

# Happy New Year

JANUARY 2021

#### **CONTACT US**



https://www.collinsconnect.com



collinsconnect.2018@gmail.com



**Group: Collins Connect** 

#### **COLLINS CONNECT WEBSITE**

All Collins family members are encouraged to register on the website. Only website membership will provide access to some pages. This is intentional to maintain the security and privacy of family members.

#### YOUR NEWSLETTER EDITOR



Collins Connect encourages you to seek permission to use any articles and photographs from this publication; but permission must first be sought from the Editor. Acknowledgment of the source must be provided.

#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Collins Connect acknowledges the traditional owners of the land on which we live and pays its respect to the Elders past and present.



## Welcome 2021

Welcome everyone to a bright New Year and a fond farewell to the old; to the things that are yet to come and to the memories that are yet to be made.

Our sincere wish for all our Collins Connect family is for a year filled with love, laughter, happiness, good health and God's Blessings.

## **HOW DID COLLINS CONNECT START?**

Roll back to 2017. At a family gathering at Lauren Rafferty's home with her siblings that included Elvis & Karen Collins, the conversation was of having a get together with all the Collins family. At this point there was no intention of including other Collins as Victor Collins had, what seemed to be a large enough family.

This casual conversation idea soon became the focus and very quickly included Corrine Collins and Lorraine Gonsalvez who were like 'every ready' batteries, they jumped onboard the adventure of seeking out all extensions to the Collins family.

This partnership team of five worked tirelessly in 2018, networking,



researching and bringing together the first ever Collins Get together held on the 28th October 2018. 84 family members included both Victor and Peter Collins families living in Melbourne, Australia. We welcomed Barry Fletcher from New Zealand representing the first ever overseas

family member to the Collins family get together. The concept and excitement of meeting families for the first time was pure delight and quickly saw the connections grow.



At the 2018 Collins Family get-together

With the success of the initial get together a 2019 Committee was formed with members that included Conchita Jasmy, Gary Jasmy, Gillian Dirckze and Alan D'Cruz. The eagerness and potential of growing the Collins family tree was soon becoming a 'banyan' tree with research and interrelation with families around the globe.

The Collins Connect Reunion 2019 brought together a total of 120 family members which now included ancestors of Alexander Collins, Adelaide (Collins) Fernandez, Peter Collins, Joseph Collins and Victor



2019 Collins Connect Get-together

Collins. It was an awesome experience to have Owen D'Souza from Perth and Damien Collins from India in attendance representing their own family ancestry lineage.



Some families meeting after 45 years whilst others were intrigued to view the presentation of the wall chart of the family trees and connections. Many hours spent by Corrine and Karen on the Family tree wall chart was a rewarding experience which has now spurred the interest to research further.





Then arrived 2020 that brought its own challenges, where the face-to-face get together soon converted into an online Zoom event. The 2020 Committee took the opportunity to connect families from all parts of the world including India, New Zealand, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, Canada and Australia. With an attendance of approximately 64 online registrations, Collins Connect was soon onboard the technology bandwagon that gave families an opportunity to introduce new family members whilst realizing the opportunity of experiencing the first ever online family reunion. The buzz and excitement of seeing family members come together was electric with a call to have more online zooming.

EDITOR—Karen Collins

COEDITOR—Corrine Collins

## Want to help?

If you would like to contribute to the Collins Connect newsletters, we encourage you to get in contact with any team member directly.

# **MEET THE TEAM— FOUNDING MEMBERS**

Corrine COLLINS is the daughter of Henry and Dorothy Collins and the grand-daughter of CORRINE COLLINS

Victor COLLINS. Corrine lives in Melbourne, Australia and has two sons.

Elvis COLLINS is the son of Milton and Stella Collins and the grandson of Victor COLLINS. ELVIS COLLINS

Elvis lives in Melbourne, Australia and has two sons, continuing with the Collins

generation.

Lauren RAFFERTY is the daughter of Milton and Stella Collins and the grand-daughter of LAUREN RAFFERTY

Victor COLLINS. Lauren who is affectionately known as Lorraine, Laura, Lau lives in

Melbourne, Australia has two sons and three grandchildren.

Lorraine GONSALVEZ is the daughter of Guido and Hazel COLLINS and grand-daughter of LORRAINE GONSALVEZ

Peter COLLINS. Lorraine lives in Melbourne, Australia and has two sons and five

grandchildren.

Karen COLLINS is the daughter-in-law of Milton and Stella COLLINS. Karen is married to KAREN COLLINS

Elvis Collins and lives in Melbourne, Australia and is an active member for all events.

# **MEET THE TEAM— COMMITTEE MEMBERS \***

Conchita JASMY is the daughter of Dawn (COLLINS) and Dunston Lyons and the grand-CONCHITA JASMY

daughter of Peter COLLINS. Conchita lives in Melbourne, Australia and has been a member since 2019. Conchita has been nominated in the role of Chairperson.

Jarryd FERNANDES is the son of Romaine and Julian Fernandes and the grandson of JARRYD FERNANDES

Hermine (COLLINS) BENHAM. Jarryd lives in Sydney, Australia and assists as treasurer

and accountant.

Drayton THOMAS is the son of Claudia (BENHAM) and Babu Thomas and the great-DRAYTON THOMAS

grandson of PETER COLLINS.

Charis Rouse is the daughter of Serena (FLETCHER) and Michael Rouse and the grand-CHARIS ROUSE

daughter of Noreen (COLLINS) Fletcher. Charis lives in New Zealand, is a healthcare

worker experienced in event management and fundraising.

Lizzie THOMAS is the daughter-in-law of Claudia (BENHAM) and Babu Thomas. Lizzie is LIZZIE THOMAS

married to Drayton Thomas and is versatile in a number of areas. Lizzie is experienced

in event management, communications and fundraising.

Sheldon D'SILVA is the son of Angel (COLLINS) and Winston D'Silva and the grandson of SHELDON D'SILVA

Milton COLLINS. Sheldon is our resident MC and experienced in social media and event

management.

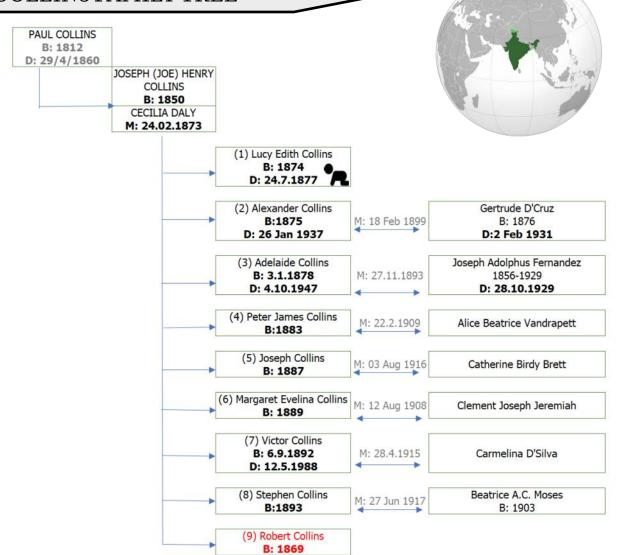
Gary JASMY is the son-in-law of Dawn (COLLINS) and Dunston Lyons and is married to GARY JASMY

Conchita JASMY. They have two beautiful daughters and live in Melbourne. Gary is our

resident technology expert.

<sup>\*</sup>All Committee Members are in a voluntary capacity offering their valuable time, knowledge and experience in their relevant roles.

# **COLLINS FAMILY TREE**



FIND YOUR TREE— Would you like to contribute towards the growth of this COLLINS tree, please contact the team at collinsconnect.2018@gmail.com, Corrine Collins or Karen Collins.

Research on the Collins ancestry has recorded a number of records. This research has included factual details of authentication such as baptism/ marriage / death registers.



