

S. A. SIG

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Southern African Jewish Genealogy Special Interest Group Newsletter

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Genealogy has advanced from simply collecting individual names to the use of cutting edge technology to source connections. Most evident is the use of search engines and the creation of massive user friendly databases. But it is in the field of genetics that the most stunning advances are being made.

Through FamilytreeDNA (which can be found at <http://www.familytreedna.com>), I, being one hundred percent Litvak, have discovered that I have an almost identical match with Herb Huebscher, one hundred percent Galicianer! Schelly Talalay Dardashti has written an article on the JTA (Jewish Telegraphic Agency) web site at:

http://www.jta.org/page_view_story.asp?intarticleid=16659&intcategoryid=5

titled "*Ashkenazi or Sephardi? DNA unites Jewish families, but raises questions.*"

This is based on the paper we are presenting at the 26th IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy. The official Conference website is <<http://www.jgsny2006.org>>. The reference to this paper can be found on the Conference website at <<http://tinyurl.com/os5xl>>. We now have 27 disparate families, mainly from Poland, Lithuania, Belarus and Ukraine, but one non-Jewish from Costa Rica!

Additional projects are an R1b project looking at a marker that is highly prominent in Sephardi Jews (apparently only 6% of Ashkenazis have this), seen at:

<http://www.familytreedna.com/public/JewishR1b>

An international anthropological genetic project (not specifically Jewish) can be found at www.ystr.org. This is a forensic and genealogical database which has about 40 000 male individuals. The match is of a standardised database (where the standardisation is a possible mixture of usefulness both for ancestry and forensic purposes) which measures 8 short tandem repeat sections of the non coding part of the Y chromosome.

The Southern Africa Jewish Genealogy Special Interest Group (SA-SIG)

The purpose and goal of the Southern Africa Special Interest Group (SA-SIG) is to bring together Jewish genealogy researchers with a common interest in Southern Africa and to provide a forum for a free exchange of ideas, research tips and information of interest to those researching Jewish family history in the communities of South Africa, Lesotho (Basutoland), Botswana (Bechuanaland), Zimbabwe (Southern Rhodesia), Zambia (Northern Rhodesia), Swaziland, Mozambique, Kenya, and the former Belgian Congo.

The SIG has been producing a quarterly Newsletter since 2000 in which is included articles on personalities in the Southern African Jewish community, religious congregations, communities – past and present and general news about the lives our Southern African families led.

Further information on how to subscribe to the Newsletter can be found at:

<http://www.jewishgen.org/SAfrica/newsletter/index.htm>

If you would like to contribute articles to the Newsletter, accounts should include descriptions of families of the community, aspects of local Jewish life, its institutions and particular character. Jewish involvement in the community at large, its history, business life and development could be featured as well.

Articles for printing in the Newsletter should be sent to Bubbles Segall, Editor, at bubbles.segall@wagait.net

General enquiries about the Newsletter can be sent either to Bubbles or to Mike Getz at MikeGetz005@comcast.net

The SA-SIG maintains a set of Web Pages that can be found at: <http://www.jewishgen.org/safrica>

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Another website of interest, based in South Africa,

<http://www.mrc.ac.za/humangenome/humangenome.htm>

looks at genetic variations in sub-Saharan African and Malagasy populations. The lab uses several types of genetic markers (mitochondrial DNA, Y chromosome DNA, and autosomal DNA) to examine the genetic structure of sub-Saharan African and Malagasy populations.

When this research is used in conjunction with the findings of archaeologists, linguists, anthropologists and historians, it will contribute to the "writing" of the history of the peoples of Africa and Madagascar.

So, we must move with the times and try to comprehend all this. To quote Dr. Doron Behar, a population geneticist at Rambam Medical Center in Haifa: "If individuals match genetically, they are related. However, that genetic match is just that. It does not confirm the religion or ethnic background of those individuals."

Behar urges some caution. "Genetic genealogy is a very important tool – one that is having a great impact on the field of genealogy in general," he says. "But it is only one of the tools that researchers use today in their search for genealogical truth, and results need to be interpreted with caution."

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EDITORIAL

In the last newsletter I had information about *The South African Friends of Beth Hatefutsoth's* request for material for volume 3 of their *South African Country Communities Project*. In this issue I have provided information about the places they are researching for volume 4. Their request sent me on a web search to find out more about the changes which have been made to South African place names since the first democratic election which was held in 1994. Having left South Africa in 1974, I have not kept up to date with these changes. One of the major changes, which may assist genealogists who are unfamiliar with South African place names, is knowing that the country has gone from four to

eight provinces. The Cape Province is now divided into three – Western Cape, Eastern Cape and Northern Cape. The Orange Free State is now called the Free State, Natal is now called Kwazulu Natal and the Transvaal is now divided into Gauteng, Mpumalanga (as initially Eastern Transvaal), Northwest Province, and Limpopo Province (initially Northern Province). To find out more about these changes, check the following websites:

New Names in South Africa, which can be found at:

http://africanhistory.about.com/cs/southafrica/a/sa_new_name.htm

and

http://www.dac.gov.za/about_us/cd_heritage/geographical_names/procedures.htm

which is the Department of Arts and Culture's *South Africa's Geographical Names Council* site.

Anthony Pamm, who lives in South Africa, is involved in a worldwide project which covers all countries and all time periods on the subject of honours, citations and awards given to Jewish recipients. This project has immense importance to anyone interested in preserving valuable information for future generations. If anyone in your family has been decorated or honoured in any way, Anthony would like to hear from you.

Our regular contributor Adam Yamey has co-written an article with Harold Hodes about their families' involvement with Queen Victoria's second eldest son, Prince Alfred on his visit to South Africa in 1860.

In the December 2004 and March 2005 issues of the newsletter, I provided some information about the early pioneers mentioned in a book by Mr N.D. Hoffmann - *Book of Memoirs*. Whilst re-reading old issues of the SA-SIG newsletters, I came across another reference to this well-travelled individual which was provided by Rabbi Richard Newman as part of a doctoral thesis. Here he describes Hoffmann's early life and subsequent life in South Africa (see Volume 2, Issue 6, March 2002).

In this issue I have provided information taken from the chapter headed *A Register of Rabbis, Dayanim, Reverends, Cantors, Shochtim and Mohelim in South Africa*. It is interesting to note

the places where these men served have few or no Jewish families today. These dwindling communities used to maintain the services of these men – but not today. These are the places where the well known “Travelling Rabbi”, Rabbi Moshe Silberhaft, the country communities spiritual leader visits on his trips throughout the country today.

One of the communities which has diminished in the past few years is Parow -- 18 kilometres from Cape Town. Eric Horwitz, who sent me the newspaper cutting about the Brakpan community which was featured in the last newsletter, sent me an article about the Parow Jewish community’s golden jubilee which was celebrated in 1977. In 1950, this community had grown to 80 families and 305 people. It continued to grow and by 1957 the Jewish population had increased to 102 families. Over the years families moved away from the area and the *shul* finally closed its doors in 1993. The building was sold to the municipality and the furnishings were donated to a *shul* in Ra'anana *Shivtei Yisrael* just outside Tel Aviv.

I have come across some books which may interest you. The first is about the history of the Nairobi Hebrew Community. Cynthia Salvadori was commissioned to write a history of their community to tie in with their centenary. The name of the book is *Glimpses of the Jews of Kenya: The Centennial Story of the Nairobi Hebrew Congregation 1904 – 2004*.

Another book which may interest you is *Mailships of the Union Castle Line* by Captain C. J. Harris and Brian Ingpen. This fascinating narrative of the ocean mail service which plied between Britain and South Africa from the mid 1800’s gives some insight into the migration of many of our ancestors from Eastern Europe to South Africa.

In the last issue of the newsletter we provided two letters which Doreen Berger came across written to the *Jewish Chronicle*, a British Jewish newspaper published in the 1800’s. Doreen, one of the founding members of the *Jewish Genealogical Society of Great Britain*, has published two books which cover all the births, marriages, death notices, obituaries, gossip and events from 19th Century Jewish newspapers. There are many links with South Africa in these two volumes – the first is *The Jewish Victorian: Genealogical Information from Jewish Newspapers 1871 – 1880*, and the second is

The Jewish Victorian: Genealogical Information from Jewish Newspapers 1861 – 1870.

Information about the purchase of all these books can be found in this newsletter.

For those of you who are researching family in Zimbabwe, Gary Mokotoff, the editor of *Nu? What’s New?*, has provided a website which provides a listing of photos of every Jewish burial in Zimbabwe. (See <http://www.wzjc.org.il>) To view back copies of *Nu? What’s New?*, see <http://www.avotaynu.com/nu.htm>

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PRINCE ALFRED SHLEPPED HERE

***How our families hosted the first
Royal Visitor to South Africa, and
also those who followed him***

Adam Yamey, with Harold Hodes

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Prince Alfred 1844 – 1890
(Permission: R. D. Smith)

Even in today's blasé world, great excitement attends the visitation of a town or village by royalty. However this cannot possibly be compared with that which surrounded the visit to South Africa¹ made by Queen Victoria's second eldest son, the future Duke of Edinburgh, Prince Alfred (1844-1890)², in 1860.

On this trip, the first time that any member of the British Royal Family had crossed the Equator, the Prince made an extensive tour of the interior of the Cape Colony, the Orange Free State and Natal. In the company of Sir George Grey³, the Governor of the Cape Colony, and a large entourage, he was visiting places that had only recently been settled by Europeans – a country whose nature was practically unknown to the outside world.

During his journey he met a number of Jews, including members of the authors' families, who had come from Germany a few years earlier to set

up trading establishments, often with the Mosenthal brothers, away from the coast, up country. These mercantile pioneers were largely responsible for opening the interior of South Africa for its organised economic exploitation, and by the time of the Prince's arrival some of them, described in this article, had become so successful that their residences were "fit for a king".



Ludwig and Johanna Reichenberger Germany, c. 1907

The Gazette

A brief reference in the comprehensive "History of the Jews in South Africa"⁴, edited by Gus Saron and Louis Hotz alerted one of the authors (HH) that Prince Alfred stayed with a member of his family, Ludwig Reichenberg: "Other Jews who traded there were Ludwig Reichenberg and Sichel,... The *Burghersdorp Gazette* of 1 Sep 1860 notes that Prince Alfred ... was their guest during his visit to Aliwal North." HH obtained some microfilmed issues of the weekly *Burghersdorp Gazette* and *Aliwal North Advertiser* (henceforth referred to as the *Gazette*) covering the period of the Prince's visit from the National Library of South Africa. Less than a year after Prince Alfred had visited South Africa, an account of his visit was published by Saul Solomon in Cape Town⁵. This and the *Gazette* have provided much of the detail in the account that follows.

Mosenthals' men

In November 1842, the brothers Adolph and Joseph Mosenthal, Jewish by birth, arrived in the Cape Colony from Kassel, in Germany, and opened general trading stores at Port Elizabeth on the coast and Graaff Reinet, a small town in the interior⁶. This venture was successful, and the Mosenthals began to open new branches of their business in other

small settlements, which were the focus for the European (mainly Dutch) farming communities scattered about the interior of the Cape. Prior to the arrival of this firm, the distribution and sale of farm products was poor and contributed little to the economy of the country. The Mosenthals changed this. As they needed competent men whom they could trust to manage and develop their expanding business, they recruited Jews from Germany who were known to them, and who understood their ethos. In 1847, the firm opened a branch in Burghersdorp⁷, a village in the heart of a sheep rearing area. The management of this branch was put in the capable hands of the brothers Bernhard and Louis Goldmann⁸, from Breslau in Prussia. Soon, this branch added auctioneering to their services. In 1849, the year in which the town of Aliwal North was established on the Orange river (the border separating the British Cape Colony from the Boer Orange Free State), Joseph Mosenthal not only handled the auction of the plots of land upon which the town was to be built but also set up a store there. Mosenthal's partner in Aliwal North was Henry Bergmann (1831-1866) from Ichenhausen (a small town in Bavaria with a large Jewish population in the 19th century), a first cousin thrice removed of one of the authors (AY), who had arrived in the Cape in 1849⁹. Bergmann was joined in Aliwal North by Lazarus (Ludwig) Reichenberg (1835-1909), also from Ichenhausen but not a "Mosenthal man", possibly at Henry's invitation. Ludwig, who was a great grand uncle of the other author (HH), arrived in the Cape in 1855¹⁰. Whilst the Goldmanns and Reichenberg met the Prince on his visit in 1860, Henry Bergmann probably did not, for a reason that will be revealed.

The Royal tour

On the 5th May 1860, the Prince steamed out of Spithead on board the frigate *HMS Euryalis*¹¹. She was launched at Chatham in 1853, displaced 2,371 tons and had a complement of 515. After passing his midshipman exams in 1858 (two years after entering the Royal Navy), Prince Alfred was appointed to that ship that same year¹². The ship and its Royal Party rounded the Cape of Good Hope, and reached the Port of Simon's Town on the 24th July 1860, having had some mechanical problems on the way¹³.



Adam Yamey at the tombstone of Henry Bergmann, 1830 – 1866, in Aliwal North

He was preceded by Sir George Grey who arrived there, from the UK, on the 6th July on the *Forte*, whose other passengers included the explorers Captains Speke and Grant who were *en route* for Zanzibar (the Suez Canal not yet being in existence). From there, the Prince and his retinue visited Cape Town and its hinterland¹⁴. Alfred continued his voyage on the *Euryalis* eastwards to Algoa Bay (i.e. Port Elizabeth), where he and his party disembarked in order to commence their long journey¹⁵, mainly by horse, through the interior of South Africa. On the 17th of August, the Prince left Queenstown, reaching Bushman's Hoek, a pass across the Stormbergen Mountains. There they were put up for the night "at the hospitable homestead of Mr Schutte¹⁶". The next morning, the Prince continued his journey towards Burghersdorp.

Burghersdorp

A week before his arrival in Burghersdorp, the *Gazette* was full of details of the planning for the Prince's visit¹⁷. We read that, "Two arches are being erected in the principal streets, and the best efforts are put forward in the pyrotechnic art, and flags of every colour and device made for adorning the village, ... even the Kaffirs are not excluded from the general rejoicing, for they are to have a fat ox roasted whole, whereof they might eat and make merry". In addition, the *Gazette* records that, "Mr B

N Goldmann, JP, courteously vacates his sumptuous residence to accommodate the Prince and Sir George Grey, and the equanimity of his establishment is upset, in devising schemes which may possibly help to increase the comfort of his Royal Guest". Mr Bernhard Goldmann and his brother Louis, along with another Jew Godfroy Sichel, had, as an advert in the same issue of the *Gazette* informs us, recently bought the branch of Mosenthals' in Burghersdorp, and were now owners of the town's most important trading business.

On the 18th August, the Royal Party was met on the road a few miles outside Burghersdorp by 800 gentlemen, mostly Dutch Boers from the surrounding country. Then, nearer the town, they were met by the coloured congregation of the Reverend JJ Hermann's mission. According to Saul Solomon's account¹⁸, "... as the cavalcade passed through the archways leading into the town, the enthusiasm of the assembled multitude was at its height. The residence of Mr Goldman (sic), the leading merchant of the place, was given up at the Prince's disposal there. ... After luncheon, Mr Goldman, with Mrs Goldman and other ladies, were introduced, and received by His Royal Highness with that frankness which won so much on all who came into contact with him ...". Early the next morning, before leaving to continue their tour, "the Prince very warmly expressed to Mr and Mrs Goldman his best thanks and acknowledgement for the munificent hospitality he and his suite had enjoyed at their hands". On their way to Aliwal North (54 kilometres from Burghersdorp¹⁹) the party stopped for breakfast at the farm of a Mr Meyburg. This gentleman was not expecting the arrival of this Royal visitor, as he was unaware that a change had been made in the route to be taken by the Prince. He welcomed the Prince with an open heart, but "...sincerely lamented that he had not timely notice of the honor (sic), in order that he might have stocked his hall with every description of good cheer". However, Mrs Goldmann's foresight rescued the situation: "The breakfast table was soon spread with the viands which had been stored for the Prince in one of the wagons of the mule train, by his kind and provident hostess Mrs BN Goldmann, to defend against similar contingencies²⁰". The party continued towards Aliwal North after breakfast.



Harold Hodes' grandparents, Jack and Miriam Reichenberg, 1933

Aliwal North

As the Royal Party approached Aliwal North, they were met by some of Moshesh's men, who had ridden out of the town to greet them. Moshesh²¹ (c. 1791 – 1870) was the Paramount Chief of the Basuto people, who in 1852 made a treaty with the British, in which he promised to stop harassing the Boers in return for protection by the British²². After this, the party entered Aliwal North, and after dismounting, Prince Alfred and his staff, "...were ushered into the commodious residence of Messrs Sichel²³ and Reichenberg, which was in zealous loyalty, furnished for the occasion in the most sumptuous manner by these gentlemen, who certainly merit the thanks of the district, for the splendid hospitality with which they entertained the Royal Guest.²⁴" The *Gazette* reports that opposite the house in which the prince was put up, there was an enormous temporary structure that carried a banner bearing the slogan, "God bless the Prince" in the centre, and that this was flanked by the names "Victoria" and "Albert". In another part of the same *Gazette*, Reichenberg and Sichel are described as being, "... of the firm of Bergmann and Co."

Meeting of Princes at Aliwal North

African tribesmen who had come to see the Royal Visitor filled the town and its surroundings. They began arriving the day before the Royal Party arrived. The *Gazette*²⁵, reported that, "On Friday, parties of wild looking Fingoes²⁶, covered with cow tails, cat tails, and tails of every description, and bearing oval shields some four feet long, began to arrive, each tribe singing its own war song, and dancing in the most unearthly manner with satanic

yell and grins,...". On the next morning, Saturday, European troops arrived, and later, Mr Austen, the superintendent of the "native reserve"²⁷, led into town "... some six hundred armed Fingoes, Basutos, and Tambookies²⁸, all British Subjects". The highlight of the day was the arrival of Moshesh in the town. He arrived at the end of the day with a small escort. The *Gazette* remarked, "This is the first visit paid to the colony by this celebrated prince; he was uninvited, and had come of his own accord, prompted by his feelings of profound respect for the Queen, to welcome her child." Aged 71 years, he had ridden, on horseback, 150 miles to pay his respects to Alfred. On arrival on the bank of the Orange River opposite that on which the town stands, Moshesh was greeted with a volley of shots from the crowd on the town's side of the river. Moshesh and his followers responded likewise. On the Sunday, at Bergmann's house, (it appears from the *Gazette* report that Henry Bergmann's own house was used as a temporary "palace"). Moshesh was received by Alfred. The Prince greeted Moshesh, "... with head uncovered, and shook hands on introduction, and some 1500 horsemen who followed in his wake, saluted the Prince with a ringing volley."

In none of the detailed accounts of the Prince's visit to Aliwal North is there any mention of the town's major entrepreneur, Henry Bergmann. As his will, which contains the statement that it was drawn up on the same day as his marriage contract with his bride-to-be, Charlotte Jenny Schuster, was signed in Frankfurt-am-Main on 4th October 1860²⁹, it is unlikely that Henry Bergmann was in the town at the time of the Royal Visit³⁰. We know when Henry returned to Aliwal North. Out of the blue, one of the authors (AY) was contacted by Johannes Fraundorfer from Ravensburg in Germany, who is a descendant of Max Fraundorfer (1843-1922), who immigrated to South Africa in December 1860. Max travelled there on the same boat which was carrying Henry Bergmann and his new wife. The evidence for this is in a letter describing his voyage out to the Cape that Max wrote home from South Africa in February 1861³¹.

A Royal Hunt in the Sun³²

After spending a second night in Aliwal North, the Prince, having crossed the Orange River, travelled to Smithfield in the Orange Free State. This was the home of Ludwig Bergmann, Henry's brother. He is

not mentioned in any of the accounts of the Royal Tour, presumably because he was not regarded as enough of a *ganse macher*³³ to entertain the Royal Party! From there, Alfred went to Bloemfontein. Whilst visiting Bloemfontein, a Mr Bain organised a hunt for him at his farm nearby. The *Bloemfontein Gazette*³⁴ describes the carnage that ensued³⁵: "The hunt afterwards resembled more the end of a battle than a hunt. ... The slaughter was tremendous considering that it did not endure beyond an hour." The Prince was not alone in shooting, and over 1000 native beaters were employed to drive the game before them. This newspaper report continued, "The Prince shot 24 to his own gun... a man interested in the result took some pains to ascertain from the Kaffirs...the approximate tally. They say that between 800 and 1000 had come to grief... Suffice it to say, that such a hunt...has not taken place in any part of the civilised world within the present century." This unscheduled treat was the reason that the Prince did not visit the town of Port Frances, which had been re-named "Port Alfred" in honour of, and in expectation of the visit, which he never made. The Prince travelled through Natal to Durban, where he boarded the *Euryalus* to begin his homeward journey. En route for the UK, the Royal Party stopped again in Cape Town. Whilst there, Alfred commenced the building of Cape Town's harbour, by tipping (into the sea) the first truckload of rocks for construction of its breakwater³⁶.

After the Royal Tour

In 1874, Prince Alfred married the Grand Duchess Marie Alexandrovna of Russia, and they had six children including Marie, who became Queen of Romania³⁷. Before this, the Prince made a number of other major travels with the Royal Navy. In 1862, Alfred was chosen to succeed Otto, as king of Greece, but for various political reasons was unable to do so³⁸. Six years later, he visited Australia, where, on the 12th March 1868 an Irishman, Henry James O'Farrell, tried, unsuccessfully, to assassinate him³⁹. Two years later, the Prince again visited South Africa, where on 17th July 1870, he inaugurated the newly built harbour of Cape Town⁴⁰, the "Breakwater Basin". This was recently rebuilt to become a waterside tourist attraction, the "Victoria and Alfred Waterfront" – now one of Cape Town's best known tourist attractions. The Prince continued his naval career with assiduity, reaching the very senior rank of Admiral near the

end of his life. In 1893, he became the Duke of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha in Saxony.

Louis Goldmann married a daughter of one of the Mosenthal brothers, and they had two children, one of whom, Johanna, married Harry Mosenthal. His brother, Bernhard Goldmann, married Caroline Sichel, possibly a relative of his business partner Godfroy Sichel. They had a number of children including Edwin, who became a well-known physician in Germany⁴¹, Charles, who became a mining engineer, and Dick, born the year following the Prince's tour, who became a Member of the South African Parliament. Dick Goldmann writes in his autobiography that, "*During his short sojourn (in Burghersdorp) he (the Prince) stayed in the house of my parents, to commemorate which there came as a gift from Queen Victoria an engraving of the Prince Consort, set in a frame surmounted with the Royal Coat of Arms, a treasured heirloom*"⁴²". Dick's memoirs relate that his father took the family back to Breslau in Germany in 1876. The house in which the Prince stayed in Burghersdorp, Goldmann's home, later became the Post Office of the town⁴³. In about 1879⁴⁴, Ludwig Reichenberg who was married to Johanna Rindskopf, also returned to Germany. They lived in Frankfurt-am Main with their 3 children who were all born in South Africa. Many years later⁴⁵, Johanna wrote of her experiences in Africa to a nephew who had just settled there, "*One must first get used to changes. Other people, other habits, as goes the old German saying.*" In the same letter her husband wrote more optimistically, "*...first you must get used to African towns, then living there becomes quite acceptable, it is not so bad.*"

Eminent citizens

The prominence achieved by some of the early German Jewish settlers in South Africa is illustrated by the key roles they played in entertaining the country's first Royal Visitor. All of the people mentioned in the text held positions of importance in the community. Both of the Goldmann brothers were Justices of the Peace, and both Reichenberg and Bergmann held other important civic positions, all listed in the various editions of the "Cape of Good Hope Almanac", which was published annually in Cape Town.

From the Prince's Ball to the Ring

After Prince Alfred's visits, there were many more Royal Visits to South Africa. Amongst these was that made in 1925 by the Prince of Wales, later to become King Edward VIII (albeit briefly), during which he amazed, and won over, the Afrikaners by giving a speech in Afrikaans⁴⁶. On the 25th May, after shooting some guinea fowl, he arrived at Bloemfontein, where he is reported to have shaken 3,000 hands⁴⁷. One of these hands belonged to an uncle of HH, Alfred Reichenberg (1897-1986, a pharmacist, named in memory of Prince Alfred: his father was a nephew of Leopold Reichenberg, mentioned above). Alfred was the light-weight boxing champion of the Orange Free State⁴⁸. He was one of those invited to the Prince's Ball from which he was called out, at short notice, to take part in a fight. Under the headline "From the Prince's Ball to the Ring", *The Rand Daily Mail* of 29th May, 1925 wrote, "*From the Prince's ball came a sporting young man in the person of Reichenberg (OFS) who boxed a three round bout with that doughty boxer Frank Podesta, the South African Lightweight Champion. He was not quite the class of the Transvaler, and the decision went to Podesta. Mr Reichenberg then went back to the ball, where at a later hour he met members of the SANABA.*"⁴⁹" Two years later, in 1927, The Duke and Duchess of Kent, later to become King George VI and his Queen, made a visit to South Africa during which they visited King Williams Town. The car, a drop head La-Salle (or something similar), in which they drove about the town was that belonging to Senator Franz Ginsberg, the great grandfather of one of the authors (AY): it was the biggest and smartest car in the town! Yet again, a prominent Jew of German origin helped host a Royal Visit.



Hedwig and Franz Ginsberg

Some years later, in 1947, there was a Royal Visit to South Africa made by late Queen Mother and her husband King George VI⁵⁰. They visited Bloemfontein on the 7th-9th March⁵¹, where one of the authors (HH) had the privilege of shaking the hand of the Queen Mother, whilst a few days earlier the mother of AY danced at a ball held for the Royal Couple in Cape Town. The Royal Couple also visited King Williams Town for a few hours⁵². At 3.30 pm on the 4th of March, the Royal Party was greeted by the Mayor, Rudolph Ginsberg⁵³, a grand uncle of one of the authors (AY), and his wife. The King presented a portrait of the Royal Couple to the Mayor, and, half an hour later was having tea with the Mayor and his wife. At 4.13 pm, the Queen accompanied by Mrs Ginsberg met some of the ladies of the town, including the Mayor's mother, Hedwig Ginsberg the great grandmother of AY. Seven minutes later, the Royal Party retired to Joubert House⁵⁴, in order to change into more formal clothes. "*Eight rooms in the Joubert House have been specially furnished and decorated for the use of the Royal Family...*", reported the *Cape Mercury*. The curtains specially made for this place were later auctioned, and the great grandmother of AY bought them, and used them to cover a *chaise-longue*. At 5 pm, the Royal Couple assembled on a dais, along with other dignitaries including the Mayor and his wife, in order to meet the Paramount chief of the Xhosa, Archie Velile Sanile and his people. "*Before his Majesty was seated, the assembly sung the Bantu Anthem 'Nkosi sikelele i-Afrika*"⁵⁵". After an exchange of speeches the Royal Party left for Umtata. It is noteworthy that as late as 1947, there was as much warm respect between the British and African royalty as there had been in 1860. This was in complete contrast to the breakdown between the Africans and their European rulers that occurred during the Apartheid regime.

Mrs Ginsberg, the mayor's wife, had embroidered the cover of a chair which she had placed in Joubert House, and specially asked the Queen mother to sit on it, which she did. The chair upon which the Queen Mother sat for a few minutes has become a treasured heirloom, lovingly stored in an outhouse in a suburb of Cape Town!

NOTES

¹ We use the term "South Africa" to describe the collection of territories, which prior to Union in 1910 consisted of various distinct territories such as the

(British) Cape Colony and the (independent) Orange Free State.

² Known to his family and close friends as "Alfie" (see a biography of the Prince on:

<http://www.answers.com/topic/>

[alfred-duke-of-saxe-coburg-and-gotha](http://www.answers.com/topic/alfred-duke-of-saxe-coburg-and-gotha)).

³ Governor of Cape Colony from 1854 to 1860 (See:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Edward_Grey).

⁴ "The Jews in South Africa", ed. by G. Saron and L. Hotz, publ. by Oxford University Press: Cape Town, 1955, page 316.

⁵ See "Prince Alfred's Progress through South Africa. 1860", publ. by Saul Solomon & Co.: Cape Town, 1861. Saul Solomon (1817-1892), its publisher, was related to the noted British Jewish family, which had settled on the island of St Helena in the 18th century, and was for 14 years a member of the Cape Parliament (see Saron & Hotz, various pages).

⁶ For a detailed history of the Mosenthals' ventures, see "Merchant Pioneers" by D. Fleischer & A. Caccia, published by Jonathan Ball, Johannesburg, 1983.

⁷ Fleischer and Caccia, p.78.

⁸ The Goldmanns were related to the Friedlanders, also from Breslau, who settled in Middelburg in the 1850s. This family has another connection with the family of one of the authors (AY).

⁹ For more information about Henry Bergmann see article by A. Yamey in *Stammbaum*, No. 25, 2004.

¹⁰ Information from Ernest Kallmann.

¹¹ See:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HMS_Euryalus_%281853%29.

[HMS_Euryalus_%281853%29](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HMS_Euryalus_%281853%29)).

¹² See:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alfred%2C_Duke_of_Saxe-Coburg_and_Gotha

[Alfred%2C_Duke_of_Saxe-Coburg_and_Gotha](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alfred%2C_Duke_of_Saxe-Coburg_and_Gotha)

¹³ See "Times" (London) Sep 1, 1860, issue 23714.

¹⁴ In March 1851, JC Goosen bought the farm Wagenbooms Rivier. Ten years later, he measured out 90 plots and sold them for £6 000 each. While Goosen was busy measuring out his plots, the Duke of Edinburgh, Prince Alfred, visited the Cape Colony. Goosen decided to name the new town after the Prince and so the name Prince Alfred's Hamlet was born (see: http://www.lando.co.za/ceresmuseum/history_of_p_a_hamlet.htm).

[history_of_p_a_hamlet.htm](http://www.lando.co.za/ceresmuseum/history_of_p_a_hamlet.htm)).

¹⁵ They travelled about 1200 miles in total, averaging about 40 miles per day (see Saul Solomon)...quite some *schlep!*

¹⁶ See Saul Solomon, page 73-74.

¹⁷ See the *Gazette*, Vol.1, no. 26, Saturday, August 11, 1860.

¹⁸ See Saul Solomon, pages 74-75.

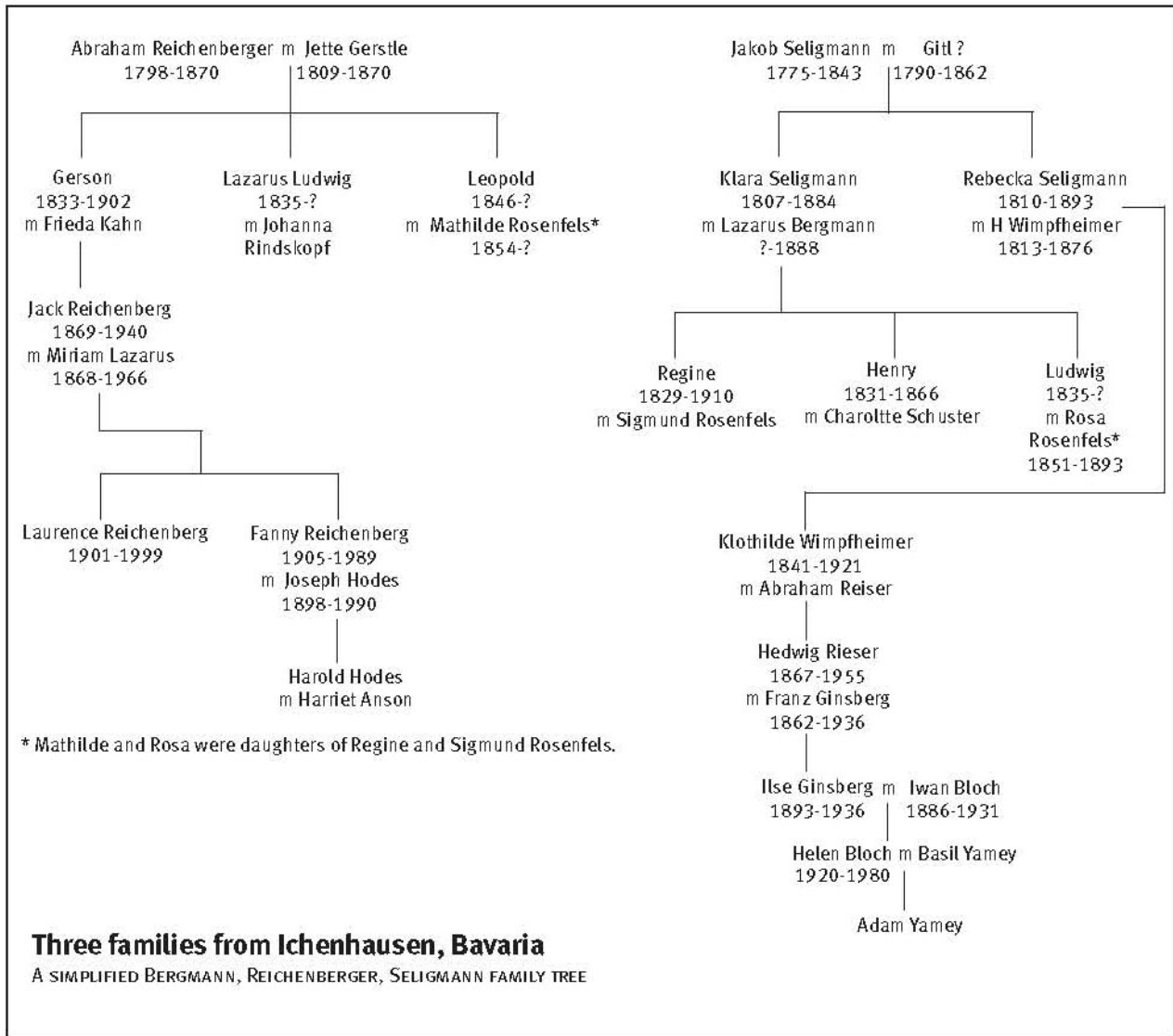
¹⁹ Distance from *South Africa Road Atlas*, publ. by Lonely Planet Publication: Victoria (Aus), 2000.

²⁰ This and the previous quotation are from *Gazette*, Vol. 1, no. 29, Saturday, September 1, 1860. (NB. We did

not have copies of issues nos. 27 and 28 of this old newspaper.)

- ²¹ The spelling of this person's name varies from text to text!
- ²² See *The Oxford History of South Africa*, ed. by M. Wilson and L Thompson, publ. by Oxford University Press: Oxford, 1969, Vol. 1, pages 421-422.
- ²³ We assume that this must be Godfroy Sichel, as he is amongst the Jews in Aliwal North listed in. Saron and Hotz, page 316.
- ²⁴ See the *Gazette*, Vol.1, no. 26, Saturday, August 11, 1860.
- ²⁵ See *Gazette*, Vol. 1, No. 29, Sept 1, 1860.
- ²⁶ A *Fingo* was the name given by Europeans to members of the Mfengu people (see Wilson & Thompson, Vol. 1, page 346).
- ²⁷ An early symptom of the racial segregation, which was later to blight South Africa's reputation in the eyes of the world.
- ²⁸ A *Basuto* is a native of what is now called Lesotho, and a *Tambookie* was the popular term for a member of the Tembu (Ama-Tembu) people (See: <http://58.1911encyclopedia.org/T/TE/TEMBU.htm>).
- ²⁹ See National Archives of South Africa: KAB/MOOC/7/1/286.f.98 1866.
- ³⁰ Whilst it is physically possible that Bergmann could have been in town at the time of the Prince's visit, and also to have reached Frankfurt in time to sign his will, this would have allowed him little time to have done much more than to complete his journey, let alone to have become engaged and to have conducted other business *en-route*. This is why we conclude that it was unlikely for Bergmann to have been present when the Prince visited Aliwal North.
- ³¹ Johannes Fraundorfer kindly sent me a copy of this letter. It is of interest that Max Fraundorfer's first wife was named Philomena Schuster, but we are not aware whether she was related to Bergmann's wife. Bergmann and his wife arrived at Cape Town on the 13th Jan 1861, having been at sea for 5 weeks, and only arrived at Burghersdorp on the 6th of February, having spent some time in Cape Town.
- ³² With apologies to the playwright Peter Shaffer!
- ³³ Our authority for Yiddish transliteration is "The Joys of Yiddish" by L. Rosten, first publ. by McGraw Hill in 1968.
- ³⁴ As quoted in a report in the *Times* (London) Nov 1, 1860, issue 23766.
- ³⁵ This is depicted in a painting by J T Baine, which hangs in the Castle of Good Hope in Cape Town (See "Frommer's South Africa" by P. de Bruyn, published by Wiley: Hoboken (NJ) , 2003, pages 96-97).
- ³⁶ See the *Times* (London) Oct 29 1860, issue 23783. .
- ³⁷ See:
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Prince_Alfred%2C_Duke_of_Edinburgh .

- ³⁸ See: <http://www.answers.com/topic/alfred-duke-of-saxe-coburg-and-gotha> .
- ³⁹ See: <http://www.shoalhaven.net.au/~cathyd/history/prince.html> .
- ⁴⁰ See: <http://www.smu.edu/richter/Garder%20Full%20Proposal.pdf> , page 6.
- ⁴¹ See article on Edwin Goldmann in www.jewishencyclopedia.com .
- ⁴² See *A South African Remembers* by R Goldmann, publ. by Cape Times Ltd: Cape Town, after 1948, page 1.
- ⁴³ See Goldmann, page 190.
- ⁴⁴ Information from Ernest Kallmann.
- ⁴⁵ Letter written to her nephew Jack Reichenberg on 18 Nov 1906 (from collection of correspondence (1877-1947) preserved by Jack and Laurie Reichenberg, [and later his daughters], and transcribed by Ernest Kallmann and Hazell Hodes-Swerdlow).
- ⁴⁶ See *King Edward VIII* by P. Ziegler, publ. by Collins: London, 1990, pages 156-162.
- ⁴⁷ See: review of *Southward Ho!* by R Deakin in the *Times* (London), Dec 10, 1925, issue 44141.
- ⁴⁸ Amongst Alfred Reichenberg's many achievements was that he trained Robey Leibbrandt, a boxer who represented South Africa at the 1936 Olympics in Berlin. Leibbrandt went to Germany where he trained to become a paratrooper. He slipped back to South Africa during WW2, a German agent. He was captured and tried for treason in 1942 (see: <http://www.superboxing.co.za/default.asp?id=3437&des=sportstalk>)
- ⁴⁹ SANABA = South African National Amateur Boxing Association.
- ⁵⁰ King George became the first sovereign to take his family on a Royal tour, when in 1947 he and his family visited South Africa. (See: <http://www.royal.gov.uk/output/Page923.asp>).
- ⁵¹ See *Times* (London) Jan 7, 1947, issue 50652.
- ⁵² Details of the visit to King Williams Town can be found in the *Cape Mercury* (King Williams Town), issues dated 5th and 6th March 1947.
- ⁵³ R. Ginsberg, whose family originated in Breslau, the town from which the Goldmann brothers came.
- ⁵⁴ Joubert House was a newly (in 1947) built hostel for Dale College, the principal boys' school in King Williams Town (information from M. Rindl).
- ⁵⁵ See *Cape Mercury*. This anthem was not heard on state occasions much after 1947, if at all, when the Nationalists came to power in South Africa, but following the downfall of Apartheid, it has become one of the country's National Anthems, *Die Stem*, being the other.



BOOKS

GLIMPSSES OF THE JEWS OF KENYA: THE CENTENNIAL STORY OF THE NAIROBI HEBREW CONGREGATION 1904 – 2004

by Cynthia Salvadori

The Nairobi Hebrew Community commissioned Cynthia Salvadori to write a history for their Centenary. The cost of the book is US\$50.00 plus postage, and anyone wishing to obtain a copy should contact Bunnie Gordon, the treasurer of the American Friends of Judaism in Kenya (AFJK), who lives in Rockville, Maryland, USA. Her e-mail address is ndovu93@aol.com. This is an excellent book and provides a well researched history of Kenyan Jewry including numerous photographs.



THE JEWISH VICTORIAN: GENEALOGICAL INFORMATION FROM THE JEWISH NEWSPAPERS 1871 – 1880

by Doreen Berger

This book, transcribed and edited by Doreen Berger, is a soft-back of 600 pages and is the culmination of more than a decade of work. Inside the covers of this book are all the birth, marriage and death entries from the Jewish newspapers. Also included are obituaries, gossip and events concerning individuals, reported as they were actually occurring. The book is arranged in the form of an alphabetical index, with details from the life of each subject listed under their name, in date order. Each narrative contains a list of the subject's near relatives including those of the spouse. As the genealogies are cross referenced you will be able to turn from family to family in the quest for information. See how the old Anglo-Jewish families were related to each other and married amongst themselves.

Within these pages are accounts of women dying in childbirth, second and third marriages, court proceedings, heroism and academic success. Light is shed on the attitudes of the day and class differences in Jewish Society. Read of the leading

Jewish families as well as the middle class and poverty-stricken.



THE JEWISH VICTORIAN: GENEALOGICAL INFORMATION FROM THE JEWISH NEWSPAPERS 1861 – 1870

by Doreen Berger

This book also transcribed and edited by Doreen Berger, is a soft-back of 404 pages – the long-awaited second volume in this series. This book also contains all the birth, marriage and death entries from the Jewish newspapers. Also included are obituaries, gossip and events concerning individuals, reported as they were actually occurring.

Doreen's first book in this series (see above) set the style for the second volume. However, the growth of newspapers during the 1870s means this volume is bigger.

Both volumes are available from the *Jewish Genealogical Society of Great Britain* at www.jgsgb.org.uk and from the publisher, *Robert Boyd Publications* at boydpubs@ntlworld.com

Their website can be found at:

<http://www.boydpubs.co.uk/boyd2.html>



MAILSHIPS OF THE UNION CASTLE LINE

*by Captain C. J. Harris and
Brian Ingpen*

This absorbing account of the ocean mail service that plied between Britain and southern Africa from 1857 to 1977 captures the spirit of an era now gone. Conveying the excitement of a record passage or sailing day at Cape Town, and the rhythm of life on board, it also recounts tales of heroism and disaster, of accidents and war.

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Woven into the fabric of the text are portraits of key figures in the company's history; accounts of life on board for passengers, officers and crew; tales of heroism and disasters, of accidents and war.

The Authors

The late Captain C J Harris had a life-long association with the sea. As a master mariner he commanded scientific research ships and, after his retirement, diamond recovery vessels off the Namibian coast. He was the author of *War at Sea* and, until his death in 1993, was the maritime correspondent for several nautical journals.

Brian Ingpen holds a master's degree in maritime economic geography, writes for a number of maritime journals and publishes *Sea Watch* a news-sheet for the South African shipping industry. He has written six books on maritime history and is presently head of the maritime studies department at Simon's Town School, in Cape Town South Africa.

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JEWISH PROJECTS

Bubbles Segall

HONOURS AND AWARDS TO JEWISH RECIPIENTS

Anthony Pamm, who lives in South Africa, is involved in a worldwide project which covers all countries and all time periods on the subject of honours, citations and awards given to Jewish recipients. This project is of immense importance for the following reasons:

- (a) Jewish Museums worldwide have ignored this subject.
- (b) Awards often end up in the hands of persons who do not know much about them and do not value them, and often do not preserve or honour the memory of their recipients.
- (c) Many awards to Jewish recipients have ended up in the hands of non-Jewish owners when they have come on the market.
- (d) Awards to Jewish recipients are (and have been) often parted from their associated documents and thus lose their Jewish association and context.
- (e) Valuable information will be preserved for future generations.

The collection being formed will attempt to remedy these deficiencies. Awards of all descriptions as well as photographs and biographical information about their recipients are sought.

You can contribute information, either documentary or details of actual medals and related documents/certificates by contacting Anthony at his address below.



JEWISH COMMUNAL PROJECTS

Anthony is also proposing certain projects for adoption or promotion by interested persons or organisations such as:

1. The South African Jewish Literature and Culture Preservation Project

2. The Yiddish Culture Preservation Project (South Africa)
3. The Sephardic Ladino Culture Preservation Project (South Africa)
4. The African Continent's Jewish Civilisation, Culture, History and Heritage Recognition and Remembrance Project.
5. The South African Jewish Honours Board/Listing Project
6. The Holocaust Era Heroes and Helpers Recognition Project (South Africa)
7. The Builders of Israel Recognition Project (South Africa)

Anthony recognises that much valuable work has already been done and is being done within the community by individuals and organisations but in some cases work could be carried out under a project umbrella whilst still maintaining individuality and autonomy.

If anyone would like to contact Anthony about any of the above, his e-mail address is matseb@xsinet.co.za which is for **correspondence only**. If you have any material to send him, it should be in **hard copy** and sent to his **postal address** which is:

P. O. Box 32305
Camps Bay 8040
South Africa

PAROW GOLDEN JUBILEE

This article was originally published in the Zionist Record and South African Jewish Chronicle on 2 December 1977. This publication has not been in existence for 12 years

How Morris Mazzur, whose dairy farm was the present township of Tiger Valley early this century, used to appear on horse-back on the dusty Parow Main Road, in front of the late Mr Freedberg's shop, and without dismounting, loudly hail him to come and take his order was recalled by Mr W. (Bob) Freedberg recently when at the Civic Centre he recounted the history of the Parow Jewish community on the golden jubilee celebration of the building of their first shul in 1927.

The first Jew to settle in Parow was a trader, a Mr Gimple, who arrived in 1897. By 1901 a Rosh Hashana service was held at the home of a Mr Stoch. The Bloch, Groll, Cohen, Levin, Freedberg, Michalowsky, Shulman, Goronowsky, and Stander families had arrived by 1915. The post-first world war years up to 1927 saw a marked increase in the Jewish population with the arrival of the Daitshs, Freedmans, Berolds, Kagansons, Selzers, Bernsteins and Berkman.

From 1921 Parow was dependent on the neighbouring Bellville Hebrew congregation for their religious needs and Rev Moshe Rabinowitz who passed away recently aged over 100, taught Parow's children, conducted adult Bible and Talmudic classes and provided *Kosher* slaughtering.

When Bellville built its *shul* in 1926 on ground donated by the philanthropic Mr F.J. Van H. Duminy, Parow hastened to send a delegation to the same gentleman who readily obliged, even with surplus ground to raise building funds!

OWN MINISTER

By 1930 the growing Parow community was able to appoint its own full-time minister and teacher in the persons of Rabbi B. Lipschitz and his young bride Nechamah, daughter of the famous Jerusalem Rabbi B. Kook. He was fearless in promoting the adherence to Jewish values and customs – even in the face of parental resistance – to the gratification of the Cape Board of Jewish Education, and it was no coincidence that the Parow cheder nurtured the

future Rabbi David Rogut, now spiritual leader of the Jews of Sydney, Australia.

By 1950 the community had grown to 80 families of 305 people, running a Hebrew school of 25 pupils, with 24 in kindergarten. A Building Committee under the chairmanship of Mr Walter Levy erected a contemporary synagogue, and in 1957 (when there were 102 families) built a Talmud Torah and Nursery School on ground donated by the now 90 year old Mrs Shalia Freedberg. The kindergarten room in the building was endowed by the late Bertha Berkman.

The Mayor Clr. J.C. Botha, and Mrs Botha attended the golden jubilee celebration. Mr Botha lauded the civic and commercial achievements of the Jewish community and paid tribute to Dr Jack Karpas (now in Israel), a previous mayor, and Drs S. Freedberg, M. Reznik and E. Sacks and Mr W. Levy who had been town councillors.

Sprightly Captain Jack Duminy, whose father laid the foundation stone of the shul 50 years ago, vividly recalled personalities and times of long ago when he was 34 years old.

Mr Hymie Berkman, president of the congregation, was in the chair.

SOUTH AFRICAN SMALL COUNTRY COMMUNITIES PROJECT

Volume 4

The South African Friends of Beth Hatefutsoth are in the process of researching volume 4 for the *South African Country Communities Project*. The project does not cover large urban areas such as Cape Town, Port Elizabeth, East London, etc.

Volume 4 includes KwaZulu-Natal and (Orange) Free State (excluding Bloemfontein & Durban but including Pietermaritzburg).

If you have lived or currently live in any of the areas mentioned below or have any information about these communities, or are aware of any communities that may inadvertently have been missed out, *The South African Friends of Beth Hatefutsoth* would like to hear from you. They are interested in photographs or any memoirs or recollections you may have.

The staff at SA Friends of Beth Hatefutsoth (Elona, Lee, and Margaret) can be contacted by e-mail at museum@beyachad.co.za or phone: +27 11 645 2598.

Towns and Regions being researched for Volume 4 include the following:

ORANGE FREE STATE (now called Free State)

Aberfeldy, Abrahamskraal, Africaskop (former name: Kestell Road), Annandale, Arlington (former name: Lindley Road), Ascent, Austin's Post, Bethlehem, Bethulie, Blaauwboschfontein, Boesmanskop, Boshof, Bothaville, Brandfort, Breipaal, Bulfontein, Burghersrust, Christina, Clarens, Clocolan, Coalbrook, Cornelia, Dampoort, Danielsrus, Dealesville, Dewetsdorp, Don Don, Donkerpoort, Dover, Du Plooy's Rust, Edenburg, Edenville, Eensegevonden, Emden, Emmaus, Excelsior, Fauresmith, Ficksburg, Fonteinreit, Foucheesrust, Fouriesburg, Fouriesburg Station, Frankfort, Galloway, Glen Harmony, Golden Fleece, Gottenburg, Greenlands, Groenebloem, Gumtree, Hammonia, Harrismith (former name: Vrededorp), Heilbron, Helderwater, Helvetia, Hennenman (former name: Ventersburg Road),

Heuningspruit, Hibernia, Hobhouse, Holfontein, Hoogte, Hoopstad, Immigrant, Jacobsdal, Jagersfontein, Jammerdrif, Kaal Valley, Kaallaagte, Kafferstad, Karee, Kestell, Koedoesrand, Koffiefontein, Koppies, Koukraal, Kransfontein, Kroonstad, Ladybrand, Langhoek, Libertas, Likhatlhong, Lindley, Lovat, Luckhoff, Markstontein, Marquard, Marsala, Marseilles, Memel, Mirage, Modderpoort, Mushroom Valley, Nova, Odendaalsrus, Olyfberg, Omega, Oranjeville, Owanty, Parma, Parys, Paul Roux, Perdeberg, Petrus Steyn, Petrusburg, Philippolis, Philippolis Road, Phuthatijaba (former name: Witsieshoek), Pocklington, Polmisa, Port Allan, Presentskraal, Priors, Rachan, Reddersburg, Reitz, Rietkuil, Rietspruit, Riviera, Roadside, Rooiwal (former name: Roodewal), Rosendal, Rouxville, Rustig, Saaibult, Sasolburg, Senekal, Senekaalsrust, Sherbrooke, Slabberts, Smaldeel (Winkelpos), Smithfield, Sonder (former name: Zonder), Soutpan, Springfontein, Steynspruit, Steynsrus, Swinburne, Syferfontein, Tafelkop, Thaba Nchu, Theron, Theunissen (former name: Smaldeel), Tiger River, Trompsburg, Tweeling, Tweespruit, Uitsig, Valsrivier (former name: Valsch River), Vegkop, Ventersburg, Verkeerdevlei, Verkykerskop (former name: Verrekykerskop), Vetrivier, Vierfontein, Viljoenskroon (former name: Rendezvous Station), Villiers, Vinies, Virginia, Vlaktefontein (farm), Vrede, Vredefort, Vyandsvlei, Warden, Weiveld, Welgelee, Welkon, Wepener, Wesselsbron, Westminster, Whites, Winburg, Wolwehoek, Wonderkop, Zastron

NATAL (now called Kwazulu Natal)

Alpha, Amanzimtoti, Amatikulu, Babanango, Ballengeich, Ballito Bay, Banana Beach, Bergville, Braemar, Bulwer, Burnside Collieries, Byproducts Colliery, Camperdown, Cato Ridge, Colenso, Cowies Hill, Dalton, Dannhauser, Doonside, Doringkop, Dundee, Ebulinga, Edendale, Elandskop, Elandslaagte, Empangeni, Eshowe, Estcourt, Fort Napier, Gillitts, Gingindlovu, Glencoe, Greytown, Groenvlei, Hattingspruit, Helpmekeer, Hibberdene, Hillcrest, Hilton, Hlabisa, Hlanganani, Hlobane, Howick, Icibini, Impendle, Ingogo, Ixopo, Izingolweni, Izotsha, Kingsdale, Kingsley, Klip River, Kloof, Kranskop, Ladysmith, Langkrans, Leeuwnek, Lenjanedrif, Lidgetton, Lions River, Lousburg, Lower Tugela, Lower Umfolozi, Maidstone, Malonjeni, Manaba Beach,

Margate, Melmoth, Merrivale, Mhelomnyama, Mooi River, Mount Ngwibi, Msinga, Mtubatuba, Mtunzini, Muden, New Germany, New Hanover, Newcastle, Nkandla (former name: Nkandhla), Nongoma, Nottingham Road, Nqutu, Nseleni, Paddock, Paulpietersburg, Pennington, Penvaal, Pietermaritzburg, Pinetown, Plessislaer, Port Edward, Port Shepstone, Ramsgate, Renishaw, Richards Bay, Richmond, Salt Rock, Sarnia, Scottburg, Scottsville, Sezela Shaka's Rock, Shelly Beach, Southbroom, Speuunkop, Springvale, St. Michael's on Sea, St. Winifred's Beach, Stanger, Stilwater, Tongaat, Tugela Ferry, Ubombo, Umdloti Beach, Umgababa, Umhlali, Umhlanga Rocks, Umkomaas, Umtentwini, Umzinto, Umzumbe, Underberg, Utrecht, Uvongo, Van Reenen, Verulam, Victoria, Viljoenspos, Vryheid, Warner Beach, Wartburg, Wasbank, Weenen, Wesselsnek, Westville, Winkelspruit, Winterskloof

TRANSVAAL

Deneysville, Vaaldam

BOOK OF MEMOIRS

Reminiscences of South Africa

Jewry

An excerpt

N. D. Hoffman

The following excerpt is from a book, titled Book of Memoirs: Reminiscences of South African Jewry, by N. D. Hoffmann, published by the Kaplan Centre for Jewish Studies and Research. This extract has been reprinted with the permission of the Isaac and Jessie Kaplan Centre for Hebrew and Jewish Studies, University of Cape Town.

From a Register of Rabbis, Dayanim, Reverends, Cantors, Shochtim, and Mohelim in South Africa

Reb A. S. Hoffenberg

Born in Russia and arrived in South Africa some twenty years ago. He was the cantor, *mohel*, and *shochet* for the Gardens *Shul* for some time. At present he officiates as the reverend in **Randfontein**, Transvaal

Reb A. Karpelovsky

Born in 1889 in Mir. Studied in the Yeshiva there for five years and also trained as a cantor, *mohel*, and *shochet*. In 1910 he went to London, and awaited a berth for five months before embarking for South Africa. His first appointment as a *shochet* was in **Makefing**, Cape Colony. He later became the reverend in **Jagersfontein**, O.F.S.

Reb S. Galoon

Born in 1890 in a small shtetl, Vashki, near Kovno. He studied in the Slobodka Yeshiva and arrived in South Africa in 1913. He worked in **Tulbach**, Cape Colony as *shochet*. He is unmarried.

Reb Alexander Moshe Jacobs

Born in Telz in 1873. Studied at the Zhager *Yeshiva* with his cousin Reb Hershel Salanter. Later he continued in Neustadt-Sugind, with his uncle Reb Gershon Shachra. He trained as a *shochet* in Telz under Rabbi Gaon Eliezer Gordon.

He arrived in South Africa in 1901 and started off in Johannesburg as a *shochet*. Later he went to

Oudtshoorn and then to **Lainsburg**. At present he is a reverend in **Vereeniging**.

Reb R. A. Shidler

Born in Russia and studied at the Slobodka Yeshiva and in Voloszin Yeshiva. He was ordained as Rabbi by the highest authorities. He became well known for his many published articles on the Torah. He came to South Africa and settled in **Dordrecht** where he held the post as Rabbi and *shochet*.

BOOK OF MEMOIRS
Reminiscences of South Africa Jewry

N. D. Hoffmann

Contemporary observations on the social environment of South Africa in the early Twentieth Century

Being the collected Articles on all matters Jewish and Judaism in South Africa by N. Hoffmann

Collected in the book "The Jews of South Africa" published in 1916

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by Lilian Dubb and Sheila Barkusky

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SA-SIG and Genealogical Resources, presented by **Saul Issroff** and **Roy Ogus**

1:45 pm – 3 pm

Poor Jews' Temporary Shelters and their Documentary Legacy, presented by **Nick Evans**

WEDNESDAY 16 AUGUST

12:30 pm – 1:45 pm

SA-SIG Luncheon

The guest speaker will be **Ann Rabinowitz** of Miami Beach, probably the most knowledgeable and dedicated contributor to the SA-SIG.

The topic is *Kuposhikers in Africa*. Her story entitled *A Journey to Africa and Beyond – a Few Vignettes* is appropriate as it encapsulates what happened to many families who came to South Africa. Her South African connection is the **Choritz** family of Bot River.

Those who want to attend **MUST** register on the Conference Website. Paying at the door will **NOT** be an option.

4:45 pm – 6:00 pm

A Computer Learning Experience on Southern African Resources, by **Saul Issroff** and **Roy Ogus**.

◆◆◆◆

A few expat South Africans will be presenting sessions which will be of interest to those involved in Southern African research:

- **Joe Mankowitz** will present a paper on expulsions and exile from Lithuania to the Ukraine
- **Rose Lerer Cohen** will talk about *Sephardim in Lithuania – Myth or Reality*
- **Naomi Baumslag** will talk about tracing victims of the Holocaust

Please go to <http://www.jgsny2006.org/> for further information about the conference and registering.

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