



The Duldig family

At our AGM in August last year Leona Coleman gave a talk about her Duldig ancestors in Australia. She acknowledged the work of Dennis Gum who wrote the Schuppan family history book and Max Duldig who prepared the Duldig family website.

Johann and Anna Duldig were Wends that came from Tauer in Lower Lusatia, in the state of Brandenburg, Prussia. Anna was the youngest of six daughters of Georg Borschka and Hanna Schweig, but she was known by the name Nagora when she married. Johann Duldig's grandfather Christian Duldig was also known as Nagora. This is possibly an example of the Wendish custom of some people having two names, one being associated with a particular landholding.

Johann and Anna and their son Friedrich emigrated on the ship *Helene* in 1855. Among the passengers was Elise or Elisabeth Nagora, who could have been one of Anna's sisters. On arrival in South Australia in January 1856, they stayed at Hope Valley for a month, before moving to Peters Hill. When the Peters Hill congregation was formed in July 1856, Johann Duldig was listed among the founding members.

At first they lived in a dugout, until a stone house was built on section 35, Hundred of Gilbert, diagonally opposite the present church block. This Lutheran church was built in 1864 with the school nearby. All the Duldig children attended this school. Johann Duldig served as treasurer of the congregation and was one of the original trustees of the church.



Duldig descendants – Max Duldig, Christine Longmire, & Leona Coleman

A further six children were born at Peters Hill. Wilhelm, their second child and first born at Peters Hill, died early at 3 years of age and is buried in the Pioneer Cemetery; so is their fourth child Johann who died as a baby.



Anna and Johann Duldig

Their two daughters, Anna Marie and Anna Caroline, both grew up and married, but both died as young women. Marie Schober had a child Selma, and Caroline Zerna had 4 children, the last of whom, Johann Eduard (known as Jack) was fostered by his uncle and aunt, Gustav and Caroline Duldig.

Johann and Anna's sons Friedrich and Gustav Duldig married Schuppan sisters, Louise and Caroline (the Schuppanns were also a Wendish family from Tauer), and both had large families.

Their last child Heinrich did not marry, and when Johann died in 1912, Heinrich was living in the Parkside Mental Hospital, as Johann made provision for a weekly payment for him in his will. Heinrich died in 1926 and is buried in the West Terrace Cemetery.

Over the years Johann purchased further property at Peters Hill which he farmed with his son Gustav. Johann lived for 86 years (died in 1912), and Anna, who died in 1922, was 91 years of age.

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Eldest child, **Friedrich Duldig**, married Louise Schuppan in 1876 and bought land at Worlds End (on the road between Burra and Robertstown). He established a 500-acre farm with 20 dairy cows, sheep, pigs and grew wheat. He farmed there successfully for 46 years, and then his son Fred took over.



Friedrich's home at Worlds End (2009)

In the 1890s he set up a creamery and butter factory, collecting milk from neighbouring farms and selling butter at Burra.



Worlds End Creamery

In this marginal farming district problems with droughts and rabbit infestation made life difficult. Friedrich served as Councillor on the Burra Council, secretary of the Baldina Annual Races Committee, was active in the Agricultural Bureau, was on the Burra Show Committee, was Secretary of the Worlds End School Sports day (sometimes held on his property), was chairman of the fallen soldiers committee during the war, and he organised for a cricket pitch for Worlds End.

After a block of land was purchased in 1887, Friedrich was one of the people responsible for building the Lutheran church at Upper Bright, 8 miles from his home. The church, which also served as a school, was demolished in the 1950s.

Prior to the formation of this congregation, the Duldig family and others from Worlds End attended the Emu Downs Lutheran church, travelling by horse and cart through the Hallelujah Hills each week

Next to the church was the cemetery. Friedrich's daughter Anna is buried here and there is a memorial to his son Oswald who died in 1917 in World War 1 in the battle of Menin Road in Belgium.



Friedrich and Louise retired in Eudunda, where 6 of their 14 children also came to live later.

The third son of Johann and Anna, **Gustav Duldig**, married Caroline Schuppan in 1883. They lived at Peters Hill and had 12 children. Four children married Wendish families: Hondow, Jenke and Marschall.

In 1914 Gustav was contracted to run the first mail service from Riverton to Peters Hill three times a week. He also served on the District Council of Gilbert for a long period.

Of their children, Edwin and Hedwig were teachers, Laura worked for a time at Koonibba Children's Home, and Freda was a nursing Sister who ran her own hospital in Nuriootpa in the 1930s.

Bertram and his cousins, Oswald Duldig (son of Friedrich) and Alvin Rudolph Zerna (son of Caroline Zerna), fought in World War 1. The other children of Gustav and Friedrich were mostly farmers and the wives of farmers.

Lance Duldig, the son of Louis Duldig, was a first-class cricketer who played for South Australia from 1941 to 1953. He toured New Zealand with the Australian team in 1949–50. He also served in World War 2.

In summing up, Leona thought that Johann and Anna adapted remarkably well to their new homeland. Perhaps their confidence was fostered by living in the close-knit community of Wendish neighbours at Peters Hill.

Coming Events

Sat 11th – Mon 13th March Wendish Heritage Society's Weekend Tour

At Bendigo in Victoria. Tour leader is Betty Huf.

The goldrushes in the 1850s also brought many Germans to Victoria, and a large German community developed at Bendigo.

On this weekend the annual Lost Trades Fair will also be held in Bendigo.

You need to organise your own accommodation.

Please book by 4 March with Betty Huf (mobile 0439 724 959, or email bettyhuf@outlook.com)

Thurs 23rd March, 7.30 pm Talk: Bethel SA – a settlement of Germans, Wends, Moravians, Lutherans and Cooneyites

Lyall Kupke will speak on this topic at a meeting of the Friends of Lutheran Archives (FoLA). The district of Bethel lies 9km west of Kapunda. Since its first settlement in 1855, its German and Wendish settlers have experienced a Moravian Brethren settlement and church, two Lutheran churches, and a Cooneyite breakaway group.

This talk will link with our trip to Bethel and Kapunda in April (see below).

At North Adelaide Lutheran Church, 139 Archer St, North Adelaide. All welcome.

Sat 15th April Trip to Bethel & Kapunda

This will be an all-day trip. You will need your own vehicle. No bus is provided.

Bookings are necessary. Contact Lyall Kupke (mobile 0431 991 385, or email kupkell@yahoo.com)

Sun 7th May, 2 pm Talk: Growing a Garden in the Desert

Acclaimed horticulturalist, John Zwar OAM, will talk on his project in developing the Australia Arid Lands Botanic Gardens at Port Augusta in 1981. He will explain the link between his Wendish heritage and his interest in horticulture and trees.

This is one of the events of the *SA History Festival* in May.

At the Glynde Lutheran Homes hall (**22 Avenue Rd, Glynde**). All welcome. No booking needed.

Sun 18th June, 2 pm Talk: The Lowke family

Dr John Lowke will tell the story of his Lowke ancestors in Australia.

At the Glynde Lutheran Homes hall (**22 Avenue Rd, Glynde**). All welcome.

Sun 20th August, 2 pm Annual General Meeting

Followed by something interesting, yet to be decided.

At the Glynde Lutheran Homes hall (**22 Avenue Rd, Glynde**). All welcome.

Sympathy

We express our sympathy to the family and friends of these members who died recently:

Ern Rudolph

Ruth Fiebig

Bev Gotzky (a former member in Victoria)

President's AGM Report (given on 21 Aug 2022)

It has been great to return to normal activities in 2022 with the holding of regular events again. We hope that this can continue.

In April we held our tour of the Migration sites of Adelaide – visiting Port Misery, the clipper ship *City of Adelaide*, Piltawodli (the site of the Kaurna Aboriginal location where the German Lutheran missionaries Schürmann, Teichelmann and Klose started a school for the Aboriginal children), the Klemzig Pioneer Cemetery, and the Hope Valley Cemetery. 16 people attended for all or part of the day and enjoyed it.

In May we were privileged to hear Dr Keith Lokan tell us the Lokan Journey, the story of his Lokan ancestors in coming from Germany to Australia. This was our History month talk at Burnside Library, and was well-attended as usual.

Later in May David Zweck showed us the video of the city of Bautzen's 1000-year anniversary celebrations, held in 2002. They held a fascinating parade of floats which represented the many different aspects of their long history.

In July a small group met for a lunch at the Prince Albert Hotel in the city. The lively conversation and the reluctance to leave showed how much they enjoyed relaxing together again. We will continue to have these social outings and encourage members to join in..

Today we look forward to learning from Leona Coleman about another Wendish family in Australia – the Duldig family. This continues our practice of telling the stories of Wendish families, a practice which we have been following for a number of years now.

Our newsletter continues to advertise our meetings and provide information about Wendish history and culture. We always welcome any contributions. Andrew Kollosche continues to maintain our website which contains many interesting items. We thank him for this.

We have progressed a little further with our booklet about the Wends in South Australia and I really hope we can publish this next year.

For a number of years we have been seeking additional members for the committee. We are pleased that Heather Watkins and John Zwar agreed to join the committee early this year and we look forward to their contributions.

Finally, I wish to thank the members of our committee for the time and effort they willingly give. We must especially thank our efficient Secretary, Pauline Burger, and our reliable Treasurer, Leona Coleman, for their additional work to keep us going.

Lyall Kupke

ELECTIONS:

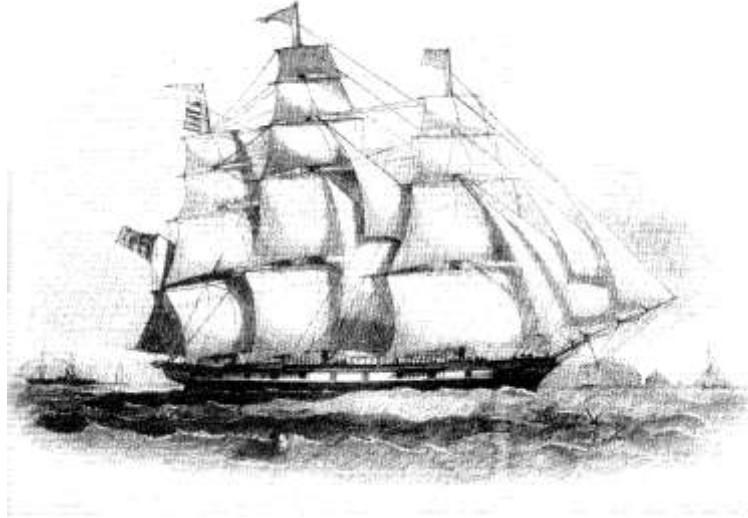
The following office-bearers were elected at the AGM (21 Aug 2022):

President: Lyall Kupke	Vice-President: Brian Hennig
Secretary: Pauline Burger	Assistant Secretary: Ruth Walter
Treasurer: Leona Coleman	
Extra members: Marie Brazier, Lorraine Kempf, Heather Watkins, John Zwar.	

Can you help?

I have been looking for the shipping records for Wendish families and I haven't been able to locate some. Can anyone tell me **on what ship** and **when** these families came to Australia?

Borrack
Bramke
Britza
Buder
Dahlitz
Domsch
Fladrich
Jarick
Kamenka
Kies
Kihlo
Konzag
Sapiatzer
Schautschick
Schuppan
Schurgott
Tilka
Wotzko



Please send any information to Lyall Kupke (email: kupkell@yahoo.com) (mobile 0431 991 385)



Linden Tree

The linden tree is a special tree in much of Europe, and it is an emblem of the Sorbs (Wends) of Lusatia. Its heart-shaped leaf is very recognisable.

We know that there are linden trees growing in Victoria. But does anyone know of any growing in South Australia?

Please send any information to Lyall Kupke (email: kupkell@yahoo.com) (mobile 0431 991 385)

A Cute Pair

Keith Lokan has sent the following item:

Phil Lokan, of Wend/Sorb descent, has just acquired two little kittens, a female and a male who are siblings. He has named them respectively Wendy and Sorby.



Our Library book collection

Over the years the Society has built up a collection of books which relate to the history and culture of the Wends (Sorbs) in Europe and Australia. These have been housed at the Lutheran Archives, 27 Fourth St, Bowden. They can be read there, or even borrowed.

In the collection there are books in 3 different languages: English, German and Wendish (Sorbian). We have recently listed them and put them in boxes according to the language.

We are publishing these lists gradually in our newsletters. We started with the English books: Box E1 in newsletter no. 61 (April 2021), and Box E2 in newsletter no. 64 (August 2022). Here is the next box of English books.

Box E3

- Petschel, Helen & Cook, Christine, 2012, *Wagon Trekking. Following the 1852 trail of our Ancestors in 2012-Style. Rosenthal & Hoffnungsthal, South Australia, to Portland & Hamilton District, Victoria.* [display book of notes re trek]
- Proeve, HFW, 2002, *Ebenezer 1852-2002*, Ebenezer Lutheran Congregation, SA
- Wegener, Leon, 1994, *The Trek, 1869-1994. Ebenezer to Walla Walla*, Walla Walla & District Historical Society, Walla Walla, NSW [150th anniversary history of foundation of Walla Walla by Wendish settlers]
- Pech, Rufus, 2000, *Pine Springs Stepping Stones. Snapshots of a Loving Partnership 1900 to 1949. Love letters from Hans to Bertha Pech.* ER & RM Fiebig publication, Fulham, SA
- Burger, Rupert, 2003, *The Coming of the Wends*, Wend Sorb Society of SA, Athelstone, SA
- Senff, Hans-Dieter & Naomi & Neil-Dieter, 1992, *Folkdances of the Sorbs/Wends. For Schools and Dance Ensembles*, Sumptibus Publications, Swansea, NSW
- Frencl, Alfons, 1990, *A Walk through Lusatia*, (translated by Hans-Dieter Senff), Sumptibus Publications, SA
- Hall, Bev, 1990, *Sorb Customs and Traditions*, (translations by H. Senff), Sumptibus Publications, SA
- Darragh, Thomas A, 2003, *Emigrants on the Alfred, 1848*, Friends of Lutheran Archives, Bowden, SA [accounts of the voyage and settlement by *Alfred* passengers Alois Kranewitter, Heinrich Luestner, Ernst Kaulvers, Michael Deutscher, Christiane Hiller nee Petschel, and Andreas Albert]
- —, 1980, *GDR Review 4/80, Magazine from the German Democratic Republic*, International Friendship League of the GDR, Berlin [pp 42-47, article on Sorbs of Lower Lusatia]
- —, 1982, *GDR Review 6/82, Magazine from the German Democratic Republic*, International Friendship League of the GDR, Berlin [pp 30-33, article on the Spreewald]
- —, 1983, *GDR Review 3/83, Magazine from the German Democratic Republic*, International Friendship League of the GDR, Berlin [pp 46-47, article on Sorb exhibition in Adelaide, 1982]
- —, 1988, *GDR Review 8/88, Magazine from the German Democratic Republic*, International Friendship League of the GDR, Berlin [pp 36-37, article on Ludwig Leichhardt; pp 48-49, article on Bautzen]
- —, 1988, *GDR Review 10/88, Magazine from the German Democratic Republic*, International Friendship League of the GDR, Berlin [pp 30-33, article on Sorbs of Upper Lusatia] [2 copies]
- Doughty, HM, (c.1891), *Our Wherry in Wendish Lands. From Friesland, through the Mecklenburg Lakes, to Bohemia*, Jarrold & Sons, London
- Hose, Susanne & Mieder, Wolfgang, 2004, *Sorbian Proverbs. Serbske přisłowa*, University of Vermont, Burlington, Vermont, USA [text in English and Sorbian]
- Rees, Marie & Puls, Anna, 1997, *Heritage Hidden Treasure 1838-1938. A Tribute to the Lutheran women of Australia. The first 100 years*, Lutheran Women of Victoria/Western Zone, Hamilton, Victoria [contains stories of Mrs Nagorcka, Mrs Hiller (nee Petschel), and Mrs Rentsch]
- Groth, G, 1984, *Bautzen. Budyšin*, Dresden [text in German and English]

Beginnings of our Society

Below is a reprint of the article in the *GDR Review*, 3/83, which gives the story of the beginnings of our Society in 1982. It was first known as the South Australia Branch of the Australia-GDR Friendship Society; then in the early 1990s it was renamed the Australia-Lusatian Society, and in 1998 it became the Wend/Sorb Society of South Australia. (GDR stands for German Democratic Republic, the name of the former East Germany.)

Great Interest in Sorb Exhibition in Australia

Over 100 years ago many thousands of Sorb people left their homeland in Germany for other parts of the world. Besides the settlements in Texas and Canada, over 2,000 Sorbs migrated to Australia with most settling in South Australia. Unfortunately their early settlement has been largely ignored by historical publications.

The South Australian Branch of the Australia-GDR Friendship Society held an exhibition from March 16 until May 14, 1982, in the Constitutional Museum in Adelaide entitled "South Australia's Forgotten Immigrants – The Sorbs of Lusatia". The Exhibition was officially opened by Mr Ron Payne, a Shadow Minister and prominent Labor Parliamentarian in the South Australian Parliament. Originally the exhibition was to be on display for a month but as it generated so much interest this was extended to two months. Later it was featured at one of South Australia's largest shopping centres, West Lakes, where again the exhibition was an overwhelming success.

The Exhibition displayed material covering the early settlements in South Australia in detail, with material about settlements in Victoria and New South Wales and immigration of the Sorbs in general. Approximately half of the exhibition was devoted to the Sorbs in the GDR today, which included a brief historical account of their development from the 4th century until 1949. The display of the Sorbs in the GDR emphasised how the culture and language has been preserved and promoted with the full support of the government of the GDR and that since the establishment of the GDR as an independent state, the Sorbs have finally found a nation they can call home.

We were fortunate to obtain costumes and embroidery for the display, plus old family bibles and photos brought with the early settlers. Dolls, newspapers and books in Sorb language and traditional Sorbian dance music added to the exhibition.

The Sorbs, or Wends as they were known by their descendants in Australia, came to South Australia

along with the German migrations between 1848 and the 1870s. Many families settled north of Adelaide in the Barossa Valley, a famous wine growing district. Many Sorb families are still farming in the area today and many who Germanised their names centuries ago can trace their origins to the Sorbs. The Sorbs in the early years of settlement quickly assimilated with the German community and in some families German was adopted as the language in the home – consequently many were unaware of their ancestry. Today there are some who still know the odd phrase or so in Sorb.

The daily round of hard work endured by the Sorb settlers did not allow them time for cultural activities. Lacking in time and teachers to give instruction in Sorbian, with German being more important in the community and the church, and English being compulsory for official transactions and business generally, the Sorbs reluctantly gave way to the pressures and more and more surrendered their own language. Due to the absence of Sorb schools and churches in the main, the identity of the Sorbs has almost disappeared and this is one of the major reasons the Australian Sorbs have become the forgotten immigrants.

Although Sorbs in Australia will always remain a very small minority group and have only recently emerged as another part of the multi-jigsaw on which the Australian nation is developing, the Sorbs have comprised some of our earliest settlers and consequently have contributed considerably to Australia's history.

As a result of the incredible amount of interest shown in the exhibition, the South Australian Branch of the Australia-GDR Friendship Society has plans to display the exhibition at other venues in South Australia and at festivals as well as interstate.

Beverly Hall, secretary of the South Australia Branch of the Australia-GDR Friendship Society

Paul Noack, co-ordinator, Sorb Committee

For Sale

Books from Germany - in English:

- *The Sorbs of Germany* - \$10, plus \$3 postage
- *Upper Lusatia* - \$15, plus \$3 postage
- *Bautzen* - \$12, plus \$3 postage
- Korall & Schwikart, *Journey through the Spree Forest* (in English with lovely pictures) - \$35, plus \$10 postage
- *Five Centuries: The Wends and the Reformation* - \$40, plus \$10 postage

Also the best books about the Wends in Australia:

- Burger, *The Coming of the Wends* - \$12, plus \$3 postage
- Nielsen, *In Search of a Home* (second edition, hard cover) - \$40, plus \$10 postage

NEW book: Trudla Malinkowa, *Wendish Keepers* - \$30, plus \$10 postage
[The story of the four Wendish societies in Australia and America]

CDs:

- *From Wendish to German to English (A Journey into Wendish Culture, History & Language)*
- This marvellous CD has been produced by the Texas Wendish Heritage Society. It contains English narration, German and Wendish singing by a German choir performing in Texas in 2002, talks by noted Wendish (Sorbian) historians Dr George Nielsen and Gertrud Mahling (Trudla Malinkowa). George Nielsen talks about Wendish migration to Australia. *A real treat!*
Cost = \$30, plus \$3 postage

New CDs:

Cost \$10 each, plus \$3 postage

- Kocor, *Naleco* (Spring). [Majestic oratorio, with memorable, joyful and folk-like themes]
- Zahraj nam rejiku (*Sorbische Folklore mit Sprjewjan*) [Lively folk music, instrumental and vocal work]

Wendish/Sorbian Flags (small, on a stick) \$5, plus \$3 postage

Contact Ruth Walter, 43 Clifton St, Prospect SA 5082, (tel. 08 8269 7168, mobile 0435 211 606),
email: ruth.walter43@gmail.com

Please make cheques or money orders to Wend Sorb Society of South Australia,
or email Ruth for Direct Debit (EFT) details.

We welcome any contributions to this newsletter. Please send them to the Editor at the address below.

This newsletter was published by the **Wend/Sorb Society of South Australia Inc.**

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