process - a big Thank You!

## Genesis

by June Barnes

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In 2012 Genesis was published three times (Feb, June and October) as was our goal. A number of new features were introduced –

**Genealogical Profiles / Treasure Troves** – where people of genealogical interest were invited to write about their work. Elizabeth van Heyningen and Delia Robertson have featured.

**Bookshelf** where new publications can be publicised and reviews submitted. Sadly so far these have been contributed by the Editor – it would be good to hear from other readers.

**Brickwalls** – where members can ask for assistance with their dead ends.

**New Members** – introducing/welcoming New Members – hopefully their research interests etc. can be featured but as yet no contributions have been received.

The editors decided that there would be no Christmas issue in 2012 and in the future. Quarterly issues of Genesis have been reinstated for 2013. Issue dates for 2013 will be 38-February, 39-May, 40-August and 41-November.

There were changes to the editorial team – Judi Meyer decided to become sub-editor with June Barnes as Editor. June also took over the layout of the magazine from Louis Venter using iWord for Mac. We would like to thank Louis for his contribution to Genesis in the past.

Whilst the issues have not been lacking in content many of the articles are contributions from the editorial team and management. It would be good if more of the eGSSA membership sent in articles in future. Sadly this is the mantra of most editorial teams.

# Facebook

by June Barnes

eGSSA's Facebook page was launched on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2012. Four members of the Genesis editorial team have admin status – June Barnes, Judi Meyer, Daan Botes and Leith Woodall. To date (4<sup>th</sup> Jan 2013) there have been 209 “likes” which is very encouraging. The challenge is to keep people interested by adding regular posts - features, images etc. of interest draw views and likes. Hopefully the page will generate membership queries. The page is only as good as the information submitted and we will continue to develop the page as best we can.



# eGSSA Website

by Richard Ball



The eGSSA web site occupies about 50 Gigabytes of disk space and is housed on a dedicated server located in Chicago, USA. The vast majority of this disk space is taken up by our picture library consisting of Gravestones, Archive documents, Bibles, postcards and books.

When looking at web site statistics, the important ones are the number of visitors and the number of visits. A visitor is you or me accessing the web site. A visit consists of one session of whatever duration where a visitor stays looking at the web site. During 2012 the eGSSA web site had an average rate of 1700 visits by 900 visitors per day.

By far the vast majority of visitors are accessing the site from South Africa, and then come Great Britain USA , Australia, Canada, New Zealand, France and the Netherlands, in that order.

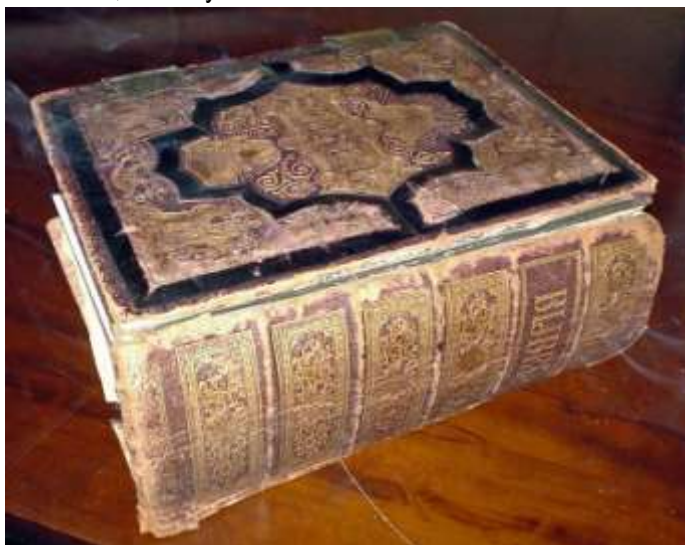
Together with Genesis the eGSSA Branch's web site is our main means of communication with our members and also the area in which our members are most easily able to contribute by providing photographs of gravestones, documents, Bibles and Postcards and also by captioning those photographs once uploaded, for the use of the whole genealogical community.

A new area added to the web site during 2012 is the South African Records Transcribed, which houses transcripts of important historical documents with information of interest to genealogists.

## Bibles Project by Richard Ball

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This project was started in 2007 and has prospered fairly well. Towards the end of 2010 several photographing projects were set on foot by various branches of the GSSA, notably Durban and Coastal at the Old Court Museum, Natal Midlands at the Msunduzi Voortrekker Museum and at Sinodale Centre, North West at the Potchefstroom Library, West Gauteng at the Africana Library Johannesburg, and eGSSA at the Cory Library and Albany Museum. Most of these projects have now been completed and, in addition, also those of the Huguenot Museum in Franschhoek, but so far only the Durban, Old Court Museum collection has been added to the web site.



A new collection, photographed by members of the West Gauteng Branch at the Museum Africa, Johannesburg, we understand will be added to this collection some time during 2013.

We hope to get most of the Bibles captioned and added to the public collection during 2013 as we now have a tested and tried volunteer, Hobbie Stofberg, to organise and caption them for us.

## Post Cards by Daan Botes

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The responsibility for processing and administration of the Post Card Collection has been transferred to Daan Botes during the past year. Attention has been given to the ordering of the filing on site, loading of post cards and some reflection on the mission of this group.

Contributions were received from Glynis Millet-Clay, David van der Merwe, A van Breda, Peet Schabort, Arnoldus Bestbier and Christine van Niekerk and 360 cards were loaded to bring the year end total at 1227 cards. Promotion for contributing more cards and introducing the service, were done on various FaceBook interest groups

Goals for 2013:

- Determine the scope and boundaries of the type of post cards that should be included in the collection
- Contribution of and promotion for cards.
- Compile formal Post Card Processing Procedure from input received and experience gained

# Stamouers by Johan Hefer

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## *South Africa's Stamouers*



The Stamouers.com web site was created by André van Rensburg. When he found himself unable to continue to maintain it, André passed it into the trust of eGSSA for maintenance.

The web site as it existed - required specialist software and knowledge to update and therefore, during the last couple of years, we have been working on a new version of the Stamouers.com web site with Johan Hefer as editor. The new web software will make it easier to add new entries and update current entries with any submitted information. After lots of delays the new website was launched at the end of 2012. Our thanks to Richard Ball for all his efforts in updating the website. A number of new submissions can now be incorporated and updated. Charlie Els was appointed as deputy editor at the end of 2012.

The web site attempts to provide genealogical and other information on all those immigrants who founded a family in South Africa. It is entirely dependent on contributions from those who have the required information. So, if you have research on a South African founding family, please submit your information for inclusion. All immigrants are eligible for inclusion including arrivals up to the late nineteenth century.

## The Gravestone Photograph Project by Alta Griffiths

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Our target for the year was to have 450 000 photos on the web, we ended the year with 476 034 photos on the web. The success of this project can only be attributed to the tremendous support we receive.

Growth of Headstone photos on the web		
Year end	Total no of photos	Growth
2005	3500	---
2006	18000	14500
2007	50000	32000
2008	100000	50000
2009	175000	75000
2010	258594	83594
2011	384680	126086
2012	476034	91354

The volunteers worked very hard to get all the captions done. So much so that they ran out of photos to label by mid November. Moving the photos across to the public page is time consuming as all the cemeteries have to be entered into the Cemetery Project's Index.

Delays in processing the photos are caused by:-

- photos arriving in one big batch, when the batch holds photos for more than one cemetery
- submitting a batch of photos with a worksheet, and expecting yours truly to divide the photos into the different sub-albums. The project co-ordinator always gets it wrong!
- no GPS reading, especially for the farm cemeteries



- submitting photos for a town, with a label eg Kroonstad, and we know there is more than one cemetery in the town

We need to thank the following participants:-

**Photo contributions** - Some of the people send us one or two photos, but many photographers go out of their way to take photos of all the graves in a cemetery. A list of all the contributors was published in the Genesis.

### The 2012 contributors to the photo album

Alta Roux	Ester Stieger	Maureen Schnittker
Amanda Addison	Etienne Weideman	Méchelle Beneke
Amanda van Blerk	Fanie Fourie	Melt Loubser
Amy Griffiths	Frank Butler	Michelle Robinson de Marillac
André du Toit	Frans Human	Mike Leppan
Angela de Klerk	Frik Weideman	Mishack Nunu
Anna Oettlé	Gail Richards	Naas Olivier
Annatjie Tiran	Gail Röthlin	Nantus Kruger
Annatjie van Breda	Gert McCarthy	Nicky Lategan
Annel Meyer	Gillain Mauchan	Nico Burger
Anne-Marie Perold	Glen Swemmer	Nita Visagie
Annemie Lourens	Graeme Chittenden	Pat Crouse
Apie Coetzee	Guy Barker	Patricia van Rensburg
Arnoldus Bestbier	Gwyneth Thomas	Patrick Claassen
Attie Delpport	Helena Smit	Pauline Swanepoel
Barbara Fourie	Hendrik Klopper	Peet Schabort
Barend Deminey	Hennie Blomerus	Penny Shaddock
Basil Royston	Hennie Steyn	Perscy Perrin
Becky Horne	Henry and Maryna Northall	Peter and Beverley Moss
Ben and Susan Stieger	Hercules Malan	Petro Naude
Ben Greyling	Hobbie Stoffberg	Piet and Elna Conradie
Bets Terblanche	Horst Muller	Pieter Buys
Bill Temple	Igmar Grewar	Renico van Rensburg
Boet Saayman	Ilse Prozesky	Rina Venter
Brian Barrett	James Anderson	Rita Quebbemann
Brian Heritage	Jan Steyn	Rob Jones
Brian Johnson	Janet Melville	Rob Mc Cleland
Caren Louw	Janine Boshoff	Robert Bolus
Carika Matthews	Jannie Hunter	Rosaleen Flanagan
Carol Beneke	Jessie van der Merwe	Rose McArthur
Charmaine Frew	Joan Augustyn	Sam Basch
Chris and Petra Lombard	Johan Herselman	Sampie Kotze
Christa Esterhuizen	Johan Pottas	Sheilagh Spencer
Christelle Joubert	Johan Prozesky	Simon du Plooy
Clare Barnard	Johan Steenkamp	Simon du Plooy (Jnr)
Colin Garvie	Johan Vermeulen	Simone Kay
Colin R-S	Johan Viktor	Stander Jansen
Corrie and Corrie du Plessis	Johann H Claassen	Stef & Dalene
Daan Botes	John Deare	Stephanie Geyser
Daniel van Heerden	John Sinclair	Stephen Mullineux
David van der Merwe	Johnny Mocke	Stephen Myburgh
Dawie Malan	Ken Garvie	Sunelia Heath
Dawn van Niekerk	Leander Fourie	Surnei Goussard
Dederick Jankowitz	Lee McGovern	Swannie Swanevelder
Deon Goosen	Leslie de Klerk	Teresa du Plessis
Derek Austin	Lizette Svoboda	Theo Vosloo
Derek Walker	Louis Botha	Tian Schutte

Dirk Bloem	Louis Venter	Tina Visser
Dirk van Heerden	Louw Hattingh	Toby de Villiers
Douglas Ewan	Lynn Paul	Tombi Peck
Driekie Schlebush	Maresa Sinclair	Tommy Ferreira
Eckhard von Fintel	Marguerite Lombard	Tony Gooch
Eleanor Garvie	Mari Cronje	Vanda Chittenden
Elmarie Weyers	Mariana Olivier	Vic Hamilton-Attwell
Emmarentia Ferreira	Marietjie Fevrier	Vic Olivier
Emmerentia de Kock	Marita Brodie	William Jervious
Eric Street	Marlene Goosen	Willie Solomon
Erika Wolmarans	Mary Percent	Willieta de Swart
Esme Minnaar	Matthew Mabvongwe	Wilna Eygelaar
Esna Stadler	Maureen Kruger	Yolanda Nortje

SEWFHS - South East Witwatersrand Family History Society

Photos were also received from various GSSA branches

- Durban and Coastal
- Eastern Cape
- Free State
- Natal Midlands
- Northern Transvaal
- Vaal Triangle
- West Gauteng
- Western Cape

**Photo uploads** are done by Gail R othlin

**The Captioners** who worked so hard to get all the photos labelled.

Amanda van Blerk	Andri Labuschagne	Angela de Klerk	Anina du Plessis
Annatjie Erasmus	Annemie Lourens	Arlene Leggat	Carol Beneke
Celeste Rachmann	Daan Botes	Esm� van der Westhuizen	Flap Bester
Gillian Mauchan	Glen Swemmer	Heleen Nel	James Anderson
Jenny Culhane	Kenneth Knight	Dal Good	Leith Woodall
Lorraine Beechey	Lynne Bean	Marie van den Heever	Michele Krause
Phil Theunissen	Ray Pit	Terry Terblanche	Basil Royston

Marking the photos are time consuming, an endless job, with life events interfering with the hobby. Some volunteers could manage more hours than others.

**The Movers:** creating the sub albums for the photos that need to be grouped together

- Alex van Niekerk
- Annel Meyer
- Louis Hurn
- Magda Alberts
- Risanti Saris
- Wilna Eygelaar

The **Central Cemetery Index** is managed by Peter Moss. E-mails are the main form of communication between the DVD Project and the Photo Project and the average e-mail count between the two projects are 50 per week.

Traditionally, the **GSSA Cemetery Newsletter** (editor John Schwartz) always reported on the DVD project. The Photo Project sneaked in over time. As the cemetery projects evolved, so did the member expectations and we were well and truly in the dog box when the individual members contributions did not feature in the Cemetery Newsletter in December. We have undertaken to correct the oversight in 2013.

**Our target for 2013** is 550 000 gravestone photos on the web by the end of the year. 73 966 photos are needed and we rely on all the GSSA members to help us achieve this milestone.

## South African Records Transcribed by Corney Keller

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One of the obstacles genealogists face when researching South African history is the difficulty of consulting primary sources, not only because they may not be readily available, but often interpreting the script can be a daunting task. Our aim was to produce readable and intelligible transcriptions of South African documents that have genealogical value for researchers, and to make them publicly available. It was decided to launch a new website to accomplish this. In January 2012 '[South African Records Transcribed](http://www.egggsa.org/sarecords/)' (<http://www.egggsa.org/sarecords/>) was launched containing two sections: 1) Amsterdam Classis, and 2) Church Registers, which were soon to be followed by a third section, 3) Muster Rolls.

### Amsterdam Classis

Initially 'Amsterdam Classis – Letters from the Cape' contained only the nine De Stael Letters covering 38 pages. During the year another 52 pages of letters from the Church Boards of Cape Town, Stellenbosch and Drakenstein were added. At the end of November another Van der Stael letter, from the archives of East India, was added. It was his final report on church affairs at the Cape. The 'Van der Stael' letters are significant in that they contain most of the marriages and baptisms at the Cape over the period 1653-1664, before the first resident minister was appointed. From then on the first church registers were held. The archives of the Classis Amsterdam are kept at the Stadsarchief Amsterdam in the Netherlands, archive 379. The letters from the Cape reside in 3 volumes, inventory numbers 206 to 208 (Ingekomen stukken betreffende kerkelijke zaken op Kaap de Goede Hoop, 1655-1792) as follows:

- 206: 1655-1747 (471 pages)
- 207: 1748-25 Feb 1773
- 208: 1772-1792

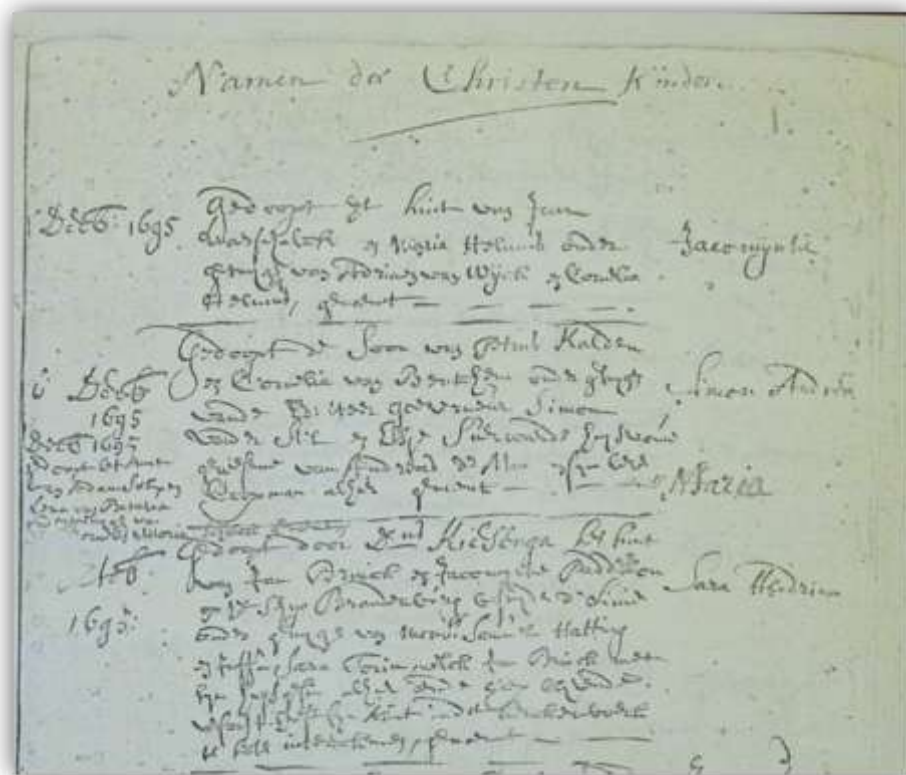


Closing paragraph of Le Boucq's 1707 letter to the Classis Amsterdam

## Church Registers

The 'Church Registers' initially contained Richard Ball's revised church registers covering the period 1665-1695. These were followed in March by the 'Cape Town Marriages 1696-1712'. At the same time marriages and baptism from the De Stael letters were extracted and published as 'Cape Town Baptisms 1653 to 1663' and 'Cape Town Marriages 1656-1662'. In May the transcriptions of 'Cape Town Baptisms 1695-1795' was started in three parts. Part one, 'Baptisms of Free Christian Children' was completed in November of 2012, followed by part two, 'Baptisms of children of Company slaves', in December 2012, and finally part three, 'Baptisms of children of Free Burgers and Company Employees', in January 2013.

The transcripts of registers from 1665 onwards were made from photographs of the Cape Archives Verbatim copies documents VC 603 and VC 604, which are photocopies of the original registers, now housed in the Nederduits Gereformeerde Kerkargief, Noordwal-Wes, Stellenbosch, as G1 1/1 and G1-8/1. These photocopies were made for the Sciences Research Council (HSRC) and copies were donated to the South African Archives, a set of copies going to the Cape Town Repository (VC series) and a set to the Pretoria Repository (where it is part of the FC series).



First page of the new register for 1696-1712 (with the last baptism of 1695)

## Muster Rolls of free men

The 'Muster Rolls of free men' was moved from the eGGSA home page section to the new site. Initially containing 4 rolls, expanded to 9 by February, and followed 'Cape Muster Roll 1677' in May, 'Cape Muster Roll 1661 - free men' and 'Cape Muster Roll 1663 - free men' in August and 'Cape Muster Roll 1664 - free men' in December.

The Muster Rolls (monsterrollen), preserved in the form of transcripts in the Cape Archives as VC 39-55 and 103, were apparently yearly lists of the inhabitants at the Cape, drawn up by Dutch East India Company (VOC) officials, and sent to the authorities in the Netherlands where they were preserved.

These are copies done by hand at the end of the 19th Century by George McCall Theal, from the records preserved in the VOC archives at The Hague, Netherlands.

### Indexes

A number of indexes to Stellenbosch Church Registers and to FamilySearch images have also been added to the site.

### 2013 and beyond

Already a start has been made to acquire more scan from the Stadsarchief in Amsterdam to continue the transcriptions of 'Letters from the Cape', and will be published as they become available.

A start has also been made on VC 621, Cape Town Marriages 1713-1756. We hope to complete not only the marriages but also the Cape Town Baptisms 1713-1741 in 2013.



Envelope of Le Boucq's 1707 letter

The transcription of these documents is an on-going process and depends largely on the availability of (copies of) original documents and transcribers.

## BDM Project by Richard Ball

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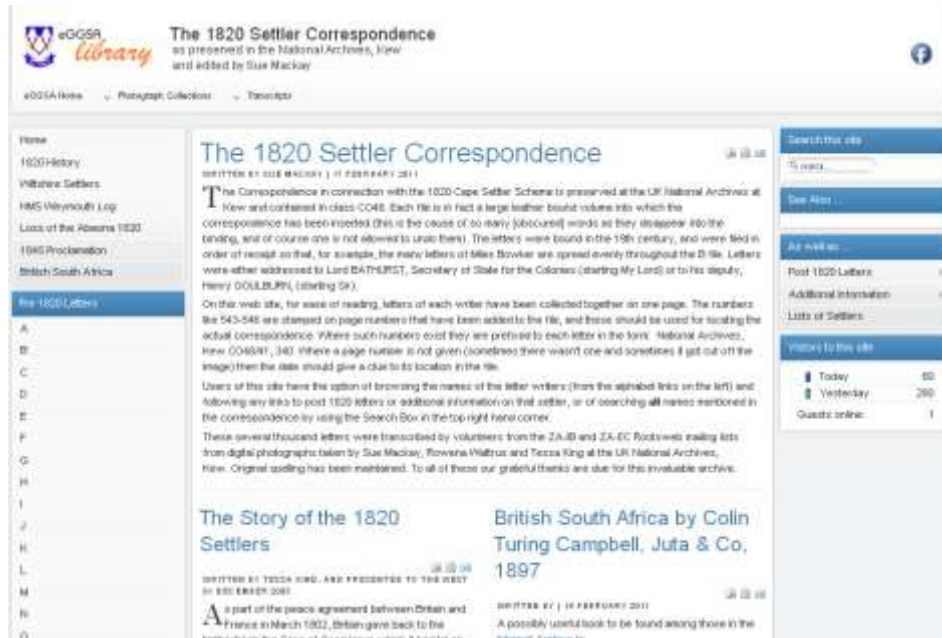
This project was begun during 2009. A start was made in trying to establish where church and other registers may be found and consulted, as well as photographing and transcribing those where the custodians are happy for us to do this. During 2011 the Stellenbosch NGK transcripts (up to 1732) originally done by Ockert Malan and his team were added, plus indexes to baptisms up to 1815, as well as deaths and burials 1765-1946, all done by Ockert and Sasa Malan.

During 2013 Ockert also contributed indexes to the Stellenbosch NGK baptisms 1732 to 1815 as well as the marriages 1689 to 1788.

Since these indexes do not contain all the data required for the BDM database but rely instead on a link to an image of the register page, they are displayed in a different format here: [Stellenbosch NGK registers](#).

# 1820 Settler Correspondence by Sue Mackay

The two sections of the eGSSA site which I administer are the 1820 Settler Correspondence Section and the Newspaper Transcriptions Section. Both have proved popular and receive several hundred visitors each day.



The 1820 Settler Section is, by its very nature, fairly static, the original transcriptions having been completed some years ago, but this year we added two Excel files compiled by Robin Griffiths, which were originally on the genealogyworld site. These are lists of the 1820 settlers with their ships, and another list of those who emigrated between 1820-1826, and both files can be downloaded as Excel files.

# The Newspaper Section by Sue Mackay



The Newspaper Section continues to grow daily. In addition to my original transcriptions from pre 1856 copies of the Grahamstown Journal and the South African Commercial Advertisers, I am gradually adding extracts from the Cape Frontier Times. Other transcribers with access to original historical newspapers have been posting the fruits of their labours on mailing lists, notably Sunelia Heath (The Daily Representative and the

Queenstown Free Press), Carol Beneke (Eastern Province Herald), Ellen Stanton (South Africa), Tara Norton (Natal Witness) and Tricia McLeod (Cape and Natal News). These transcriptions can now all be viewed in one place at <http://www.egggsa.org/newspapers/>, with a site specific search engine.

In addition to the historical extracts, modern BMD extracts are transcribed daily and posted on the Buitenposten Mailing List by Fanie Blignaut (Die Beeld), Hester Marx (Die Burger Oos-Kap) and Rita Quebbemann (Sunday Tribune, Mercury and Daily News). I extract these from the list archives once a month and upload them to the eGGSA site. Thanks are due to all the transcribers for their hard work, and the Newspaper Section has now become a really useful resource.

## Passenger lists: Primary Sources by Richard Wolfaardt

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In 2011 when we embarked on the passenger list to find immigrants to South Africa, Petro Coreejes-Brink and John Deare had to approach the different Archives to gain permission to photograph and transcribe these lists. The photos in Cape Town were taken by André van Wyk, Ockert Malan and Alta Griffiths. John Deare did the photographs for us in Pietermaritzburg. Richard Ball had to compile a spread sheet with headings that all the important data could be captured. As we transcribed the lists, changes had to be made to the spread sheet. All this data had to be incorporated into a single searchable database.



We started with five volunteers as transcribers. They are James Anderson, John Deare, Ray Pitt, Basil Royston and Richard Wolfaardt. Three volunteers joined our ranks and they are Guy and Kerry Bate (husband and wife team), Keith Thomson (he sadly passed away) and Charles Wolfaardt (he left the ship). Our moderator, Sasa Malan has also left the ship. At this stage Richard Ball is also doing the moderator's job. We have transcribers from Australia, U.S.A., Eastern Cape, Kwazulu Natal and Gauteng.

Up to 05 January 2013 we have transcribed a total of 24382 passengers. Passengers who disembarked in Durban dated from 1850 to 1911. Passengers who disembarked at Table Bay and Algoa Bay dated from 1858 to 1861. We are busy transcribing passenger lists from 1873 who arrived at Cape Town

## Passenger lists: Newspapers by Trisha McLeod

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Initially when I came across the listings my intentions were to transcribe and post to the various Rootsweb sites, however, when I realized the number of records involved, I felt that these invaluable records should be placed in a searchable database and in February 2012 offered the transcripts to eGGSA.

On the 22 February 2012, the first batch of transcripts was emailed to eGGSA. These were the departure notices (arrivals at South African ports) for the period Jan 1879 to Sept 1881, transcribed from British Mail.

With the British Mail transcripts completed, the next project that of Colonies and India was started and my goal for completion was the end of 2012. Unfortunately due to illness of a family member, this task had to take a back seat for 3 months. Due to the vast number of records, we had agreed to deviate from our initial plan of only submitting on completion of each project and agreed on 3 year periods. On the 31<sup>st</sup> July 2012, the first batch of Colonies and India transcriptions were forwarded to Richard Ball. This spreadsheet included Departure as well as Arrival data which caused a few teething problems for Richard, who calmly went about modifying his programme to accommodate the additional information I had captured. A further batch was submitted on the 4<sup>th</sup> November 2012. The next batch should be completed and submitted by the end of February.

Total records transcribed and posted on eGGSA

British Mail	9,814
Colonies & India 1883 – 1885	24,843
Colonies & India 1886 - 1888	<u>17,342</u>
Total	51,999

Transcribed to be submitted (1889 – 1890) 12,000 +/-  
Years still to be transcribed 1891 – 1898.

I would dearly love to set end of June as the completion date and to personally have transcribed 100,000 records, however, my current situation does not afford me the luxury of transcribing on a daily basis and I am limited to twice a week when I have domestic assistance. September may be a more realistic end date.

## Outreach Program by Alta Griffiths

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### Go Country!! 2012 AGM

Comprehensive feedback about the AGM weekend in George and Uniondale was given in May; and without repeating ourselves - we just want to give an update:-

You will remember that the GSSA NEC's (National Executive Committee) motivation for hosting the AGM in the Southern Cape was to form a branch in the area. Was the goal achieved? The answer is Yes! Simon du Plooy from the GSSA North West stepped in after the AGM and the Southern Cape branch was formed in the middle of 2012. Our congratulations to the Southern Cape branch.

eGGSA still maintain ties with the Southern Cape branch – together we will be manning a genealogy table at the Hartlam Festival in Hartenbos during May 2013.

We also took part in various other exhibitions to showcase our hobby. This is a great opportunity to meet our members and also for new members to sign up. Our program for the year looked like this:-

16 March	We hosted a Genealogy Workshop in George. The all day workshop was attended by 96 people.
17 March	eGGSA hosted the AGM in Uniondale
3 May	Alta gave a talk about graves at the Lutheran Church, Oakdale in Bellville
12 May	Alta was invited to give a talk about our Passenger / Shipping list project at the Western Cape branch
14 – 18 May	International Museum Week. The City of Cape Town organised a genealogy workshop at Bellville Library on the 16th. Alta was invited to give a talk about the Facts, Faults and Fables in the gravestone project.
7 – 11 May	National Archive Week. We took part in the poster exhibition at the Roeland Street Archives, Cape Town (KAB)
14 July	Bastille day, Franschoek. The eGGSA posters were on display and brochures were handed out.
1 September	Daan Hamman, Judi Meyer and Annelie Els represented eGGSA at the Heritage day at NG Kerk Lynnwoodrif, Pretoria
15 September	Retreat, Cape Town. Our posters went up at the Heritage day organised by the South African St Helenian Heritage Association
21 September	Ottery, Cape Town. Our posters went up at the Heritage day organised by the Metro South District Heritage Association





Our sincerest appreciation to the GSSA Western Cape branch's Exhibition Team who always include us in their outings!

Similar projects are planned for 2013. Dates to be confirmed.

**GSSA Western Cape – branch meeting 12 May 2012**  
Photographer: André van Wyk

## Finances by Daan Hamman

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The financial report covers the period 1 January 2012 to 31 December 2012. Both the income and expenditure of eGSSA increased during 2012 and a substantial profit of R54 067.22 compared to R23 147.60 for 2011 was made.

**Sale of GSSA and eGSSA Products:** GSSA products to the value of R28 499.00 (compared to R31 294.00 in 2011) were sold during 2012. The 10% commission on GSSA products has brought in a substantial amount. eGSSA CD products to the value of R15 678.11 (compared to R16 381.00 in 2011) were sold, a large amount of stock was purchased in order to give the new treasurer sufficient stock, with the result that there was no profit. It must be kept in mind that we purchase the majority of the eGSSA products for re-sale at a 10% commission. In some cases we act as a retailer selling genealogy products of private individuals and they do the packing and shipping of the items.

Archive document photos to the value of R51 038.14 (compared to R44 683.00 in 2011) were sold and we thank our photographers who made this possible. This service seems to become more popular with members and non-members alike. Perhaps daring to speculate, but it seems as if many members join to qualify for the members' discount.

**Web Site:** The eGSSA web site cost R13 922.38 for the year (compared to R11 776.16 in 2011). eGSSA also pays for the GSSA website for which eGSSA is reimbursed. The cost of the website is a small amount considering that the web site is the back bone of eGSSA and we have no meeting venue hiring to pay. The delay in obtaining a non-profit organisation certificate for the GSSA from SARS has resulted in putting the registration of eGSSA with PayPal on the back burner. It is envisaged that once the eGSSA PayPal account is established the website hosting and website backup services will be paid from the RSA banking account.

**Budget:** The budget for 2013 is very conservative with additional expenditure provided for the web site, IT hardware and software to maintain the quality of the web site. It is proposed that no increase in the eGSSA branch membership fees for 2013 need be considered.

**INKOMSTE- EN UITGAWESTAAT VIR DIE PERIODE 1 JANUARIE TOT 31 DESEMBER 2012**  
**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT FOR 1 JANUARY TO 31 DECEMBER 2012**

	2012	2011	2013
	R	R	Begroting/ Budget R
<b>Inkomste/Income</b>			
Ledegeld/Membership fees 2012	8,235.00	7,360.00	8,000.00
Ledegeld/Membership fees 2013	4,760.00	4,040.00	4,500.00
Krediete - ekstra betalings vir verkope	-	-	-
Genesis 2012	7,910.00	8,180.00	8,000.00
Genesis 2013	4,285.00	4,270.00	4,000.00
Valuta verskil/Exchange rate	1,162.00	-	-
Donasies/Donations	248.00	617.92	-
Posgeld/Postage	1,279.00	-	1,300.00
Rente/Interest	3,711.70	3,055.09	3,500.00
Argief Fotos/Archive Photos	51,038.14	44,683.00	50,000.00
Produk GGSA/Product GSSA	28,499.00	31,294.00	25,000.00
Produk eGGSA/Product eGSSA	15,678.11	16,381.00	15,000.00
AGM - Go Country	13,234.00	-	-
Diverse/Miscellaneous	-	680.00	-
<b>Subtotaal/Sub-total</b>	<b>140,039.95</b>	<b>120,561.01</b>	<b>119,300.00</b>
<b>Uitgawes/Expenditure</b>			
Bankkoste/Bank charges	2,753.55	2,483.66	3,000.00
Posgeld/Postage	2,170.04	2,132.36	2,000.00
Bemarking/Marketing	200.00	-	7,000.00
Webblad/Web page	13,922.38	11,776.16	13,000.00
Ander IT/Other IT	225.78	538.78	800.00
Telefoon/Telephone	-	-	-
Vergaderings/Meetings	3,428.00	5,364.00	5,000.00
Argief Fotos/Archive Photos	41,997.00	36,570.50	40,000.00
Produk GGSA/Product GSSA	25,649.10	28,164.60	24,000.00
Produk eGGSA/Product eGSSA	24,065.00	12,905.27	24,000.00
AGM Go Country	22,777.11	-	-
Diverse/Miscellaneous	250.00	525.65	500.00
<b>Subtotaal/Sub-total</b>	<b>137,437.96</b>	<b>100,460.98</b>	<b>119,300.00</b>
<b>Netto Inkomste/Nett Income</b>	<b>2,601.99</b>	<b>20,100.03</b>	<b>-</b>

Daan Hamman will not be available for the Treasurers position in 2013.

We are fortunate that Carol Beneke has accepted a nomination to take the position over. Managing this portfolio is a handful. Daan will continue as Carol's backup if her appointment is approved by the eGGSA AGM.

Daan, thank you for all your hard work, dedication and wise council. You are doing a great job!

# Conclusion

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Which brings us to the end of our report!

Thank you to all our members, contributors and volunteers and project leaders – your involvement, vision and participation makes all the difference.

The eGSSA management team  
30 January 2013

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