

MEIERHOFER FAMILY

NB: The following is prepared from Falkland Islands Registers and files – there may be other family born outside the Falklands. Unless stated otherwise, all dated births, deaths and marriages occurred in the Falklands and all numbered graves are in Stanley Cemetery. Any variations which may occur in spellings of names are recorded as written in the records at the time.

John Martin MEIERHOFER was born circa 1844 in Kings Lynn, Norfolk, England.

John was married to **Rose Hannah GARDINER** (*not in the Falkland Islands*). Rose was born circa 1870 in Holbeach, Lincolnshire, England.

John and his wife appear in the records as being at Port Stephens where John was working as a cook when their son John was born in 1894.

On 30 September 1898 Mr & Mrs **MEIERHOFER** and their two children arrived in Stanley from Port Stephens on board the *Fair Rosamond*. On 17 October 1898 the family left for Europe on board the *Ammon*. [FIM Oct 1898]

(John) **Martin MEIERHOFER** arrived back in Stanley 3 February 1899 on board the *Ammon* from London. [FIM Feb 1899]

On 28 June 1899 John started work for the Falkland Islands Company Ltd and received an advance in Stanley of £5-10-0. He worked for them at North Arm until 28 November 1899 on a monthly wage of £5-10-0. [FIC Archives, Vol A1, pg 550]

In the 1901 Census Rose was recorded as living at Holbeach, Lincolnshire, England with her children.

Mrs MEIERHOFER and five children arrived in the *Orepesa* 15 November 1907. [FIC/D11; 749]

Mr and Mrs MEIERHOFER and family arrived in Stanley on board the *Columbus* 12 October 1912 and **Mrs MEIERHOFER** and four children departed for Liverpool on board the *Orissa* 29 October 1912. [FIM Nov 1912]

On 11 June 1915 John, a cook at Port Louis North, requested that the Falkland Islands Company Ltd forwarded £10 to his wife by the next homebound mail. [FIC/EF/18#14]

On 18 September 1915 John, a cook at Port Louis North, requested that the Falkland Islands Company Ltd forwarded £12 to his wife by the next homebound mail. [FIC/EF/18#14]

On 29 March 1916 John, a cook at Port Louis North, requested that the Falkland Islands Company Ltd forwarded £10 to his wife by the next homebound mail and asked if the £12 that he had sent 28 December had been delayed as his wife had not received it. [FIC/EF/18#14]

When their eldest son, George, was married in 1918 **John MEIERHOFER** was recorded as living at Fox Bay and **Rose MEIERHOFER** as living in King's Lynn, Norfolk, England. [FIM Apr 1918]

John died 26 November 1926 and is recorded in the death register as being age 89. He was buried 29 November 1926 in Grave J 956 and was recorded as being age 82 in the burial records and age 81 in the cemetery records.

Rose died in June 1936 in Kings Lynn, Norfolk, England.

FIRST GENERATION:

Children of John and Rose MEIERHOFER:

1. **George John MEIERHOFER** born 25 February 1894 at Port Stephens, West Falkland. His father's occupation was recorded as cook. George was baptised 7 May 1894 by Edwin Aspinall, Assistant Colonial Chaplain. In the 1901 Census he was recorded as living at Holbeach, Lincolnshire, England with his mother and siblings. George was first employed by the Falkland Islands Co Ltd as an able seaman on the *Falkland* in 1916. George, a mariner, was married to **Winifred May BIGGS** 20 February 1918 at Christ Church Cathedral by Banns by J Stanley Smith, Clerk in Holy Orders. The witnesses were Alfred Stanley Biggs and Alice Emily Lanning. Winifred's father was recorded as Edward Falkland Biggs, deceased labourer. [Account of wedding FIM Apr 1918] From 1922-1928 George worked for the Falkland Islands Government. Winifred, age 50, went on holiday to Uruguay in 1950. She was recorded as being 5' 4" tall with brown eyes and brown hair. George, age 58 and whose occupation was marine surveying, accompanied Winifred to the UK in 1952 where she was going for medical treatment. He was recorded as being 5' ?" tall with blue eyes and dark hair. For the last 20 years he had served as 3rd and 2nd engineer on the *Lafonia* and *Fitzroy*. His discharges were excellent. [FIC/EF] George and Winifred celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary at Tiffany's in Auckland, New Zealand on George's 74th birthday. [FI Monthly Review 3 Jun 1968] George, age 80, died 3 April 1974 in Auckland, New Zealand and his ashes were buried in North Shore Memorial Park. Winifred, age 87, died June 1985 in Auckland, New Zealand and her ashes were buried in Waikumete Cemetery.



Winifred in 1950 and John in 1952

2. **Rose Hannah MEIERHOFER** born 18 March 1895 at Port Stephens and baptised **Grace Ursula Elizabeth MEIERHOFER** 14 March 1896 by Edwin Aspinall, Canon of Christ Church Cathedral. Her father's occupation was recorded as cook. Grace, age 17, left with her mother and siblings on board the *Orissa* 29 October 1912. Grace was married to ? **BOWYER** (*not in the Falkland Islands*). On 20 March 1968 Grace, of Sunninghill, Ascot, was married in England to **George DURBRIDGE**, of North Darlington, in the Bracknell Registry Office. They had first met at Port Stephens where George was working. [FIM Nov 1912: FI Monthly Review 3 Jun 1968]
3. **Boy MEIERHOFER** born before November 1907 (*not in Falkland Islands*)
4. **Rose Francisca MEIERHOFER** born circa 1899 in Holbeach, Lincolnshire, England.
5. **Child MEIERHOFER** born before November 1907 (*not in Falkland Islands*)

SECOND GENERATION:

Children of George (1) and Winifred MEIERHOFER:

1. **Edward George 'Froggy' MEIERHOFER** born 12 August 1919 and baptised 14 September 1919 by Christ Church Cathedral. His father's occupation was recorded as labourer. Edward was attested into the Falkland Islands Defence Force 27 July 1936. Edward, age 24 and a gunner in the FIDF Coast Artillery volunteered to join the Royal Air Force in December 1943. Edward was married to **Margaret Winifred "Madge" McHAFFEY** (*not in Falkland Islands*). They divorced and Margaret was married to (2) **Kenneth Niven McGILL**, engineman, 31 October 1953 at No 2 Ross Road, Stanley before H Bennett, Registrar General. The witnesses were R McGill and M McGill. Kenneth's father was recorded as William McGill, retired butcher, and Margaret's father was recorded as Joseph McHaffey, bricklayer. Kenneth, age 42 and a labourer, died in Stanley 14 October 1958 from tuberculosis and was buried 16 October 1958 in Grave S1620. Margaretta, age 38, returned to the UK to reside. Edward, age 89, died 20 August 2008 in New Zealand and his ashes were buried in Eucalyptus Glade, Waikumete Cemetery.



Margaret in 1946

2. **Irene Rose MEIERHOFER** born 30 December 1920 in Stanley and baptised 17 March 1921 by Christ Church Cathedral. Her father's occupation was recorded as mariner. Irene was married to **Charles Thomas REIVE**, apprentice electrician 16 March 1940 at the Registrar's Office, Stanley by Special Licence by A R Hoare, Registrar General. The witnesses were Leonard Lawrence Reive and Winifred May Meierhofer. Charles' father was recorded as Thomas Reive, butcher, and Irene's father was recorded as George John Meierhofer, engineer. Charles was employed in government service from 1934 and retired as Senior Technician and Broadcasting Officer in 1973. Irene, age 29 and a housewife, went to Montevideo for medical treatment in 1950. She was recorded as being 5' 1" tall with brown eyes and dark brown hair. Charles, age 35 and an electrician, went to the UK on holiday in 1955. He was recorded as being 5' 11 $\frac{3}{4}$ " tall with grey eyes and fair hair. Charles, age 58, died 30 September 1977 in England. [FI Times 17 Oct 1977]



Charles in 1955 and Irene in 1950

3. **Iris Alma MEIERHOFER** born 12 January 1922 in Stanley and baptised 19 March 1922 by Christ Church Cathedral. Her father's occupation was recorded as stoker. Iris, age 19, travelled to Montevideo in 1941 for medical treatment. She was recorded as being 5' 4" tall with blue eyes and fair hair. Iris was married to **Frederick William SMITH**, leading steward RN from England, 2 June 1942 at Christ Church Cathedral by Gerald K Lowe, Senior Chaplain. The witnesses were John Betteridge and Irene Reive. Frederick's father was recorded as Frederick John Smith, barman.



Irene and Iris



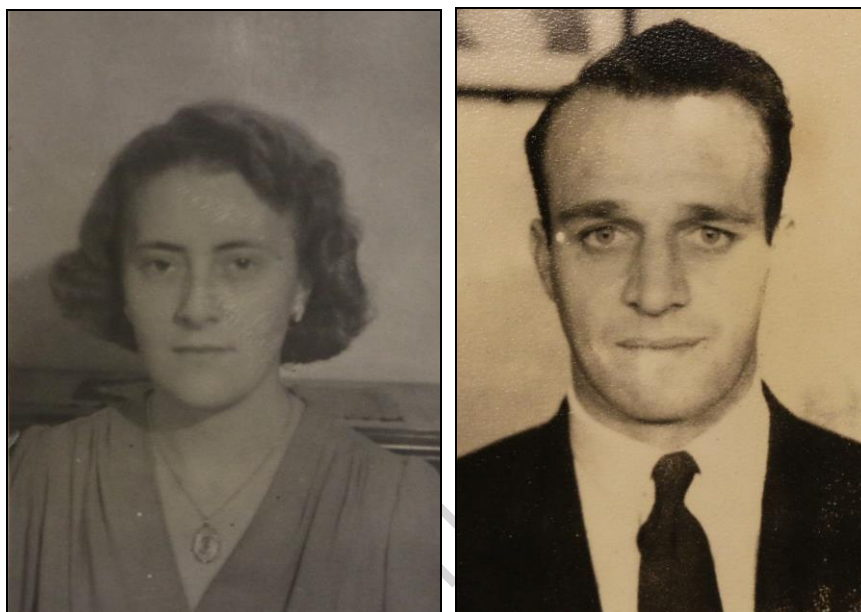
Iris in 1941

4. **Basil John MEIERHOFER** born 26 November 1929 in Stanley and baptised 30 January 1930 by Christ Church Cathedral. His father's occupation was recorded as labourer. Basil, an able seaman, was married to **Dawn REIVE** 17 February 1950 at Christ Church Cathedral by R G R Calvert, Senior Chaplain. The witnesses were Robert Reive and Mary Ann Aldridge. Dawn's father was recorded as Robert Reive, general contractor. Basil, age 25 and a driver, and Dawn, age 27 and a housewife, emigrated to New Zealand via the UK in 1955. Basil was recorded as being 5' 11" tall with brown eyes and brown hair and tattoos on both arms. Dawn was recorded as being 5' 4" tall with blue eyes and light brown hair. Basil died in 2009 (*not in the Falkland Islands*).



Basil and Dawn in 1955

5. **Orissa Malvina MEIERHOFER** born 2 May 1934 in Stanley and baptised 1 July 1934 by Christ Church Cathedral. Her father's occupation was recorded as marine engineer. Orissa, age 18, accompanied her mother to the UK in 1952. She was recorded as being 5' 5" tall with brown eyes and fair hair. Orissa was married to (1) **John OSGOOD** in 1954 (*not in the Falkland Islands*). Orissa was married to (2) **James Raymond WHITNEY** (*not in Falkland Islands*). In 1963 Orissa was with James, who was working as a customs officer, in South Georgia. James, age 63 and a retired credit manager, died 5 March 1994 in Auckland, New Zealand and his ashes were buried in Waikumete Cemetery. Orissa, age 72, died 23 September 2006 in Auckland, New Zealand and her ashes were buried in North Shore Memorial Park.



Orissa in 1952 and James in 1955