



**BOND OF THE VERMEULEN FAMILY**  
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## **DIE MEULENAAR OCTOBER 2022 ( Volume 23)**

### **Preface**

It's time for Die Meulenaar to appear again. It is nice for us to once again be able to live normally without masks after the Corona virus pandemic and we trust that life continues for you as in the past

### **Bond Membership and New Members**

Our members are currently 76 members and 4 friends. Although members sometimes resign, we are pleased to report that our membership remains constant at around 80. We thank all our members who so faithfully pay their annual membership fees and we also welcome our new member as indicated below. We trust that your connection with the Bond will be pleasant and will be of mutual benefit to yourself and the Vermeulen Family.

Jan Paul de Villiers (Paul) Vermeulen from Kleinzee.

### **Facebook Page and Web Page**

Our Facebook page's membership is still growing and since 2021 our membership grew by 77 to 714. Thank you to our admin members who administer Facebook for us and all those members who share interesting facts of the Vermeulens with us. We want to encourage you to please load more information, photos, etc. for all of us to enjoy

As you know we have a web page <https://www.vermeulenbond.org> with many new articles and interesting facts. We want to expand our web page to include stories of those antiques/souvenirs from our Vermeulen ancestors. We therefore request our members to send us photos and information about these special items for inclusion on the web.

The web page is monthly visited by an average of 118 persons during the past year . For our English speaking Vermeulens the web page is available in both Afrikaans and English, except for some of the previous editions of Die Meulenaar. Click on the home page of the website on the South African flag for the Afrikaans version and on the United Kingdom flag for the English version. See the sign below .



The electronic version of the 2019 updated genealogical register as well as the commemorative edition (provided free of charge for Bond members ) can also be downloaded if it has been paid for. For all purchases and prices see our web page .

### **Genealogy Register**

No more copies of our genealogy register in book form are available. We do not foresee that the register will be printed again in future and for those who are in possession of the books, look after it well because it will become a sought after collection piece in time to come.

Keeping up of our database continues undisturbed. However, we need every Vermeulen to update their information on a regular basis. Please help us with this important task. On 1.09.2022 there were 18340 names recorded in the database of Dirk Cornelisz and 5293 names in the case of Jan Willemsz . This also includes spouses who became Vermeulens by marriage. The numbers (names) are growing yearly and deaths etc. of current persons are regularly updated .

### **General annual meeting (AGM)**

Our AGM was done online on 20 August 2022. It was also very pleasant to see a few new faces for the first time on our meeting. We already gave feedback through my annual report and also the details of the new committee was passed on to you as well as the financial reports . The Bond's finances are sound and on 28.02.2022 we had an amount of R38 552 in our savings account at the bank . We want to thank Zelma Geldenhuys who has served as a committee member for 5 years and had to resign due to weak health . We thank her for her unselfish service to the Bond.

### **Vermeulen Day Celebration**

We have this year again celebrated on 9 August VERMEULEN DAY and a lot of Vermeulens has positively respond on the celebrations on our facebook page . Thank you everyone for your positive contribution. All the Vermeulen descendants are encouraged to join in next year.

## Club 80

The Club 80 currently consists of 3 members . May they be saved long for our Bond and theirs next of kin. We pray them blessings and good to health .

**Jacobus Daniël Vermeulen ( Koos )** D<8169> will be on 19 December 88 years old this year. He is us oldest member.

**Hendrik Johannes Vermeulen** D<7051> Hendrik is 82 years old this year and he lives in Warmbad Limpopo.

We have reported on these two gentlemen in our previous communication.

**Martinus Godfried Drotskie ( Tienie ) Vermeulen <11365>**



**Tienie and his family**

## Something about myself(Tienie)

I am the oldest of 5 children, born April 24, 1941 in Augrabies. Raised and grew up and went to school in Upington. Left school at the end of 1957 and began a career on 02 January 1958 as an Apprentice Electrician at the then South African Railways and Ports in Windhoek, South West Africa; then still part of the RSA, and the control center from where all railway activities within the borders of South West Africa, including Upington, Keimoes, Kakamas up to Britstown near De-Aar, were controlled.

As an Apprentice with a 5 year contract those years, I was trained in all branches of the trade. Back in the good old days before formal apprentice schools came into being, skilled tradesmen were used to train apprentices. They were tasked to act as mentors, and ensuring that all aspects were met within a prescribed training timetable.

As I was from Upington where my parents were living, I was transferred to the workshop which was based in Upington from the start of my second year. For my third and fourth year of training I was sent to the Cape for advanced training, mainly in branches of the trade that were not available in South West Africa. During my stay of two years in the Cape, I also met my wife Susarah. Unfortunately, after the two-year term, I had to return to Windhoek to serve out the last year of my contract. In those years, a concession was in force that after his fourth year of training, an apprentice could voluntarily submit to a subject test, which had to be taken at Olifantsfontein . An opportunity that I seized and passed with

good results . With full tradesman status I then had the choice to stay with the Railways or continue my career elsewhere in the private sector. However, I decided to stay, which I don't regret for a day.

Susarah, who at that time was also employed by the Railways in the Cape, resigned her job and moved to Windhoek, where we were married on the 2nd of March 1963. From our marriage three children were born; two sons and a daughter. The eldest son, today a Chartered Accountant with his own practice in Durbanville. The daughter is married and has become a parsonage mother, together with her husband Clifford James they are currently a ministerial couple of the NG Church in Hopefield. The youngest son is a Botanist and works at SAPPLANT in Stellenbosch as Table and Raisin Grape Manager.

At the end of 1965 luck was on my side again, and I was asked and assigned to establish an Apprentice School in Windhoek starting in 1966. I was also appointed as the first Apprentice Teacher of the school under the control of the Foreman Electrician. During 1969 a promotion opportunity arose as Distribution Assistant at Lainsburg in the RSA, which I accepted subject to the fact that I first had to complete and pass a course in 3KV Traction Substations, again with good results. At that stage the Regional Engineer (Electrical) in Windhoek was creating an Assistant Foreman (Apprentice Training) position in Windhoek; and I was asked to stay on as Apprentice Teacher until such time as the position of Assistant Foreman was approved.

Again, luck was on my side and I was appointed to the new position before I could take up the position in Lainsburg. This position I held until July 31, 1972, after which I transferred at my own request to a vacancy that arose in the Office of the Regional Engineer (Electrical) in Windhoek, as Technical Officer. I occupied this position until June 1978. At that stage, for the then foreseeable future, I realized there were no further promotion opportunities for me within the borders of South West Africa. I requested to be transferred to the RSA where promotion opportunities and prospects for the future were much better. I then transferred to the Regional Engineer's (Electrical) office at Saldanha in the same grade.

Starting July 1978 when I arrived in Saldanha, Spoornet was busy taking over the control of the Sishen Saldanha Railway line and it's Electrification from ISCOR I. With many new works and plants under construction, I was put in charge of electrical contract works done by private contractors for Spoornet. After the takeover, with all contract works completed, I was mainly involved in planning as well as maintaining electrical installations on the Iron Ore Line between Sishen and Saldanha, as well as assisting Technicians who were responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of Traction Feed Stations, including auxiliary and emergency power supplies for the Ore Line.

With effect from 1992 I was promoted to Senior Engineering Assistant, a position I held until my retirement at the end of April 2001 after 43 years and 4 months in the service of the same organisation.

#### **Other Information**

#### **FAK Genealogy - & Family Festival on 9.04.2022 at the Voortrekker Monument Pretoria**

We have already given complete feedback earlier in the year about this great occasion. I think that was certainly the Bond's highlight the year . Again thank you to Nico, Stoffel, Cloete and Nikki that managed

our stall. We have the photos and a powerpoint presentation of this contribution on our web page placed under the heading “meetings” . See <https://www.vermeulenbond.org>

### **Annual Vermeulen Family Rally running for 49 years .**

This article recently appeared on our web page . Those who missed out can read it at ease under the heading “Heritage ... Unique Rally ” on our web page .

### **Donation to Museums**

The Bond of the Vermeulen Family donated the following items, The Genealogical Register of the Vermeulen Family in Southern Africa Second Edition (2011) Part 1 and Part 2 as well as The Commemorative Edition which the Bond published in 2020 for celebration of the Bond's 20th anniversary, to the three instances below:

### **Donation to Heritage Foundation Pretoria**

The donation to The Heritage Foundation is made because of the Vermeulen family 's connection with Pretoria and especially with the two brothers Hendrik Johannes Vermeulen and Jacobus Gerhardus ( Kootjie ) Vermeulen's involvement with the foundation of Pretoria on 16 November 1855. The Pioneer Open Air Museum was also the home of their father Guillian Vermeulen and Vermeulen Street (Madiba Street ) was named after the two brothers.

### **Donation to Gansbaai Library**

The donation to Gansbaai library is made because of the Vermeulen family 's connection with Gansbaai and surroundings . Christoffel Johannes Vermeulen born around 1749, the great- grandson of the progenitor Jan Willemsz, had originally grazing rights on the farm Awila (1785) located between Uilenkraalsmond and Pearly Beach . He and his family farmed on Awila until his death where after his children continued with the farming. Christoffel Johannes Vermeulen was the ancestor of all of Jan Willemsz's descendants whom were known as the Overberg Vermeulens, which include the Gansbaai Vermeulens .

### **Donation on Orania Conservation Foundation**

The donation to Orania was made because of the Vermeulen family's connection with the town . Stefanus Ockert Vermeulen, a descendant of Jan Willemsz bought the farm Vluytjeskraal in 1882. The town Orania was established on this farm. The graves of SO Vermeulen and his wife and SO Vermeulen's inscriptions on a dolerite stone are still on the farm and will be preserved for posterity in future development in Orania.

The complete articles regarding the above connection can be found on our web page and in the Commemorative edition .

## Story of a Family Bible researched and compiled by C J (Stoffel) Vermeulen

### Introduction

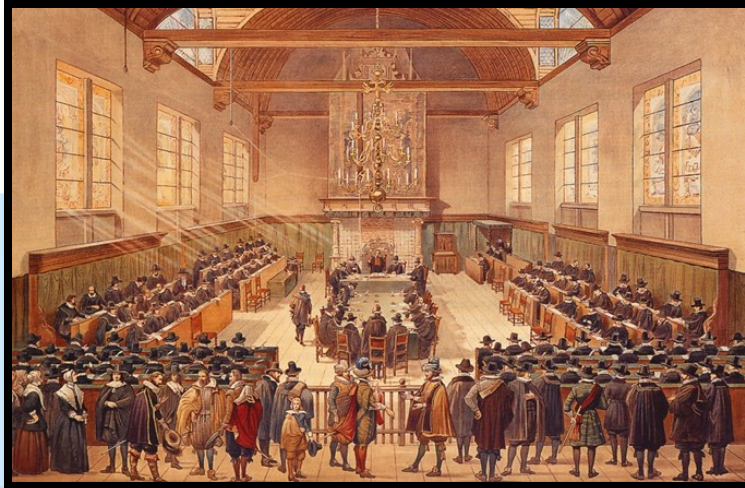
During 2013, the VERMEULEN BOND received a donation in the form of a Family Bible – Statenbijbel, which was in all probability in the possession of the Vermeulen family since 1798. During the following 214 years, several notes were made in the Bible, by Guilliam Vermeulen (1752-1818) and his descendants.



Vermeulen Statenbijbel (1741)

### History of the Statenbijbel

The story of this VERMEULEN Family Bible will be incomplete if we also do not give a brief overview regarding the origin of the Dutch Statenbijbel. The first complete Bible in Dutch was already printed in Antwerp during 1526 by Jacob van Liesvelt. As in the case of several other bibles of the period, it is based on a translation of a translation. These translations are based on Martin Luther's translation. It has a very strong Lutheran influence. During the Synod of Dordrecht (1618-1619) it was decided that a new translation should be done. The translation was done from the original written in Hebrew, Aramaic and Greek. This request was addressed to the State General of the time.



Dordrecht Synod (1618-1619)

In 1626 the request was accepted and the translation could begin, which was completed in 1635. The State General approved the translation during 1637. From this period up to and including 1657, nearly half a million copies are printed. In 1657, a Second Edition is printed which were used in the Protestant Church until the 20th century.

#### **Guilliam Vermeulen (1752-1818)**

Guilliam was the great-grandson of Dirk Cornelisz Vermeulen. Dirk is one of the recognized progenitors of the VERMEULEN family in South Africa, who landed on the Cape of Good Hope on August 9, 1705. Guilliam was born from the marriage of Cornelis Vermeulen and Adriana du Plooy on 27 August 1752 in Paarl. He is one of eight children and the fourth oldest. Guilliam married Maria Elizabeth Coetzee on 17 December 1780. The marriage takes place from the NG Church, Tulbagh. He is also referred to as a citizen of Stellenbosch. From the marriage with Maria, eight children are born. After Maria's death, around 1797, Guilliam married Anna Elizabeth Hough in Stellenbosch on 23 February 1800. A further eight children also arise from this marriage. It is not known when the Statenbijbel was received by Guilliam. This copy of the KEUR Statenbijbel was printed by Jacob and Hendrick KEUR in Dordrecht. The printing work begins around 1741 on the Old Testament. The New Testament and Apocryphal Books are printed during 1744. The following explanation in this regard was received from Wim van't Zelfde. (Director Bijbelmuseum Leerdam, Netherlands.)

*“de Bijbels die de familie Keur drukte werden niet direct ingebonden maar in losse bladen in bundels van 4 pagina's dubbel gevouwen bewaard, dus in totaal 8 de oplagen waren ca 800 a 1000 exemplaren per Bijbeldrukgang. dat drukken duurde meestal 1 tot 3 jaar, van de 1e tot de laatste pagina. om deze systematisch te kunnen bewaren was zeer veel ruimte nodig en de familie Keur mocht daarvoor de grote zolder van het stadhuis in Dordrecht gebruiken. pas daarna begon men met het inbinden waarbij de klanten konden aangeven of men er kaarten in wilde hebben en eventueel ook gravures als het inbinden klaar was werden er houten kaften op voor en achterzijde aangebracht met daar omheen de rundleren band als dit gedaan was werd er onder de bindpers de stempels in het leder aangebracht*

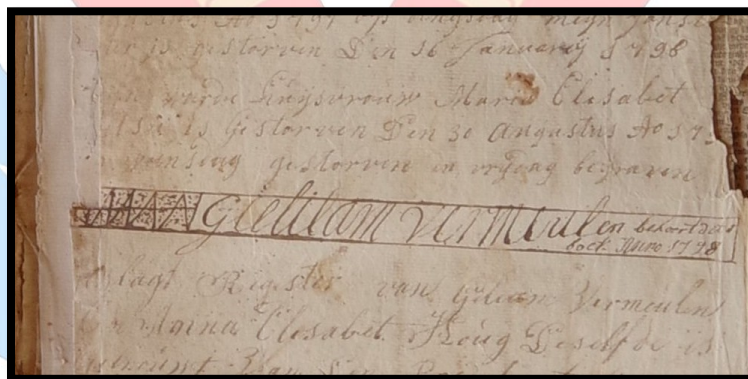
daarna werd het koper beslag aangebracht en werd de Bijbel aan de boekhandel geleverd die deze voor zijn klant had besteld.

bij jullie Bijbel is men begonnen te drukken in 1741 met het Oude Testament en in 1744 werd het Nieuwe Testament met de apocriefe boeken afgemaakt.

pas daarna begon de afwerking zoals hier boven weergegeven en werden dus in de jaren daarna de kaarten en platen aangebracht in het jaar 1755/56 werd de laatste Bijbel door Keur gedrukt."



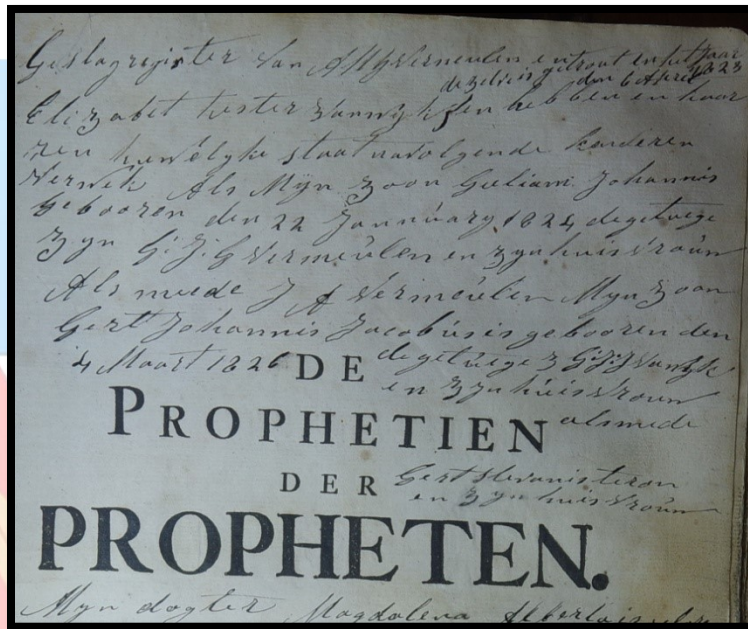
An image by J.C Phillips "Schepping des Menfchen", is dated 1774. It is then clear that by 1774 the bible had not yet been shipped from Dordrecht to the Cape of Good Hope. Almost 33 years have passed since the printing of the Bible began.



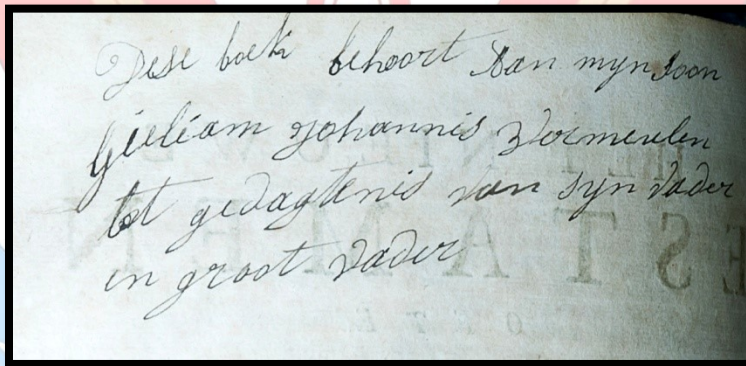
The above handwritten entry is also found in the bible "Gielliam Vermeulen Behoort \_\_\_ Book anno 1798" Could this possibly represent the year in which Guillian received the bible?

With the death of Guillian Vermeulen on 27 November 1818, the bible in all probability went to Andreas Michail Gert Vermeulen. (2nd owner) Andreas was born from Guillian's second marriage in 1800 to Anna Elizabeth Hough.

We find that a handwritten entry was made of the genealogical register of Andreas and Elizabeth Hester van Wyk. They were married on 6 April 1823 from the NG Church Tulbagh. Among other things, this also indicates the birth of Guilliam Johannes Vermeulen on 22 January 1824.



**Extract from genealogy of Andreas M.G. Vermeulen and Elizabeth Hester van Wyk.**



**Handwritten entry which in all probability refers to Guilliam Johannes Vermeulen, eldest son of Andreas.**

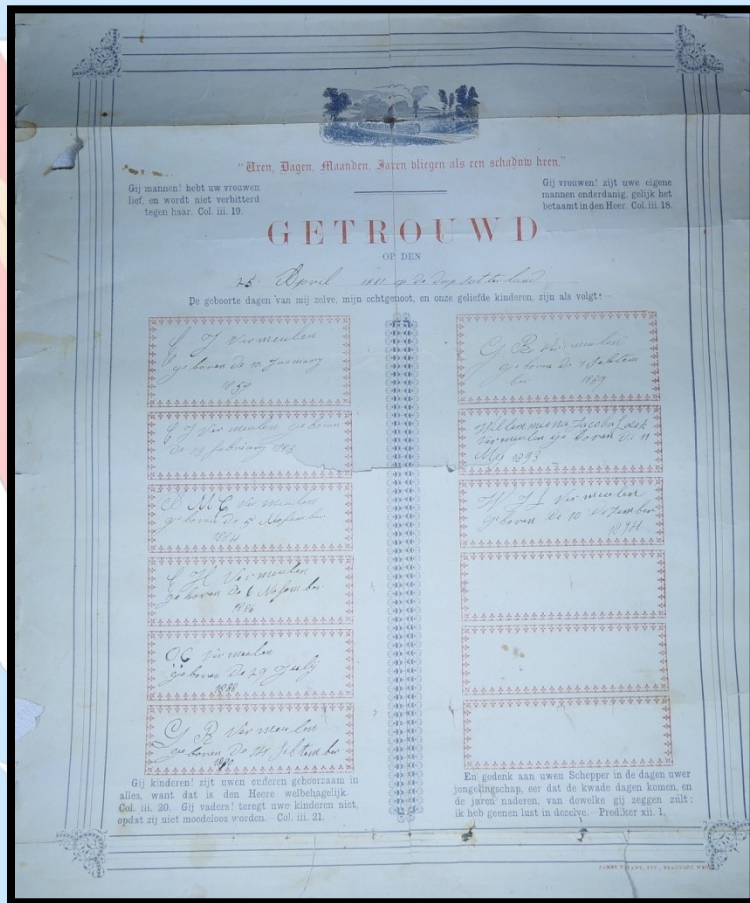
It is assumed that Guilliam Johannes Vermeulen was the **3rd owner** of the bible. Guilliam Johannes married Getruida Rachel Vermeulen in about 1846. Her father was Ockert Cornelis Vermeulen, son of Guilliam Vermeulen from his first marriage with Maria Elizabeth Coetzee.

With the death of Guilliam Johannes in 1868, there is the possibility that this bible came into the possession of his younger sister, Anna Elizabeth Vermeulen. (**4th owner**) Anna Elizabeth was born in 1832. She was married in about 1850 to Ernestus Jacobus Vermeulen. Ernestus Jacobus was born in 1823 and was the son of Ockert Cornelis Vermeulen and Maria Margaretha Visser. Ockert Cornelis was the half-brother of Andreas Michail Gert Vermeulen. (**2nd owner of the bible**).

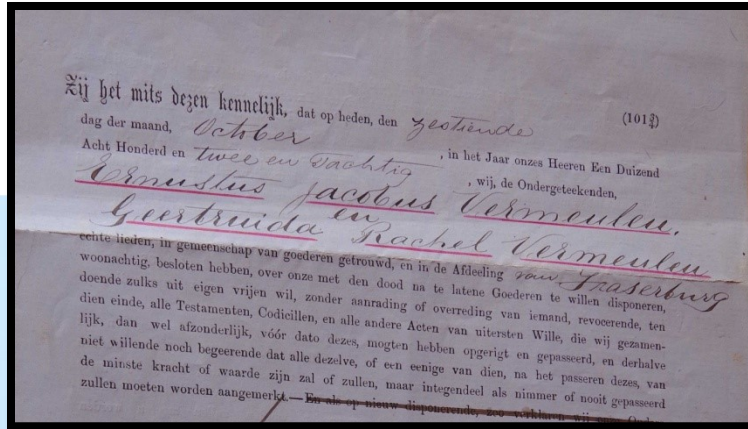
It must be emphasized that the ownership (3rd) rests only on the Entry in relation to Guiliam Johannes Vermeulen. Be that as it may, this bible is "united" in the offspring of Guiliam Vermeulen's first and second marriage.

A separate handwritten genealogy was also found inside the bible. This sheds light on who may have been the 5th owner(s) of the bible.

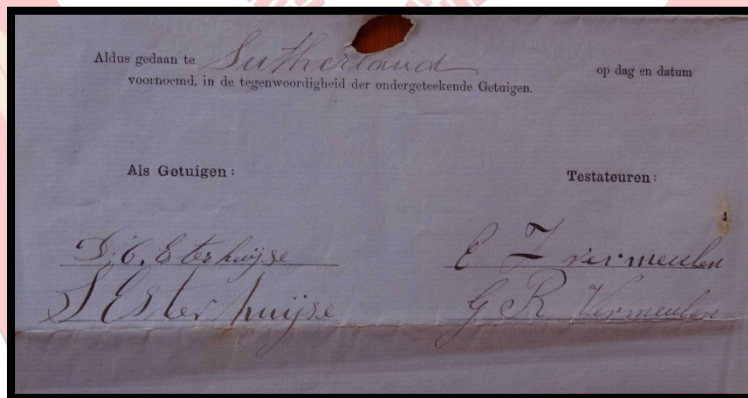
From the marriage between Ernestus Jacobus Vermeulen and Anna Elizabeth Vermeulen, a daughter Rachel Gertruida Vermeulen was born in 1859. She married Ernestus Jacobus Vermeulen on 25 April 1881. This Ernestus Jacobus was born from the marriage of Ockert Cornelis Vermeulen and Anna Maria La Cock. Because the genealogy was found inside the bible, it is most likely that the bible was also in the possession of Ernestus and Rachel. Their joint original will dated 16 October 1882 was also found inside the bible.



Pedigree of Ernestus and Rachel (5th owners)



Joint Will for Ernestus and Rachel (5th owners)



Joint Will for Ernestus and Rachel (Signatures)

In order to complete the ownership of the bible up to and including the donor, it was necessary to trace the genealogy of Tania Vermeulen donor and **8th owner** back up to and including the grandparents. Tania was born Kruger and legally adopted by Adriaan van Wyk Vermeulen and (**7th owner**) Maria Hendrina Dorita Kruger. Adriaan and Maria were married in April 1949. Adriaan van Wyk Vermeulen was born on 10 November 1926 in the Sutherland district. He is the 2nd oldest of 4 children born from the marriage of Willem Jacobus La Cock Vermeulen (**6th owner**) and Francina Susanna van Wyk. This marriage takes place on 29 November 1920 in Sutherland.

Finally, the possible and probable ownership line of the bible can be completed from approximately 1798 to 2013. Willem Jacobus La Cock Vermeulen was the 2nd youngest son born from the marriage of Ernestus and Rachel Vermeulen (**5th owners**).

### Summary

8.Tania Vermeulen <16988>

7.Adriaan van Wyk Vermeulen/ Maria Hendrina Doritia Kruger <8620>& <8628>

6. Willem Jacobus La Cock Vermeulen/ Francina Susanna van Wyk. <2119>&<2125>

5. Ernestus Jacobus Vermeulen/ Gertruida Rachel Vermeulen <742>&<753>

4. Ernestus Jacobus Vermeulen/ Anna Elizabeth Vermeulen <239>& <253>

3. Guilliam Johannes Vermeulen/ Gertruida Rachel Vermeulen <282>& <240>

2. Andreas Michail Gert Vermeulen/ Elizabeth Hester van Wyk. <83>& <95>

1. Guilliam Vermeulen/ Anna Elizabeth Hough <10>& <26>



**Vermeulen- toast**

*( Glass held chest height and all present say together )*

**On them that were**

**On us that are**

**On them that are to come**

*( Glass is raised above head ) ( Exclamation ) Non Pareil !! Glass contents are swallowed*

*( Acknowledgment to Johan (JLM) Vermeulen)*

**The Management wish all of our members everything beautiful for the future . Stay safe and healthy .**

