

Nuusbrief van die Peter Henrich Henning Familiebond

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English Translation

Grave of Cornelis Belsazar Henning *17-1-1886



a2.b1.c6.d3.e11. Cornelis Belsazar Henning *Zastron 17-1-1886 and his wife Susanna Francina (born Fouche) *19-10-1889

Cornelis Belsazar Henning born 17 January 1886 is certainly one of the most colourful characters in the history of the Henning families of South Africa and we have reported on him several times in the newsletter.

Cornelis was not even fourteen years old when the Anglo Boer War broke out in October 1899. When his father, Pieter Hendrik Henning *30-7-1840, joined the Rouxville Commando, the fourteen-year-old Cornelis accompanied his father, although his name was not included in the commando lists.

However, there is corroborating evidence - letters by the Adjutant of the Rouxville Commando and a P W Vogel - that he took part in the battle at the Aliwal-Noord bridge on 10 March 1900 and was wounded by shrapnel.

During the fight, his father's horse was hit in the hoof by a cardets. Cornelis therefore also had to lift his father on his horse and flee. So he saved his father's life. Like his father, Cornelis was also captured by the British forces. His father was sent to the prisoner of war camp on the island of St Helena, while Cornelis was sent to Jamestown, near Aliwal North, to be nursed and confined there.

In ou Baltiese dialek was Hen = Haan (manlik), Henne = Hen (vroulik). Henning = Haantjie (vriendelike bynaam vir 'n jong lewenslustige en parmantige seuntjie)

After the war he had to walk back from Jamestown to their farm, Palmietfontein in the Rouxville/Zastron district. Due to hardships, his family hardly recognized him.

In 1920, when the South African government invited citizens who had participated in the war to apply for the War Medal that was instituted, Cornelis was one of those who did not apply. He even qualified for the "Ribbon for injury".

The scar on his left temple was clearly visible until his death.

On 2 November 1909 he married Susanna Francina Fouche *19-10-1889 in Zastron. In time, he acquired the farm Riviergesig, in the Zastron district, where he operated a prosperous dairy farm.



The farm house on the farm Riviergesig, district Zastron, during 1959, when the photo was taken, was already very dilapidated. This was the farmhouse of a2.b1.c6.d3.e11. Cornelis Belsazar Henning *17-1-1886



Frans Henning clearly confused the statue and gravestone of Genl De la Rey with each other. This is the gravestone on Genl De la Rey's grave in Lichtenburg

During the 1920s, things seemed to no longer go well on the farm and he decided to try his luck on the diamond fields North of Kimberley. He left his wife and children behind on Riviergesig.

Early in November 1926, a horseman - the postman - delivered a letter to his wife that her husband was seriously ill with pneumonia. She and her son Francois Delarey (*1914) - then about 12 years old - immediately drove to Lichtenburg in a horse-drawn carriage. When they arrived in Lichtenburg two weeks later, they learned that he had already died on 17 November 1926 and was buried in Lichtenburg Francois Delarey, who was with his mother, later told that when they visited the grave and he looked up to the left he saw General De la Rey's grave. As he remembered, the tombstone was a rider on a horse. The family later went to look for the grave again, but could not find it. There is doubt, to this day, whether Cornelis was buried in the village cemetery or the cemetery for the diamond miners. Gen. De la Rey's statue



A photo of Susanna Francina Henning and her son Francois Delarey Henning on the place where her husband was buried



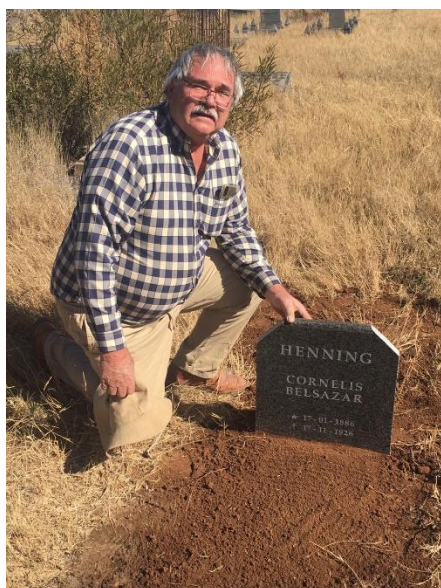
actually stands in front of the town hall of Lichtenburg.

Cornelis' grandson, Johannes Henning a2.b1.c6.d3.e11.f1.g4. informed us now of the last piece of history of his grandfather. Here is his account:

The fact that my grandfather C B Henning's (a2.b1.c6.d3.e11.) grave could never be located has always bothered me and I have been trying to locate his grave since the nineties, but always came to a dead end, especially when it was said that there was a possibility that he was buried in the diggers -cemetery outside Lichtenburg.

Recently I made contact with my cousin Frans Henning. (a2.b1.c6.d3.e11.f3.g2) and during our communication informed me that he visited the place where grandfather was buried, together with his father Francois Delarey b1.c6.d3.e11.f3. and grandmother Henning, Susanna Francina, many years after his death. The visit is confirmed with a photo he took of my grandmother and Frans Delarey standing and looking at a flower pot. At that stage there was no sign of a grave or grave number, but the position of the grave was in the same row as that of Genl de la Rey. Based on this, I contacted the Lichtenburg municipality, trying to find out if there might be a member of staff who could assist me to find the exact spot of the grave.

Johannes Henning and Martin Clarke of the Lichtenburg Parks department who assisted him to find the exact spot of the grave of grandpa Cornelis



Above: a2.b1.c6.d3.e11.f1.g4.
Johannes Henning at the gravestone
he made for his grand fathers grave.
**Right, Johannes with his friend Fanie
Steyn who assisted him erecting the
grave stone**

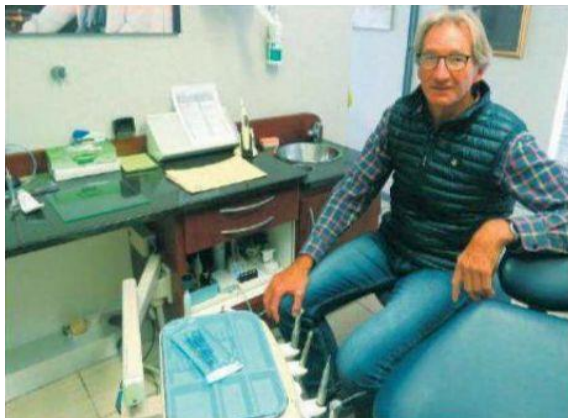
About two weeks later I received a call from a Mr Martin Clarke, Divisional Manager of Lichtenburg Parks and cemeteries during which he informed me that he had found my grandfather's grave, or at least the place where he was buried. Based on the photo, Martin identified certain objects and plotted the grave.

I was very excited and had a headstone made and engraved and a friend, Fanie Steyn, and I left Pretoria on 7 July 2022 with concrete premix, shovels, rakes, level and a trowel to Lichtenburg to set up the tombstone. I am attaching several photos of the events. After that, Martin made further efforts and took us to Bakerville, where diamonds were mined in the 1920s. I would like to take this opportunity to express my heartfelt thanks to everyone who was involved and made a contribution. Specially to Martin Clarke and my brother Willie Henning a2.b1.c6.d3.e11.f1.g3 for the financial contribution and Fanie Steyn for his physical help and assistance.

Compiled by CBHenning's grandson
Johannes Henning a2.b1.c6.d3.e11.f1.g4



Henning World Champion



Dr Pieter Dawid Henning in his consulting room in Potchefstroom



Dr Pieter Henning on the podium after he won the gold medal in Romania

During June 2022, a Potchefstroom dentist showed a clean pair of heels to biathletes from around the world and won a gold medal in a killer race in Romania..

a2.b1.c1.d6.e2.f2.g3.h1. Dr Pieter Dawid Henning *28-9-1952 who turned 70 years old in September, said that his victory in the World Cross Duathlon championships initially "didn't quite sink in yet."

On his return home, twenty of his running and cycling friends surprised him one evening with a happy visit. Only then did he really realized what had happened. Of course, he did his best, but the gold medal was a bonus and a surprise.

Pieter participated in the age category for athletes from 70 to 74. The running route over 10.5 kilometres with a climbing slope of 300 meters was very difficult. The climbing slope on the mountain bike ride over 25km was 885 metres.

The championships, which take place annually, rotate between different countries and

continents. This time it was in the town of Targu Mures in Romania.

Pieter represented South Africa in the same championships in 1996 and 2019 in Italy and Spain respectively.

After the championship in Romania, he also visited Montreal, Canada, where he participated in a triathlon world championship.

Pieter says he is privileged to be still healthy and so far, surgery and injury free. He has been training for 35 years. He thanks the Lord every morning that he can train,

because there is no guarantee that he will be able to train again and participate in competitions.

In 2021 he started swimming and since then he has also participated in swimming triathlon competitions.

His wife Miekie, understands that exercise is part of his life and fully supports him. She loves walking, Pilates and the outdoors.

Pieter trains with a group of friends every morning. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays they jog and Tuesdays and Thursdays they ride their bikes.

Romania was a party. The food, accommodation and airline tickets are really affordable. The food and accommodation are even cheaper than in South Africa. The country is beautifully green and there is no litter. The whole country is wonderfully clean and there is no unemployment.

Back home, he participated in the South African Biathlon Championships in Gqeberha and then in October half a Ironman competition in Mossel Bay.

Dr Pieter David Henning *28-9-1952 studied dentistry at the University of Pretoria and completed his studies during 1976, after which he began training.



Philippus Arnoldus Henning (known as Flip) *Trompsburg 18-11-1943 is a farmer on the farm, Straussfontein in the Trompsburg district. Photo was taken when he was elected as chairman of the Free State Agricultural Union

Farm Attack on Henning Farm in Trompsburg

a2.b7.c7.d10.e3.f1. Philippus Arnoldus Henning (known as Flip) *Trompsburg 18-11-1943 is a farmer on the farm, Straussfontein in the Trompsburg district. Flip was married to Rosmé Estelle Bothma *Brakpan 22-4-1946, who was rag queen in her day. They have two sons who are both already married and have children. However, Rosmé passed away about two years ago.

Flip is a former chairman of the Free State Agricultural Union. He is a well-known merino farmer and storyteller of stature and is a legend in Trompsburg. He is quietly called Trompsburg's mayor. His father, Lappies, was indeed the mayor in his time.



Beminde Jacobs (62). On the photo below one can see some of the injuries she contracted during the attack.



Flip has a girlfriend, Beminde Jacobs (62), whom he plans to marry. So she has also been living at Straussfontein for some time. Beminde operates a restaurant, "Tromp-Op Boerekos Kombuis" in Trompsburg. Her husband, Gerrit Jacobs, died in March 2020.

Flip and Beminde went to visit her daughter in Bloemfontein on Sunday 3 July 2022 and only drove back on Monday. They drove two cars because they had different appointments on Monday. Beminde drove directly to the farm. On the way she picked up one of Flip's granddaughters (14). On the farm, the daughter rode a horse into the field.

Beminde took a shower. She just wanted to get ready before she had to open her restaurant at 5:00 p.m. When she got out of the shower, she caught a farm worker unpacking drawers in the master bedroom.

"She screamed and wanted to flee, but fell. He allegedly kicked, hit, strangled and pushed her. The attack was so bad that her cheekbone and ribs were broken."

Flip says he found Beminde in a terrible state. She was treated in the neurosurgery department of the Life Rosepark Hospital in Bloemfontein and experienced severe trauma after the brutal attack on her.

Flip says he doesn't know what happened to the farm worker.

"I paid the workers on Saturday

and he probably hoped there was still money in the drawers. Then he was caught. I gave him R1 100 on Saturday to be able to buy a bed, and now he's doing this?"

He says Beminde has an extremely good heart and looks after the farm workers. "She constantly distributes food, clothes and medicine to them."

Flip himself also survived a farm attack on Straussfontein in 2007 when five men ambushed him and shot him in his left shoulder. The men beat one of his workers to death with a pipe.

The attacker was caught on Thursday evening 7 July in Colesberg - about 120 km from Trompsburg.

Family League will also perish

We reported in the previous newsletter about the major setback I, as League Secretary, had in my health during May 2022 and where I turned around at death. It became clear that I would only be able to continue to manage the Family League if there were no further setbacks in my health. I already find that my ability to concentrate is weakening, but as long as it is still possible for me, I will continue to update the Family Chronicle and send out newsletters — no more paper copies but only by E-Mail, due to the unreliability of the post office and the high cost of printing these newsletters (approximately R25.00 per newsletter).

The person who will have to take over from me as the drafter of the Newsletter (in Afrikaans and English) must have extensive knowledge of the history of the Henning family and will also have to be able to track down all newsworthy reports from current generations. Unfortunately, there is currently no such person that we are aware of.

The Henning website on the Internet will be maintained, where the entire family chronicle, museum and newsletters can be consulted.

Fortunately, Dr. Jannetta Steyn will continue to maintain the site. But it is clear that our family league will be dissolved with the passage of time.

Firstly, I am asking the six people who have been sending monthly donations to stop doing so. These funds really kept the family

league alive. I would like to thank these members again for their involvement.

There will also be no need to forward one-time donations. We will begin to deplete our reserves until there is nothing left and then dissolve the family league.



The late Lou Henning, well-known cartoonist of the Sunday newspaper, Rapport created this picture in 1984, shortly after the foundation of the family league and the newsletter

For myself it is a great disappointment, because I have been involved with the history and family tree of the Henning families for longer than 40 years. However, I realize that this is the fate of all family organisations - even the Henning Family League.

Deaths



a2.b1.c6.d11.e9.f1.g2 Elvy Henning who died on 22 Augustus 2022

We learned that a funeral service was held for an Elvy Henning on 25 August 2022 in the NG Church Marble Hall.

We believe that it must be Elvy Henning, born 21 April 1959 with genealogical number a2.b1.c6.d11.e9.f1.g2. Unfortunately, we could not find any further information. Apparently, he passed away due to cancer and died on August 22, 2022.

We found a clue on his funeral letter, where his wife's name is indicated as Lien. We have it on record that the full names of Elvy's wife is Kayleen Ann (born Van Der Merwe) and we suspect that Lien is derived from Kayleen. They have one son, Wade Tyron Avery, born July 11, 1983, who we believe must be Lien's son from a previous marriage. His name does

appear on an old voters-roll (2014) where he is registered as Wade Tyron Henning, born 11 July 1983. Unfortunately, no address is given on the voters-role

Babies

We learned that a2.b1.c6.d8.e8.f8.g3. Andries Gustaf Henning and his wife, Melissa (born Etsebet)'s second daughter, Amber Gabriella was born on 18-5-2021.



The youngest newly-born daughter of Andries Gustaf Henning and his wife, Melissa - Amber Gabriella who was born on 18 May 2021

Money Matters

Many thanks to the two members who forwarded donations for the family League over the past three months:

P A Henning (presumably Philippus Arnoldus Henning) from Langebaan – R500.00

Elizabeth M Dirker (member 114) from Kockspark – R200.00

Our six stalwarts (Jan Hendrik Henning of Glenstantia, Pretoria, Mauritz Martin Henning of Theresapark, Pretoria-North, Mrs Runa (R T) van Straaten of Pretoriuspark, Pretoria, the 92-year-old Pastor Antonie Henning of Pretoria, Mrs Gesina Spangenberg of Swakopmund, Namibia and Gert Hendrik Frans Henning and his wife, Grietha of Bethlehem) have been sending donation regularly every month. We have already informed these members that it is no longer necessary to forward donations.

