

EAST CAPE BRANCH
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY of SOUTH AFRICA
CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2006

COMMITTEE

At the Annual General Meeting of the Branch held 2006.03.20 the following committee members were elected:

Chairman: Gideon de Kock

Vice-Chairman: Rose (RJA) Trehaeven

Secretary: Becky (BJ) Horne

Treasurer: Gretchen (MM) de Kock

Additional member: Vic (PL) Olivier (responsible for public relations)

Co-opted member: Liz (EM) Eshmade (Cemetery project and representing the affiliate members)

Co-opted as editor of the newsletter Chronicles: Alice (AC) Mitchell

Five Committee meetings were held during the year and all were well attended. A guide on the duties of committee members has also been compiled with the input from a previous long time secretary Mary Runciman.

MEMBERSHIP

The Branch had 46 full members, 3 octogenarians and 1 honorary member, as well as 29 affiliate members.

There were 42 additional subscribers to the Branch's quarterly Newsletter Chronicles, and 17 additional exchange subscriptions.

MEETINGS HELD

The Branch meetings normally take place on the third Monday evening of each month in the small hall of the Newton Park Methodist Church, c/o Third Avenue and Cape Road at 19h30.

2006.01.16 Membership participation evening – some members shared their interest and research.

2006.02.20 Italian Campaign of World War II by Dr Richards.

2006.03.20 Branch's Annual General Meeting. attendance 26 persons and 7 apologies. The outgoing Chairlady reported on the National AGM which was held in Port Elizabeth on 2006.02.26 – then Gideon de Kock entertained the meeting on why he started with Genealogy and the doing of the PE Genealogical Research Group – his collection of Genealogical sources are now kept at his home and are also available to members on appointment.

2006.04.24 A short history of photography and the dating of old Photographs by Rose Trehaeven - attendance 36 persons.

2006.05.15 The Hendrickse Family of Uitenhage by Dr Otto Terblanche of the Department History, NMMU-attendance 23 persons, also in attendance were Mrs Terry Hendrickse, wife of the late Allan Hendrickse accompanied by her son Peter A C Hendrickse, MP for the ANC.

2006.06.19 Probleme met die lees en interpretasie van Kaapse dokumente uit die 17de en 18de eeu deur Prof Emil Loubser (Emeritus prof. van die Dept Afrikaans-Nederlands, UPE) – bywoning 31 persone.

2006.07.17 Getting a wife: The wives of the Rev Lutz of the Rhenish Mission Society at Amandelboom, Northern Cape - Selection criteria used for Rhenish Missionaries' wives by Mrs Frankie Herbst, Dept of Sociology, NMMU. - attendance 27 persons.

2006.08.21 The rise and fall of the Rhenish Mission Station at Amandelboom, Northern Cape – the socio economic structure of the nomadic Bastaard community of Karreeberg (1845 – 1860) by Dr Aubrey Herbst, Dept of History, NMMU - attendance 32 persons.

2006.09.21 Die geskiedenis van die NG Kerk met spesiale verwysing na die Oos-Kaap – Riaan (RL) Knoesen. NMMU – bywoning 36 persone.

2006.10.16 Doing (Genealogical) research using newspapers by Margaret Harradine - attendance 35 persons.

2006.11.20 Members participation evening organized by Rose Trehaven and Liz Eshmade, followed by a small `Christmas' party - attendance 27 persons.

An average attendance of 31 persons over the last 9 meetings.

At each meeting Alice Mitchell had a so-called `Beginners Table' which contained valuable hints and displays of books and examples of documents and sources, not only for beginners but also for more experienced members it gave reminders about places and products of research. This table was very popular throughout the year and very well visited before the meeting and during tea at the end.

I wish to thank Alice for a task very well done and which became a valuable asset to our meetings.

FINANCES

It was with a shock that the incoming committee discovered from the National Treasurer that no payments had been made to him for 2004 and 2005 and that the Branch was in arrears of R3 386-20 for these two years. This placed a heavy financial burden on the branch which had to pay the National body R5 566-20 for 2004 to 2006 in addition to moneys paid directly to the National Treasurer.

The result was that the Branch could not really extend its library and could not afford to carry on with its cemetery recordings.

However the Branch managed to recover and closed 2006 with a reasonable balance sheet which is provided separately – balance at the end of the year was R9 715-88.having had a deficit of only R377-25

Many thanks to Gretchen who also kept the membership list, the circulation lists and printed the labels for posting the newsletters.

NEWSLETTER

The Branch's quarterly Newsletter, Chronicles, was very ably handled and published by the editor Alice Mitchell. From the additional subscriptions we received for the newsletter one can derive that it is appreciated by large number of people. I wish to thank Alice for all the effort and hard work that she put into producing an interesting newsletter on time every quarter.

LIBRARY

The collection of books owned by the Branch is fully catalogued and kept in the Genealogy section of the main library of Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality where member have access to it. (Note that it remains the property of the Branch.)

I wish to thank every Committee member for their contribution to what I believe has been a very successful year which started off with some serious problems.

Gideon de V de Kock
Chairman
2007.02.28

EAST CAPE BRANCH GGSA 2007

Intended Programme:

January: The De Kocks of the East Cape and their relation with the DR Church by Gideon de Kock

February 17th 9h30 – 12h30: Genealogy and the Internet Saturday morning at the Dept of Computer Science and IS, NMMU – Janet Melville, MC du Plessis, Gideon de Kock.

March: Branch's Annual General Meeting – Report on the National AGM

April: Members participation evening – My favourite ancestor/My gunsteling voorvader/moeder.

May: World War II – The navy

June: Loading old guns and the wonder that they worked at all! - ??

July: Die Rootman/Roodman familie – Stief Rootman.

August: Baptism and marriage customs by Liz Eshmade and Rose Trehaeven.

September: To be determined.

October: The Uitenhage Museum – Merle Phipps

November: Members participation evening and small Christmas Party

Projects:

1. Completion of the Uitenhage cemetery recording
2. Completion of the Cradock cemetery recording.
3. Completion of the Kirkwood cemetery recording.
4. Completion of the Tarkastad cemetery recording
5. Membership drive
6. Investigate the publishing of Les Williams' work on South End, Port Elizabeth.