

SA-SIG

Editor: Colin Plen
colplen@iafrica.com

<http://www.jewishgen.org/SAfrica/>

Southern African Jewish Genealogy Special Interest Group Newsletter

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I am sitting in London on midsummer's day with the usual clouds, but at least it is now as warm in the daytime as some of the SA cities!!

I am fully occupied in preparing my talks for the 30th annual International Association of Jewish Genealogy Societies conference in Los Angeles.

As in previous years Roy Ogus (San Francisco) and I are presenting a Southern African SIG meeting, and also a computer workshop on SA Jewish Genealogical research (people pay to attend this one, but we don't get paid!).

But it's my other talk that is becoming very interesting and complex – *The Anglo-Boer War* (now known as the South African War): *Jews from many lands*.

I have been interested in this area for a long time but never appreciated the extent of Jewish involvement. On the British side about 2800 Jews fought, out of the total forces of 480,000. A number of Jews were in the top ranks. On the Boer side, as documented by David Saks in his recent book, about 300 Jews were fighting, some very bravely, and some *bittereindes* (those who would surrender).

But Jews were involved in the supply chains for both sides. Jews were also involved in the arms supplies.

The British 'invented' concentration camps during this war, but there is no record of Jews being interned.

However a number of Jews were POWs on St Helena and Ceylon.

One of the fascinating stories is of the young Winston Churchill; captured by the Boers, he is kept in Pretoria in the prison. One of his guards is a Sundel Joffe, who gets court-marshalled for going to have tea with President Kruger whilst guarding Churchill. He was reprimanded! Churchill is deported, on the same train to Lourenco Marques as Rabbi Hertz, later Chief Rabbi of Great Britain. They talk, apparently about the aspirations of the Jews and the recent Zionist Congresses. This was the start of Churchill's warmth to Jews and Zionism, culminating in the Balfour Declaration. Churchill escaped, and they met again in Durban a few weeks later.

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 Colin Plen, Editor, at colplen@iafrica.com

General enquiries about the Newsletter can be sent either to Colin 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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So, it's a many-faceted area of war!

Now back to more serious things like watching the soccer and the tennis!

Saul Issroff

London, saul@issroff.com

EDITORIAL

As this editorial is being written, we are headed into the relative excitement amongst Jewish genealogists (how excited do genealogists get?) as Los Angeles opens its arms to the Annual Conference. Meantime in South Africa there has been another kind of excitement as thousands of soccer fans and *billions* of TV viewers watch the Soccer World Cup here in South Africa. (The billions is fact!! We have been told that 27 billion people will watch the series. Go figure. It has something to do with how many times you leave the TV to go fetch another beer.)

In 1958 a very large group of young South African Jews went to Israel on *Machon* – the Institute of Youth Leaders Programme. Beryl Baleson was there and we have published her memory of the occasion.

Ivor Kosowitz has remembered aspects of Cape Town and shows how special this city is. In between his memories of Cape Town are his thoughts of South Africa in general and we are sure that you will enjoy reading it.

In your research have you ever found a paper that answers lots of questions for you but, having answered them, suddenly raises a lot more? Read the story of the Affidavit and help answer the riddle. An affidavit was written in Russia in 1951, and it has an English translation. Why an English translation in 1951?

What is nominative determinism? Ask Mr Money, the banker. Ask Mr Payne, the dentist.

We have a short article on another aspect of Trade Surnames.

Our president sent me a link which provides a very interesting resource for genealogists, a summary of the best genealogy programmes currently available. An excerpt of the long article, originally published in the online *Eastman Genealogy Newsletter*, has been included in this issue.

Stop Press: New Cape Town Cemetery webpage

If you want to check out on-line information of Cape Town cemeteries, including a database of burials, the Union of Orthodox Synagogues is running a test programme of a Cape Town cemetery website at www.jewishcemetery.co.za. Please try it and let me have your comments.

Colin Plen

Editor

Cape Town, South Africa

colplen@iafrica.com

MORE CAPE TOWN NOSTALGIA

Ivor Kosowitz

Cape Town, next to Perth, was for many years, the world's best kept secret. Today, it is internationally known as one of the top 10 cities in the world to visit.

The city is situated in the "city bowl". This means that it is surrounded by mountains. Devil's Peak on the left, the majestic Table Mountain in the centre, then Lions' Head on the right which then drops down to Signal Hill. Signal Hill was so named as for about 300 years up until today, the noon day gun is fired. Signal Hill was, in my time, the place where lovers used to go at night, to watch the city lights of course!

In summer, a cloud covers Table Mountain. This is called "The Table Cloth". Like the Fremantle Doctor, a strong wind accompanies this cloud. This Southeaster is known as the Cape Doctor.

Most visitors ascend to the top of the mountain via a revolving cable car. It is so popular that any visitor must be prepared for a long wait to go up. The view from the top is spectacular. There is an animal called the *Dassie* that lives on the mountain. It is about the same size as our *Quagga*.

On the Atlantic ocean side, there are many beaches such as Bantry Bay, Graffs Pool (Men only), Milton Pool (for kids), the Pavilion (a commercial swimming pool facility), Rocklands, Saunders Rocks, Clifton's four beaches, Camps Bay, Sandy Bay (nudist), Hout Bay etc. The scenic drive around the Cape Peninsula is one of the best ocean drives in

the world, even better than the Great Ocean Road in Victoria, and I have travelled on both.

Depending on one's age, you went to most of these beaches. In my day, Saunders Rocks and Clifton was the in place to be if you were a Jewish teenager, or in your early twenties. Only problem I had was that the water was so cold, coming up from the frigid Antarctic, that I could never swim in it. So that is why Muizenberg on the Indian Ocean was so popular.

Then of course, in summer in the evening especially Saturday and Sunday nights, you went for a walk on the Sea Point beach front. A very large number of these strollers were Jewish of course, and always bumped into many familiar faces along the way. If you wanted a special Italian "water" ice cream, you stopped at the "Venetia". They also were famous for the most mouth watering fish dishes including Sole. Of course, there were many fine café's and restaurants along the promenade. Nearby, we had the "Blue Train" and mini-golf (Putt Putt) for the kids and the young at heart.

The "main" restaurant in the city was the Waldorf. They always had a band and a comic. The "main" cinema (called bioscope) and theatre, was the Alhambra. It was built to resemble sitting in an outdoor space surrounded by trees. Small lights in the ceiling were switched on and off, to resemble twinkling stars.

On a Saturday afternoon, many kids went to the Alhambra. We went early with our comic books and "thrillers" to swap. Then the movies started. First, a South African newsreel, then an English newsreel (Movietone News), then a cartoon. This was usually followed by an English "short", and then a serial. All this before interval. As today, you had popcorn, or ice cream, or even an "Eskimo Pie". Only then, the feature movie or "flick" started.

We never grew up with TV as it only arrived in 1976, just after I left for good. So everyone listened to the radio. Springbok Radio was the favourite. We listened to radio serials such as Superman, Captain Silver and the Seahound, Inspector Carr, and Mark Saxon and Gromyko in No Place to Hide. Later we had Snoek Town Calling, the Loudspeaker Show, Radio Jutebox, Caltex Kaskenades and even an Australian show – Life with Dexter (Dutton). Few will not forget Pick-a-box with another Ozzie, Clark

(Clarkey) McKay. The Quiz Kids was popular on Friday nights.

The main cricket commentator was Charles Fortune. Bill Prince, Eric Egan, Hugh Rouse, Pip Freedman, Leslie Green, Henry Howell, Adrian Steed, Johnnie Walker, Paddy O'Byrne, Peter Chiswell, Peter Lotis, Don Davis, Duggie Laws, Andre Brink, Mervyn John, Percy Sieff, Gordon Van Rooyen, Bob Courtney and Esme Euvrard were popular radio announcers and newsreaders. Other popular programs included "Tea with Mr. Green", "Lopis Pets Parade", "Mr Walker wants to Play", "Test the Team" and "*So Maak Mens*". Bea Read presented on the English Radio Station.

Every *Pesach* and *Rosh Hashanah*, on English Radio, a one hour broadcast was aired from the Garden *Shul*. Even today, I still have some of these broadcasts on tape – probably the only tapes of these airings anywhere in the world!

In later years FM Radio was introduced, and Cape Town had Radio Cape of Good Hope.

If you did not like the SA stations, you tuned into LM radio from Lorenzo Marques, on the East Coast of Africa.

In summer, on Sunday nights, I often went to the Cape Town City Hall to hear the Cape Town Municipal Orchestra. Cost was only 50c for a wonderful evening of light classical music.

In winter, soccer was very popular. So on many Sunday afternoons, we would go to watch popular local international teams such as Hellenic playing Israel. Then on the way home, we would stop to get bagels, *bulkas* or *tagelach* from Millies, Rieses, or Mrs Marcus.

Off course, we all had maid servants. Many became experts at Kosher cooking.

Jewish events such as *Yom Ha'atzmaut*, special emergency meetings during the wars and *Habonim* Play Evenings, were held in the huge Weizman Hall in Seapoint.

In the 1950's I remember going on holiday to places like Montague, Ceres, Frenchhoek, Hermanus and Onrus. Onrus became the home for the *Habonim* Summer camps which at its peak had about 1200 kids from all over SA for about a three week period.

A special event, held over Xmas, was the Cape Town Coon Carnival. Competing bands from the Cape Coloured and Cape Malay communities would march through the city to compete for a cup. They were extremely colourful and played unique Cape Town music. One famous song was “*Daar kom die Alibama*”. This was about an American trading ship coming to visit Cape Town.

Occasionally Israeli naval ships came to visit. The *Misgav* was the first destroyer to visit the Cape. As Jews we were so proud, and we went down to the “Docks” to take “our” Israeli sailors out to see our city.

My parents were “*Verbrente Zionists*”. From 1958 to 1972, I belonged to *Habonim*, as a *Chanich* then onto a *Madrich*. My brother, Mike, made *Aliya* in 1965. He settled on Kibbutz Tzora, and is still there today.

During my time with *Habonim*, I was a member of the “famous” *Gedud Tel-Yosef*. In 1966 we even won a National *Hitcharut* (Jamborree) in Bloemfontein, and almost missed the train back home as the final ceremony took too long!

Many of us went to UCT (University of Cape Town). If you were not affiliated with a Jewish Youth Movement, you probably joined AJUS. If you were “thirsty”, you popped in to the “Pig and Whistle” for a pint – Castle or Lion Lager.

An annual highlight was the UCT Rag, when the CBD was overtaken by students collecting for Shawco, a charity for “coloureds” and “blacks”. We built floats which wound its way through the main streets, similar to the Xmas Pageant in Perth.

In the early 1970’s, the Nico Malan Opera House opened. Now, Cape Town had a world class theatrical venue.

We are fortunate that in Perth today, there are a number of people who were involved in some of the above organisations and institutions.

So for me, I really never left Cape Town – I just transposed it. Our kids too are lucky to have this “Golden Age”. Instead of living a life in Poland, London and Miami, they live in South Africa, London and Miami, all in Perth!

SOUTHERN AFRICAN SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP (SA-SIG) MEETINGS AT THE 2010 LOS ANGELES IAJGS INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON JEWISH GENEALOGY

Roy Ogus

During the recent IAJGS Symposium on Jewish Genealogy held in Los Angeles in July 2010, Roy Ogus and Saul Issroff held two Southern African SIG (SA-SIG) discussion sessions. The first session was the annual SA-SIG business meeting, while the second presented a computer lab which reviewed the availability and use of on-line resources for the genealogy research in Southern African countries. Both sessions were well-attended; 14 people were present at the business meeting, including Board members Mike Getz and Ed Goldberg, and 8 people participated in the computer lab.

During the first part of the SA-SIG business meeting, a number of topics describing the SA-SIG activities were presented, after which followed a general discussion and question-and-answer session. The presentation topics commenced with an overview of the Mission and key activities of the SA-SIG, followed by a review of the wealth of information and resources available on the SA-SIG web pages. Attendees were also encouraged to participate in the SA-SIG Internet discussion group, run under the auspices of JewishGen. Following these topics the highlights of the excellent on-line database, the South African Jewish *Rootsbank*, were presented, and the subject areas to be covered during the subsequent computer lab were previewed.

The SA-SIG website can be found at:

www.jewishgen.org/safrica

The *SA-SIG Newsletter* has been published quarterly since 1999, and the publication covers a wide range of topics relating to the Southern African Jewish communities, both in Southern Africa, as well as in other parts of the world. Further information about the Newsletter, as well as directions of how to subscribe to the publication, can be found at:

www.jewishgen.org/safrica/newsletter

The *South African Jewish Rootsbank* database was created by the Centre for Jewish Migration and Genealogy Studies in Cape Town. The Centre is managed under the umbrella of the Isaac and Jessie Kaplan Institute for Jewish Studies at the University of Cape Town, and will also provide a public access section located at the South African Jewish Museum.

The key mission of the project is to create a comprehensive database of records and information relating to Jewish immigration to South Africa. The project plans to eventually document the estimated 15,000 core families who migrated to Southern Africa between 1850-1950 from England, Germany, Lithuania, Latvia and Belarus.

The research on the project has focussed on the locations where the families originated, their patterns of migration to South Africa, where the families first settled, what communities they established after arrival, the growth of families, their subsequent movements within the country, and the later emigration of many of the families abroad. A wide array of source documentation has been consulted including passenger arrival lists, naturalization lists, community records, vital records of marriages, births and deaths, family trees, as well as many others.

A comprehensive collection of records has been integrated into the database, which can be searched on-line at:

<http://tinyurl.com/Rootsbank>

Following the presentation, the meeting was opened up as a general session during which a lively discussion ensued with an interesting exchange of information between the attendees.



The SA-SIG computer lab, titled *Southern African Resources on the Internet*, addressed the following objectives:

- To provide an overview of a set of key on-line resources on Southern African Genealogy
- To provide an organized approach to the search for data and references in this resource collection

- To gain on-line experience with a set of specific searches and examples using the actual databases together with real research data

The on-line resources reviewed during the session included the following:

- Resources from the SA-SIG website
- SA Jewish Rootsbank database
- National Archives of South Africa
- Poor Jews' Shelter database
- Ellis Island database, focusing on passengers arriving from South Africa to New York
- Passengers journeying to and from England and South Africa (using the *FindMyPast.com* and *Ancestry.com* resources)
- Web pages of the Zimbabwe Jewish Community

In summary, SA-SIG group session, together with the subsequent SA-SIG computer lab, served to re-emphasize and renew interest in the activities of the SIG. Contributions of Newsletter articles are always welcome from members of the group, as well as volunteers to help with the various SA-SIG projects. Please contact any members of the Board if you would like to contribute your services. The Board member names can be found on the SA-SIG Web pages at:

www.jewishgen.org/Safrica/board.htm.

INTERNATIONAL LIBRARY TOURIST A Genealogist-librarian with an International Family

Hazel Dakers

This article was previously published in the periodical, Focus on International Library and Information Work, Vol. 41, No. 1, March 2010, and is reprinted here with permission. Hazel Dakers was on the ILIG committee for many years, for some as Chairman. Her website can be found at <http://www.hazeldakers.co.uk>.

I think I was about fourteen years old when my mother told me that it would be too difficult for me to start researching my family history, as only one of my grandparents was born in Great Britain.

Foolishly I believed her!

Roll on many years ... and I was in the Africa section of the School of Oriental and African Studies Library in London, some twenty years ago. The Africa Librarian was exciting my black South African Teacher-Librarian students with a talk, and the chance to look at books still then banned in South Africa, so I amused myself looking up a South African family surname in the *Dictionary of South African Biography*. To my amazement there were several entries. Difficult, was it, this business of researching overseas family? From then on I bore in mind this latent curiosity.

It was my first post at the British Library which really gave me the opportunity to get going. I was undertaking a survey of skills of staff who were potentially interested in undertaking consultancy work on behalf of the British Library. An archivist responded, and from her details I gathered that she was South African and that her hobby was genealogy.

We worked in different buildings. I e-mailed. She advised me to try the Cory Library in Grahamstown (she recognised the family name), where they specialise in 1820 (British) settler history. So this was the start, some eleven or twelve years ago.

Clearly, delaying my family history research until middle age had one great benefit – the Internet. Given the URL for the Cory Library at Rhodes

University,¹ I found that, for a small sum, staff genealogists would undertake a couple of hours' research on behalf of enquirers. We had a lively correspondence and gradually the exciting information started coming through. I negotiated several two-hour blocks of research as the information seemed plentiful.

A tree for my Norden family started to come together – this was my great grandmother's maiden name. In the process we discovered that one of the genealogists was the daughter of my university English professor. She and I remain firm friends all these years later and visit each other.



House built by Benjamin Norden, Hazel's ancestor, in Grahamstown, South Africa

I have, in fact, since spent many happy days in the Cory Library myself. I've leafed through masses of manuscripts there, crumbling old newspapers as well as church registers from many places across the Cape. Some of its unique materials will vanish owing to a lack of funding for either conservation or digitisation.

My South African digging has taken me to archives in Cape Town, Bloemfontein, Pietermaritzburg and Pretoria. All but the Cape archives have allowed me, in recent years, to take digital photographs of documents that interest me – as does the National Archives (UK).² Each province has a branch of the

¹ <http://www.ru.ac.za/corylibrary>

² <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk>

National Archives and Records Service (NARS) of South Africa.³

I've enjoyed the charm of the reading room at the National Library of South Africa in Cape Town⁴ – a beautiful colonial building near Parliament – and the atmosphere of mystery at the Africana Library in Kimberley.

The libraries and archives of museums, too, have revealed little nuggets of information – in East London, in Kimberley and in Pietersburg (now Polokwane). Yes, I have travelled – driven many thousands of miles in fact! I usually allocate a few days of each holiday to research in libraries and archives, and a great many more to meeting up with the distant cousins who have since become friends.

Of course, I'm spoiled living in London. I have studied the early years of the *Grahams Town Journal* by sitting in the Colindale reading room at the British Library. I have looked at Colonial Office records in the National Archives, and visited the London Metropolitan Archives and the Guildhall Library to trace details of Norden lives in London, as well as the Probate Office in Holborn to identify wills of English family members. From wills, the family historian can often identify the next generation.

An e-mail that traced me to work asked if I was a 'real' Dakers. Primly, I replied, 'No, but my husband is,' and I was introduced to Ray Dakers. From Sunderland, settled in Germany, he simply had to be related to my husband.

In fact, the direct connection is early 19th century. It turned out that he lived a couple of miles from the little town of Luegde – near Hameln, the Hamelin of Pied Piper fame – from where my Heimann ancestors travelled to South Africa in the mid-19th century.

My Norden great grandmother married my Heimann great grandfather. Ray and his equally kind neighbour spent many, many days in the Luegde Town Hall, the Detmold Archives and the Paderborn Archives, seeking out my Heimanns for me.

³ A lot of their material is indexed, and catalogue entries may be accessed at <http://www.national.archives.gov.za>.

⁴ <http://www.nlsa.ac.za/NLSA>



*The National Library of South Africa, Cape Town.
Courtesy: Andrew Green*

Then came the year when I returned Ray's family's visit to us and stayed for a few days, going to a different archive each day. Lucky me! Although I had no German, and despite the difficulty of reading Gothic script, I was with bilingual Ray and his neighbour, Ruth, who was of the generation (now sadly departed) who learned Gothic script in school.

My skills as a librarian came in by asking for handlists,⁵ and explaining to an English-speaking member of staff the types of document I was looking for – those slightly off the beaten track, such as school records.

Through the dozen e-mail digests of specialist family-history discussion lists that I receive daily, I am in touch regularly with family historians and distant cousins all over the world, as we try to piece together the infinitely complex jigsaw of our extended family trees.

My database contains a mere 7,000 individuals, whereas that of one of my friends holds at least 35,000. I order documents from archives in Australia and New Zealand as well as from small collections in provincial USA. I subscribe to Ancestry Worldwide – an excellent source of digitised material but unfortunately sometimes

⁵ A handlist is a list of groups of documents in an archive. Unlike libraries, archives arrange their material in the way it came to them – as the records of a company or a ministry (Colonial Office) rather than by theme/subject like Dewey. Good indexing can indicate those themes but the resources are not often sufficient for this to be comprehensive.

carelessly indexed – and Find My Past, a smaller UK resource.⁶

It was through one of these e-mail discussion lists that I heard of an event being held last year in the small town from which my Polish grandparents came – Zgierz, near Lodz. My husband and I put on hold our idea of possibly visiting Crete in 2009 and instead holidayed in October in chilly Poland.



Hazel with cousin by marriage, Ray Dakers, in Bad Pyrmont Jewish cemetery.

While half the trip was regular tourism – Krakow and Warsaw – the other half was spent in Zgierz. We were twelve descendants of Zgierz Jews and four spouses. Talks, walks, receptions, and even a concert were laid on voluntarily by the founder of the Cultural and Historical Association of Zgierz, as were some excellent interpreters and English-speaking 6th-form helpers.

The packed programme included a visit to the local Registrar's office. For me this revealed nothing, as the regulations were strictly interpreted and permitted only direct line in the last 100 years. I know about my grandparents and wanted other close family branches.

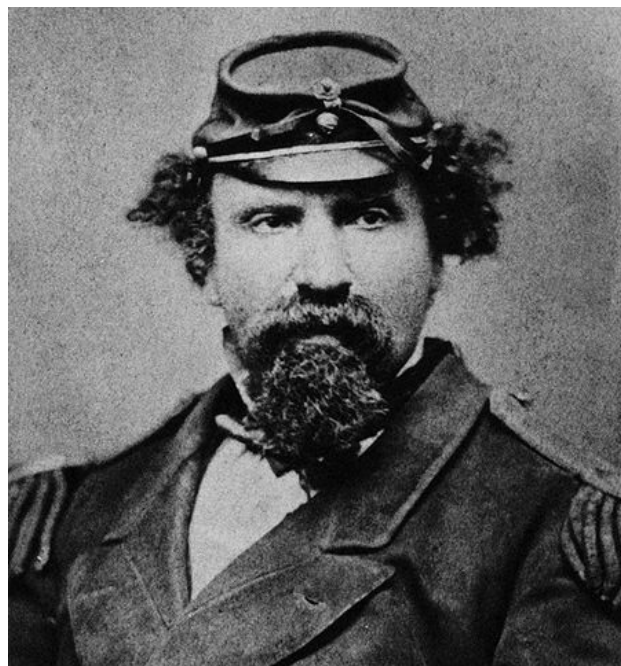
During the spare day in our programme we visited Lodz. While I went to the main archives in the town centre with my helper,⁷ my husband Chris went with his helper to the Lodz Registrar's office. In order to find documents, the sort of information that was required (in terms of specificity) was that which

I wanted to obtain *from* the documents. The next day we collected just one for my Canadian cousin.

From this department, my husband was directed to yet another government building across town. Weighty volumes were brought to him, and then he realised – everything was in old Cyrillic! He gave up, as this was even beyond his helper! I hope instead to pay a local researcher to undertake some work for me there.

My genealogical exploration of overseas lines is far from being at an end. I have a feeling that my Norden family may have come from Holland to England at some stage in the 17th or early 18th century. Online indexes have revealed families of that name, but so far not mine. Visits will doubtless be necessary at some stage.

The Norton branch of the Norden family has thrown up a series of interesting characters. A London archivist suggested some years ago that I contact Lord Hill Norton, for whom he'd undertaken research many years before. A quick look in *Who's Who* provided an address. We corresponded by snail mail and, I am glad to say, I made two visits to him during his last years. Admiral, as he liked me to call him, had an amazing career, culminating in being the last holder of the post of Admiral of the Fleet and Chief of the Defence Staff.⁸



His Imperial Majesty Emperor Norton I

⁶ <http://www.ancestryworldwide.com;>
<http://www.findmypast.co.uk>

⁷ The State Archive in Lodz:
http://www.lodz.ap.gov.pl/e_index.html

⁸ [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peter_Hill-Norton,_Baron_Hill-Norton.](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peter_Hill-Norton,_Baron_Hill-Norton)

He must have been interviewed a million times about his naval career and so I was quite a novelty, exchanging family trees and research on early Nordens and Nortons who had also fascinated him for their spirit of adventure. One I regret not identifying in time was Fitzroy Maclean – another Norton descendant. What a laugh – my mother a fourth cousin of the inspiration for James Bond!⁹

One day I shall return to visit the libraries of San Francisco. When I first went, I did not yet know that one of my great grandfather's first cousins became Emperor Norton I of the USA and later took Mexico into his protectorate. It was Mark Twain who wrote the obituary for one of the dogs who followed him about, and R. L. Stevenson who included him as a minor character in a novel called *The Wrecker*. Well, if you don't believe me, try using the universal fount of all knowledge – Google – and you'll find him, a cult character of 19th-century San Francisco!

AN ODD AFFIDAVIT

Colin Plen

Around 1991 some relatives of mine were allowed to leave Russia. They went to the USA and one at least settled in Los Angeles where for a time she practised as a dentist.

They found an address of a cousin of mine in Johannesburg, and wrote to her, the cousin sharing the letter with me. I then wrote to the Russians in LA, and amongst the information that we shared, they sent me a copy of an affidavit which had been completed in Russia around 1955.

The cousin who was the dentist is equivalent in age to me. In other words we have common great-grandparents, and our grandparents were siblings.

The affidavit states that my grandfather was born in 1878, but no further mention is made of him. In fact he and three siblings emigrated to South Africa in the 19th Century.

A cousin of my Dad went to England in 1920 and lived there for the rest of his life but the affidavit states that nothing more was heard of him.

The affidavit was like a missing link research document, to us, giving us information that we just were not aware of at all, and yet I cannot work out:

1. Why was the affidavit written?
2. Why was it written with an English translation?

It is not a usual practice for an editor to use his pages for personal questions but I really would appreciate anyone giving me their opinions as to the whys and wherefores of the affidavit!

The affidavit is shown on the next two pages.

⁹ The writer, diplomat and adventurer Fitzroy Maclean, who fought alongside Tito, was the inspiration to Ian Fleming for James Bond. See: <http://www.independent.co.uk/news/obituaries/sir-fitzroy-maclean-bt-obituary-1337837.html>. I recently discovered that Fitzroy Maclean was a fourth cousin to my mother. Like Emperor Norton and Lord Hill Norton he was descended from the 1820 settlers Sarah (née Norden) and John Norton.

ЗАЯВЛЕНИЕ.

Я, нижеподписавшаяся, Хене Лейзеровна ВЕЙНБЕРГ, проживающая в городе Риге, СССР, настоящим торжественно заявляю о нижеследующих фактах, касающихся моей семьи:

1. От брака Хаима-Мейера Пленн с Леей Зусмановной Пленн (мой дед и бабушка) родились дети:

- а) Зиссе Пленн в 1876 году.
- б) Морриц Пленн в 1878 году.
- в) Рали Пленн в 1880 году. После брака она приняла фамилию Берман.
- г) Пемах Пленн в 1883 году.
- д) Фанни Пленн в 1885 году. После брака она приняла фамилию Клейн.
- е) Гарри Пленн в 1887 году.
- ж) Паула, она же Пере, Пленн в 1891 году.

2. Зиссе Пленн вступила в 1897 году в брак с Лейзером Моисеевичем Розенберг, приняв после брака фамилию Розенберг.

Этот брак никогда не расторгался и ни один из супругов в другой брак не вступал.

3. От этого брака родились дети:

- а) Я, Хене Лейзеровна Розенберг в 1907 году в городе Тукум, Латвийской ССР. Принявшая после брака фамилию Вейнберг.
- б) Итта Лейзеровна, также Лазаревна, Розенберг в 1899 году, там же.
- в) Паула (Пере) Лейзеровна Розенберг в 1901 году там же. После брака она приняла фамилию Берман.
- г) Гейман Лейзерович Розенберг в 1900 году там же.
- д) Исаак Лейзерович Розенберг в 1902 году там же.
- е) Раэль Лейзеровна Розенберг в 1903 году там же.
- ж) Либа Розенберг в 1910 году там же.
- з) Гирш-Киве Розенберг в 1912 году там же.

AFFIDAVIT

I, the undersigned, Hene Leizerovna WEINBERG, residing in the City of Riga, USSR, hereby solemnly declare of the following facts concerning my family:

1. Of the marriage of Haim-Meyer Plenn with Lea Zusmanovna Plenn (my grandfather and grandmother) there were born the following children:

- a) Sisse Plenn in 1876;
- b) Moritz Plenn in 1878;
- c) Ralli Plenn in 1880. Married name Behrman.
- d) Gemah Plenn in 1883;
- e) Fannie Plenn in 1885; married name Klein.
- f) Harry Plenn in 1887.
- g) Paula, a.k.a. Pere, Plenn in 1891.

2. Sisse Plenn married in 1897 with Leizer Moiseevich Rosenberg whereupon she took the family name of Rosenberg.

This marriage was never dissolved and neither of the spouses contracted another marriage.

3. Of this marriage there were born the following children:

- (a) I, Hene Leizerovna Rosenberg in 1907, in the Town of Tukum, Latvian SSR. My married name is Weinberg.
- (b) Itta Leizerovna, a.k.a. Lazarevna, Rosenberg, born in 1899, at the same place as above.
- (c) Paula (Pere) Leizerovna Rosenberg, born in 1901, at the same place as above. Her married name is Behrman.
- (d) Geiman Leizerovich Rosenberg, born in 1900 at the same place.
- (e) Isaak Leizerovich Rosenberg, born in 1902, at the same place.
- (f) Rael Leizerovna Rosenberg, born in 1903, at the same place.
- (g) Liba Rosenberg, born in 1910, at the same place.
- (i) Girsh-Kive Rosenberg, born in 1912, at the same place.

as

4. Мои дед и бабушка Хаим-Мейер Пленн и Лея Зусмановна Пленн умерли давно; даты их смерти я не помню.

5. Моя мать Зиссе Розенберг и мои тетки: Рали Берман, Фанни Шлейн со всеми членами их семей погибли в 1941 году от рук немецко-фашистских оккупантов, мой дядя Гарри Пленн и Семех Пленн умерли: первый в 1916 году, второй - в 1922 году; мой дядя Моритц Пленн и тетка Паула Пленн находятся за границей. Я о них ничего не знаю с 1940 года.

6. Мои сестры и братья: Паула, она же Пере Розенберг, Исаак Розенберг, Либя Розенберг, Раэль Розенберг, Гирш Розенберг погибли со своими семьями в 1941 году от рук немецко-фашистских оккупантов.

7. О моем брате Гейман Розенберг, выехавшем за границу в 1920 году с тех пор нет никаких сведений.

Таким образом ближайшими проживающими в СССР родственниками Семеха Пленн являются я - Хене Вейнберг, проживающая в городе Риге, и моя сестра Итта Розенберг, проживающая в Ленинграде.

" 19^{го} апреля ⁵⁵----- месяца одна тысяча девятьсот пятьдесят пятого года.

*Вейнберг Хене
Лейзеровна
Л. Вейнберг*

"19" апреля 1955 г. Я, БОЖКО Л.И., старш. нотариус I-ой Рижской нотариальной конторы, свидетельствую подлинность предстojщей подписи гр. ВЕЙНБЕРГ Хене Лейзеровны, сделанной ею собственноручно в моем присутствии. Самоличность гр. ВЕЙНБЕРГ Хене Лейзеровны проверена.

Взыскано госпошлины три рубля /3 руб./

ПО РЕЕСТРУ №.....а-893.....

Старш. нотариус

Plenn and my grandmother Lea Zushmanovna Plenn died long ago; I do not remember the dates of their deaths.

5. My mother Sisse Rosenberg and my aunts: Ralli Behrman and Fannie Klein perished with their families in 1941 from the hands of German-Fascist occupants; my uncles Harry Plenn and Semach Plenn died: the first in 1916 and the second - in 1922; my uncle Moritz Plenn and my aunt Paula Plenn are abroad. I know nothing about them since 1940.

6. My sisters and brothers: Paula a.k.a. Pere, Rosenberg, Isaak Rosenberg, Liba Rosenberg, Raal Rosenberg, Girsch Rosenberg, perished with their families in 1941 from the hands of German-Fascist occupants.

7. My brother Geyman Rosenberg departed abroad in 1920 and has not been heard of since then.

Thus the next of kin residing in the USSR of Semach Plenn are I, Hene Weinberg of Riga and my sister Itta Rosenberg of Leningrad.

The " " day of _____ in the year one thousand nine hundred and fifty-five.

/Л. БОЖКО/

THE INSTITUTE FOR YOUTH LEADERS FROM ABROAD PROGRAMME IN ISRAEL

Beryl Baleson

On the 1st March 1958 the largest group of South African Youth Movement Leaders left South Africa for a year's study programme at the Institute for Youth Leaders from Abroad, (a.k.a. *Machon Le'madrichei Chutz Le'aretz*) in Katamon, Jerusalem, Israel.

The Youth Movements represented were *Habonim*, *Bnei Zion*, *Hashomer Hatzair*, *Bnei Akiva*, *Betar*, and Young Israel.

The Institute for Youth Leaders from Abroad was established in 1946 by the Youth and Pioneer department of the Jewish Agency and the first 30 students arrived from South Africa staying at the Ayanot Youth Village. After the establishment of the State of Israel the Institute's premises were moved to two large Arab styled residences in Katamon, Jerusalem.

By the time we arrived in 1958, a third building was built as the attendants to the Course grew and developed.

There were two Courses each year – the Southern Hemisphere, i.e. Australia, South Africa, and South America, started in March of each year, and the Northern Hemisphere youth movements, i.e. from America, England, and Europe, came from September each year.

Students were divided into classes based on their knowledge of Hebrew, and the curriculum included the Hebrew language, Bible, History of Zionism, Israeli Geography, Sociology of the Jewish people, which took place in the mornings.

In the afternoons there were various extra courses namely: Arts and Crafts, Music – learning how to play the *Chalil* (Israeli flute) and Choir singing, Scouting and further Bible studies for those who did not take the scouting course, Israeli Folk dancing, and the planning of youth group meetings for various ages.

Once a fortnight the students went hiking in various parts of Israel with the late Professor Ze'ev Vilnai.

These tours lasted several days at a time and important historical sites and the very new *Kibbutzim* (Communal Settlements) were visited. Sleeping over at night was usually at various Youth Hostels around the country. I remember very well visiting Kibbutz Degania A and being addressed by the first “child” born on the Kibbutz, who at that time was quite an elderly lady!

After the first six months were spent studying in Jerusalem, we were assigned to various Kibbutzim according to the Youth Movements to which members belonged. This lasted until 1st January 1959 when we met back at the Institute's premises and spent a month summing up our year, before returning to South Africa on January 31, 1959.

We were lucky in that our particular Course was held during the 10th Anniversary Celebrations of the State of Israel which was a wonderful time to be here. I will never forget the Celebration in May which was not held on Mount Herzl as is today, but in Zion Square, Jaffa Road, Jerusalem. Singing and dancing followed the opening of the celebrations, and this went on throughout the night in the streets of Jerusalem. That alone was a wonderful experience. The next day we lined King George Street, Jerusalem to see the Military Parade. This experience kept us mesmerized for the whole 24-hour period.

Once our year had ended we returned back to South Africa and worked as Youth Leaders for two years which was a condition of our being accepted to the Course. Only recently I was told that the South American groups were allowed to remain in Israel if they wished and after their year spent studying they did three months Army Service before integrating into the daily life of Israel.

In 1972 the Institute's premises were moved from Katamon to new premises on Mount Moriah where it still functions today. These premises were built by the Saffer family in memory of two of their children who were both former members of the Institute for Youth Leaders from Abroad at different times, and who unfortunately passed away at a very young age.

In October 2008, we celebrated the 50th Anniversary of our Course and were amazed at how many people had returned to Israel, unfortunately more from the South American countries than from South Africa.

It was a wonderful experience seeing everyone 50 years later and many friendships were renewed.



S.A. Zionist Youth Movement Delegates to the Institute of Youth Leaders Programme, Jerusalem, Israel, 1958

This picture was taken in February 1958 at the S.A. Zionist Federation Offices, de Villiers Street, Johannesburg, prior to departure for Israel on 1st March, 1958.

BACK ROW (l to r): Shirley Hurwitz (Habonim), Sylvia Weidi (Bnei Zion), Charlene Westy (Bnei Zion), Annette Goldblatt (Habonim), Doreen Schneider (Habonim), Phyllis Schragger (Habonim), Beryl Juter (Habonim)

MIDDLE ROW: Pamela Koz (Habonim), Jeff Alge (Habonim), Marjorie Rogow (Habonim), Arnold Granville (Hashomer Hatzair), Norman Marcus (Habonim), Joyce Zable (Bnei Akiva), Hilda Perlstein (Betar)

FRONT ROW: Abel Osrin (Bnei Akiva), Hymie Lacob (Bnei Akiva), Philip Kaufman (Habonim), Ralph Shalskolsky (Habonim), Hirsch Sadur (Habonim), Lazer Choritz (Habonim), Michael Comay (non-affiliated)

Not shown: Elmer Oddes (Habonim), Max Shaer (Hashomer Hatzair), Shalom Zausmer (Habonim), Errol Hackner (Habonim), Shulamit Adler (Hashomer Hatzair)

GENEALOGY PROGRAMS FOR WINDOWS

The following article is excerpted from Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter and is copyright by Richard W. Eastman. It is republished here with the permission of the author. Information about Eastman's Newsletter is available at <http://www.eogn.com>. The full article can be seen at:

<http://tinyurl.com/eastman-gen>

The following is a list of the more popular genealogy programs that are actively being marketed for Windows users. In fact, more than one hundred genealogy programs have been offered to Windows users over the years, and a handful of them are still available for purchase today. However, not all of them are being actively developed and supported. The following list focuses on only the products that are current and still have developers writing updates, bug fixes, and new releases. The list is shown in alphabetical order:

Ancestral Quest from Incline Software is the program that Personal Ancestral File (also known as PAF) could have become if the Mormon Church had continued development of their Windows genealogy product.

<http://www.ancquest.com>

Perhaps the newest genealogy program on this list is **Branches**, produced by Sherwood Electronics. Branches is advertised as "Genealogy Software of the 21st Century" and lives up to that name.

<http://www.branchesgenealogy.com>

Brother's Keeper is a shareware genealogy program that started years ago as an MS-DOS program, before Windows had been invented.

<http://www.bkwin.org>

Family Historian from Calico Pie is a Windows genealogy program that is popular in many countries.

<http://www.family-historian.co.uk>

MyHeritage is an interesting company that produces two seemingly competitive products: the

MyHeritage web site and the **Family Tree Builder** genealogy program for Windows.

<http://www.myheritage.com/family-tree-builder>

Family Tree Maker is perhaps the best-selling genealogy program in the world.

<http://www.familytreemaker.com>

GRAMPS is best known as a Linux genealogy program, but it also has been ported to Windows and Macintosh operating systems.

<http://gramps-project.org/>

Legacy Family Tree is a powerful program from Millennia Corporation is available in two versions: the free Standard Edition and the even more feature-packed Deluxe Edition.

<http://www.legacyfamilytree.com>

The Master Genealogist, or TMG, is often referred to as the “industrial strength” genealogy program.

<http://www.whollygenes.com>

MyBlood is a new genealogy program for both Windows and Macintosh, developed by Vertical Horizon, a Belgian company.

<http://www.myblood-line.com>

Osk is produced by the Icelandic company, Stuðlar Software

<http://www.studlar.net/en/software>

RootsMagic is one of the most popular Windows genealogy programs available. The same company also produces **RootsMagic Essentials**.

<http://www.rootsmagic.com>

<http://www.rootsmagic.com/Essentials>

The above is *not* a complete list of all Windows genealogy programs. A complete list would fill perhaps 30 or 40 pages! Instead, the above is a list of the more popular Windows genealogy programs sold in North America. Several of them are produced in other countries, however.

EDITOR'S MUSINGS

Colin Plen

Nominative Determinism?

It has been established that one of the four main types of surnames is the Trade or Occupation type of surname. This includes Schuster, Fleisher, Turner, Fletcher (an arrow maker).

Interestingly, this 1000-year-old form of surname is experiencing a sort of reversal in that if you meet a bank manager whose surname is Cash. Or an artist with the surname of Painter. This is called Nominative Determinism. It is quite fun to look for. A company in Cape Town is called De Wet Boreholes. While we who speak Afrikaans don't take any notice, I am sure that there are *Uitlanders* who say: “Ha Ha funny. Wet boreholes!!”

The head of the Water Board in Gauteng was a Mr Bath, there was a dentist with the surname Payne. An engineer Bridges, a shopkeeper Till, and a lawyer named Crook.

The Tailor

A while ago I was with a friend of mine, Mervyn Metz, who had emigrated from South Africa to Perth. Mervyn told me this story:

Never having been involved in the “*shmatter*” business before and arriving in a new country one adapts to change. I bought a clothing factory and inherited the staff with it.

Amongst the staff was an elderly gentleman with a very heavy accent. His function was to make blazers. He was a tailor from Europe.

As time went by I could not work out his accent or even if he was Jewish. I would deliberately ‘drop’ the occasional Yiddish word but got no response till one day my curiosity got the better of me and I took him aside and asked him where he came from.

I'm sure you have encountered people with their heavy accents who deliberately try and anglicize their speech.

His reply was: “I vos a bespoke tailor in London fer tirty years.”

My response was: "Before you were a bespoke tailor in London where did you come from?"

"Vel," he says, "I came from a big town near Lodge in Poland."

One of the few places I know of in Poland is where my late father came from, which happens to be near Lodz, so I asked him if he came from Radomska.

Well he went quite pale and wanted to know how I would know of such a place.

I said I would answer his question later but first I wanted to know how old he was when he left, to which he replied 17 years old.

I then wanted to know if he had completed his apprenticeship before he left to which he replied yes he had.

I then told him I would tell him the name of the person he was apprenticed to.

Well, he looked at me incredulously. "How could I know such a thing?"

I was guessing of course, but my father had told me that prior to emigrating to South Africa, my grandfather had been a prominent tailor with a fairly large factory in Radomska.

So I said to him, "You did your apprenticeship for Miedjinski our family name before it was changed."

We almost had to pick him up of the floor he was so stunned. I then explained that it was my grandfather he worked for.

On the table as we spoke was a pair of cutting shears that I had inherited that came from Poland. He may well have used them so many years back.

It makes you wonder what a small world we live in.

Surnames from Lithuania

At the SA Jewish Museum in Cape Town, there is a map which shows the *shtetls* of Lithuania and where they were placed.

These are some of the *shtetls* whose names caught my eye: Pokroy, Krok, Gruzd, Salant, Salat, Bolnik, Utian, Musnik, Shil.

There is a town called Shverksna and I once knew a family called Sherksner. Close enough?

Have you seen these names as surnames? That's why I specially selected them, all are Jewish names that I have known. When I first started collecting surnames, I sorted Salat (or Salet) and Salant together as I thought they were so close that they must be the same name, but they are two different *shtetls*. There is a family in Cape Town of Musikers. Were they originally Musikners? Or were their forebears actually musicians and not connected with this *shtetl*?

South African Jewish Museum

I have always understood that a Museum is like a school, it is a building where minds grow and ideas are nurtured. The South African Jewish Museum in Cape Town is a wonderful monument to Mendel Kaplan and is an excellent museum. I have spent quite a lot of time there in the last few months.

Something that worries me is the absence of any mention of the East and West Rand of Gauteng where over the years there were large and dynamic congregations. There is great detail in the museum of the *shuls* that existed in Johannesburg, from the several in the South to some of the many in the North East and the North West. But nowhere in the Museum is there a mention of Germiston, Boksburg, Benoni and Springs, Florida, and Krugersdorp.

There are interesting maps showing many of the little *dorps* that hosted Jews throughout the country. But nothing of the Rand.

I spoke to a senior person in the Museum about this and he told me that the rules laid down by the donor family stated that nothing could be added to or taken from the Museum. So that if there is nothing about the East Rand and the West Rand, that is the way it has to stay.

So sad.

Krugersdorp built its first synagogue in 1903 and according to the Encyclopaedia Judaica, communities had been formed before the end of the 19th Century in Germiston, Boksburg, Roodepoort, Randfontein and Springs, along with a number of others of later growth, in Benoni, Brakpan, and Nigel. Jews were important enough in several of these towns to be Mayors, Provincial Councillors, and Town Councillors.

So sad.

Toponyms – Town Names As Surnames

In 2005 Varda Epstein of Efrat wrote to JewishGen and said: “...Many times, names were given arbitrarily. My husband’s family chose the name Epstein, apropos of nothing at all. [Epstein is a town – Editor] Another example of arbitrary naming occurs in a cousin’s line. His grandfather was a Yeshiva student in Hebron, but apparently the Russians had a very long arm and all the students with Russian passports were required to take surnames. The assignment of surnames was done through a process of lots. A big fur hat, known as a streimel, was filled with pieces of folded paper, containing surnames. My cousin’s grandfather pulled the name KREISSBAUM. [which I cannot translate – Editor] Thus my cousin felt it was no insult to his heritage to Hebraicize said name to KEHAT. Though KREISSBAUM is not a toponym it was given to my cousin’s grandfather as arbitrarily as my husband’s ancestor took the town name EPSTEIN.”

Muizenberg – The Shtetl by the Sea

The project’s cofounders include Syd Mandelbaum, a scientist with a background in genetics and the son of two Holocaust survivors, and Dr. Michael Hammer, a renowned research scientist at the University of Arizona who specializes in human population genetics.

Many ex-Muizenbergers and friends of Muizenberg generously contributed memoirs and photographs to the *Memories of Muizenberg* Exhibition currently on at the Jewish Museum in Cape Town, but many did not respond at the time and may have more than a few regrets.

Now Hedy Davis, chief researcher on that project, editor of the comprehensive photo caption document detailing over 1250 images received, and the coordinator of the exhibition text, is engaged in writing a book, tentatively titled, *The Shtetl by the Sea*. It will incorporate much of the material that it was not possible to include in the Exhibition, the many wonderful memoirs received with the permission of those who sent them in, and historical research into the Jewish Community of Muizenberg in which she is currently engaged.

There is great interest in the early beginnings of the vibrant village that Muizenberg became, and

particulars of when grandparents and parents arrived there, are urgently required. Information about everyday life is sought, describing how the village annually changed from the bustling premier holiday resort in South Africa to a quiet community where life went on regardless in the off season. It is in recording the smallest details of that way of life, that we ensure a treasure house of stories is not lost to future generations.

All those who have not submitted their memoirs are invited to do so to hedy.davis@gmail.com, or alternately by regular mail to:

Hedy Davis
P.O. Box 909
Wendywood, South Africa, 2144.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

More information on Jewish Place Names

[Editor’s Note: Dennis Kahn was the author of the article, Hebrew and Jewish Names in South African Places, published in the SA-SIG Newsletter, January 2010.]

I’ve just received and read the latest SA-SIG Newsletter. The *Editor’s Musings* column included the item *Jewish names of roads* on pages 13-14.

I contacted Charles Press in Paarl in April and received the following information from him, previously published in *The Light of Israel – The Story of the Paarl Jewish Community*, in 1993:

Jewish Town Councillors and Civic Dignitaries of Paarl

- David Nelson, 1922-1941; Deputy Mayor 1928-1929.
- Abel J. Volks, 1954-1963; Deputy Mayor 1958-1959; Mayor 1959-1960; re-elected Mayor 1960-1961.
- S.G. (Bom) Hoffman, 1959-1963.
- Albert Allen, 1963-1970.
- Louis (Lulu) Rabinowitz, 1975-1980.
- Mrs Ruth Hoffman, 1978-1988.
- S.M. (Jack) Lichtenstein, 1982-to date; Deputy Mayor 1988-1989 and 1989-1990; Mayor 1990-1991; re-elected Mayor 1991-1992.

Jewish contributors to the welfare of general community

In all civic and communal endeavours, local Jews have played their part. They have served on the Hospital Board, School Boards, the Chamber of Commerce, the various service organizations Lions, Rotary, and Round Table and they have held the highest positions in Freemasonry. (In 1980 the Social Hall of the Paarl Lions Club was named after Bom Hoffman, Founder-President of the club in 1959 and a leading member of the Jewish community). In the dramatic, musical and artistic life of the town Jews have always been found.

Also in local sport, Jews have played their role not only as players, but also as administrators – particularly in cricket, rugby, soccer, bowls, golf, badminton, tennis, table tennis and swimming, among others.

Official Place Names of Jewish Interest at Paarl

- Berman Street, Southern Paarl (named 1957)
- Prof. Frank Forman Square, Central Paarl (named 1986, name discontinued)
- Geffen Street, Huguenot (named 1955)
- Kaplan Street, Huguenot (named 1971)
- Rabinowitz Street, Southern Paarl (named 1957)
- Synagogue Street, Central Paarl (named c 1912)
- Volks Street, Huguenot (named 1950)
- Zetler Street, Huguenot (named 1965)

There are a number of other streets at Paarl (in private property developments) named after local Jews.

My comment: In the last section above, Charles Press does not provide the etymology of each person, nor does he include the streets in private property developments. So the subject of *Place Names* as I wrote about them in January 2010 hardly benefits from his research. Still, I am grateful for his cooperation and hope for more of the same in the Cape Town metropolitan area.

Dennis Kahn
June 1, 2010
denmor@xs4all.nl

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Update on search for Dubow/Dubovsky family

My sincerest thanks to the readers of the SA-SIG Newsletter who took the time to respond to my previous inquiry concerning Dubows and Dubovsky individuals who lived in South Africa. I was primarily concerned with identifying a cousin who emigrated from Kovarsk, Lithuania, and settled in Bloemfontein. I think I have identified him: he was either Selig Dubovsky, who died on September 30, 1939 and is buried in the Benoni Cemetery, or Isaac Dubovsky, who died on January 22, 1931 and is buried in the Bloemfontein Memorial Cemetery.

What connected them to my family was the fact that both of them had a father named Abraham. Were Selig and Isaac brothers who had the same father named Abraham, or were they two separate individuals whose fathers named Abraham was a coincidence?

My father had a brother named Abraham (or Avram) who remained in Europe. I think that the South African death records for Selig and Isaac would either confirm or deny the identification I am looking for. I will proceed to obtain these documents.

Can any surviving descendents of Selig and Isaac furnish me with any appropriate biographical information? Thanks again!

Sylvan Morris Dubow (Zalman Moshe Dubovsky)
Glenn Dale, Maryland, USA

Editor's Note: If anyone can provide help to Sylvan, he can be contacted through Mike Getz, at mikegetz005@comcast.net

◆◆◆

War Graves

Hereunder is the website of the War Graves of South Africans who died in the Israeli Defence Forces. There is a Commemoration Monument to them at the Golani Junction in Israel where a Memorial Service takes place annually.

<http://www.southafricawargraves.org/lists/israel.htm>

Beryl Baleson
Israel.

SURNAMES APPEARING IN THIS NEWSLETTER

Vol. 10, Issue 4 – July/August 2010

The numbers in brackets refer to the page numbers where the surname appears:

Adler (14), Alge (14), Allen (17), Baleson (1, 2, 3, 13), Berman (18), Bolnick (16), Bond (10), Brink (4), Chiswell (4), Choritz (14), Churchill (2), Cohen (2), Comay (14), Courtney (4), Dakers (1, 5), Davis (4), Davis (17), Dubow (18), Dubowsky (18), Eastman (14), Egan (4), Epstein (2, 17), Euvrard (4), Fleisher (15), Fletcher (15), Forman (18), Fortune (4), Freedman (4), Geffen (18), Getz (2, 5), Goldberg (2, 5), Goldblatt (14), Granville (14), Green (4), Gruzd (16), Hackner (14), Hammer (17), Harris (2), Hart (2), Hertz (2), Hoffman (17), Howell (4), Hurwitz (14), Issroff (2, 5), Joffe (2), John (4), Juter (14), Kahn (17), Kaplan (7, 16, 19), Kaufman (14), Kehat (17), Kosowitz (1, 3), Koz (14), Kreissbaum (17), Krok (16), Kruger (2), Lacob (14), Laws (4), Lichtenstein (17), Lotis (4), Maclean (10), Malan (4), Marcus (4, 14), McKay (4), Miedjinsky (16), Metz (16), Musikners (16), Musnik (16), Nelson (17), Norden (7), Norton (9), O'Byrne (4), Oddes (14), Ogus (5), Ogus (2), Osrin (14), Perlstein (14), Plen (2, 3), Pokroy (16), Press (17), Rabinowitz (2, 17), Read (4), Reases (4), Rogow (14), Rouse (4), Sadur (14), Saffer (13), Saks (2), Salant (16), Salat (16), Schneider (14), Schragger (14), Schuster (15), Shaer (14), Shalskolsky (14), Sherksne (14), Shil (16), Sieff (4), Steed (4), Stevenson (10), Turner (15), Twain (10), Utian (16), Van Rooyen (4), Vilnai (13), Volks (17), Walker (4), Weidi (14), Weizman (4), Westy (14), Zable (14), Zausmer (14), Zetler (19)

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