

31/12/78.

Caprice,
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Tel: 041-641 7462

Dear Susan,

I am the Syd Balarsky (Mr. S. Bell) for whom your letter was originally intended. My uncle Ralph (Reuben) tells me that he has already forwarded to you the photo you requested, and also that Betty and my mother (Solly's wife) have written to you.

I am married with two boys aged 8 and 10 and assume that you will be of a similar age to myself, 37. We live in a rural area just outside Glasgow. I was brought up in the Jewish faith and my wife is a Catholic of Polish origins. She converted and we belong to the Reform Jewish community which is non orthodox. I assume from your family tree that Rebecca Woolf also married out of the Jewish religion and therefore your branch of the tree will be either Catholic or Protestant. I don't know if Ralph told you that Fanny and Ev are deceased and that his branch is Catholic.

I was very pleased to receive your letter as our family in the United Kingdom is very small and apart from a Uruguayan connection now deceased and a small branch in the U.S.A. we have no links abroad. It was particularly pleasing to hear from you at this point in time as my wife and I are very interested in our roots and origins and have traced our families back through my mother's side (Lithuanian and White Russian) and my wife's side (Father side, Polish Mother's side American/German). Your letter completed the tree for us.

WE are going on a pilgrimage to Poland in June 79 mainly to make contact with my wife's family but we are if we can get the necessary permission going into Russia and hope to trace some links on our side. This could prove extremely difficult as I am led to believe that when the Russians overran Lithuania and exiled the Jews all records were destroyed.

I would be very pleased if you could furnish me with more detailed information regarding Lyon Belkan particularly if his origins are in the U.S.S.R. If his origins are English perhaps we can

Balkan

help you go further back. So could you please let us know if you have it his place of birth.

If we share a Great Great Grandfather what relation are you and I? Second Cousins?

I enclose photos of my family and ask in return if you have the time to supply details of your family and way of life.

In closing I extend a sincere invitation to you that if you ever consider a U.K. holiday we would be very pleased to accomodate you and show you round our beautiful country.

Yours Sincerely

Syd Balarsky

SYD BALARSKY.

