

Doreen Hotz and Hymie Seidle

Daughter Sharon Seidle Adler, in Sydney Australia, writes about her parents and life in Kimberley

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**My grandfather, Frank Hotz** was born in Tels, a shtetl in Lithuania

**My grandmother Ethel Terespolsky** Hotz was born in Russaine also in Lithuania – both northwest of Kovno.

They first came to Johannesburg where **my mother Doreen Hotz** was born in 1930. The family came to live in Kimberley in about 1934. Doreen had a **brother** Leslie Hotz who went to Boy's High in Kimberley. He later went to live in Johannesburg. He passed away in about 2007).



My grandfather Frank Hotz owned a general store next door to Mr Magid's jewellery shop on the Market Square, opposite the City Hall.

My grandfather's two brothers George and Charlie both lived in Kimberley with their families. They were involved in men's' outfitting. George married Elisabeth Ruch. Charlie married Hilda Lincow. Their sister Raizel married a Sabra and they lived in Israel.

**My Father, Hymie Seidle**, was born in Vilna, a large city in Lithuania. He arrived in Cape Town at the age of eight. He went to school in Cape Town and then studied land surveying at the University of Cape Town. He came to Kimberley for to do a job for the Kimberley Municipality for 18 months. There, he met the beautiful red-head Doreen Hotz – my mother. They married in the Kimberley shul on October 19<sup>th</sup>, 1952. (Wedding photo of Doreen Hotz to Hymie Seidle above) They settled in Kimberley and stayed for the next 40 years, until his retirement.

My Dad Hymie was a very active member of the Kimberley Shul, always helping to make up the minyan. He was on the Shul committee and on the Chevra Kadisha and twice President of the HoD Louis Isaacson Lodge.

My Mom Doreen, was always busy in the Shul Hall kitchen, cooking and baking for brochas, barmitzvahs and weddings. I grew up around the Kimberley shul as not only were my parents actively involved, but my good friend Maxine was Rabbi Werner's daughter.

Below is a photo of my mom and dad, Doreen and Hymie Seidle in the show 'Heaps of Delight' put on by the Kimberley Jewish Community group in around 1951/52 You may recognize some of the faces. Does anyone remember this show or recognise the people?



We think (possibly) from the left:

Back row: 3rd Hymie Seidle (or Sonny Hammar) 6<sup>th</sup> Hymie Tockar (or Harold Lusman) 7<sup>th</sup> Webby Cohen (on the right)

Front Row: counting the half a person as 1<sup>st</sup>, we think 2<sup>nd</sup> Fay Cohen, 3<sup>rd</sup> Julie Jacobson, 4<sup>th</sup> Rina Cvi, 6<sup>th</sup> Mavis Milwidsky 7<sup>th</sup> Nina Apter, 9<sup>th</sup> Doreen Seidle. Who else was around in Kimberley at that time? Is Natalie or Stella Kroll there or Daphne Toube?

My brothers Ivan b 1956 and Martin b 1957 and I b.1953, all went to school in Kimberley. We had a wonderful simple childhood there with many fond memories of all the chagim and simchas celebrated in the beautiful Shul. After that we continued our tertiary studies in Cape Town.

Below is a picture of my mom and dad ,children and grandchildren at my younger son Jake Adler's Barmitzvah in Sydney in 1997



Martin now lives in Johannesburg (his 3 kids all live in London). Ivan lives in New York, and I live between Sydney and Los Angeles.

After my dad retired, my mom and dad went to settle in Sea Point.

My Dad passed away in 1999 and my mom who is 92 years old (in 2022) still lives in her flat in Sea Point.



In the picture above, my mom, Doreen, is with her children and grandchildren (minus her one grandson and two great grandchildren) at her 90th birthday party (in 2020) in Cape Town.

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### **Doreen (née Hotz) and Hymie Zeidle**

Compiled by Geraldine Auerbach MBE, London April 2022 from

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