



The Genealogical Society of SA (GSSA) Rhino Project - 1972 Voters Roll

You will all remember GSSA's Elephant Project – the transcription of the 1984 Voters Roll – and the years of toil by many volunteers to transcribe more than 3 million names to make the information available to data-hungry genealogists ! Why the Elephant Project ? – because you eat an elephant on bite at a time !

GSSA has now moved on to the next project and we decided to name it after another animal – not quite as large but even tougher -

the Rhino project – our attempt at “Saving our Rhino” – the 1972 Voters Roll.

The Northern Transvaal branch of GSSA under the able leadership of Annemarie Dreyer – will manage the project on behalf of GSSA and has already started the process of photographing the 300 A3 computer-printed books – each with about 350 pages and 7000 names

In order to finance the project NEC of GSSA provided seed-funding of R 10,000 but that falls far short of the cost. Our plan is to find sponsors for each book at R 350 per book – in turn the sponsor will receive the 350 photographs in PDF format of the entire book that he/she selected.

We have created an index of the 300 books that is available from Dennis Pretorius- send him an e-mail at dennispretorius@mweb.co.za to receive a copy of the index. The index will then be sent to you as a PDF document

The sponsor will select the book from the index with his/her choice of surnames – pay R 350 to GSSA Northern Transvaal and then send proof of payment to Annemarie Dreyer – her details – as well as the banking details will be sent to the sponsor together with the index.

The books will be photographed on a “first paid – first served” basis and sent by Annemarie in Zipped PDF format via Dropbox.

After the photographing of the complete set of books and the OCR of each page, the final product will be placed on the GSSA Webshop together with the 1984 Voters Roll, the eSAGI database and the Cemetery Transcription data. The sponsor will receive a WORD/EXCEL file of the section he/she sponsored as soon as the OCR process is completed.

You can optionally also contribute by joining the team that is doing the photographing at the Archives in Pretoria. It is being done in a specific order as to ensure a good quality that is needed for the OCR process. Annemarie can assist in this regard.

Please support the project to ensure that the data of the 1972 Voters Roll is accessible for future generations of genealogists

For more information please contact:

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