

## Back to the beginning of a Good Rich Personality

I have often asked myself the question what led to David Goodrich's involvement with the Ceylon Society of Australia.?. Apart from his blood connection with Ceylon, it can also be put down to his sense of adventure, ambassadorial like qualities, and a search to present the truth before all. His application to the Journal as its founding editor was on one hand like a doctor diagnosing and the other like an engineer applying himself to a construction project. These qualities can in some part be traced to his ancestors and their rich history that David uncovered during his search. His fondness for Ceylon grew with the story of the Prins family: -

The first known to date of the Prins Family was CORNELIS<sup>1</sup> PRINS who was born in Holland, little is known about him but time may reveal more. His connection to others of the Prins name is at this stage by no means clear or definite and there appears to be more than one distinct Prins Family.

His son FRANS CORNELISZ<sup>2</sup> PRINS was a Navy master who received a high commendation for his military services. Frans was born in Holland (The Netherlands), and died 1693 in Colombo, Western Province of Ceylon (now Sri Lanka). A will dated 1693 currently held in the Jakarta Archives verifies this. He married Aletta Schlosser also born in Amsterdam, Holland.

Frans and Aletta had a son - CORNELIS ARNOLDUS<sup>3</sup> PRINS born in Colombo, and died in Trincomalee, Eastern Province of Ceylon. He evidently joined the Civil or administrative service and went on to become the Secretary of Justice and Police in Trincomalee. He married Gerda van Hertz.

One of the children of Cornelis Arnoldus Prins and Gerda van Hertz was FRANCOIS ALBERTUS<sup>4</sup> PRINS born 1714 in Trincomalee, and died 1779 in Colombo.

Albertus was a career soldier enlisting in 1734, reached officer cadre in 1754 as Lieutenant, and gained promotion to Captain three years later. Between the years of 1764 - 1766 he fought in the Dutch Wars with Kandy and is said to have escorted the Pretender to Kandy. By 1767 he was Major in the Dutch Militia and Commandant of Fort, Colombo. On the 15 January 1770 he was Governor Falck's Ambassador to the King of Kandy.

Albertus was married twice, first to Johanna Cornelia Luyck on 13<sup>th</sup> February 1742 in Colombo and second time around to Johanna Lydia Zedyewits on 8<sup>th</sup> October 1769. The second wedding is recorded at the Dutch Reformed Church, Wolvendaal Colombo. Lydia was born in Trincomalee to Michael Zedyewits of Naumburg, Germany and Geertruyda Window

One of the issues of his second marriage was CORNELIS ARNOLDUS JACOBUS<sup>5</sup> PRINS born in 1770, Colombo, and baptized 15 December 1770 at the Dutch Reformed Church, Wolvendaal, and died 7 March 1830 in Colombo. Cornelis Arnoldus was a historical figure. He was one of the signatories in October 1796 to the Capitulation Treaty to the British in Galle. He acted as Attorney General for the British and between 1815 and

1830. He also worked as proctor for paupers & prisoners whilst a proctor at the Supreme Court and the Vice-Admiralty court.

Cornelis Arnoldus married Maria Cornelia Walles daughter of Abraham Walles and Magdalena de Haan on 27 April 1792 in the Dutch Reformed Church, Galle,. Maria was born in Galle, Southern Province of Ceylon. Arnoldus subsequently married Gerardina Maria Goldstein daughter of Johannes Goldstein and Sara Henderling on 16 February 1798 in the Dutch Reformed Church., Galle. Gerardina was born in Galle and died 17 February 1829 in Colombo.

One of the issues of his second marriage to Gerardina Goldstein, was DR JOHANNES DANIEL THEOBALD<sup>6</sup> PRINS , born 25 February 1804 in Galle and died 27 October 1868 in Colombo. Between 1840 - 1845 he was listed as Medical Attendant, Fiscal Department Western Province furthermore he was the Doctor attached to the gaol. On 4 January 1836 he was a signatory to a letter addressed to Governor Horton, requesting Government aid for the Colombo Academy, forerunner to Royal College.

Johannes Daniel married Hendrietta Cornelia on the 30 July 1829 in St Paul's Church, Pettah, Colombo. Nothing is known of her parents Daviot and Jacoba Ferdinands. Henrietta was born 15 November 1807 in Colombo and died 29 August 1846 also in Colombo.

One of the children of Johannes Daniel Prins and Hendrietta was EDWARD HUSSEY<sup>7</sup> PRINS who was born 19 August 1842 in Colombo, baptized 2 February 1843, St Paul, Colombo. His godparents are recorded as being Mrs I .H. Martensz, Miss Ide, Classina Joceline Sisouw, A. N. Martensz, Dr Edward Frederic Kelaart and Richard Francis Morgan. He died 17 October 1901 in Colombo.

He married Louisa Mary Dornhorst 27 January 1870 in Christ Church Cathedral, Colombo the daughter of Fredrick Dornhorst and Johanna Schultze (sister of the well known Frederick Dornhorst 26 April 1849 - 24 April 1926 "Lion of the Ceylon bar"). She was born 18 May 1840 in Trincomalee and died 7 April 1912 in Colombo.

One of the children of Edward Prins and Louisa Dornhorst was AGNES AMELIA OTTOLENE<sup>8</sup> PRINS who was born 11 February 1876 in Colombo, baptized 23 May 1876, Holy Trinity Church, Colombo her godparents being John Henricus de Saram, Amelia Caroline de Saram and Agnes Julia Prins. She died 1961 in Auckland, New Zealand. Agnes who was known as "Queenie" moved with her family in 1914 to England and later in 1932 to New Zealand. Agnes married FREDERICK DETHERIDGE-DAVIES 30 September 1901 in Holy Trinity Church, Colombo. Frederick's parents were Frederick Detheridge-Davies and Charlotte Kelley. Frederick senior was a well-regarded Deep-Sea Diver / Mason and worked as Civil Engineer on the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> extensions of the Colombo breakwater. He was born 24 August 1879 in England, and died 12 December 1912 in Colombo due to a blood hemorrhage and was buried at the General Cemetery, Borella, Colombo.

One of the children of Agnes Prins and Frederick Detheridge-Davies was EDNA AILEEN<sup>9</sup> DETHERIDGE-DAVIES who was born 9 July 1908 in Colombo and died 16 August 2001 in New Zealand. She married ARTHUR EDWIN GOODRICH February 1933 in New Zealand, son of Arthur Goodrich and Eleanor Brightmore. He was born 30 October 1905 in London, England, and died 29 November 1969 in Auckland, New Zealand.

One of the children of Edna Detheridge -Davies and Arthur Goodrich was DAVID MICHAEL<sup>10</sup> GOODRICH who was born 12 November 1934 in New Zealand, and died 19 December 2001 in Bilpin, New South Wales, Australia. He married Margaret Rose Taylor on 14 September 1957. Margaret was born 11 December 1930 in Sydney, NSW, Australia. David met Helen Harrison 1993 in NSW, Australia.

### Biographical sketch

With David's father out at sea Amelia "Queenie" Prins brought up David and his twin sister Joan while his mother worked. I have no doubt that her tales of Ceylon was what drew his interest that flourished in later life. He was educated at Kings College and completed his Higher Leaving Certificate in 1952. He became a Chiropractor that leaves the question why he got into that backbreaking profession and not some of his ancestors past careers. The answer was a simple one, his sister Joan had experienced some health problems and he saw the excellent results while she was under chiropractic care, at the time he was doing some farming and decided becoming a Chiropractor was the path for him. He headed in 1955 for the United States and was fortunate to win a scholarship that paid his tuition at the Palmer College of Chiropractic, Davenport, Iowa. During his period in America he caught up with many relatives from the Davies side, went to Canada where he met his first wife, had their first child and headed back to New Zealand in 1959.

Around 1960 David uprooted to Arrat Victoria setting up 3 very successful country practices in association with a school colleague. After 2 years it was time to go on his own and the family moved to Grafton New South Wales for 6 years and finally in 1968 he established a practice in Parramatta which he continued for a further 31 years before retiring. Kerrie his daughter became a teacher, Darren his son also became a Chiropractor, Traci owns a restaurant with her second husband and Ilka is an executive with Stadium Australia.

In David's words: "The last 4 years I have been involved with the Ceylon Society of Australia as a founder member. The group was formed to maintain knowledge of the history, genealogy, and anecdotal morsels about the past of that country, **WITHOUT** racial, religious, political or confrontational overtones. So far so good. I offered my services to edit a small newsletter, which has developed into a international journal. I am very happy with the success of the journal, the CEYLANKAN, and proud that it was the title suggested by me that was accepted." Of David we can say he had a wry sense of humor as reflected by his 'Graffiti Toilet'. His sense of fair play, diligent work and

straight from the heart approach brought about a unique quality rarely seen today. With these qualities in mind and illness at hand he faced the reality of the situation and set about to carry out one last task a book called 'A Short History of the Davies Family'. Having a lot of help from Helen, his daughter and to a small part myself he completed this task in doing so it allowed me to know some more about him and I have taken the liberty of including excerpts for this piece.

David leaves behind his children by his first wife Margaret Taylor:

- i. KERRIE MICHELE GOODRICH, b. 27 August 1958, Davenport, Iowa, USA.
- ii. DARREN LEITH GOODRICH, b. 12 March 1960, Auckland, New Zealand.
- iii. TRACI DANIELLE GOODRICH, b. 25 June 1961, Victoria, Australia.
- iv. ILKA FLAER GOODRICH, b. 12 July 1968, Grafton, New South Wales, Australia.

And has 9 Grandchildren thus far to continue the bloodline, personalities and carry forward the History for all its Good and all its Riches.

*By Kyle Joustra his 5<sup>th</sup> Cousin Twice Removed and friend.*

*I knew David since August 1999 and in that short time it was my privilege and enjoyment to have known him. Our interest in Ceylon was a mutual drive, which I will continue and hope to inspire people with the same fervor. For anyone with further information on the Prins line and those that married into it (Male or Female) please forward to myself at [kjoustra@bigpond.net.au](mailto:kjoustra@bigpond.net.au) as I would personally like to continue and preserve what David had started.*