

# Beaufort West Morkels Family Line

By Margaret Thebus and André T. Morkel

*This has been a team effort. Margaret Thebus and her mother Margaret Lodewyk provided the basic family line. Further information came from Juna Malherbe of the Huguenot Museum and Gregory Morkel of Beaufort West. I tried to link the family line to the Morkel Genealogy. A.T.M.*

**Corrections and comments welcome. Please use the “Contact us” facility.**

Our story is about a branch of the Morkel family which includes Reverend I.D. MORKEL (see our separate story), Gerald MORKEL, former Mayor of Cape Town and Premier of the Western Cape, and his sons Garth, Craig and Kent, active in politics. Barry MORKEL is Director of Policy Research, Monitoring and Evaluation for the North West Province. Frances MORKEL was married to Dr. Richard VAN DER ROSS, Rector of the University of the Western Cape. While most were living in the Cape Peninsula they are originally from Beaufort West in the Geat Karoo.

This mixed- race branch is not in the Morkel Genealogy compiled by Franklin BOONZAAIER for P.W. MORKEL (1) nor in the Genealogy of the GISA (5) and it is unclear where they fit in the family. Using several sources we were able to develop a plausible family line, even though full documentation was not available.

Using her knowledge of the family, co-author Margaret THEBUS constructed a family line from the present back to Gert Thomas MORKEL 1857 – 1933. The dates are from his gravestone (2). His death notice (4, Appendix) shows that his parents were Hercules MORKEL and Flora SIMON. GISA (5) lists Herklaas MORKEL and Flora SIMON as *ongekoppeldes* (unattached – i.e. not linked to other Morkels in the Genealogy) who baptized four girls in 1856 in Beaufort West.

Our challenge was to link our Hercules (Herklaas) MORKEL to the Morkel Genealogies (1,5). With children baptized and born in the mid-1850s, it is likely that Hercules was born around 1820 to 1830. Our search in the Morkel Genealogies yielded two candidates, both grandsons of 3<sup>rd</sup> generation c7 Hercules MORKEL and Helena MUNNIK:

e1 **Hercules MORKEL \*22.2.1821 ~15.4.1821**, son of d3 Willem MORKEL of *Brakfontein*, Caledon and Jacoba Elizabeth DREYER  
and his cousin

e1 **Hercules Adriaan MORKEL \*1823**, Stellenbosch †14.9.1871 x Charlotte Amelia LONDT. He was the son of d5 Gerhardus MORKEL x Johanna Frederika BRAND

While there are no further details about the first Hercules \*1821 mentioned above, he would be the most plausible candidate for our search. We discarded him initially because GISA (5, p682) has him dying in infancy, on 15.4.1821. However, that is his baptism date and we assume that GISA used the wrong symbol and that he lived beyond that date. The second Hercules \*1823 was married and unless we consider bigamy we can discard him. He farmed at Nelspoort (a railway siding north of Beaufort West) and was Field Cornet for Beaufort West. There were thus two cousins called Hercules living in the Beaufort West district at the same time.

We are now able to construct the family line for the Beaufort West Morkels. The only assumption we make is that Hercules MORKEL married to Flora SIMON was the son of Willem MORKEL and Jacoba DREYER of *Brakfontein*, Caledon. We leave it to future researchers to show us right or wrong. Incidentally, c7 Hercules MORKEL inherited *Brakfontein* from his father, 2<sup>nd</sup> generation b3 Willem MORKEL. c7 Hercules farmed on *Welgelegen* in Hottentots Holland and passed *Brakfontein* on to his oldest son d3 Willem MORKEL, who somewhat later acquired the better farm *Uitkijk* in the Caledon district (6).

## Family Line for the Beaufort West MORKELS

(The ## symbol is used where names or surnames are unavailable)

- a1 Philip MORKEL 1677 - 1735 x Catharina PASMEN 1691 - 1764
- b3 Willem MORKEL 1718 - 1788 x Helena Catharina MALAN 1736 - 1825
- c7 Hercules MORKEL 1767 - 1808 x Helena MUNNIK
- d3 Willem MORKEL ~ 27.3.1796 † 5.7.1851 x Jacoba Elizabeth Arnoldina DREIJER
- e1 Hercules (Herklaas) MORKEL \*1821 x Flora SIMON (Beaufort West)
- f? Gert Thomas MORKEL 1857 - 1933 (Beaufort West) x Maria THERON d.o. Samuel THERON (Sampie FORTUNE) \* Paarl 2.10.1812 † 28.8.1878 and xx Jane HORN
  - g1 Herklaas James MORKEL x Martha (Martie) ##
  - g2 Jane Dorothea MORKEL x ## KELLY
  - g3 Samuel William MORKEL 1882 - 1957 x Dolphina AUGUSTUS † 1974
  - g4 Henry Gert MORKEL x ##
  - g5 James John (Jim) MORKEL x Elizabeth AUGUSTUS (Dolphina's sister)
  - g6 Florence Margaret MORKEL x ## HOFMEESTER
  - g7 Mary Sarah Johanna MORKEL x ## MURRAY
  - g8 William Thomas MORKEL unmarried
  - g9 Dorothea (Dora) Charlotte MORKEL x ## ROUX

### Descendants of g1 Herklaas MORKEL x Martha (Martie) ##

- h1 James MORKEL
- h2 Ethel MORKEL
- h3 Vera MORKEL
- h4 Flory MORKEL
- h5 Jane MORKEL
- h6 Kenneth MORKEL
- h7 Petrus MORKEL

### Descendants of g3 Samuel MORKEL † 12 .9.1957 and Dolphina AUGUSTUS

- h1 Rev. Isaac (Isak) David MORKEL \*1.12.1910 †26.5.1983 x Sarah (Sally) ISAACS
  - i1 Sylvia MORKEL unmarried
  - i2 Lionel MORKEL x Vivien BUTLER
    - j1 David MORKEL
    - j2 Lisa MORKEL
  - i3 Augustine MORKEL
    - j1 Isaac MORKEL
    - j2 Augustine MORKEL
    - j3 Dwight MORKEL
- h2 Gerhard (Gerald) MORKEL x Frances ##
  - i1 Keith MORKEL
- h3 Samuel MORKEL x Vivienne LA VITA
  - i1 William MORKEL x Hazel ##
  - i2 Lynette MORKEL x Gabriel ##
  - i3 Elise MORKEL x Rodney ##
  - i4 Marion MORKEL x Abe ##
  - i5 Henry MORKEL
- h4 Elizabeth MORKEL x Harold EHRENREICH
  - i1 Carl EHRENREICH
  - i2 Gretchen EHRENREICH x Edward HARTNICK
  - i3 Harold EHRENREICH x ## ## Canada
- h5 Hercules MORKEL x Isabel ROBERTSON (from St Helena)
  - i1 Gerald MORKEL (Western Cape Premier)
    - j1 Garth MORKEL
    - j2 Craig MORKEL
    - j3 Kent MORKEL
    - j4 Gail MORKEL
  - i2 Clifford MORKEL
  - xx Ann ##
  - i3 Frank MORKEL
  - i4 Peter MORKEL

- j1 Barry MORKEL
    - j2 Nancy MORKEL
  - i5 Samuel MORKEL
    - j1 André MORKEL
  - i6 Dennis MORKEL
  - i7 Michael MORKEL
  - i8 Priscilla MORKEL x Clive ##
  - i9 Charmaine MORKEL
  - i10 Annalise MORKEL
- h6 Dolphina MORKEL (unmarried)
- h7 Daniel MORKEL x Caroline (Carrie) EHRENREICH
  - i1 Joan MORKEL x John HARTNICK
- h8 Mary MORKEL x Henry PETERSEN
  - i1 Hilton PETERSEN
  - i2 Albert PETERSEN
  - i3 Wesley PETERSEN
- h9 Margaret MORKEL x William LODEWYK
  - i1 Carol LODEWYK x Cecil ACKERMAN
    - j1 Curt ACKERMAN x Jessica ##
    - j2 Bevan ACKERMAN x Maria ##
    - j3 Raye ACKERMAN x Denise ##
    - j4 Liann Dolphine ACKERMAN x Vincent CAMASTRO
  - i2 Margaret LODEWYK x Brian THEBUS
    - j1 Garrett THEBUS
    - j2 Jacqueline THEBUS
- h10 Henry MORKEL x Elizabeth STEENKAMP
  - i1 Isaac MORKEL
  - i2 Jeanette MORKEL x Rick WETHMAN
  - i3 Nicolas MORKEL
  - i4 Maryann MORKEL
  - i5 William MORKEL
  - i6 Peter MORKEL

### **Descendants of g5 James John (Jim) MORKEL x Elizabeth AUGUSTUS (Dolphina's sister)**

- h1 Gerald Thomas MORKEL \*24.2.1916 †28.7.1988 (Butcher) x Katherine WHITTEN \* Kimberley 15.2.1917 † 15.8.1989 (teacher) (see gravestone below)
  - i1 Valerie Elizabeth MORKEL \*10.6.1937 (teacher) x WAGNER
    - j1 Andre WAGNER
    - j2 Paul WAGNER (deceased)
    - j3 Nigel WAGNER
  - i2 Maria Frances (Marie) MORKEL \*22.7.1940 x Dougie JONES (Emigrated to Australia to marry)
  - i3 Geraldine Brenda MORKEL \*21.9.1941 unmarried
  - i4 Gregory James (Greg) MORKEL \*1.10.1943 (teacher) x Rachel VAN DER LINDE \*27.11.1945. d.o. ARENDSE X BRANDT, raised by her grandmother, widow VAN DER LINDE (whose second marriage was to Christiaan SCHROEDER)
    - j1 Celestine MORKEL \*1.7.1967 (and a twin who died at birth or soon after)
    - j2 Greer MORKEL \*15.11.1975
    - j3 Gail MORKEL \*8.10.1977
  - i5 James Thomas MORKEL \*6.1.1946 x Katie BOK (Springbok)
    - j1 Geraldo MORKEL
    - j2 Ilse MORKEL
    - j3 Kurt MORKEL
- h2 Mary MORKEL 1914 – 1972 x Martin Jacob ISAACS 1912 – 1997 (Uncle Ice, owner of the Beaufort West hotel)
  - i1 Raymond ISAACS x Norma ## (he is a Dr in Canada)
  - i2 May ISAACS
  - i3 Ronald ISAACS
- h3 Elizabeth MORKEL x George MACPHERSON
  - i1 Glenda MAPHERSON
  - i2 Winston MACPHERSON
  - i3 Donald MACPHERSON
  - i4 George MACPHERSON
- h4 Isaac MORKEL (owner Mossel Bay Hotel)
- h5 James MORKEL

- h6 Henry Nathaniel (Loutie) MORKEL \*15.7.1931 †1.5.1972 x ##
  - i1 Leonard MORKEL
  - i2 Dawn MORKEL
- h7 Queenie MORKEL x ## ERASMUS
  - i1 Ivan ERASMUS
  - i2 Elizabeth ERASMUS x ## SMITH
  - i3 Elaine ERASMUS x ## PHILLIPS
  - i4 Helene ERASMUS
- h8 Dolphine (Dolly) MORKEL (Rhodesia, never married)
- h9 Frances MORKEL x Dr Richard VAN DER ROSS
  - i1 Benedict VAN DER ROSS
  - i2 Freda VAN DER ROSS
- h10 William MORKEL 1928 -1996 (see gravestone below) x Olive (Ollie) WHITTEN (sister of Katherine WHITTEN)
  - i1 Norma MORKEL
  - i2 Judy MORKEL
  - i3 Terence MORKEL



**Samuel and Dolphina MORKEL and family**  
 Isaac (Rev I.D.), Dolphina, Elizabeth, Henry, Margaret, Samuel (father), Hercules, Dolphina (mother), Gert,  
 Mary. Insert left: Daniel, Insert right: Samuel

*Source: Margaret Thebus*



The family at the funeral of Samuel MORKEL 1957  
 Sitting: Gerald, Grandmother Dolphina, Isaac (I.D.)  
 Standing: Hercules, Margaret, Daniel, Elizabeth, Henry, Mary, Samuel, Dolphina  
 Source: Margaret Thebus



Martin Jacob ISAACS & h2 Mary Jane ISAACS (née MORKEL)



Caroline Elizabeth MORKEL (née EHRENREICH) wife of h7 Daniel MORKEL



**h10 William MORKEL, son of Jim MORKEL and Elizabeth AUGUSTUS (7)**



**h1 Gerald Thomas MORKEL son of Jim MORKEL and Elizabeth AUGUSTUS and Katherine WHITTEN (7)**



**h6 Henry Nathaniel MORKEL (Loutie) son of James MORKEL & Elizabeth AUGUSTUS (7)**

### Sources and Notes:

1. P.W.Morkel 1961. *The Morkels. Family History and Genealogy*. Published privately
2. Family knowledge of Margaret THEBUS and Margaret LODEWYK, plus emails from Juna Malherbe, Barry Morkel and Craig Morkel.
3. The name Hercules comes from Catharina MALAN's maternal grandfather, Hercule Verdeau. Catharina was the wife of second generation Willem MORKEL
4. MOOC 6/9/4356, 39838. Death Notice for Gert Thomas Morkel, filed 29 November 1933.
5. GISA (Genealogical Institute of South Africa) *South African Genealogies*. Vol 5, p684. *Ongekoppeldes* (not connected): Herklaas MORKEL & Flora SIMON had the following children baptised Beaufort West 30.3.1856: Johanna Frederika, Helena Catharina, Meintje Adriana, Flora Stiena Leonora
6. M.O.O.C 18/34 1 STB as in Annemarie Krzensinski-de Widt, 2002. *Die Boedelinventaris van Erflaters in die Distrik Stellenbosch 1679 – 1806*. Stellenbosch Museum. (M.O.O.C refers to Master of the (Colonial) Orphan Chamber. STB refers to Stellenbosch Museum archives). See also "The Estate of Willem Morkel" on our Website under "Ancestors"
7. [www.eggza.org/library/main.php?q2\\_itemId=987503](http://www.eggza.org/library/main.php?q2_itemId=987503) - Cached Gravestone photos

**Appendix  
Death Notice for Gert Thomas MORKEL**

**MOOC 6/9/4356**

**39838**

Filed on 29 November 1933

**DEATH NOTICE**

PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS CONTAINED IN SECTION 9, ORDINANCE 104

1. Name of the deceased: [Gert Thomas Morkel](#)
  2. Birthplace of the deceased: [Beaufort Wes](#)
  3. Names of parents of the deceased:  
Father: [Hercules Morkel, oorlede](#)  
Mother: [Flora Morkel gebore Simon](#)
  4. Age of the deceased: [76 years 10 months](#)
  5. Condition in life (occupation): [Rustende werksman](#)
  6. Ordinary place of residence: [Beaufort Wes](#)
  7. Married or unmarried, widower or widow: [Getroud](#)
    - (a) Name of surviving spouse: [Mary Morkel gebore Theron  
Gemeenskap van Goedere](#)
    - (b) Name or names and approximate date of death of previous spouse or spouses:
    - (c) Place of last marriage: [Beaufort Wes](#)
  8. The day of decease: On [Donderdag 23 November 1933](#)
  9. At what house or where the person died: [Woonhuis, Beaufort Wes](#)
  10. Names of children of deceased, and whether majors or minors (Stating separately these born of different marriages).
    1. [Herclas James Morkel, mondig](#)
    2. [Jane Dorothea Kelly gebore Morkel, mondig](#)
    3. [Samuel William Morkel, mondig](#)
    4. [Henry Gert Morkel, mondig](#)
    5. [James John Morkel, mondig](#)
    6. [Florence Margaret Hofmeester gebore Morkel, mondig](#)
    7. [Mary Sara Johanna Murray gebore Morkel, mondig](#)
    8. [William Thomas Morkel, mondig](#)
    9. [Dorothea Charlotte Roux gebore Morkel, mondig](#)
- (a) Whether deceased has left any property, and of what kind: [Movable & immovable property](#)
- (b) The deceased has left a will: [Yes](#)

Dated at [Beaufort Wes](#) the [25](#) day of [November 1933](#)

Signature [Mary Morkel](#) (State in what capacity) [Langslewende en teenwoordig by dood.](#)

This notice must be filled in and signed by the nearest relative or connection of the deceased who shall at the time be at or near the place of death, or in the absence of such near relative or connection, by the person who shall have the chief charge of the house in or the place on which the death shall occur, and must be sent either to the Master of Supreme Court, in Cape Town, or if the death occurred in the country districts, the Resident Magistrate of the district, in duplicate.

[\[Samuel William Morkel benoem as Executeur \[sic\] in testament van 21.3.1907\]](#)



(Thanks to Johan van Breda for obtaining and copying the Death Notice from the Cape Archives.)