

## *Nuusbrief van die Peter Henrick Henning Familiebond*

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*Verskyn vier keer per jaar: Februarie, Mei, Augustus en November*

## English Translation

### Philip Performs Magnificently



**Philip Henning (17) of Grey College, Bloemfontein who started making name as an international junior tennis player. He is one of a few junior players who will be supported by the International Tennis Federation**

The previous newsletter (no 133) was prepared during January 2018 and the same time when b7.c7.d10.e3.f1.g2.h1. Philip Henning (17) a scholar at Grey College, Bloemfontein started participating in the 2018 Australian Junior Tennis Tournament. In that newsletter we only had two lines left where we could tell about the progress Philip was making, so we decided to leave Philip's achievements for this Newsletter

We are proud to announce that Philip was only

eliminated in the third round of the boys' under-18 championships. In the boys under-18 doubles championship Philip and his partner Andrew Paulson of the Czech Republic went through to the quarter finals.

The Australian Tennis Championships is one of the four Grand Slam Tournaments in the world and only the best tennis players are invited to participate. In 2017 Philip, as a sixteen year old boy, became the South African under-18 champion, but had to qualify for the 2018 Australian Junior Tournament. He had to qualify in one of the pre-Australian Open warm-up tournaments and participated in the Traralgon Junior Tournament, where he beat Nicolas Mejia of Colombia, who was ranked nr 9 in

the world, 6-0 and 6-2. He was one of only eight players thereafter to qualify directly for the main Australian tournament.

In the Australian Championships he has beaten George Loffhagen of Britain (ranked 24 in the world) in the first round. The score was 7-6, 7-5. In the second round he played against the eight best player in the world, Thiago Seyboth Wild of Brazil, and beat him 6-4, 6-4. In the third round he played against Sebastian Korda of the USA. Philip took the first set 6-4, but Korda was too strong for him in the second and third set, beating him in the end with 4-6, 6-1 and 6-4. Korda is the son of the 1998 Australian Open Champion, Petr Korda.

In the Boys under-18 doubles championship Philip and his teammate Andrew Paulsen of the Czech Republic reached the quarter final, where they lost to the German pair Rudolf Molleker and Henri Squire. The score was 6-7, 7-5 and 10-8 in the favour of the Germans.

Allan Karam, the Tennis South Africa (TSA) National Coach travelling with Philip, said that he was proud of how Henning conducted himself. "Philip played some really good tennis while in Australia, beating three of the worlds' top 25 players, and qualifying for the Junior Australian Open. His strong mind, discipline and all-court ability are impressive – the way he played and approached each match clearly indicates that he has a bright tennis future."

Watching Henning from the sidelines were two former South African greats, Wayne Ferreira and Jeff Coetzee who were both impressed by the youngster.

Coetzee, who was recently announced by TSA as one of their high performance coaches, said that Henning was a real talent and his mental game was his real strength. "Philip is one of the best junior players South Africa has produced in a while. He has dominated back home and now is doing well on the international stage, having beaten the world's number 8, 9 and 24-ranked juniors. The exciting thing is that there is so much Philip can still improve on. He can still be more aggressive on the short ball and improve his net game and movement, which will make him a more complete player and enable him to compete as a senior with the very best in the world" said Coetzee. It came to light in the past month that the International Tennis Federation (ITF) will support the fifteen most prospective junior players in the world (from 13 countries) to participate in the other three Grand Slam Tournaments – the French Open, Wimbledon and the USA Open. Philip Henning is one of this fifteen players, who will receive an allowance to cover their travel and tournament costs. It will help them to breach the gap between junior and senior tennis more easily.

Philip already received several offers from universities in America to study after matric at one of these universities. This will put him in a position to compete against much stronger opponents as in South Africa.

Philip indicated that he is not going to miss his matric farewell party at Grey College in Bloemfontein at the end of the year for all the money in the world. He said that he has already missed so much of his normal school activities, but his matric farewell party only comes once in a lifetime. "I will be very disappointed to miss it".

In the meantime Philip also won the Boys Under-18 Championship at the Africa Tennis Championships in Marrakesh, Morocco on 24 March 2018. He beat Yassir Kilani of Morocco in the final easily with 6-1, 6-1.

## Nico Henning tour through Argentina

Earlier this year b6.c1.d3.e5.f1.g1.h2.i2. Nicolaas (or Nico) Henning of Grahamstown, toured through Argentina. He tried to step in the footsteps of the Hennings who emigrated shortly after the end of the Anglo Boer War to Argentina. Nico told us of his experiences.

“I am recently back from my tour through Argentina and is still trying to find my feet at my office. It was a very interesting experience and I have new appreciation for the courage of the Hennings who emigrated in 1905. It must have been a huge cultural shock to adapt in a country with foreign culture, language and religion (it may be also an indication of the huge aversion they had for the prospect of living in a British colony).

My attempt to reach Lita Henning unfortunately was not successful. Over the New Year’s weekend I was in Cordoba. I sent her a text message, hoping to meet her in person. Unfortunately she replied that she was out of town since before Christmas. So we missed one another.

I started my tour in Comodoro Rivadavia, where the Afrikaners went ashore on their way to the farms allocated to them. Unfortunately I could not determine the exact location of any of the farms allocated to Hennings, or any Henning graves.

I visited the municipal cemetery in Comodoro Rivadavia, but the oldest graves with readable gravestones were from early 1960’s. According to the office at the cemetery they do not have any record of graves from 1926 – the year Josef Jooste Henning died.

I also visited Sarmiento, approximately 150 km west of Comodoro Rivadavia. This is the other town nearest to the area where the Henning farms were. In this cemetery there were also no Henning graves. However, the municipal offices had maps of all the graves where there were still readable information on the gravestones. Here I saw graves of Visser, Viviers, Tjaart Nicolaas van der Walt and other Afrikaners, which indicate that the Hennings, in all probability, would rather have buried their beloved ones here in stead of Comodoro Rivadavia. This is on the presumption that they were not buried on the farms, which was the practice in those days.

On my way back from Sarmiento to Comodoro Rivadavia I planned to turn off at a gravel road leading to the Rio Chico (Small river). According to the book “’n Boer in Argentinië” (A Boer in Argentina) the farm of Josef Jooste Henning was on the banks of the Rio Chico. I thought that it would be nice to reach the general area of the farms. According to Google Earth the river is at present a dry river bed and is approximately 40 – 50 kilometres from the tarred road.

Less than 5km after I turned off on the gravel road – actually a road full of rocks – it became so poor that I realised that my rented Opel Corsa would not be able to handle the road much further. I did not want to damage the vehicle or get a puncture in the middle of nowhere in Patagonia and be stranded in the extreme heat, without cellphone reception. I, therefore, had to turn around, with huge disappointment. I took a few photographs of the surroundings, which look very similar to our own Karoo. On appearance of the terrain the Afrikaners could have felt at home.



## Nuusbrief 134

# German Henning Couple visit South Africa again



**We enjoy lunch at the Kelkiewyn restaurant in Villiersdorp. F.l.t.r. Herbert- and Margita Henning of Munich, Germany; Leonie Steyn (born Henning); Charlotte and Olivier Henning of Villiersdorp**



**The castle at Karnin, Germany where the Henning family lived for more than 100 years**

Herbert (85) and Margita (80) Henning of Munich, Germany, are good friends of the Henning Family League of South Africa. Herbert's ancestors lived for hundreds of years in Demmin, near Greifswaldt and later on the farm Karnin, near Stralsund in the North Eastern parts of Germany, near the Baltic sea.

Karnin was his grandfather's farm and he became a wealthy farmer by exporting his produce to Russia. He had several employees and provided a house on the farm for each worker. During the middle of the nineteenth century Herbert's grandfather erected a huge castle on the farm where the Henning family lived. Herbert is the last of eight children who were born on the farm that is still alive.

In 1942, during the Second World War, when Russia invaded Germany, this castle was taken over by the Russians and used as one of their regional

headquarters. The labourer's houses later became the town of Karnin and the castle became a

regional headquarters of the East German Government.

For several years Herbert and Margita have been coming to the Western Cape for two months during January to March every year, when it is so exceptionally cold in Europe and hot in South Africa. During this time they stay in Somerset West. In spite of their age they try to play golf every day – even in temperatures exceeding 30°C.

Every year, while in South Africa, they make contact with League Secretary, Olivier Henning, and his wife, Charlotte, for several get-togethers. One of the occasions this year took place at the very nice and cosy local restaurant, Kelkiewyn in Villiersdorp where they enjoyed lunch.



## Rev Kosie Henning



**Rev Kosie Henning and his wife Carlizé are both big lovers of nature**

In the previous newsletter we reported on b6.c4.d1.e5.f5.g6.h3.i3. Jacobus Adriaan Gerhardus (Kosie) Henning who completed his theological studies at the PUK Campus of the North West University in Potchefstroom and could be called as minister at any congregation of the Reformed Churches in South Africa.

It came to our attention that Kosie was immediately called by the Reformed Church, Harrismith in the Free State and he accepted the call. This rural congregation include the towns Drakensville, Jagersrus, Kestell, Verkykerskop and Warden.

Kosie and his wife, Carlizé, already reported on March 18th 2018 to their new congregation.

## Stellenbosch Word Festival



**Olivier Henning manned the Henning stall at the Genealogical exhibition during the Stellenbosch Word Festival**

The Stellenbosch Word Festival is one of the most popular cultural festivals held in South Africa. This year it took place from March 2nd until March 11th and thousands of people flocked to Stellenbosch visiting the performances and stalls. One could see that everybody enjoyed themselves. A festive atmosphere was hanging over the whole town.

Four organisations – the Dutch Reformed Church (NGK) Archive, the Genealogical Society of South Africa, the Genealogical Institute of South Africa and Isabel Groesbeek Genealogical Services worked together in holding a Genealogical Open Day on

Saturday March 10th 2018 at the Stellenbosch Theological Seminarium, as part of the Word Festival. The Henning Family League was invited to participate and prepare an exhibition.

Over the years we have learnt that the few Hennings in the Western Cape do not show a great deal of interest in family league functions. Despite this we decided to participate as it would raise awareness and show why we can be proud of the family league. We thought it to be an ideal opportunity to brag a bit with our family league.



As usual, only one couple came to support us – Aubrey and Wiena Wilkinson (born Henning) of the Paarl. However, there was so much interest in our activities that we even sold two Henning CD's.

During the exhibition we came to the conclusion that if we, in the future, would like to participate again in similar exhibitions, we will have to think of procuring neat, professional and collapsible exhibition boards, which can be fit easily in the boot of a motorcar. Unfortunately this type of exhibition boards are very expensive. If our finances would allow it, we would like to get two sets manufactured for use in the Pretoria/ Johannesburg region and one in the Cape region. It could also be used at all Henning festivals and meetings.

**All the exhibitors at the Genealogical exhibition during the Word Festival on 10 March. Olivier Henning is standing between all the lovely ladies in the front row. The majority of the exhibitors were from genealogical organizations or individuals who wanted to promote the results of their research. At the end only three family leagues exhibited**



**Riekert – and Elriëtte Henning of Bloemfontein and their two children: Lizeri \*14-10-2014 and the newly born Morné \*30-1-2018**

## Babies

The second child of b6.c1.d3.e5.f11.g5.h5. Riekert Henning and his wife, Elizabeth (Elriëtte as she is known) from Bloemfontein was born in Bloemfontein on January 30th 2018 — a lovely baby boy with the name Morné. Grandfather Jan Johannes Petrus Henning and grandmother Caroline Magdalene (born Bastone) are very proud of this little bundle of joy. He is their tenth grandchild, the third son, but the first one with the Henning surname .

Riekert is a Principle Statistical Programmer and Elriëtte is a Clinical Data Analyst in Bloemfontein.

# Deaths

It is with regret that we have learnt of the death of the following members of the Henning Family League:

**b1.c3.d7.e9.f6.g2. Helena Margaretha Wessels (born Henning) \*15-1-1956** died on 24 February 2018 at her home in Henningstreet, Strand<sup>1</sup>. Helena was the daughter of former Nicolaas (Klasie) Henning (b1.c3.d7.e9.f6.) and his wife Idelette (born Pansegrouw).



**Dr Helena Wessels (born Henning) and her husband, Prof Dirk Wessels of Stellenbosch. Helena died in a fire in their house on 24 February 2018**

A stream of tributes rolled in after it became known that the well-known lecturer at the University of Stellenbosch, Dr Helena Wessels died in a fire at their home. She was a senior lecturer in mathematics for the fundamental phase in the B Ed-program. The fire was presumably caused by a gas bottle.

Her husband, Prof Dirk Wessels (71) survived the fire, but immediately after the fire he had a heart attack. He was treated in a local hospital. Their son, also Dirk, requested that people should pray for his father and should not speculate about what caused the fire.

Theo Lane, head of the Cape Town Fire Brigade, announced that they were called out at 19:28 hours on Saturday, 24 February, to a house in Henning Street, Strand<sup>1</sup>. Fourteen fire fighters struggled for more than an hour to extinguish the fire.

The Association for Mathematics Education of South Africa (AMESA) described Helena in a tribute as an appreciated, loved and devoted friend and colleague.

Prof Michael le Cordeur, chairman of the Department of Curriculum Studies at the University of Stellenbosch said in his tribute that the death of Helena is regretted. He said that his department, as well as the Faculty of Education, honour her as an

exceptional person and that her death was a great loss for the university.

Prof Dirk Wessels, husband of Helena, is an Extraordinary Professor in Mathematics in the same department.

Sgt Noloyiso Rwexana, spokesperson of the police indicated that a judicial investigation into the fire would be done.

<sup>1</sup>Henning Street in Strand was named after Gideon Henning (b7.c8.d8.e1.f5.) Chairman of the Henning Family League. As an Architectural draughtsman he was responsible for so many building plans for houses in Strand that the municipality decided to name one of the street in this city after him



**Frik (Frederick Willem Coenraad) Venter**, born 31 March 1940, husband of b6.c4.d1.e5.f4.g7.h4. Rina (Cornelia Catharina Jacoba) Henning died, on 26 February 2018 in Ermelo. He died from Lymph Gland Cancer after a sick bed of six months.



**Frik Venter \*31-3-1940 husband of b6.c4.d1.e5.f4.g7.h4. Rina Venter (born Henning) who died on 26 February 2018**

Frik started school in 1946 at the Primary School Florida and finished his school career at the High School Florida in 1957. After school he joined the SA Air Force. In 1972 he moved to Atlas Aircraft Corporation, which later became Armscor and thereafter Denel. He remained in their service until his retirement in 2000.

Frik and Rina had one son, Jan Hendrik De Wet Venter who is married to Elma. They have two children, De Wet and Riaan.

After his retirement Frik and Rina started with family research. Frik specialised in the Postma family of South Africa and the Free State Venters. Rina does research into her branch of the Henning family – the descendants of Willem Frederik Henning b6.c4.d1.e5.f4. and his son Willem Frederik g7 – also called the Kosterfontein Hennings. Her research also includes the Kosterfontein families of Van der Walt, Grobler, Opperman and Venter.

Frik had the talent to do forensic research and always tried to get more information than just a name. His big love

was the Postma family. He was the person who traced the grave of the first baby boy of Rev Dirk Postma, first Minister of Religion of the Reformed Churches of South Africa. This grave was lost for more than hundred years.

He wrote an article “HELENIUS” which was published in FAMILIA no 4/2007, the Journal of the Genealogical Society of South Africa (GSSA). A quotation from this article reads as follows:

*“One sunny morning in the North Eastern Cape on the farm Silvermeer, at a small cemetery, a long time forgotten between the branches of a shrub (Rhus mucronata) we discovered the word “Postma” on the broken and half buried headpiece of a grave. It is of no importance what the name of the farm is today. This is Balkfontein where two fathers, more than 140 years ago, said farewell to their son, Helenius Postma (1), born 23 September 1869, who died 20 November 1870. After the death of his wife, Susanna Lasya Kruger, Rev Postma gave their newly born baby boy, Helenius for adoption to his friend and his wife, who lost their child a short time before”.*

Literally a case of a couple without a child on the one side and a child without a mother on the other side – a child, with a father who cannot care for him, who is placed in the care of his father's friends.

Frik also received a prize from the GSSA for "The Best Article for 2008". This article with title "*n Fotoverhaal*" (The story of a Photograph) appeared in one of the FAMILIAS of 2008. He found an old photograph taken just after the Anglo Boer War of a family who lost their father during the war. The family visited the grave of their father and took a photograph at the grave. With ingenious detective work Frik traced the names of everybody in the photograph, the date and the name of the farm in the records of the specific Concentration Camp.



With this research a photograph with no meaning became a historic item of great value.

## Old Photograph for our Collection

Some time ago we received this photograph of b7.c5.d1.e4. Willem Lodewicus Jansen Henning, born 24 December 1884. He was born on the farm Ezelshoek, district Middelburg, Cape

Willem married Anna Meyers, the daughter of Charles Meyers and his wife, Chirsitina Jacoba in Middelburg.

They had five children. Unfortunately we do not have any particulars of his personal history. Any help in this regard would be appreciated.

## Finances

Due tot the fact that the family league is not taxable (our income is too small), our financial year stretches from January to December each year. During the closing and audit of our books for the 2017 financel year the following came to light:

1. Our total income for the year was R20 828.00, which came from the following items: Donations – R14 386.00, sale of CD's and other souvenirs – R942.00, R5 500.00 interest on our savings account;
2. Our total expenditure for the year was R20 551.00, made up by the following items: Internet costs – R5 489.00, Bank costs – R1 224.00, Membership of organisations – R684.00, Postage and stationary – R2 233.00, Gifts – R345.00, Computer costs – R8 040.00, Depreciation – R2 536.00.
3. Our income, therefore, was only R277.00 more than our expenditure.



**Henning League Donations — Please, even if it is only a small one**

assurance that every cent we receive would be spent in the interest of the Henning family and especially the Henning Family League.

We mention gladly the names of those members who contributed over the past three months:

**Monthly by means of a Debit Order:** As reliable as can be – Jan Andries Henning and his wife, Cornelia of Montana Park, Pretoria; Jan Hendrik Henning and his wife, Nicolina of Glenstantia, Pretoria; Past Antonie Henning and his wife Nellie of Wonderboom South, Pretoria; Pieter Hendrik Henning and his wife Anna of Durbanville; Runa and Sauer van Straaten of Doringkloof, Centurion; Gesina and Mathys Spangenberg of Swakopmund, Namibia; Pieter Jacobus Stephanus Henning of Ramsgate.

**Annually:**

- Ockert and Roline Henning of Dubanville – R500.00
- Werner Pieter Henning of Cresta, Johannesburg – R500.00
- Stanley and Mary-Ann Henning of Dower Glenn, Edenvale – R500.00
- Stanley and Mary-Ann Henning of Wierda Park Centurion and their two grown-up children, Heinrich and Anél – R900.00
- Marlene and Gerald Page of Pietersburg/Polokwane – R300.00
- Gesina and mathys Spangenberg of Swakopmund, Namibia – R300.00
- Gerhard and Deidré Henning of Rouldene, Kimberley – R300.00

2017 therefore was one of only a few years in the 34-years history of the family league where we could not move funds to our savings account to make provision for unforeseeable expenditures. A growing number of members do not contribute any longer.

We are thankful for those members who continue sending us donations. Fortunately we have members who contribute on a monthly basis, while the majority contribute on a yearly basis. We leave it to well-meaning contributors to decide themselves how much and how often they want to contribute. All contributions – even the smallest – are welcome. We want to give the

# Henning Souvenir



**How's this for size!! For Hennings nothing is impossible**

We still have the following Henning souvenirs available. You can order telephonically (028 840 0113 or by E Mail – [olie4@henning.org](mailto:olie4@henning.org)). Unfortunately postage according to the weight of the parcel must be added on. We will therefore have to calculate the postage before you can deposit the money into the account of the Family League. Account particulars are as follows: **FNB Villiersdorp branch 200 712, Account name – Henning Family League; Account number 6265 7601 483. Please use your member number or initials and surname as reference.**

1. Henning CD – R125.00 each (postage R10.00). Remember! We regularly receive new information for inclusion in the Family Cronicle. If your CD is older than a year, it is already outdated. By ordering a new one, you not only get the newst version, you also help the family league

2. Writing pads (50 pages) – R30.00
3. Sugar spoons (gold plated) – R54.00 each
4. Collar badges – R30.00 each
5. Teaspoons (gold plated) –R50.00 each. **Very nice as a set of six with a sugar spoon**
6. Cuff Links — R100.00 set. **Really very nice! Can be worn with pride or**

**displayed in a show case. Will also become a nice heirloom**

Determine postage cost before ordering. If you want us to send the parcel by registered post, this will add an extra R30.00 to the postage. Unless you want to place a really big order, postage would most probably be R10.00. Delivery by Postnet will be R99.00 for a parcel weighing 1 Kg.

**Please support the Family League!**



- 1.Henning CD – R125.00; 2.Writing pad (50 pages) – R30.00; 3.Sugar spoon –R54.00; 4.Collar badge – R30.00; 5.Teaspoon – R50.00; 6.Cuff links – R100.00**