

THE FOSTER MALANS

Eugene Christian Malan married **Florence Mary Foster** in 1929. They had five children, all of whom were given three christian names, the third one being Foster. These are the **Foster Malans** and this is their story. The inspiration to write this story came to Eugene, the eldest of the Foster Malans, after seeing the one his cousin, Pauline Alexander, had compiled for their family. He drafted the story and refined it with contributions from his brothers and sisters and 92 year old mother during 1997.

THE FATHER OF THE FOSTER MALANS

The father of the Foster Malans was a descendant of **Jacques Malan**, one of the French Huguenots. Jacques was born c 1665. He came from St Martin-de-la-Brasque, about 20km east of Mérindol in the south of France. When the Edict of Nantes was revoked in 1685, the Catholics resumed persecution of the Protestants many of whom decided to leave France. In 1687 a group of Huguenots including Jacques and members of his family also left. They went via Lausanne and Frankfurt to Rotterdam where they boarded the "Berg China" to depart for the Cape on 20-Mar-1688. When the ship landed at the Cape on 11-Aug-1688, Jacques was the only Malan to have survived the voyage.

In 1699 Jacques married **Isabeau le Long**, the widow of Jean Jourdan. They had seven children of their own, the 6th being **David** born 19-Jul-1708.

In 1735 David married **Eleonore Melius** and their 3rd child, **Jacobus Johannes**, was born on 10-Apr-1739.

In 1762 Jacobus married **Anna Aletta Retief** and their 6th child, **Daniel Johannes**, was born on 02-Dec-1775.

In 1794 Daniel married **Rachel Elisabeth du Plessis** and their 2nd child, **Jan Jacobus**, was born on 15-Jan-1797. Jan was an Eikeboom Malan who moved to Wellington establishing what became known as the Dorp Malans. He had four children by his first wife and eleven by his second, **Hilletjie Johanna Basson**. Their 7th child (his 11th), **Christiaan Coenraad**, was born on 09-Jan-1842 in Wellington. His youngest brother, Albertus, was mayor of Wellington for many years.

Christiaan went to SACS and became a law agent. In 1866 he married **Geertruida Steijtler**. Their first children were born in Wellington. Their 5th child, **Christian Basson**, was born in Kimberley on 22-Dec-1872. This was the paternal grandfather of the Foster Malans. CB's pre-teen years were spent in Sutherland where his three younger brothers were born. He qualified as a teacher in Wellington and taught at Welbedacht school between Oudtshoorn and Calitzdorp where his bride-to-be was also teaching. In 1896, on his 24th birthday, he married **Maria Susanna Rousseau** from Prince Albert. She was the paternal grandmother of the children and was always called "Granny" and her husband "Grandpa". While he was headmaster at Herbertsdale, their first child was born on 29-Jun-1898 and christened **Eugene Christian**. This was the father of the Foster Malans. The Malan family define him genealogically as ab6c3d6e2fBg5h1. The "a" in this definition obviously being Jacques, the founding father, and the "B" in the "f" generation indicating the eleventh child.

Eugene was born in Mossel Bay, while his father was teaching at Herbertsdale. Not long after, the family moved by sea to Sir Lowry's Pass village, which was a Methodist enclave, where the other three boys were born in 1901, 1903, and 1904. At the end of 1905 they moved to Brandwacht by cart and horses, and early in 1909 to Mossel Bay where his father had been appointed 3rd Assistant at the Boys Public School on Vintcent Square (at a salary of £72 pa). In 1910 the school moved to the new building at the Point. He and his three brothers must obviously have been at this school with their father on the staff. Eugene's sister, Aline, was born in 1913, the same year in which Eugene was the best scholar in Std 8 (Junior Matric). For the last three terms of his matric year in 1915 he was sent to the South African College School. He then went to the South African College before it became the University of Cape Town, where he obtained his teaching diploma in 1918 while residing at Hofmeyr Tehuis in Rose St. In 1919 he went to teach at a farm school in the Transvaal near Ermelo. In 1920 he became the Nederlands and Afrikaans master at Wynberg Boys High. In 1921 and 1922 he was at the University of Cape Town studying for a BA degree which he did not obtain then.

His father taught at Wynberg Boys for some years for probably 1919 and 1920. In 1921 in Mossel Bay the Boys Public School became the Point High School and the Girls Public School became the Park Primary. Eugene's father was appointed as the first headmaster of the latter. His father took early retirement at the end of 1925 when the "Dutch School", which had been running on Vintcent Square under a Mr Raubenheimer, was to be amalgamated with the Park Primary the following year. It is understood that Eugene's father was not prepared to share the headmastership with H P Steyn whom the authorities had appointed to serve with him.

At some point in his career, Eugene was appointed as principal at Stanford near Hermanus, but, before he could take up the appointment, it was cancelled by his father's inspector friend who thought he looked far too young. This probably happened at the end of 1922, because, in 1923 he was appointed as Nederlands and Afrikaans master at Dale College, King William's Town. The records show that he was considered to be very fair to his pupils. He coached the first rugby team in 1924. In 1927 he was granted 6 months leave-of-absence to complete his BA degree which he obtained at the end of that year. It was here in King William's Town that he met **Florence Foster** who was nursing at Grey Hospital in the town.

He was a good looking man, 5ft 10in (1,78m) tall and slim, with blue eyes. He was a fine tenor, took part in plays and played tennis.

THE MOTHER OF THE FOSTER MALANS

The mother of the Foster Malans was descended from the 1820 settlers. **John Foster (1778 - 1852)** was the founding father of the South African Foster family. His father, **James**, had left Ireland for England and settled in Colchester in Essex, where John was born. John, his wife, a Mary Kent, and about five children went to South Africa as part of a group of settlers, aboard the East-Indiaman, "Fanny", arriving there in April 1820. Also in the group was **Mary (1800 - 1877)**, the daughter of **William** (or Walter) **Synnot** from county Wicklow south of Dublin, Ireland, who was married to Joseph Quin. John Foster's second marriage was to this **Mary Quin**. One of their children was **Sala Benjamin John (Ben) (1841 - 1911)**. He married **Eliza Henrietta Shawe (1846 - 1925)** in 1868. Eliza's mother, Emily Bayly, was born in Ceylon where Emily's grandfather, Maj Thomas Bayly, was the military governor. Ben and Eliza had 10 children, the fourth being **Charles Benjamin**, born 13-Oct-1873. This was the maternal grandfather of the Foster Malans, whom the children called "Oupa".

Charles married **Edith Isabel Atkinson**, the daughter of Robert Atkinson and Florence Dolley in Sterkstroom on 29-Dec-1903. Edith was a kindergarten teacher with a lovely nature. She was known for her beautiful voice and musical talent. She was the maternal grandmother of the children, and was called "Gran". Charles and Edith started married life in Clanwilliam where their first child, **Florence Mary**, was born on Friday 07-Oct-1904. This was the mother of the Foster Malans.

Florence spent her first years at Clanwilliam while the family was growing. Eventually five sisters and a brother were to be added to the family. To relieve the pressure at home, she was sent to live on a farm, Zeekoevlei, with an aunt, Florence Katherine, as a companion to her only child, Maidie, whose father, Dr Henry van Leent, had died. When Florence was five or six, her parents moved to Stonehenge, a farm in the Vryburg district. When her grandfather died, Florence Mary was sent to live with her grandmother, Eliza Henrietta, in Clanwilliam. She was not at Stonehenge in 1914 when the house burnt down and all their valuable possessions were lost. She went to school at Good Hope Seminary in Cape Town and went nursing at Grey Hospital in King William's Town, where one of her grandmother's sisters, Mrs Anne Mary Bayly, was the matron. It was here that she met her husband-to-be Eugene Malan. After completing her General, she did her Midwifery at Peninsula Maternity Home in Cape Town, coming third in the Cape Colony. She did her Mothercraft at Lady Buxton Home and then returned to Grey Hospital as acting theatre sister.

She was an attractive brunette, only 5ft 2in (1,58m) tall, weighing 98lb (44kg) with brown eyes. She was a good hockey player. She was full of vitality and had to be pulled up for running in the wards, because this upset the patients who thought there was some emergency.

MARRIED LIFE OF THE PARENTS

At the end of 1929 Eugene Malan and Florence Foster were married. The wedding took place on Thursday 12-Dec-1929 (Friday the 13th not considered suitable by the bride-to-be with her Irish background) in Holy Trinity Church, King William's Town. The invitations, in Afrikaans, were extended by the hospital matron, Mrs Annie M Bayly, because the bride's parents were in Salisbury where they had gone in 1928. In 1930 the first Foster Malan was born in King William's Town. He was christened Eugene Jacques Foster. Early in 1931 the family moved to Molteno where Eugene Snr had been appointed principal of the only school. Molteno is among the Stormberg mountains at an altitude of 5000ft and subject to bitterly cold winters with frequent frosts and occasional snow. In 1932 the second Foster Malan was born and christened Margaret Anne Foster. The third arrived in 1933 and was christened Cecily Florence Foster. In 1934 André Francois Foster arrived and the fifth and final child arrived in 1936 and was named Etienne Rousseau Foster.

When nurse Crooks left, Florence, because her children were now big enough, felt that she could help the community by stepping into the breach and taking over nurse Crooks's duties. Later she started nursing full-time, making quite a name for herself as an excellent nurse. She had a wonderful rapport with her patients and they had great faith and confidence in her. She remained a member of St Cuthbert's Anglican Church, not joining her husband's NG Kerk. She supported her husband in his school obligations when necessary. In order to keep some of the better class children at Molteno school rather than lose them to boarding school in other towns, Florence assisted her husband by taking in weekly boarders. She also enjoyed playing bridge and golf.

Eugene was a good principal, always fair in his judgements, and was held in high regard by his staff. He was very diplomatic and got along well with both English and Afrikaans speaking parents, as well as with Nationalist and United Party members. English was spoken at home but the children became fully bilingual, since the school was dual medium and there was a strong preponderance of Afrikaans speaking scholars. Eugene played tennis. He was a member of the Nederduitse Gereformeerde Kerk and served on its council.

The couple had many good friends. One couple, Johnny and Winnie Grimbeek, many years later, also retired to Little Brak and later spent the last years of their life in the cottage next door to theirs at Tuishuis in Oudtshoorn. The house in Brownlee Street was a four-bedroomed one with a long glassed-in stoep where the boys slept. It had a large dining room with a long table. All the rooms had fireplaces.

The couple's motor car was a Buick to start with until an Oldsmobile 8 was bought in 1937. It had two spare wheels set into the front mudguards. It was amazing how much Florence managed to fit into this car, to the exasperation of her husband. Luggage was packed on the back seat to window level and blankets spread overall on which the children lay. There was not enough space to sit up. The back doors could not be opened; the children had to climb over the back of the front seat to get in. Five children, a visitor or two, a dog or two and the two grown ups made up the load in the war years when the children were still small and they went on holiday. Every Christmas was spent at Little Brak where the children's grandparents, Mr and Mrs C B Malan, were living at the time. Winter holidays were often spent at Leach's Bay near East London where the Browns of Penryn had a cottage.

For pets there was a doberman called Pybus in King William's Town, and in Molteno, there was a Sealyham called Peter. Later a fox terrier called Jockey and a bulldog called Dougal made a formidable twosome.

Florence lost her mother, who had diabetes, at a relatively young age 16-Jun-1941 and her father 13-Jan-1960. Both are buried in Fort Victoria (now Masvingo). Eugene's parents both died while living in St Saviour Street, Oudtshoorn, his father 14-Jul-1954 and his mother 27-Oct-1955. They are both buried in Oudtshoorn.

In June 1956 the couple retired to Little Brak to the house Eugene's father had built as a beach holiday home. Eugene enjoyed his retirement. He worked for Maskew Miller for two years. He also did teaching stints at Oakdale Agricultural School in Riversdale and at the Industrial School in George. He was president of the Great Brak Bowling Club for 6 years. He had to have a hernia op and Florence offered to special him as the Mossel Bay Hospital was short of staff. On the strength of this, that same afternoon, she was invited to join the staff which she did. Later she was a clinic nurse for the Divisional Council.

The couple did a few stints of minding camps in the Kruger National Park in winter. For one year they ran a butchery successfully in Fort Victoria, Rhodesia. Eugene also went on an oversea tour with members of the teachers union.

In 1979 the couple celebrated their golden wedding anniversary at Little Brak. Shortly after this, in April 1980, the couple went to live at Tuishuis, an old age home in Oudtshoorn, where they had a little cottage.

On 05-Nov-1982 Eugene passed away in his sleep. All his children were there with him for his last days. He was buried near his parents grave in the Methodist cemetery in Oudtshoorn. Florence stayed on until her last very close friend, Winnie Grimbeek, died. Her eldest daughter, Margaret Bowker, invited her to come and live on their farm in Bindura, Zimbabwe which she did in March 1990.

EUGENE JACQUES FOSTER MALAN

Eugene was born in King William's Town on 17-Sep-1930 nine months after the wedding. In 1932 the family moved to Molteno, where he went to Mrs Bredekamp's kindergarten and then the Molteno High School, where he matriculated in 1947. He became a member of the Nederduitse Gereformeerde Kerk. In 1948 he went to University of Cape Town to study medicine. He was in Mens Residence for 2 years and then boarded privately, having his meals with Annie van der Westhuizen, who was related to his grandfather Foster. In 1951 he celebrated his 21st birthday at Blue Peter, paying for the function with £21 which his father had sent him for the purpose. During the holidays he earned extra pocket money by doing van deliveries for Pepsi-Cola and driving taxis for African Car Hire. After a number of years in the medical faculty, he became a medical representative for Eli Lilly in 1953. After three years of this, he decided to become a civil engineer. He completed the four year course at UCT in 1959 obtaining his BSc in June 1960. He received financial assistance from Clifford Harris, Civil Engineering Contractors, worked for them during holidays and was employed by them in 1960. In October of that year he was employed by Parow Municipality where the Town Engineer was H B Malan. He was with Parow for 3 years and then, in October 1962, he started with the Fisheries Development Corporation, where he remained also for about 3 years. After this he joined the Consulting Engineering firm of Kantey and Templar. He opened an office for the firm in George and was then sent to Swakopmund in South West Africa as resident engineer on the road project from Rooikop to Swakopmund with streets in both Walvisbaai and Swakopmund. The contractor was Clifford Harris.

While with Parow Municipality, on 29-Sep-1962, he went to Bridgid Branfield's birthday party and danced with a nursing friend of hers, **Anjo van Dyk**, who caught his fancy. He had been staying in Dean Street with friends and had moved to The Firs. He started courting Anjo in earnest. Anjo's mother was Cathy Theron, whose mother was Anna Malan. Anjo had gone to school in Worcester and then gone nursing, doing her General at Groote Schuur Hospital and Midwifery at Addington in Durban. During the courtship, she went to England, leaving in January 1963, and returning in August. They became engaged on 29 September, and were married on 12-Dec-1963 in the NG Kerk, Rondebosch by Ds Daan Rabie. Eugene Christian was born in Mowbray Maternity on 08-Oct-1964, followed by Jacques Paul in Kingsbury in Claremont on 15-Feb-1966. They originally planned to only have two children, but were thrilled when Lisa Florence arrived on 17-Mar-1968 in Swakopmund. They were even more thrilled when Katherine Mary arrived on 24-Sep-1970 in Walvisbaai.

At the end of the project in South West Africa, in October 1970, he left Kantey and Templer for Ninham Shand and Partners in their Cape Town office, living in Durbanville. In February 1972 he went into partnership with the three Gawlowski brothers and opened a branch office for this consulting practice in Mosselbaai in February 1972, but living in Oudtshoorn. In 1976 the family moved to Mosselbaai. At the end of February 1989, it was decided to dissolve the partnership and sell the Mosselbaai practice to B S Bergman and Partners and he joined BSB & P. He retired from this firm in September 1992 and became the manager of Santos Haven retirement village. He went into full retirement in March 1996. In the meantime they had sold their house in Mosselbaai, as all their children had left home, and moved permanently to the Little Brak house.

He was the adjutant of the SA Air Force Commando Squadron 109 for some years, is a commissioned Captain, and was awarded the Chief of the SA Defence Force Commendation Medal for services of a high order. He was invited to join Rotary in 1975 and was president in 1983/84.

EUGENE'S CHILDREN

Eugene Christian is in Cape Town in the computer accounting business having previously spent some years with Standard Bank. He has a BCom degree from UNISA.

Jacques obtained a BSc BEng in Civil Engineering at Stellenbosch University. He later qualified as an Evangelist with the Dorothea Mission and is with the Namibia team in Windhoek.

Lisa is in computing at UCT where she obtained a PhD in Chemistry. She married Bruce Seymour 08-Dec-1990 and they have a son, Jamie.

Katherine is back at UCT after a spell with the CSIR, having previously obtaining a BSc(Hons) in Computer Science there. She married William Feast 04-Feb-1995.

PHOTOGRAPHS

The first photograph was taken the day Eugene and Anjo became engaged namely 1963-Sep-29. The second photo is of their four children taken in September 1971: Eugene and Jacques with Lisa and one-year old Katherine. The group photo was taken at 11 Duke Street in Mossel Bay in about 1986. Katherine, Anjo, Eugene and Lisa are standing behind Jacques and Eugene.

MARGARET ANNE FOSTER MALAN

Margaret was born in Molteno 30-Mar-1932. She went to Molteno High School where she matriculated in 1949. During this time she played tennis, netball and took part in athletics where she excelled. She was a Brownie and Girl Guide. She attended the Methodist Sunday School first and then was confirmed in the Anglican Church. She also took piano lessons. In 1950 she went to Groote Schuur Hospital and Carinus Nursing College where she did her General Nursing. Her 21st was a small affair in Joy Eloff's home. She decided to do her Midwifery in England and went over on the Athlone Castle early in 1954 (?) to do the first part at Guys and Royal Northern Hospitals. Part 2 was done in Taunton. She went over to France as an au pere for seven months before returning on the Edinburgh Castle. In 1956 her father took long leave and with her mother and sister Cecily, she enjoyed a holiday trip to the Kruger National Park and Rhodesia where Oupa was still living.

Now Graham Bowker was a great friend of the family, farming in the Bindura district at the time. He and his family, which included an only son, Ken, had visited Little Brak and Margaret and Ken had become very friendly. Ken and a friend, John Smith, had visited Little Brak in 1947 and this friendship had deepened into affection. Ken had gone down with polio in 1950 and his doctors had predicted that he would never walk again, but within six months he was doing so. During this Rhodesian visit, they visited the Bowkers, and it was then that Ken proposed and they became engaged. After the holiday, Margaret had her appendix out and in 1957, just before her 25th birthday, she left for Salisbury, probably to consolidate matters. They were duly married in St Peter's Anglican Church in Mossel Bay on 28-Sep-1957. The reception was held on Ernest Robertson's farm, The Homestead.

They made their home in Rhodesia, first in Salisbury and shortly thereafter on a farm, Craigie Burn, next door to Ken's parents, in the Bindura district, where they farmed tobacco. Sherrill Anne was born 6-Sep-1958 and less than a year later, on 5-Sep-1959, Lynne Erica arrived. They next had a son, Graham Douglas, on 9-May-1962. They decided to change to cotton and maize and went to Brinkburn, a farm closer to Bindura. It was here that Elizabeth Mary was born 15-May-1966. They suffered a sad loss when Sherrill died in 1969. The terrorist war made living very unpleasant, and during it Margaret worked at the Bindura Hospital. She has also done relief work at the Trojan Nickel Mine clinics. After the war the couple bought the next door farm, Lilburn, where they still are today. With the farm they also acquired a supermarket and butchery. Margaret still helps with the running of the butchery. It was almost as compensation that Kenneth Eric was born 18-Jun-1971, and the couple then had four children as before. Margaret is a dedicated Christian and has been a strong supporter of the Bindura Christian Fellowship. She has a poultry business selling chickens and eggs. Every morning she runs a clinic where the sick among the staff and their families can come for treatment. Her home is open to friends and family, and she has a very full and busy life on the farm.

All this she does in spite of having had a stroke and suffering from Myasthenia Gravis, which condition she bears with such fortitude that many are not even aware of it. They have had weddings on the farm for both their daughters, both being great occasions.

In 1990 Margaret invited her mother to come and live with them, which she did, and this has made her mother's life very happy as she is still able to help with chores on the farm. It has also allowed Margaret and Ken to go away for periodic rests, knowing someone is in charge of the household.

MARGARET'S CHILDREN

Lynne trained as a teacher at Rhodes University and later went to Rosebank Bible College. She married Tim Euinton at Easter in 1985. They have two sons, Daniel and Dale and live near Harare.

Graham obtained a BSc Agriculture at the University of Natal, Pietermaritzburg, and is doing the farming on Lilburn. He married Anne Duggie in 1992 and they have a daughter whom they named Sherrill Anne after Graham's late sister, which was a lovely gesture, deeply appreciated by Ken and Margaret.

Elizabeth trained as a nurse at Grey Hospital, Pietermaritzburg, and as a midwife at Addington in Durban. She was the last of Florence Malan's ten granddaughters to get married which she did to Sean Nicholson in May 1997. The couple will remain in Bindura.

Kenneth has a BCom from the University of Natal, Pietermaritzburg, and is in Harare managing a firm hiring out pallets and bulk containers.

PHOTOGRAPHS

The first photo was taken in their going-away outfits as they were ready to leave on honeymoon. In the second Elizabeth, Graham and Lynne are behind Kenneth, Margaret and Ken.

CECILY FLORENCE FOSTER MALAN

Cecily was born in Molteno 20-May-1933. She attended the only school in Molteno from Sub A to Std 10. She did well academically and also showed a particular flair for music. Besides playing many solos and duets at concerts, she was also the organist of the little Anglican Church for 4½ years. For this she was paid £1 a month, and her sister, Margaret, was paid the same for accompanying her. Under the supervision of her music master, she taught 6 pupils music and prepared them for their primary exams. She also taught a couple of older children how to play the piano accordion. She was a good tennis player and played netball for the 1st team. She also played hockey for the town team. Her great love was athletics, enjoying field events and excelling in long distance running, hurdles and high jump. She was a Brownie and Girl Guide, and was confirmed in the Anglican Church.

She would have liked to continue her music career at UCT, but, as her sister was nursing in Cape Town, she decided to follow her and started her General at Carinus and Rondebosch Cottage Hospital in 1951. In 1953, on March 5th, she had an emergency appendicectomy for which her brother had to sign permission. Two months later she had a dinner/dance for her 21st at the Gourmet, Prince's Hotel in Newlands. As her gift, her brother, Eugene, paid for the evening which cost him £15-5/-. There were 5 couples including her brother, André, with Ena Malan, and her partner was Peter Young-Husband.

During 1954 she went to Port Elizabeth to do her Midwifery, receiving a gold medal for the best pupil. In 1956 she and her sister went on a holiday with her parents to Kruger National Park and Rhodesia. She was the proud owner of a Hillman when she started nursing in George in March 1957. She traded this car in for a Volkswagen Beetle at the end of the year. In April 1958 she went to Rhodesia with two Canadians and ended up nursing there. In April 1959 she and Faith Oertel went to England and from there she went to Canada where she nursed in Maryfield in the prairies for a year. After her return, she did District Nursing at Mossel Bay and it was here she met Geoff Arenhold. It did not take them long to realise they were meant for each other, and their engagement was announced at the end of September 1961. They were married in St Peter's Anglican Church in Mossel Bay on 5-Jan-1962, and their reception was in the hall of the Marine Hotel. They set up home in Mossel Bay where Elizabeth-Anne (Lizanne) was born on 17 October the same year. The couple then moved to Wynberg in the Cape where, in 1963, on the 10th of December, two days before her brother, Eugene's, wedding, Alison Mary was born.

The family then went to Bloemfontein and returned to Keurboom Rd, Cape Town where Adolf Conrad (Dolfie) was born 27-Aug-1966, followed by Craig Alan 11-Feb-1972. They moved to a lovely home at 5 Canigou Ave, next door to Rondebosch Boys High where the boys had their schooling. Cecily became a receptionist, first for Dr Minnaar and later for gynaecologist Andrew Sherwood. The couple are now in semi-retirement in Clovelly.

CECILY'S CHILDREN

Lizanne did a marketing diploma at Cape Technicon and then was a successful marketing agent until she met and married Andrew Crouch. They have a son, Robert, and live in Clovelly close to her parents.

Alison did numerous teaching courses including remedial teaching. She has a BPrimEd from UCT and is still studying through UNISA. She is married to Nikolai Baikoff and they live in Tokai. They have a son, James, and a daughter, Jenna.

Dolfie is also in Cape Town having worked on a wine farm in Oudtshoorn and being involved with various retail business enterprises. After school he did a two-year Agricultural course at Elsenberg and is presently a partner in a vegetable processing business.

Craig has a BCom(Hons) and is in Johannesburg with an accounting firm while studying for his Chartered Accountancy.

André was born in Moltano 15-Jun-1934. He attended Moltano High School where his father was the principal until he had passed Std 8. Then he went to the South African Naval College, General Botha, at Gordon's Bay. His father then apprenticed him as a motor mechanic to Hansie Coetzee in Moltano. After a severe bout of jaundice, he was sent to a Mr Hattingh's farm in Bethulie to recuperate and there he was involved with dam building equipment. Not long after this he went up to Rhodesia in a 1934 two-door Chev with dicky seat to work for an uncle, SP Burger, who was a General Dealer and Builders Merchant in Fort Victoria. While here he gained excellent experience in business. Some years later he came south again to Caledon to work for an Agricultural machinery firm. His next step to gain experience in salesmanship, was when he worked for Hoover in Cape Town. After this he was a medical rep for Winthrop in the southern Cape. SP Burger persuaded him to come back to Rhodesia to work in Burger's quarry. John Osterberg, another uncle, asked him to come to Hartley (now Chegutu) to work for Apex Tyre Company which John and Paul Quirk had established in 1956. Firestone (Central Africa) saw an excellent representative in him and persuaded him to join them. He was appointed to their Bulawayo office to cover Western Rhodesia. It was during this stage that he met **Averill Nagle** who was nursing in Gwelo. Firestone sent him to Pietersberg and then to Salisbury. He re-joined SP Burger for the third time to take over the lowveld business starting at Triangle. While at Hippo Valley, he went up to Luansha where Averill was nursing on the copper belt in Northern Rhodesia. She accepted his proposal and they were married the following day, a Saturday, at 13:30 on 07-Jul-1962. While building Chiredzi, their first baby was due and Averill went to her parents in Bulawayo for the confinement where Anne Ruth was born on 19-Dec-1963. Geoff Good offered him the appointment as manager of the C P Nel Service Station in Plettenberg Bay, and so the couple returned to South Africa. Here three more children were born: André Jacques Phillip on 20-Oct-1965, Anthea Mary on 17-Oct-1966, and Adèle Elizabeth on 16-Aug-1968. He next went into property by joining Translandia Estate Agency in Port Elizabeth. Then he started his own Triangle Estate Agency with two partners still in Port Elizabeth. His aunt Aline's second husband, Johan Eggers, invited him to join O S Blenkinsop which was involved with skins and hides, which he did. He was sent to Bulawayo to manage S M Lurie, a recent acquisition, still in the same line. This he did until some complicated take-over led to retirement. Since then, using his vast business experience, he has kept himself busy with various enterprises, including the establishment of some businesses at Victoria Falls, where he is presently headquartered.

ANDRÉ'S CHILDREN

Anne is at Victoria Falls where she organises white water rafting. She married Bruce Nethersole and they have a daughter, Katherine, and son, Tristan.

André has certificates in auto electrical repairs and is running his own business, the Battery Man, at Victoria Falls.

Anthea is in Constantia, Cape Town, with her husband, Pieter Erasmus and children Christopher, Nicole and Hannah.

Adèle went to Glen Agricultural College and is now in Gaborone, married to Frans Jooste. He has two sons, Etienne and Francois, and they have a son, Gareth.

Etienne was born in Molteno on 21-Jun-1936, the last of the Foster Malans. He started his schooling at the age of 5, completing Sub A and B in one year. Because he was so young, it was decided to keep him back for one year and so he was sent to Mrs Bredenkamp's pre-primary school with his friend Nils Grimbeek. This was a disaster since he did not belong there. The crunch came when he was cast as Georgie Porgie and was required to kiss the girls. Whether the girls did not meet the required standard or for whatever reason, he refused the part and left forthwith, to return to "the big school" where he stayed until he had passed Std 6. He was then sent to Dale College in Kingwilliamstown, his father's previous school, where he matriculated in 1953. The reason for this move was to give him access to Latin, which was no longer being taught at Molteno. Latin was then a requirement for the legal profession for which, it was decided, he was very aptly suited because of his aggressive and argumentative nature.

As a little boy at Little Brak, his voice inspired Alec vd Horst to call him 'Froggy', while Josie Beyers referred to him as 'Bontetjies' because of the varied colours on his sunburned nose and cheeks.

At Dale where he was generally known as 'Danie', he took an active part in sport. He was in the swimming team, played rugby at front row for the 3rd team, and was "bow" in the 1st rowing crew. He showed particular aptitude for dramatics and played a leading role in the dramatic society. After being cast as Petty Officer Herbert in a play called "Seagulls over Sorrento", he was promoted to regimental sergeant major of the Dale cadet corp.

In 1954 he was articled as a clerk to W M Luscombe, an attorney in Oudtshoorn. During this year he became a committed Christian, and became very involved with a young group. He was a member of the Presbyterian Church, a Sunday School teacher for the Methodist Church, helped the Salvation Army to rebuild their derelict church, served on the committee of the DRC Kerklike Jeug Vereeniging and did missionary work with the Apostolic Faith Mission on Sunday afternoons. Having decided to become a full time Christian worker, he cancelled his articles and went to Stellenbosch University, enrolling for a BA degree. It was here he discovered mountaineering which became the love of his life. He joined the Mountain Club of South Africa and spent most of his weekends in the mountains. During his second year, interest in his subjects waned, he did not apply himself as he should have and consequently failed. During his repeat year in 1957, his elder brother took him and a girlfriend to Little Brak in their Oupa Foster's Consul, there to celebrate his 21st on Friday the 21st of June with his parents and Oupa. While here he decided to leave university and went to East London to work for The Frontier Executors and Trust Company. During August he realised that he should return to his original career choice of law. He decided to go to Pretoria to study part-time through the University of Pretoria while working as an auctioneer on the produce market. He joined the Transvaal section of the Mountain Club and really enjoyed his time there. He next joined BP Southern Africa as an executive trainee. He soon realised he would not succeed studying law part-time, so he went back to university, this time to the University of

Natal in Pietermaritzburg. Here he became deeply involved in student politics and was on the national executive of NUSAS. He was on the house committee of William O'Brian Hall and was president of the Student Representative Council. Once again his studies suffered and he was forced to repeat Roman Law II, which was one of his majors. He decided to do this part-time and rejoined BP in Durban. Within a few months he was transferred to Cape Town as legal adviser in BP's Retail Department. Here he met Sally Lois Greenwood. They were married 29-Jan-1966. On 13-Aug-1967 their first child, Renée Jeanne, was born. He was then transferred to BP's Port Elizabeth branch. While in Port Elizabeth, they bought their first house at 44 Fordyce Rd, Walmer. He joined Round Table No 8 and this was to have a very important influence upon their lives. His next move was to join Trek Petroleum as their Network Developer and he was transferred to Johannesburg, where they bought a home at 265 Herder Drive, North Cliff View, and he joined Round Table No 3. Here their first son, Marc Rousseau, was born 16-Jul-1969. In 1971 he was transferred to Cape Town as Regional Manager, Retail. They bought a house at 2 Pleasant Place, Pinelands where they still live. Here their second son, Francois Raymond Etienne was born on 4-Feb-1972.

In 1976 Etienne joined Old Mutual as a Financial Adviser. He served in that capacity until he retired at the end of July, 1997 and became a pensioner, while remaining an active member of Old Mutual's Advisory Service. While with Old Mutual, he qualified as a Fellow of the Institute of Life and Pensions Advisors which qualification was the equivalent of a university degree, something which he had never actually obtained, in spite of many university years. He was invited to join the Rotary Club of Cape Town and was elected President for 1986/87, a singular honour in view of the many high-profile members in this, the first Rotary Club in South Africa. He was later honoured further when the club made him a Paul Harris Fellow. Having been blessed with a discerning palate and having acquired a love for wine, he is an enthusiastic member of the Wine Taster's Guild.

ETIENNE'S CHILDREN

Renée has a BCom in computers, which she obtained cum laude through UNISA while studying part-time. She is a computer programmer and lives in Johannesburg with her husband, Nigel Barsdorf.

Marc is an attorney having obtained his BCom and LLB degrees at Stellenbosch University. He is presently in the United Kingdom where he hopes to get his LLD, specialising in International Law.

Francois is at home following his father's footsteps as a financial adviser with Old Mutual.

FAMILY EXPERIENCES

THE BOTSWANA TRIP IN 1982

The most remarkable and unforgettable event experienced by the whole family was an outstandingly successful trip through Botswana organised by André. It was a logistical masterpiece, involving ten adults and eighteen children with four vehicles, each with trailer, and provisions and equipment for camping for eight nights and covering 1920 km. All five Foster Malans, their spouses, all 9 of their sons and 9 of their daughters made up the party. Elizabeth of Margaret was the only child who could not be present. Eugene from Mossel Bay, Etienne and Cecily from Cape Town, and Margaret from Bindura made their separate ways to meet on July 6 at André's small-holding, "Bar None", in Bulawayo for the final preparations and loading of the vehicles. There was a Toyota Landcruiser, a green 6-cylinder Landrover, a blue 4-cylinder Landrover and a Datsun LDV with canopy, each towing a trailer. Besides fuel and spares for the vehicles, there was also a portable toilet with hessian walls.

The convoy left on Wednesday, July 7, which was André and Averill's 20th wedding anniversary, went through the border near Plumtree, turned west in Francistown to camp alongside the road for the first night. Nights were spent at Crocodile Camp near Maun, South Gate of Moremi, Savuti and Serondela. A team of young men was soon formed to help push out vehicles when a particularly bad sand patch was encountered, and they were known as the "fighting fourths". A gear lever broke in one of the Landrovers and thereafter gears were changed using a screwdriver directly on the selectors.

Game sightings were spectacular and exciting. At a lion kill a hat blew off and Francois, always keen and quick to help, was almost not stopped in time as he starting jumping off the vehicle. He would have landed among the lions if he had not been restrained. Walking near a water hole, the party was split by a rogue elephant with a broken tusk which appeared almost from nowhere. On the banks of the Chobe, the vehicles were surrounded by a herd of hundreds of elephant and had to stop while the animals brushed past on either side. The party also examined the site where the bones of about a hundred buffalo lay strewn on the bank of a river. It was later learnt that the herd had been massacred by S A Defence Force members from helicopters.

The evenings were great fun. The youngsters, largely under Graham Bowker's inspiration, produced some most entertaining skits, which amazed the adults with their ingenuity and which they thoroughly enjoyed.

The adults had brought along a goodly supply of red wine in 5 litre cardboard casks, which they mistakenly thought would travel safely. The bad roads caused the inner linings to chafe through, wetting and weakening the boxes to the point where they collapsed. The wine was caught in zinc baths, which left it with a distinctly dusty nose.

After leaving Botswana, the Victoria Falls was visited and the last night spent at the Gwaai River Hotel of the Broombergs, where the party could wash properly for the first time and get out of their very dirty clothes. They finally arrived in Bulawayo on Thursday, July 15.

The publication of this document was held up for lack of some details and photographs, but it has been decided to publish in any case. Where recipients hereof feel so inclined, it is easy to slip the binding clip off and replace certain pages or add pages.

Certain events since the main document was produced need recording.

1. On June 30, 1997, Ken Bowker had a near-fatal accident when his bakkie was written off while he was towing his lorry. From intensive care, he recovered sufficiently to be allowed home, where he went from wheel chair to orthopaedic bed, not being able to walk. This was a bitter blow, since he had been walking much better after being fitted with a brace in March, a few months earlier.

2. Christmas 1997. Following Ken's accident, orthotist Barkley of George, who had previously fitted Ken with a brace, said he was sure he could help him once again. Since he was confined to a wheel chair, the only way was to fly him down and so the decision was made. Florence was persuaded to go along as well and on December 9th, Margaret and the two semi-invalids embarked from Harare, minutes before the airport was closed down by striking workers. Ken was manually lifted into the business class section where he remained in his wheelchair, and received first class service, while the other two had to be satisfied with more frugal fare consistent with the tickets which had been bought. During the wait in Johannesburg, Florence was able to have a lovely chat with her sister, Isabel. At George, Florence was met on the apron by the airport manager and hostess, was presented with champagne, and wished a happy holiday. At the Nest, Eugene and Anjo's home, which had been Florence and her husband's home many years before, Florence had the holiday of her life. She was surrounded by all her children and some grand- and great grandchildren. She was visited by many old friends and was able to go to Santos Haven for Geoff and Anne Friel's golden wedding celebration where she met many of her old friends. She was taken fishing on the river on a number of occasions, which she thoroughly enjoyed. Christmas lunch was in André's "room-with-a-view" where 34 family members sat down. The group included 6 great grandchildren. Ken's modified brace enabled him to take his first steps in five months on December 12th.

3. Another great grandchild has brought the total to 14: Graham's wife, Anne, had a little girl, Heather Margaret, on April 11th, 1998. When Elizabeth (Bowker) Nicholson's baby arrives (it is expected very soon), it will bring the total to 15.

4. Florence's sister, Dorothy Dickenson, was killed on 10-Apr-1998 in the Free State on the N1 en route to Cape Town when their car was hit by an oncoming motorist. They were stationary at the time, busy changing a flat tyre.

5. There have been changes in the lives of the grandchildren. Eugene's son, Eugene, is in the USA on contract with a computer company, and his daughter, Katherine, is divorced. Margaret's son, Kenneth, is with another firm in Harare. André's eldest daughter, Anne, now has an ordinary half-day job at Vic Falls, and his son, André, is doing auto-electrical work in Clanwilliam, the town where the first Foster settled.

PS Ryan Sean Nicholson was born 04-Jun-1998.