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From: "Letters" <letters@witness.co.za>
To: "Alex Farquhar" <trochail@auracom.com>
Subject: Long lost Ogilvie relatives
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Dear Alex

I have just received from Peter Ogilvie a copy of your long e-mail to him.

I come into the story as a small link in the chain of re-establishing family contacts. I am the letters' editor at the Natal Witness, the local paper in Pietermaritzburg and your letter of early November sent to the city hall was passed across to me by the municipal communications officer, with whom I have frequent dealings. We were able to put you in touch without even having to publish it.

I know two (I now discover, unrelated) Ogilvie families: one fellow is the deputy city treasurer and the others connected with Ogilvie's Shoes, one of Maritzburg's most long-established businesses. I established from Shelagh Spencer, the guru of the British settlement of Natal, that the shoe Ogilvies were your men and simply faxing your letter off to the shop addressed simply to "Mr Ogilvie" started the ball rolling.

In a previous incarnation I was a schoolmaster and actually taught Peter history for a year in 1975 when her was about 13. So it has been interesting to renew acquaintance with him and his older brother David who now runs the shoe business and who was also at Maritzburg College at that time (though I did not teach him). I have also had a spin-off in being able to use Peter, in his role as international commuter, to courier a packet of maternity garments over to my pregnant daughter in London.

I will certainly write a feature article for the paper on the Ogilvies and the discovery of the Canadian connection and will let you know when it appears. It should be posted on our web site: www.witness.co.za

With all good wishes

Sincerely

Jack
