

Recent Books from South Africa – May 2021

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Art

Spirit of the Drakensberg : A Photographic Journey / Richard Hunt

Pietermaritzburg: Otterley Press, 2018

288p.

9780639907024

\$ 90.00 / HB

1660gm.

“Spirit of the Drakensberg takes the reader on an evocative journey through the mountains. The twelve chapters are based on the demarcated Ezimvelo KwaZulu-Natal Wildlife areas – a unique approach that informs the reader of the highlights and dramatic scenery waiting to be discovered in each particular section of the Berg. It took Richard Hunt six years to capture these Mountains in their changing moods and seasons; enticing one to take to the footpaths, if only from an armchair perspective, to enjoy the spectacular beauty that unfolds, page by page. The photographs are contextualised by succinct captions, allowing one to share Richard Hunt’s passion for this ancient mountain range, and recognising its deep spirituality and endless lure.”–Publisher’s description.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=761024>

There are Mechanism in Place : A Creative Publication in Response to the Exhibition by Pamela Phatsimo Sunstrum / Pamela Phatsimo Sunstrum (Eds) Nomusa Makhubu & Nkule Mabaso

Cape Town: Michaelis Galleries, 2019

104p.

9780639922621

\$ 220.00 / HB

494gm.

A collection of text, poetry and visual analysis as a response to Pamela Phatsimo Sunstrum's exhibition of the same name, staged at Michaelis Galleries, Cape Town, in 2018.

Both Sunstrum's exhibition and the title of this book critically engage Minister of Higher Education and Training Blade Nzimade's words during the 2015 student protests: "It is a challenge, but I wouldn't call it a crisis. A crisis implies that the situation is so bad that there are no mechanisms to deal with it. There are mechanisms in place.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=745487>

Biography/Memoirs

Must I Go Down To The Seas Again? : Sailing Adventures of Force 8 / Helen Bryant

South Africa: Helen Bryant, 2020

328p.

\$ 55.00/ PB

646gm.

Nick and Helen Bryant, a middle aged farming couple from the Natal Midlands share their sailing adventures. The yacht Force 8 was their home for 8 years of cruising which took them as far as Nova Scotia, Canada and as far south as South Island, New Zealand, and it was sometimes wet.....

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=761025>

Jose Dale Lace : A Woman of Some Importance / Pamela Heller-Stern

Pietermaritzburg: Otterley Press, 2019

vi, 158p.

Includes Bibliography

9780639907062

\$ 50.00 / PB

330gm.

Blonde and beautiful, statuesque and vivacious with a fine sense of the dramatic, José Dale Lace became the darling of London aristocratic society, at first. Within a short time, the same exclusive circle shunned her for her scandalous indiscretion. Not to be deterred or subjected to a manipulative and titled lover, she became an actress at the famous Haymarket Theatre, her maiden role in Oscar Wilde's *A Woman of No Importance*. Here women were charmed by her grace and beauty, men quite bewitched by her irresistible allure. She met and married handsome, immaculately dressed John Lace, a Sir Galahad who embraced her and took in her illegitimate son, Lancelot, as his own. And they lived in the roller-coaster world of high finance, diamonds and gold in the early years of South Africa's mining Randlords. Life in Johannesburg included sumptuous banquets, parties and entertainment in their magnificent Herbert Baker home. José was the talk of the town: she bathed regularly in fresh milk, slept between black silk sheets and drove her coach pulled by four zebra. But Fate intervened in this idyll, took the wealth, burnt the mansion and plunged her from riches to rags like an upside-down Cinderella.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=761026>

A Boy from Mooi River : Growing Up at Weston Agricultural College / Gordon D. Paterson

Tauranga: Ad Rem Publications, 2020

344p.

Includes Index ; Bibliography

9780473541637

\$ 45.00 / PB

708gm.

The son of two teacher-coaches reflects on growing up at Weston Agricultural College situated on a 3000 acre farm near the town of Mooi River in the KwaZulu-Natal Midlands South Africa. Gordon Paterson reflects on life in the Midlands from the late 1950s, when many young farmers had returned from war to forge a future of peace and prosperity. The influence of his immediate family was formidable in forming perceptions about the values and principles upon which a successful life should be founded. Further influences were the Zulu people, the Weston community and people who resided in the district of the little town of Mooi River. Gordon also examines the impact of horses, boarding school life and south coast holidays on his formative years. He provides an account of the support he received from Old Westonians living in the South Pacific who made outstanding contributions to Agriculture in their adopted country. His final chapter delves into Donald Paterson's rugby coaching over 30 years; 580 matches; drawing on Donald's journals and additionally, the perceptions of Weston rugby players and captains, in an attempt to discover what lay at the heart of his coaching and educating adolescent school boys.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=761027>

Chewing the Cud : The Village Vet/ Philip Kretzmann

South Africa: Top Reads, 2021

vi, 222p.

9780620906500

\$ 30.00 / PB

384gm.

Part memoir and part witty account of high-jinks capers, this delightful collection details the behind-the-scenes exploits of Midland vet Dr Philip Kretzmann. Set against a backdrop of a

most colourful corner of South Africa – the Eastern Midlands of KwaZulu Natal – these adventures will amuse and charm any animal lover curious about the trials and tribulations of a countryside vet.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=761028>

History

Natalia – Journal of the Natal Society Foundation, No. 49, 2019
/ (Ed) Dr Debbie Whelan

Pietermaritzburg: Natal Society Foundation Trust, 2019
vi, 110p.

ISSN: 0085-3674

Contents:

1. Thununu kaNonjiya Gcabashe visits James Stuart in the big smoke to talk about history / John Wright;
2. Pulled to diversify: Confronting poverty through the beadwork identity of the Durban rickshaw pullers / Rowan Gatfield;
3. The gabled veranda house: The everyday dwelling of colonial Durban / Elwyn Jacobs.
4. Rock art researchers in the uKhahlamba-Drakensberg.

\$ 40.00 / PB

254gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=761029>

The Black Boots : The History of the B.S.A. Police Support Unit as Told and Written by Those Who Were There : British South Africa Police/ The Members of the BSA Police Support Unit Brotherhood

Ramsgate, Kwazulu Natal: BSA Police Support Unit Association, 2019

536p.

9780000052759

\$ 250.00 / HB

2070gm.

Historical lineage from 1898 through the Rhodesian Bush War with personal experiences of life in the Unit. The horrors of war, pain, fear, sadness, success, honor and relief.

Perfect for the coffee table immersed with never seen before photographs in black and white as well as color and guaranteed to get your guests talking as well as the stories flowing about the Rhodesian Bush War, personal experiences about the horrors of the war.

"The Black Boots" is a must for any Rhodesian or History fanatic! This has truly been a Book as TOLD BY THE MEN. There is no author as such and most of the contributions have come from former members of the Support Unit.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=761030>

Weston Agricultural College : Weston Heritage, 100 Years of History / Winston Moffett (Ed) Gail Hume

Howick: Winston Moffett, 2017

432p.

9780620775120

\$ 140.00 / HB

2000gm.

Weston Heritage is an account of the astonishing 100-years of history of a unique school. It is a chronological account of Weston Agricultural College, enriched by memorable anecdotes. Each changing generation is honoured for their contribution to enrich the school's heritage. It is illustrated with photographs and documents.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=761031>

Addington Children's Hospital and Nurses' Home : "Suffer Little Children to Come Unto Me" / Hugh Bland (Ed) Camilla Singh

South Africa: HBB-Hugh Bland Books, 2020

184p.

Includes Index ; Bibliography

9780620824521

\$ 120.00 / HB

1060gm.

My interest in Addington Children's Hospital and the Nurses' Home arose whilst I was assembling my heritage website (www.kznpr.co.za). I was photographing the buildings along the beachfront and my attention was immediately drawn to these two derelict buildings, on our prime beachfront. My work requires me to be inquisitive and an open door of the children's hospital could not be ignored. Little did I know that this open door would introduce me to a long- forgotten world, a time capsule, with a treasure trove of art, decay, dripping walls, stained glass and ceramics.

The building had been closed for many years with little interference. It was a profound experience to enter this hallowed space where so many children had been treated with compassion by their devoted carers. This feeling would have been shared by the many mothers, fathers, siblings and family who might have experienced the pain of children's suffering or the joys of birth and healing. It was, however, the relics of this much-loved institution that reinforced how special this haven was. I spent hours photographing the ceramics, cartoon murals, stained-glass windows, statues and walls with swathes of peeling paint. These images demonstrated the love and care of the professional people who had established the hospital and continued to care for children for many decades. Much of the artwork was done by Natal's 'Picasso', Mary Stainbank and her life- long friend Florence Wilgeford Van-Hall, as well as other artists. Alongside the Children's Hospital was a similarly decaying structure, whose history had included being a hospital, nurses' home, WW II hospital and latterly housing Addington Centenary Museum. Alas, the Nursing Home has shared the same fate of its neighbour. It did, however, share a similar mystery and aura, with its rotten windows, floorboards and yards of peeling paint. I consider this photo shoot as one of the most meaningful of all my assignments in KwaZulu-

Natal and for this reason, I have published my images of this special place. It is not a comprehensive record of all the artworks or intended to be a history but to display the decaying memory of this, once fine, hospital.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=761032>

The Trappist Missions : Kwazulu-Natal's Forgotten Treasure /
Hugh Bland

Pietermaritzburg: Otterley Press, 2019

184p.

Includes Index ; Bibliography

846gm.

9780639907079

\$ 120.00 / PB

844gm.

The twenty-two Trappist Missions of KwaZulu-Natal were established by an Austrian born Trappist Monk, Francis Pfanner, between 1880 and 1908, at a time when there was little infrastructure in Natal. Mariannahill Monastery, the mother house monastery, was to become the only Abbey in Africa, serving the outlying missions. The missions were mostly constructed with local materials, or with items manufactured at Mariannahill.

This book celebrates the achievement of The Trappist by focusing on a brief history, the beauty of each mission and the mother house, Mariannahill. It is not surprising that many clergy seek the Canonisation of Francis Pfanner, in acknowledgement of his enormous achievements.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=761033>

And Not To Yield / Penelope Matthews

Second Edition

Plettenberg Bay: Watermark Press, 2015

x, 271p.

9780620581622

\$ 45.00 / PB
422gm.

An enchanting, true story of Penelope Matthew's family, from their early settler days on the frontier of colonial Natal to the Gold Rush on the Witwatersrand and beyond, into the wilds of early Northern Rhodesia.

The story of the Allison family and their loyal servants begins in the later 1800s on their farm "Rosenstein" at Oliviershoek, nestling in the shadows of the great Drakensberg.

Their adventures, bitter disappointments, hardships, and courageous struggle through the brutal Zulu wars, two tragic Boer wars, floods, hail,, and everything nature could conspire against them, has been artfully reconstructed by a direct descendent of those early Natal settlers.

The survived all this and more, making for an entirely compelling, family story.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=761034>

Eavesdropping on Early Natal / Carol Maccallum

Pietermaritzburg: Viking Publications, 2019

376p.

Includes Index ; Bibliography

9780639160054

\$ 50.00 / PB

502gm.

This book tells the inner truth of what life was like for the Voortrekkers and early British Settlers as the first lived and farmed in and around Pietermaritzburg.

It tells of what is suspected to have caused the City Hall Fire in July 1898. It talks of social controversy, the first Glider flight in South Africam early Howick Falls tragedies and smugglers in Natal.

This was life in early Natal, where people took risks and there wer no guarantees.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=761095>

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Judaica

Tehillim : The Book of Psalm with Explanatory Translation and Insights / Weiss Tehillim

Special South African Edition (Weiss Edition)

South Africa: Living Lessons & Chabad House, 2019

444p.

Hebrew and English Language

9781935949497

\$ 30.00 / HB

884gm.

Bursting with explanation & inspiration, the NEW Weiss Edition Tehillim transforms mere recitation into connection & communication! Clear explanation blended into all-new relatable translation makes Tehillim-Psalms meaningful and uplifting to all. Unique user-friendly layout, background introduction to each chapter, hundreds of selected insights. Stunning leatherette cover.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=761096>

Beloved of the Soul Siddur : Mystical Insights – Daily Morning Prayer Book / Sara Evian

South Africa: Sara Evian, 2019

1v.

9780620812733

\$ 60.00 / PB

622gm.

Whether you are new to ritual prayer or pray daily, the “Beloved of the Soul Siddur” is a treasure trove. It weaves together the ancient wisdom of kabbalistic masters with a careful selection of daily prayers, so as not to overwhelm the reader, to create a prayer book like no other.

It is made abundantly clear that prayer is not only an intellectual process, but rather one that begins in the heart. From this wellspring, the reader is guided to engage soul, mind, heart and body.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=761097>

Jewish Life in the South African Country Communities, Volume VI : East Rand, Midrand, Southern Great Escarpment, Southern Highveld / Adrienne Kollenberg & Rose Norwich (Ed) Isabelle Delvare

Johannesburg: South African Friends of Beth Hatefutsoh, 2020
xiv, 618p.

Includes Index

9780986990649?

\$ 90.00 / PB

1920gm.

The whole landscape of this region of South Africa has changed since the era of the discovery of gold and coal, making it a hub of industrialisation. Small towns and villages have become large and prosperous and others have been incorporated as suburbs of neighbouring large towns. Farming was a prime activity, particularly in the Southern Highveld and had been carried on from generation to generation of Jewish families. Those farmers changed the face of farming in this country by introducing innovative methods which turned farming into a modern, mechanised industry. Equally significant has been the involvement of the Jewish population to more urban- based commercial and industrial developments. Indeed, the Jewish contribution to the development of South Africa, in the spheres of commerce, industry, agricultural, the professions, the arts and sports, is disproportionate to the size of the community.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=718191>

The Hidden Life of a Smous / Lorna Levy

Cape Town: Jewish Publications SA, 2017

56p.

Includes Bibliography

9780799225402

\$ 45.00 / PB

260gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=761098>

The Jewish Community of Potchefstroom : A History / Paul Cheifitz (Ed) Gwynne Schrire

Cape Town: Jewish Publications SA, Kaplan Centre for Jewish Studies, 2019

184p.

9780620844420

\$ 50.00 / PB

398gm.

The first Jewish residents arrived in Potchefstroom in 1878, drawn by reports of gold. A Jewish cemetery was established in 1892. Over the years the Jewish community shrank and the last service for the Potchefstroom Hebrew Congregation was held in 2000, after which the synagogue was deconsecrated. In 2019 there were six Jewish people living in the town.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=761099>

Mavericks Inside The Tent : The Progressive Jewish Movements in South Africa and its Impact on the Wider Community / Irwin Manoim (Ed) Pat Tucker

Cape Town: UCT Press, 2019

xii, 516p.

9781775822646

\$ 50.00 / PB

664gm.

Mavericks Inside the Tent look at the progressive Jewish movement in South Africa and its impact on the wider community. One of the most striking omissions in historical

writing about the South African Jewish community has been attention to the Progressive Jewish movement. This study demonstrates that no history of South African Jewry is complete without an understanding of how this often undervalued and misunderstood minority – small in number but large in influence – has impacted the wider community. Jewish life, and Jewish institutions, have been shaped in surprising ways by the presence of Progressive Judaism, a movement that has presented a constant challenge to Orthodoxy for some 90 years and been a harbinger of change and innovation in many areas of Jewish life.

Progressive Jews, also known in earlier days as Liberal or Reform Jews were the first in South Africa to hold batmitzvahs, the first to include women in executive positions on synagogue management committees, the first to launch large-scale outreach programmes in the African townships. They pioneered interfaith initiatives, were the first to open their doors to ‘Jews of colour’ and some of their rabbis spoke out strongly against apartheid, at personal cost.

Fifty years ago, Progressive Judaism was proving so successful that it seemed destined to rival Orthodoxy in numbers. Why did that not happen? This history explores the ideological disputes, personality conflicts and lost opportunities that derailed the Progressive movement, as well as its fraught relationship with Orthodoxy. It shows how Reform Judaism developed over the years into a modern movement that is more traditional in its religious practices yet more radical in its values.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=761100>

Ruling By Race : Nazi Germany and Apartheid South Africa /
Juliette Peires

Revised Edition (2nd Reprint 2017)

Cape Town: Juliette Peires, 2008

viii, 128p.

Includes Index ; Bibliographical references.

9780620406734

1. Holocaust, Jewish (1939-1945)
2. Apartheid – South Africa.
3. Human rights – South Africa – History.
4. Human rights – Germany – History.

\$ 35.00 / PB

344gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=761101>

Literature

Paradise in Gaza / Niq Mhlongo

Cape Town: Kwela Books, 2020

304p.

9780795709722

\$ 35.00 /PB

384gm.

When Mpisi Mpisani travels to his home village for the burial of his mother and a visit to his first wife, he is anxious to hurry back to Johannesburg. His second wife, waiting in Soweto, will give birth soon. Giyani, his eight year old son, accompanies him. But when Giyani disappears, Mpisi stays to search for him. He tries to ignore the villagers who blame magic for the boy's disappearance. Meanwhile Mpisi's city wife, Ntombazi, bears a boy with a birthmark that seems to be a sign ...

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=747504>

Politics

Actually! Right-Sizing Some Past and Present Issues / Duncan Du Bois

South Africa: Duncan Du Bois, 2020

iv, 134p.

Includes Select Bibliography

9780620880244

\$ 30.00 / PB

190gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=761102>
