

THE NORTHERN SUBURBS :  
PARTNERS IN PRIMARY CARE

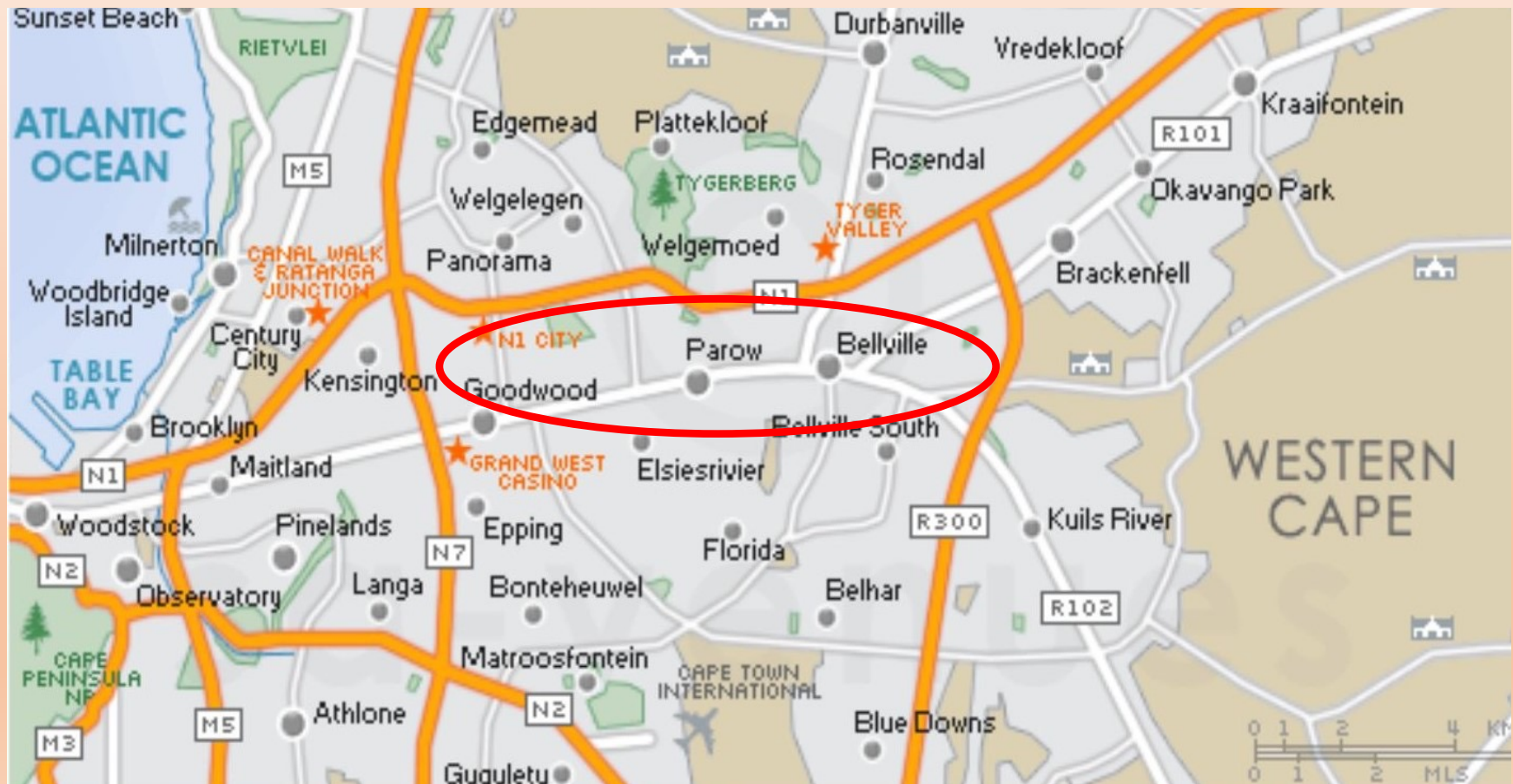


DOCTORS AND PHARMACISTS

1930-1980

Gail Loon-Lustig

# The northern suburbs??



# A personal narrative

My home from day 1 was in the heart of the town of Bellville which in the 50`s had a population of 40,000.



My father Donny was from Johannesburg; my mother, Rita, from Cape Town. Donny, a secular Jew who believed in an equal South Africa for all.

Rita, a Zionist, fluent in Hebrew which she learned from the age of 5 and then taught to the children in the northern suburbs and beyond.

# Growing up next to the surgery

Going on house-calls,  
being involved in the  
running of the practice.

The intensity of the  
routine of life.

Never a dull moment.



Strongly influenced by  
my father's lifestyle and  
dedication and so the  
decision to study  
Medicine.



# Our home Coronation Ave





# Decision of going on Aliya

Throughout the 46 years in Israel, I was filled with the sense that primary care of patients was what I wanted to do.

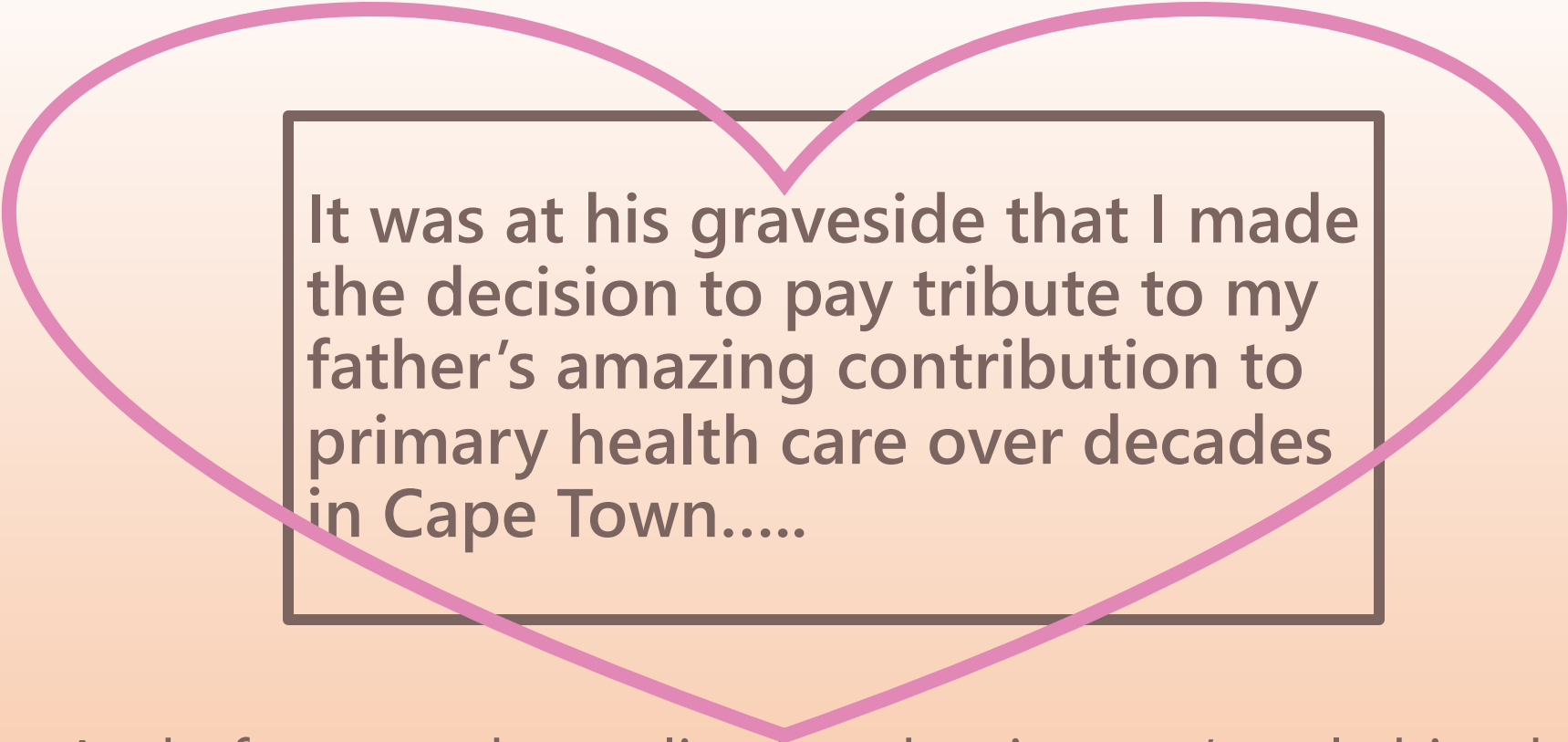
My career was rich and varied. My parents, siblings followed me to Israel.

My father started the Medical Informatics Department of the Maccabi Health System. He'd taught himself computers in his early fifties.

And then in 2011, Donny passed away.

## Graduation from UCT '75





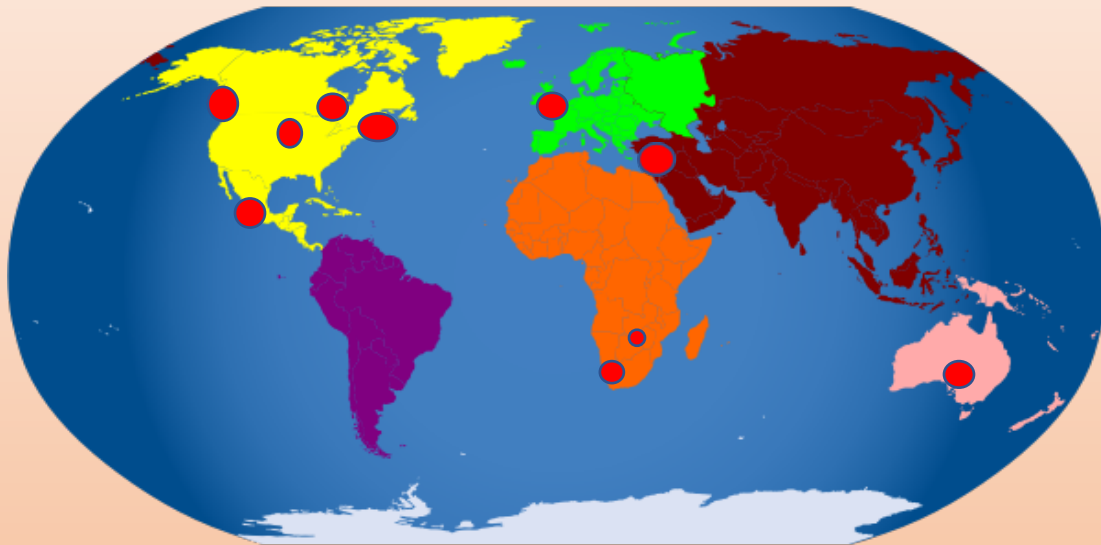
It was at his graveside that I made the decision to pay tribute to my father's amazing contribution to primary health care over decades in Cape Town.....

And of course the realization that it wasn't only him, but all the GPs that worked in the area!



They were really one big amazing group of people. Dedicated, bright, professional, conscientious, filled with initiative and the love of life and their fellow human beings.

# The next generation...





# The doctors and their pharmacist partners

## General Practitioners

Maurice Reznek Donny Loon  
Leslie Levy Mendel Sacks  
Berry Berelowitz Tollie Lewis  
Angel Mallach Nathan Mallach  
Leonard Mendelsohn Enid Daitsh  
Solly Freedberg Alma Freedberg  
Gerry Budow Jack Karpas  
Myer Hoffman Bernie Wortreich  
Hymie Ehrlich Ralph Webner  
Issy Anstey Harry Anziska

## Pharmacists

Arnold Bloch  
Issy Kadish  
Aubrey Barron  
Charlie Jacobs  
Hymie Cotton  
Hymie Berkman

# Who were these professionals??

- Some were born in Eastern Europe
- All, the second generation of immigrants
- They grew up in the country, in small towns as well as in cities
- Many studied Medicine and were boarders at med school
- Some served in WW2
- They often started out as locums for GPs in the Northern Suburbs
- Most of them were fluent in 2 languages
- Some left their practices to work in hospitals

# Jack Karpas

## Parow

Worked in Parow in the mid 30s till the early 50s.

Was a city councilor and Mayor in time.



# Meyer Hoffman

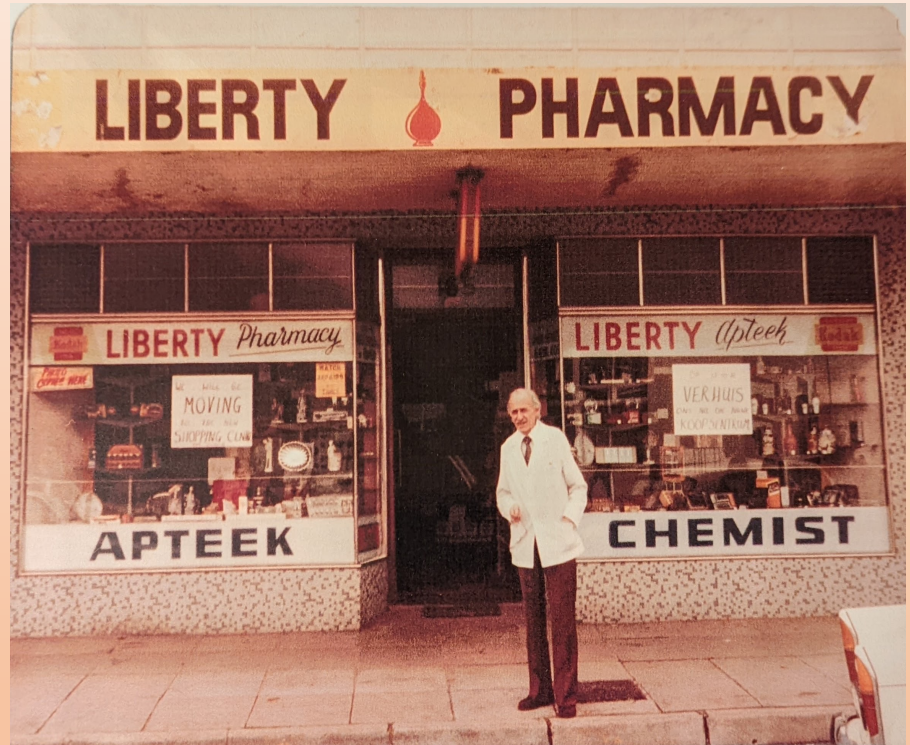
Parow –studied in  
Dublin

Case of smallpox-  
assisted at home by  
his daughter,  
Margaret.



# Charlie Jacobs

A wonderful account by his daughter, Myra, of his special approach to the ethical side of his work as a pharmacist; his role in the Jewish community in Goodwood; his changing work framework to the Karl Bremer.





# Common to all the practices

- Surgery and home on same property
- Wives played an important role
- Female doctors usually not in the same practice
- Most professionals, active in sport & social orgs
- Many on city councils
- All did house visits
- Close cooperation with one another
- Some on school boards....

# Research into the medical service in South Africa at the time

- The role of Sidney and Emily Kark from Jbg
- The Gluckman Commission 46-48
- The establishment of Health Centres
- The role of the GPs , alone in the field
- (Word doc attached)

# Launch of the exhibition attended by tens of family members

- In January 2022, we had a good fifty family members tuned into the launching of the exhibition. There was a great sense of excitement in the air and a feeling of reconnecting after so long .
- Many thoughts were expressed and a lot of the discussion centred around antisemitism the children experienced (or didn't)

## Web exhibitions

Home > Web exhibitions > Partners in Primary Care in the Northern Suburbs

**Ethnic Doctors:  
Life and Art of Menachem Weist**  
The Sobelweiss-Fogel-Letters  
Materials Inside the Tent  
The letters of Tzviya Kretzschmar  
The Greens and Sam Pappas  
Congressman from its origins in 2010.

### Partners in Primary Care in the Northern Suburbs

Overseas  
Constance  
Anna Joyce Green Freedberg  
Sally Freedberg  
Leonard Mendelsohn  
Ernst Dabsh  
Myer Hoffman  
Jack Kappas  
Harry Anziska  
Maurice Rietzel  
Bernie Weissman  
Dorothy Losh  
Zoskywe (Mendel) Sachs  
Rauben (Benji) Benowitz  
Hymie (Hymie) Cotton  
Nathan (Toby) Lewis  
Lella Levy  
Isay Anstey  
Hymie Erlich  
Isaac Angel Blach  
Ralph Warner  
Gerald Javanka Rudow  
Nathan Blach  
Audrey Blach  
Oswald Jacob  
Hymie Harry Barkman  
Isaac (Harry) Kadish  
Arnold Bach

### Partners in Primary Care: Jewish Doctors and Pharmacists in the Northern Suburbs of Cape Town, 1930-1980

This exhibition explores the lives of medical professionals – doctors and pharmacists – who practiced in the northern suburbs of Cape Town. It draws upon remembrances of their lives and work as told by themselves, their spouses, and their children. Read the introduction.

#### General Practitioners



Myer Hoffman



Jack Kappas



Harry Anziska



Maurice Rietzel



Benji Weissman



Sally Freedberg



Anna Joyce Green Freedberg



Leonard Mendelsohn



Ernst Dabsh



Zoskywe (Mendel) Sachs



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Toby Lewis



Lella Levy



Isay Anstey



Hymie Erlich



Isaac (Angel) Blach



Ralph Warner



Nathan Blach



Gerald Javanka Rudow

#### Pharmacists



Audrey Blach



Hymie (Hymie) Cotton



Isaac (Harry) Kadish

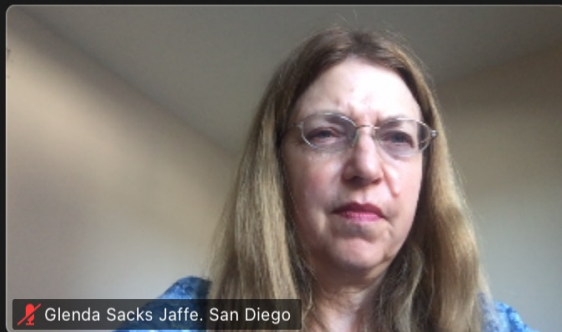


Arnold Bach



<http://www.kaplancentre.uct.ac.za/kaplan/web-exhibitions/partners-in-primary-care>

● REC



Glenda Sacks Jaffe, San Diego



Gail Loon Lustig



Adam Mendelsohn



Richard Mendelsohn



Stephanie Berry



Hymie Ehrlich



Margaret Hoffman



Linda Barron מיי



Jonathan F



