

**Charities benefiting from book sales
ARCADIA ORANJIA AND THE JDC**

The full proceeds of the sale of these compilations go to Arcadia and Oranjia, formerly Jewish Orphanages in Johannesburg and Cape town South Africa, still looking after Jewish Children in need.

On-line sales go to the JDC (The American Jewish Joint Distribution Company)

To order your books locally or have them delivered to friends and family around the world please contact David Solly Sandler on sedsand@jinet.net.au

So far we have raised over R1,100,000 for Arcadia, approximately R60,000 for Oranjia and US\$1,000 for the JDC

PG compilation still to come

- Our Litvak and South Africa Jewish Inheritance - volume two

Jewish history and life in South Africa from 1850 to 1950.

- The Keidan Memorial Book in English

An English translation of the book that was published in Israel in Hebrew in 1977 by the Keidan Societies in Israel, the US and South Africa as an eternal monument to the town and its Jewish people.

- The Ochberg Orphans - volume two

A collection of articles and histories

Best wishes good health and Shalom and thank you for supporting Arcadia and Oranjia.

David
David Solly Sandler
Perth Western Australia

**ABOUT DAVID SOLLY SANDLER,
THE COMPILER OF THE BOOKS**

I was born in Johannesburg South Africa in 1952 and all my forebears originated in Lithuania. I spent most of my childhood, 1954-1969, in Arcadia from age three until 17, when I finished school. I served in the South African Defence Force and did Articles and qualified as a Chartered Accountant in 1976.

In 1979 I married and at the age 28, in 1981, I left Johannesburg and I have lived in Perth, Western Australia, ever since. I have two daughters Sarah and Esther.

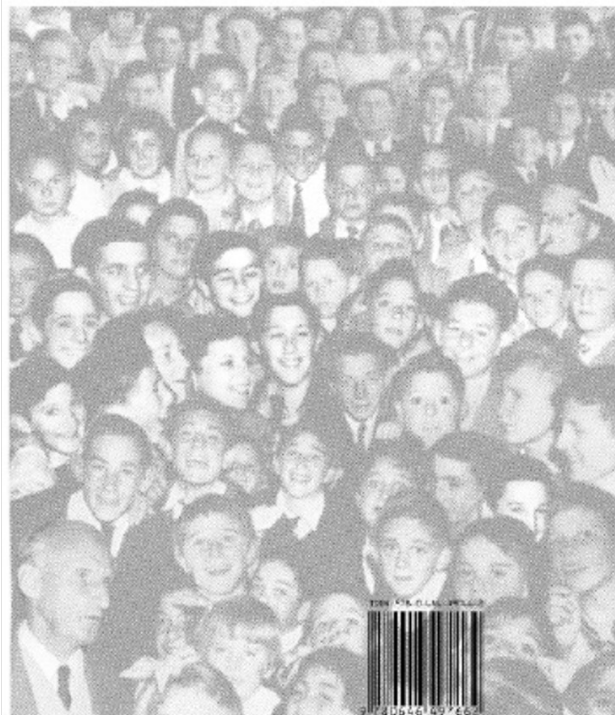
In early 2007 I retired, and compiling the books have been the equivalent of about eight years full-time work.



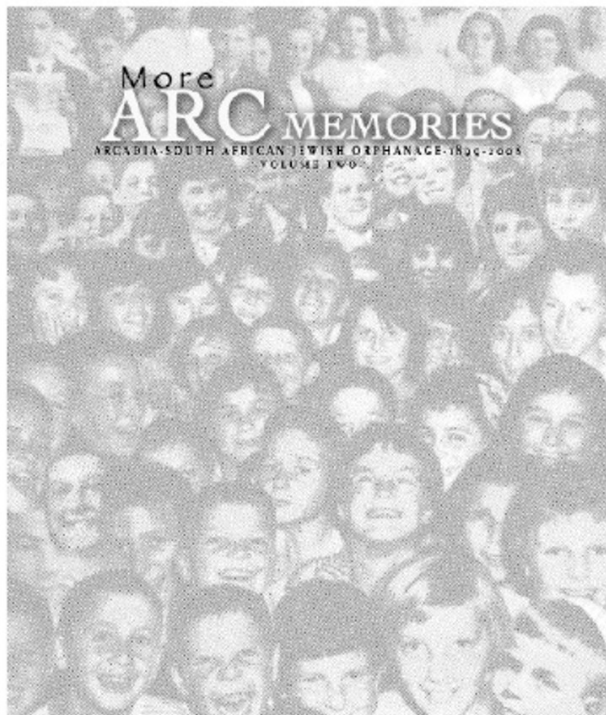
David Solly Sandler

BOOKS COMPILED BY DAVID SOLLY SANDLER

ARCADIA MEMORY BOOKS The cover of *100 Years of Arc Memories* and *More Arc Memories*



More
ARC
MEMORIES
ARCADIA-SOUTH AFRICAN JEWISH ORPHANAGE-1896-2006
VOLUME TWO
DAVID
SOLLER
SANDLER



100 Years of Arc Memories published 2006

The purpose of this book is to record the memories of the children of Arcadia (The South African Jewish Orphanage) and the history of Arcadia (the Arc). The Arc children of many different ages now live in many countries around the world and have followed many different walks of life. The common thread that binds the Arc children is that they spent some, or even all of their childhood in Arcadia.

The book also marks and celebrates the Arc's centenary. Finally, 100 years after its official beginning, old Arcs of at least five of the ten generations who passed through its gates have expressed a little of what the Arc meant to them. I feel privileged to be the recorder of their memories.

Arcadia, known as *the Arc* to all its children, started off as the South African Jewish Orphanage (SAJO). 'Arcadia' was the name of the 26-acre estate bought from Sir Lionel Phillips in 1923 by the South African Jewish community. The name remained when the palatial villa and extensive grounds were transformed into a home to house Jewish children in need of care. Thus Arcadia, 22 Oxford Road, Parktown, Johannesburg was to become the address and home of generations of children. Arcadia SAJO has cared for over three thousand Jewish children over the past 100 years. In 1975 its name was changed to Arcadia Jewish Children's Home. In 2002 the children then in residence, were relocated to Sandringham and the property was sold in 2004.

More Arc Memories published 2008

The publication, distribution and sales of the Arc Centenary Book *100 Years of Arc Memories* has been a catalyst, enabling many Old Arcadians and their families to 'come out' as it were, and to be proud they were from Arcadia, and to make contact with their fellow Arcadians. I now sense that for many "Coming from Arcadia" is now a badge to be shown off with pride and that the sense of shame in being an orphanage child has somewhat dissipated. This is very much like Australians, who in previous generations hid the fact that their forebears came out from England as convicts and who are now proud to show this in their family trees.

This book contains *Arc Memories* that have poured in from Old Arcs and their descendants following the publication of the Arcadia Centenary Book *100 Years of Arc Memories* in 2006. Like the first book, this sequel records the memories of the children of Arcadia (The South African Jewish Orphanage) and the history of Arcadia (the Arc).

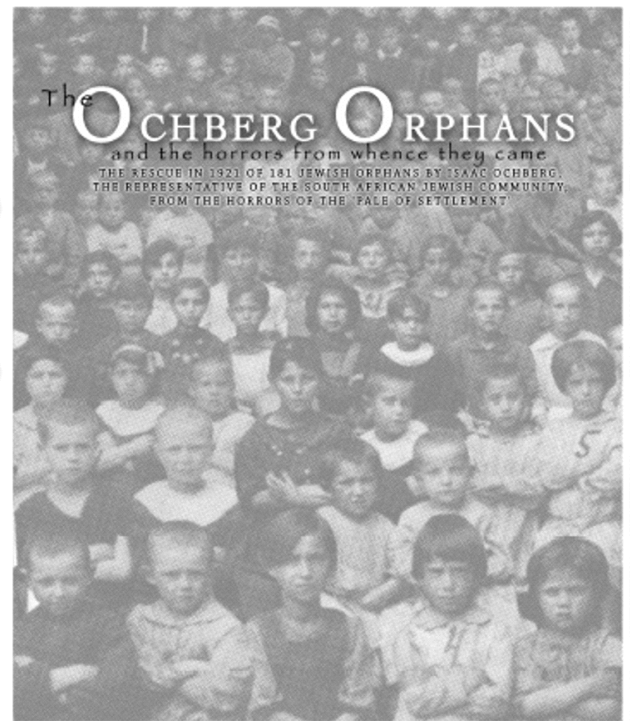
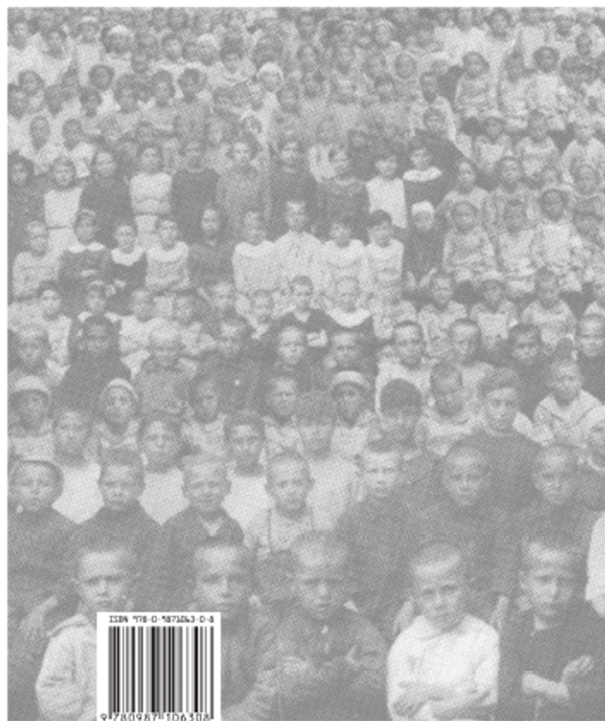
This book differs from the first in that it more fully covers the ten decades of the previous title. Since 2006, later generation Old Arcs - by this I mean those of us who were Arc children in the 70s and later - have been sending in their memories. At the other extreme, many of the memories in this edition have come from the children of the very early generations of Arcs, including the children of the "Ochberg Orphans" who landed up in Arcadia, simply because they have wanted the stories of their late parents to be on record.

The "Ochberg Orphans" are a group of 181 orphans who were fortunate enough to be rescued in 1921 from the pogroms and poverty of Eastern Europe by the late Isaac Ochberg. Immediately after docking in South Africa, half the children were sent to Johannesburg by train and placed into the care of the South African Jewish Orphanage (SAJO). In 1923, when 'Villa Arcadia' was bought from mining magnate Sir Lionel Phillips, and the SAJO adopted the name Arcadia, 67 of the children went to live in Arcadia. Funds collected by the *SA Jewish Relief, Reconstruction and Orphans Fund* were used as part of the purchase consideration. The rescue of these orphans through the generosity of the Jewish Community of South Africa is an important part of South African Jewish history and an important part of the history of Arcadia.

This book devotes 17 chapters to the Ochberg children – six of a general nature, and eleven based on personal and family contributions. The first book did not give them the place they deserved and hopefully this book goes some way to correcting this omission. Arcadia reports of the period, referred to these children variously as the Russian pogrom orphans, the Russian orphans, or the Ukraine orphans but not as "Ochberg Orphans" as was done in the Cape.

What both books have in common is that Old Arcs are willing to express a little of what the Arc meant to them. It is nothing short of miraculous that people of so many different generations, who have followed totally different paths in life in many countries around the world, are willing to share their special status with one another and with you. I feel privileged once again to be the recorder of their memories.

The Ochberg Orphans and the Horrors from whence they came published 2011



The rescue in 1921 of 181 Jewish Orphans by Isaac Ochberg, the representative of the South African Jewish Community, from the horrors of the 'Pale of Settlement'

This book tells the story of a forgotten part of Jewish History; a period completely overshadowed by the Holocaust; the horrors of war and pogroms and starvation and disease suffered by Jews in the 'Pale of Settlement' from 1914 to 1922. It details the horrors and the help given to these desperate people by Jewish communities established in the USA, Canada, Palestine and South Africa.

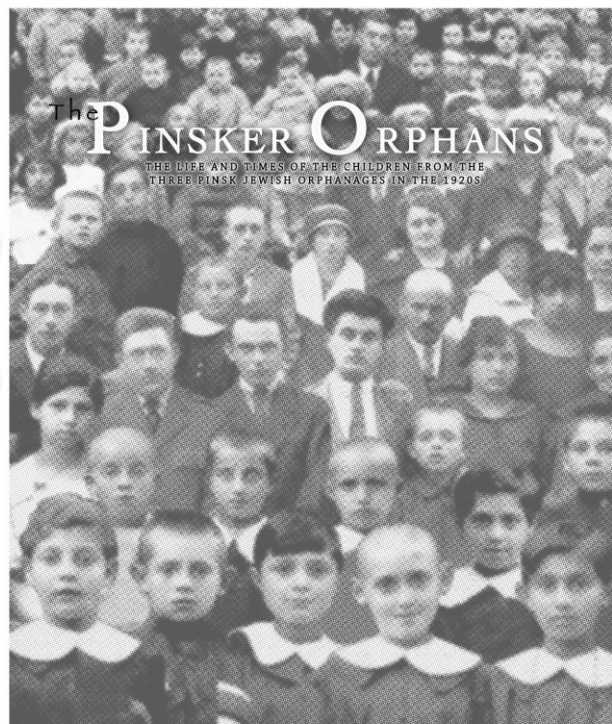
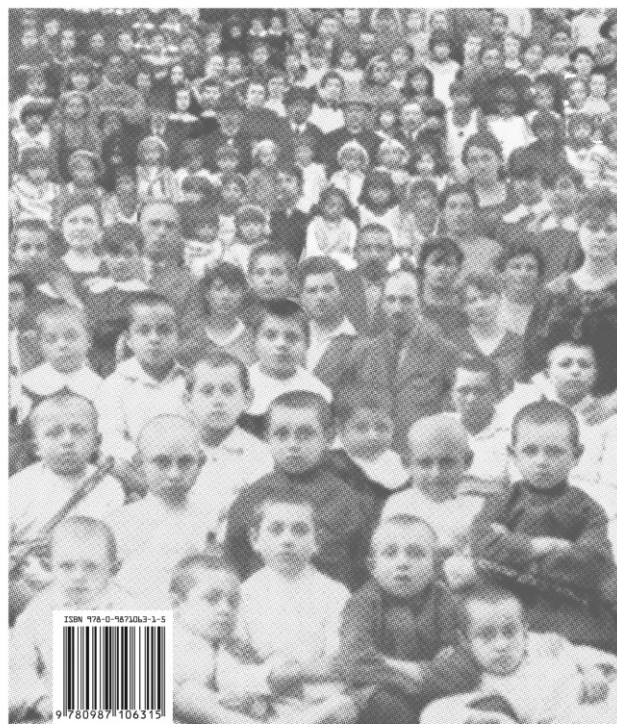
The book then focuses on, and follows up on the lives of the 181 Jewish Orphans rescued from the 'Pale of Settlement' in 1921 by Isaac Ochberg, the representative of the South African Jewish community. Half of these Ochberg Orphans, on arrival in South

Africa, were placed in the care of the Cape Jewish Orphanage (later known as Oranjia) while the rest were sent to Johannesburg and placed in the care of the South African Jewish Orphanage (later known as Arcadia).

While the firsthand accounts of the Ochberg Orphans are included in part one of the book, the secondhand accounts, as recorded by their descendants, are in part two and part three of the book. Part two, *Cape Town, South Africa*, contains the history of Oranjia and the life stories of the Ochberg Orphans in its care and similarly part three, *Johannesburg, South Africa* contains the history of Arcadia and the life stories of the Ochberg Orphans in its care

The book contains the life stories of 120 of the 181 Ochberg Orphans.

***The Pinsker Orphans The life and times of the children from the three Pinsk Jewish Orphanages in the 1920s* published 2013**



The story of the Pinsker Jewish Orphans of the 1920s is but a small part of a much larger and forgotten part of Jewish History, the horrors suffered by the Jews in *The Pale of Settlement* between the two world wars. These horrors have been overshadowed by the Holocaust and suppressed by the Soviets who controlled the area.

These horrors commenced in 1914 with WWI and the forced relocation of Jews by the Russians. This was followed by the Spanish Influenza epidemic and pogroms committed by advancing and retreating troops. Finally complete chaos, devastation, crop failure, starvation and the diseases that accompany hunger and cold, added to the extremely harsh living conditions that continued well into the 1920s.

Jewish communities around the world were shocked by the news of the horrors of war and the pogroms, starvation and disease suffered by Jews in the *Pale of Settlement*. Especially horrific, were accounts of wholesale rape, extortion and slaughter of their brethren by Polish, Ukrainian and Belarus nationalistic armies and the Red and White (Cossack) Russian troops.

No one knows how many Jews perished in *The Pale of Settlement* between the two world wars.

The Jewish communities around the world heard the cries of their brethren whom they helped in many ways. The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC) saved hundreds of thousands from

certain starvation with their mass feeding programs and Jewish communities from Canada, Palestine and

South Africa rescued groups of approximately 200 Jewish Orphans each, by transporting them to their respective countries and caring for them.

The primary purpose of this book is to remember those Pinsker Orphans left behind and includes 135 letters in Hebrew and Yiddish written by them in 1921 to their hero, Alter Bobrow. It is most important to remember these children by publishing their letters, as no one knows how many of them perished in the Holocaust 20 years later.

The book contains details of the 44 Pinsker Orphans who went to South Africa with the Ochberg Orphans. It also includes the great work done by the Pinsker Orphans Relief Fund of London that supported the Pinsker Orphanages and that brought out to London for adoption a group of 19 children in 1924 and a further group of 34 in 1926. It also tells the life stories of some of these rescued children and of some of the committee members who supported this fund.

Lastly the book tells of the great work of the JDC, who not only supported the Pinsk Jewish Community, including the three Pinsker Orphanages, but who supported many hundreds of Jewish Communities, throughout the *Pale of Settlement*, with their orphanages, hospitals, schools, old age homes, soup kitchens, feeding programs and agricultural development and other programs.

ISAAC OCHBERG

*Isaac was born in Uman,
Russia on 31 May 1878 and
died on the Pretoria Castle
on 11 December 1937.
He was buried in Cape Town
on 13 December 1937.*

*"He never refused to support a
worthy cause; on the contrary, his
creed was that since he had been
enabled to achieve success in his
own enterprises, he had a moral
duty to help those less fortunate."*



'This Was A Man' is the life story of Isaac Ochberg (1878-1937) and was first published in 1974 by his daughter Bertha I Epstein.

This is a 2014 reprint of the book slightly edited with an addendum added and reprinted with the permission of the family of Isaac Ochberg z"l.

The rescue of 200 children, orphans of the Ukrainian pogroms (later known as Ochberg Orphans), is, without a doubt, one of the most glorious chapters in the life of Isaac Ochberg.

In 1921 Isaac (known as Daddy Ochberg to the children) brought these children out to South Africa, saving them from the horrors of 'The Pale of Settlement', and half were settled in Oranija, The Cape Jewish Orphanage and half in Arcadia, The South African Jewish Orphanage in Johannesburg.

The book not only tells us of the rescue of these children, but also about Isaac's extraordinary business ventures and the many great works done by him, a once in a lifetime successful businessman and philanthropist.

"He never refused to support a worthy cause; on the contrary, his creed was that since he had been enabled to achieve success in his own enterprises, he had a moral duty to help those less fortunate."

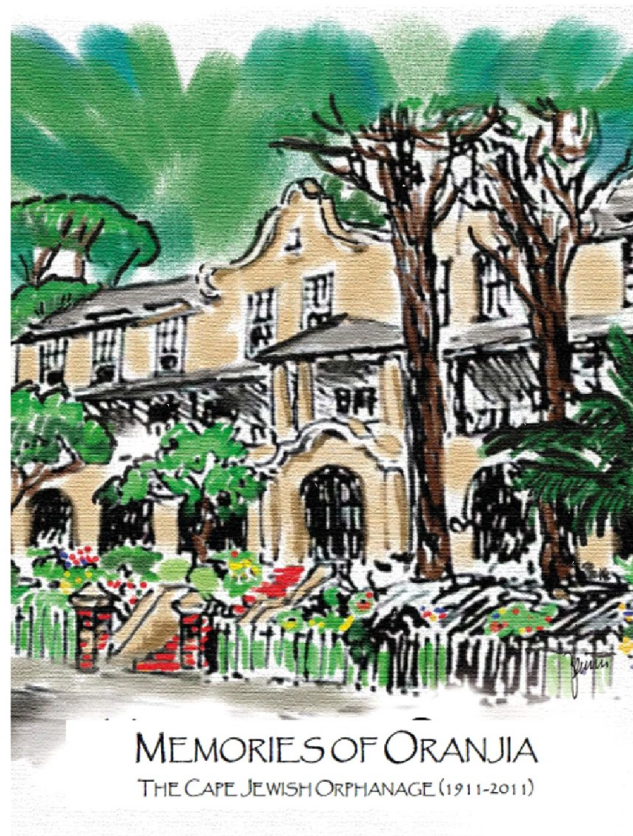
Amongst his many bequests are two that stand out: The largest donation to the Jewish National Fund used to acquire a massive tract of land on which now stand two kibbutzim, Dalia and Galed, and a donation to the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

The book also follows up on the Ochberg Orphans: In 1971 a Golden Jubilee Reunion of these children took place in Cape Town and in 2011 some 250 of the estimated 4,000 descendants of the children gathered in Israel at a two-day ceremony at Kibbutz Dalia and Galed. This culminated in the dedication of the Ochberg Memorial Site overlooking an area that had been originally named the 'Isaac Ochberg Tract'.

This memorial site has now become a regular tourist attraction in Israel and a documentary, 'Ochberg's Orphans', and book, 'The Ochberg Orphans and the horrors from whence they came', now tell us more about Isaac Ochberg and The Ochberg Orphans.

Bennie Penzik, son of two Ochberg Orphans, formed the Isaac Ochberg Heritage Committee in Israel that raises awareness of Isaac Ochberg and his great deeds.

Bennie Penzik and David Solly Sandler (the compiler of the Ochberg Orphan book) jointly wrote the addendum of this book which tells us about recent happenings to keep alive the name of Isaac Ochberg.



On 15 July 1911, a coterie of communal enthusiasts connected with the Cape Jewish Philanthropic Society [now known as the Cape Jewish Board of Guardians] assembled in the Gardens Old Synagogue to consider ways and means of establishing a Home in Cape Town for destitute Jewish orphan children.

Joseph Kadish presided at this first meeting, which a month later developed into a fully established Orphanage Committee, with himself as President, the late Adv Morris Alexander as Vice-President and Nathan Wittenberg as Hon Secretary.

By the end of that year the first orphan children were housed in a double-storey house in Upper Mill Street, and Joseph Kadish presided over the destinies of the Cape Jewish Orphanage from 1911 until 1916, when the late Isaac Ochberg became President and Joe Kadish – as he loved to be designated – acted as his efficient lieutenant for a further six years.

Mr Kadish always loved to refer to himself as 'the founder of the Cape Jewish Orphanage' as indeed he was, for it was entirely due to his unbounded energy and enthusiasm that within six months of the preliminary meeting in July, 1911, Orphanage work was started and within three years thereafter the present ground in Oranjezicht was purchased and the necessary buildings were started.

The main purpose of this book is to provide a forum for the children of Oranjia (previously The Cape Jewish Orphanage) to share their memories. My hope is that by sharing their memories, the children of Oranjia will

feel better about themselves as was the case when the children of Arcadia (previously The South African Jewish Orphanage) shared their memories in the Arcadia Centenary Book - *100 Years of Arc Memories* - published in 2006.

This book is a collections of the memories of the many generations of children who were in the care of The Cape Jewish Orphanage

The book includes good and bad memories and some very critical of those taking care of the children. Sadly, some children did not want to share their memories and some told me that it was too painful to do so. Some children bravely shared their memories in spite of the pain.

The children generally, and I too, fully realise that the intentions of current and past committee members are good and they have always sought the best for the children, however, as we are all human and even with the best intentions it is not always possible to choose the best people to look after the children.

I wish the committee success with their official *Oranjia Centenary Book* and I believe their book, which focuses on the history, and my compilation that focuses on the memories of the children, will complement each other perfectly.

The institution later adopted the name Oranjia and today is know as Oranjia Jewish Child and Youth Centre and still takes care of Jewish children in need in Cape Town.

This book is the English
translation
of the
Memorial (in Remembrance) Section
(Pages 539 to 620) of the
Yizkor-Book
of Rakishok and Environs.
that was originally
published in Yiddish
in 1952 by the
Rakishker Landmanschaft
of Johannesburg, South Africa.

Translated by Bella Golubchik

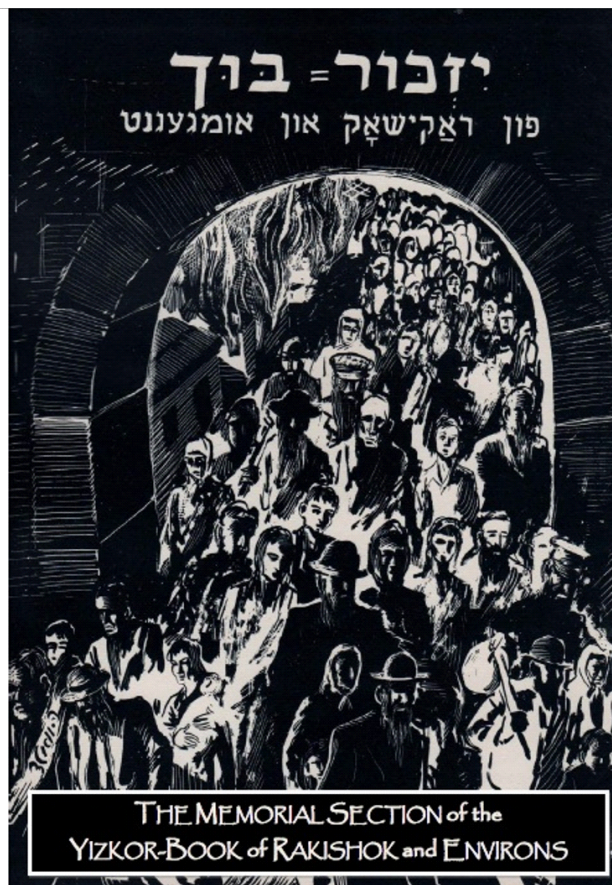


As stated on its back cover this book is the English translation of the Memorial (in Remembrance) Section (Pages 539 to 620) of the Yizkor-Book of Rakishok and Environs translated into English by Bella Golubchik.

The book was originally published in Yiddish in 1952 by the Rakishker Landmanschaft of Johannesburg, South Africa and in the preface of the book is written:

"Eleven years have slipped away since the holocaust, but the wounds have not been healed, and while the enormity of the tragedy is difficult to comprehend, there are those in our midst, and many of them, for whom the annihilation was a very personal tragedy in addition to being a Jewish tragedy.

"It was, in all probability, this personal factor that partly stimulated the members of the Rakishker Landsleit Society to bring out the Yizkor Book. After all, a book is still the most enduring memorial to a past that has perished. The sponsors of this book set themselves three main tasks when they undertook to issue this tribute to the memory of their brethren in the far-off villages from which they themselves, or their forebears once came. They wanted to reflect the pattern of Jewish life in those villages up to World War II; they wanted to save from oblivion the memory of the ghastly era of Destruction; and finally they wished to place on record the activities of the Rakishker Landsleit in South Africa, during the forty years of the existence of their Society. "



Bella Golubchick, introduced me to the book and told me about her close family connection to it:

"Ethel (Schwartzberg) Aarons and Yerachmiel (Ralph) Aarons are my parents.

"I watched the book being brought to life by the members of the Rakishker Landsmanschaft in the dining room of my parents *palace* in Mayfair Johannesburg. I think every family contributed an article and (or) photographs. The book was edited by a man whose surname was Bakalczuk-Felin (Wonder of wonders- the first Jew I had ever heard of with a double-barrelled name) and his wife. They were indeed interesting times."

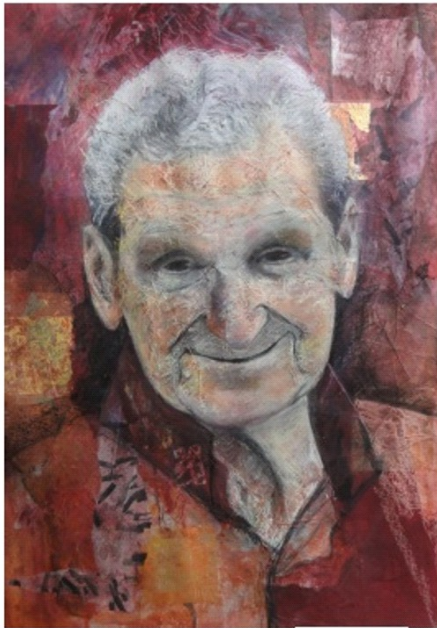
At the time I was collecting Jewish family histories and memories for the compilation *Our Litvak and South African Jewish Inheritance* and wanted to publish the complete book in English. Jewish Gen, who had translated about 80% of the book into English already, told me that they intended to do this themselves and so Bella and I have helped them; Bella by doing translations and I with copying photos and formatting them with the text.

This translation of the Memorial Section of the book with photos was sent to Jewish Gen in late 2014 to incorporate into the book they are publishing.

PG Jewish Gen will publish the complete *Yizkor-Book of Rakishok and Environs* book in English soon.

Besides the history books compiled above, we have the following art and photographic books and even a fairytale.

-The Art of Eli Zagoria



Eli Zagoria (1922-2013)
by his daughter, Karen Frankel



Over 100 of the diversified artworks of Eli Zagoria (1922-2013)

-Perth and Surrounds by Eli Zagoria



Eli's sketches and paintings of Perth and surrounds

-Jewish Festivals, Festivities and themes by Louis Touyz.



Louis Touyz's iconic Jewish art of Jewish Festivals, Festivities and themes with detailed commentaries

-Bush Scenes and Birds of Perth and Surrounds



Brian Sanger's photographic art of Bush Scenes and Birds of Perth and Surrounds.

- Images of Fremantle



Brian Sanger's photographic art of Fremantle, the port city of Perth.

-The Fortunate Fairy



A fairytale written by Michele Fendel and illustrated by Ronald Fendel for their grandchildren.

THE TOTAL PROCEEDS OF ALL BOOK SALES GO TO ARCADIA, ORANJIA AND THE JDC

ARCADIA CHILDREN'S HOME
IN JOHANNESBURG TODAY



Arcadia

- Today 42 children and their families receive services from Arcadia
- There are 15 children in *residence* – all of whom are statutory placements
- An additional 22 children attend the *After School Care* program and spend their afternoons at Arcadia in a supervised, constructive and stimulating environment. These are children who have been identified as being “at risk” and in need of added supervision
- The *After-Care Program* is designed to care for the financial, educational and emotional needs of post-school adolescents who no longer live on campus. Arcadia provides them with tertiary education, accommodation and the kind of support and guidance normally provided by parents.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Arcadia is not able to generate income in the form of fees and therefore the children are totally dependent on the facility for all their requirements - physical, emotional, academic and spiritual.

Private Jewish and remedial education is costly, as is counselling, therapy, dentistry and medical care.

The support of the community is essential to the ongoing care of Arcadia's children. Your donation would be deeply appreciated.

For direct deposits, our banking details:

Arcadia Children's Home
Bank: Standard Bank
Branch: Johannesburg
Branch Code: 000205
Account No: 000139270
Swift Code: SBZAJJ

Donations are tax deductible

Please help us to identify your contribution

Email: donations@jhbchev.co.za
Or mail to: Private Bag X7, Sandringham 2131
THE JOHANNESBURG CHEVRAH KADISHA



ChevrahKadisha

Today Arcadia Children's Home is run by the Chevrah Kadisha in Johannesburg.

The Chevrah Kadisha is truly the Johannesburg community's Jewish helping hand. Not only does it provide all Jewish burial services, it also runs two Homes for aged people, Sandringham Gardens and Our Parents Home and cares for physically and intellectually disabled people in Selwyn Segal.

In addition to the four Organisations under the Chevrah Kadisha's management, it also provides the following nine Services to the Jewish community: Financial Assistance, Residential, Education Support, Protected Employment, Social, Emergency, Bridal, Healthcare and Burial.

With the brain drain and many of the wealthy leaving South Africa over the past 40 years those left behind are poorer and carry a heavier burden of social need.

They need our help and support.



CHAI SOUTH AFRICA SUPPORTING ORANJIA AND ARCADIA

In the USA, Canada and the UK you can make a Tax Deductible donation directly to Oranjia or Arcadia, (run by the Chevrah Kadisha) through Chai South Africa by going to www.chaisouthafrica.com and clicking on “donate now”.

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Canada - UJA Federation-Toronto/
ChaiSouthAfrica:
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