

Kosher Koala

Newsletter of the Australian Jewish Genealogical Society

www.ajgs.org.au



July 2011

President's Report

A chance remark by one of our members, that he never comes to a workshop without finding something new about his family – and his research has been slow and painstaking – made me realise just how valuable are the resources, human as well as library, that we offer to our members and visitors.

Building up a library and holding monthly (now bi-monthly) workshops were the first actions of the fledgling AJGS twenty years ago. One member in particular, Rieke Nash, with help from her husband Peter and other committee members, has been the guiding force and mainstay of the library and the workshops all that time. She, Peter and a small group of dedicated members have developed expertise in diverse areas of genealogy and they make their knowledge freely available to all, mainly through the workshops, but also by giving talks or writing for the *Kosher Koala*.

We are holding our third Eastern Suburbs Workshop in *Lifestyle Manor*, Bondi, on Sunday 24th July at 2 pm. We hope that members, whichever side of the Bridge they live, will come to mine our resources and discuss their research. This will be a special UK workshop, but there will also be help for those with other interests.

In May, we enjoyed a fascinating talk by Robyn Dryen about the Russian Jewish families who, for several decades, made Broken Hill their home.

Our 20th Birthday Bash will be a picnic in Lane Cove National Park on Sunday, 13th November - keep the date!!

We extend a warm welcome to new members Marie Heilbrunn and Deanne Rosenthal.

Jeannette Tsoulos
President

MY GENEODYSSEY - PART 3

Failures and Frustrations

Dani Haski

In the last two issues of *Kosher Koala* I outlined some of the wonderful successes I had during my three month Geneodyssey in 2010. I travelled almost 50,000 kilometers through 10 countries, visiting 36 cities. I went to archives and ancestral shtetls, cemeteries and memorials.

In Latvia I found records on my great grandmother's two siblings, and in Poland I traced my family back to the 18th century. But these jewels of information were as precious and hard to find as their crystalline counterparts. On several occasions, I came away empty-handed or, at best, had to make lemonade out of lemons.



Zaleszczyki, in Ukraine, illustrates this point. I was very apprehensive about going to Ukraine. It seemed fine on paper, but I realised while in Poland, just how hard it is operating in a post-Soviet society where few people speak English and where no one really wants to help. I was told by other travellers that Ukraine was a good 20 years behind Poland.

Elaine at *Ancestral Attic* had managed to track down a couple of guides for me and Alicja, my guide from Krakow, drove me to Lviv (she also decided to stay and do the city tour with me).

When I discovered in London that my great grandfather, Jacques Poppel, was from Zaleszczyki, I rearranged my itinerary to go there and to the archives in Ternopil (aka Tarnopol) - the regional capital. My guide in Lviv, Serhiy, contacted the archives there on my behalf. They found some early 19th century property records from Zaleszczyki, citing both Popiel (could be where Poppel derived from) and Rozenblatt residences (Jacques mother's maiden name was Rozenblatt). Unfortunately there was no mention of my actual relations – Jacques' parents, Boris and Hannah. Oh well... it was a start!! I took copies of all the documents and put them in my file.

I was collected from my hotel by Marta, a friend of Serhiy's, to go to Ternopil. Marta is a smart, no nonsense Masters graduate more used to working with large NGOs than solo travellers but, life being what it is, she and Serhiy have branched out into helping hapless tourists like myself trace their roots. Along with our driver, Uri, we hit the road.

Marta had made an appointment with the archivist in Ternopil, but they had very little to offer. We looked through some voter lists from the 1920s (50 years after my relations had left the area) and found one Popiel and a few Rozenblatts. We also looked at some old maps of the town with residential plots marked out on them. They had nothing from the 19th century.

All that was left was to visit the town itself. Zaleszczyki sits on the bend of the Vil'Khovets River. It's best known as an agricultural region and resort town with a unique microclimate, although the post-Soviet pall that hung over the place made it hard for me to see it as a desirable place to unwind.

We found the local museum and after a bit of persuasion the curator gave us access to some books of residents (valuable genealogical sources as they often contain information on several generations). These books were from the 1930s so, once again, were not relevant to my immediate family. However they did record Popiels and Rozenblatts living there just before the war so, just in case, we photographed each entry.

We also went to the local municipal office as we were told they had some metrical books. Unfortunately they started at 1888 - seven years after the birth of my great grandfather... again, not very useful.

I still have to analyse all the information I collected. Perhaps there is something valuable hidden in there I have yet to discover. But it is undeniably frustrating.

Even more frustrating is the situation in Turkey, where English character records start in 1900 and anything before that is in Ottoman Turkish - Turkish written in an obscure Perso-Arabic script - and in Egypt, where the metrical books are known to exist but access to them has, to date, been next to impossible.

As many of you researching your Egyptian backgrounds already know, several metrical books of the Alexandria and Cairo communities have survived the ravages of time. However the custodians of these books have so far refused access to both researchers and those who wish to preserve these books for future generations. One organisation, Nebi Daniel (<http://www.nebidaniel.org/index.php?lang=en>) has been negotiating for years to gain access to preserve and index these records, but has had scant success.

I organised to see the synagogue where my great aunt (and presumably my grandparents) were married but even here I was not allowed to take pictures and my guide was not allowed to come in with me. (There had been "an incident" earlier in the year and a blanket ban on guides had been deemed an appropriate response).

In countries like Egypt I think that patience, persistence and perseverance might be the only strategy. Chipping away at each little obstacle, as Nebi Daniel are doing, like the ocean reducing a mountain to a pile of sand. With the recent changes in the political landscape we can only hope access becomes more possible, not less.



My father's old apartment in Cairo

On the up side, I did have a clue to my father's last address in Cairo before he emigrated in 1948. My guide, Nargla, and I found the apartment block by comparing an old photograph of him with existing landmarks on the street.

It was quite an emotional moment as my father passed away less than two years ago and one of the stories told at his funeral concerned his predilection for climbing between two balconies, much to his mother's horror.

It was quite something to actually see the scene of the crime, three floors up from the bustling sidewalk.

We all face roadblocks and frustrations as we search for information about our past. The obstacles we face now are nothing compared to genealogists before us. The Internet has provided access to countless indexes and archives, made possible by the thousands of hours of work by volunteers eager to open up these records to everyone.

So many records are available online that the armchair genealogist need not leave home at all. However the advantages of travelling to the places where these journey's began, or at least from where we can trace them, brings an entirely new perspective to the research, moving it away from names, dates and dry statistics into the world of real people living real lives.

Walking the streets our ancestors walked, trying the food they might have eaten, and experiencing their history in its environmental context can open our eyes to insights and understandings which dry documentation can never hope to communicate. Even if you don't find a single record, it's still worth the effort.

The Hunt for the Elusive American Connection

Judith Wimborne

Like many young people, I did not take much notice of my parents' stories of their early lives, their interaction with relatives, or what life was like before my birth. I was too busy with other things.

Many years later we went to live in the USA while my husband completed his post-doctoral year. As I was not permitted to work, I began to look around for something to do.

At the back of my mind was a niggling memory of being told of a letter concerning my great-grandfather's brother, Leopold. It seemed that my great grandfather, Gustav Magnus, had come to Australia in 1853 but his brother Leopold had gone to America.

The only hint of Leopold's existence was the letter from Leopold, written in 1901 from New York, thanking his brother Gustav for the pipe sent as a birthday gift. I do not recall his being mentioned at any other time.

I now had a project. Admittedly not much to go on – a name, Leopold Magnus - a place to begin, New York.

I had begun working as a volunteer in the local library, so the next day, after my shift, I went to the reference section to look for telephone books for the New York area. I thought I would begin by looking for any descendents who might still be living there.

New York is a large place. It was a long way from the town I was living in. I did not know much about New York or where he might have lived in that city. This was in the days before all the wonderful resources of today and before the days of digitisation, so I had to look through the actual phone books. There were lots of those. I was looking for the surname MAGNUS – not an uncommon name, but after a couple of hours I had several addresses. With high hopes, I went home and began writing letters.

The first reply came a week later. A nice letter, but a negative result. One by one, the other replies arrived, with results just as disappointing. "Sorry, I don't know this person". "Sorry, he isn't related to us".

Not to be discouraged, I returned to the library and continued my search. More letters were written, but sadly the results were the same. I began to think that the family had either moved to another state or there were no descendents.

Then I thought – I'm only looking for the male line, perhaps there were daughters who had married. How do I look for them. I had no idea until my husband said, "Why don't you contact the New York Historical Society"?

Better than that, I thought, I'll write to the New York Jewish Historical Society (NYJHS). They might have records of people who belonged to various congregations. Back I went to the library for the address of the NYJHS.

As I had very little information to offer in my request, I didn't really expect a positive response. I wrote my letter, then I waited.

A couple of weeks later there was a knock on the door of the apartment. I opened it and found the doorway filled by a very large policeman. I wondered if I had broken some traffic law while driving an

unfamiliar car on the 'wrong' side of the road, however I knew it must be alright when he gave a big smile.

He handed me a letter and said he was delivering it for a friend. As he was coming from New York to our town, his friend, who was a member of the NYJHS, had asked him to bring it.

The letter began, "If you will phone this number ... you will reach your 4th cousin, Lee Magnus, (named for his grandfather)"

There was also the name of another cousin. They were both very excited to hear from a long-lost branch of the family. Their family knew that there was additional family in Australia, but they didn't know anything else about us

This was more than I could have hoped for. I lost no time in phoning the cousins. There were many questions from both sides. I was writing furiously to record as much as possible. Then Lee suggested we should stay with him and his family on our way back to Australia. He wanted to know all about the "Australian Connection", just as I wanted as much information as possible regarding "the Americans".

Then followed letters in which we arranged to visit him later in the year.

We arrived at JFK airport and had no trouble recognising Lee. He had a strong family resemblance. During the drive to his home in the north of New York there was more exchange of family details. That evening the whole family arrived for dinner. Afterwards Lee produced a photo of Leopold. He looked so like my father and my uncle – there was no doubt about the relationship.

We learned about his working life in America. Having arrived in New York in 1859, he had been in the military supply business. Among his customers were West Point cadets. His obituary stated that General U.S. Grant and General Ben Butler were also customers. He supplied military uniforms and 'dress accessories' - honour patches, epaulettes and buttons. Lee had a dress sword with the maker's name (Magnus) engraved on the blade.

Since returning home, and with the aid of my computer, I have been able to find much more detail about my American family. With so many on-line resources now available, I have been able to verify these details and find so much more that I almost feel I know this man.

Leopold was born in Prussia and went to England to follow his brother Gustav before going to America.



Leopold Magnus 1829-1912

While searching "Aliens Arrival in England", [UK National Archives], I found a record of my great-grandfather Gustav's arrival on 22 August 1842 on the ship, *Manchester* in the port of Hull. Leopold arrived on the ship *Princess Royal* on 2 June 1845. Both ships left from Hamburg. Also of interest was that immediately preceding Leopold's name was the name Saloman Magnus. Profession of all three was given as 'cap maker' and country of origin as Prussia. Could this mean Saloman was another brother?

The England and Wales Censuses for 1851 and 1861 mention both Gustav and Leopold, but there is no mention of Saloman.

His New York Petition for Naturalisation 1889 shows that Leopold made an application to the Common Pleas Court, New York County, and was "admitted as a Citizen of the United States of America" on 3 October 1889. It also gave his date of arrival in the United States as 30 November 1861.

The record of his marriage to Augusta Vogel (her obituary gives her name as Vogelfang) on 5 November 1882, Manhattan, New York, provided her birth place as Tarnov, Galicia, and her parents as David Vogel and Niesel Fesser.

The United States Federal Census has provided more information of them and their three children. It confirms the difference in age between Leopold and Augusta as 29 years – a fact mentioned by Lee.

US Passport Applications 1795-1925 gave her birth date as 19 March 1859 and shows that she obtained passports on January 2 1906 and March 31 1925. This backs up the stories of her visits to Europe to see family. The applications also had photos of her.

A search of the *Historical Newspapers, Birth, Marriage and Death Announcements 1851-2003 - Obituary- New York*, at www.ancestry.com resulted in obituaries for both Leopold and Augusta, again providing corroboration of family stories and further information of these two family members.

What happened to Saloman Magnus after his arrival in England? Was he a relative?

The hunt is now on.

EVENTS

Australian Jewish Genealogical Society Eastern Suburbs Workshop

When: 2pm to 5 pm SUNDAY 24 July, 2011

Where: Function Room, Lifestyle Manor Bondi,
24-32 Flood Street, Bondi
Ample street parking

Resources for United Kingdom research will be highlighted

As with our usual North Shore Sunday morning workshops we will have available a wide range of reference books, CDs and internet access to many well-known genealogical sites. Experienced members will help with your particular research concerns.

Do drop in some time during the afternoon, see our latest purchases and chat to others with expertise in your area.

All welcome. RSVP and Enquiries: 9427 6075 or **email:** president@ajgs.org.au

20th Birthday Celebration

To celebrate 20 years of operation AJGS invites you to a picnic at Lane Cove National Park. We encourage everyone to bring their families and make it a fun day.

Date: Sunday 13 November

Location: Commandment Rock picnic area, located on Riverside Drive

Vehicle entry fee: \$7 per vehicle per day

More details will be sent to members closer to the day, but mark the date in your diaries!

Solomon Family Reunion

Emanuel Solomon was convicted of house-breaking and transported from Durham to New South Wales in 1818. Upon receiving his Ticket of Leave he set up business with his brother, Vaiben (also transported in 1818 for larceny). Emanuel ended up in South Australia, where he ran an extremely lucrative enterprise shipping merchandise from Sydney (through his brother) to Adelaide. He purchased large sways of land in South Australia, Western Australia and in and around Darwin (then known as Palmerston). Emanuel became a great philanthropist and benefactor to the arts, the theatre he built in Adelaide still stands. He assisted Saint Mary McKillop by providing free accommodation for her nuns.

Having educated his many children Emanuel then encouraged them to live the life that would benefit all Australians – many, including Emanuel, were Members of Parliaments. A nephew of Emanuel saw action in the Boer War, another helped write the Constitution of Australia and the Solomon family is one of only two families to have two representatives in the first Australian Parliament. The Federal Electorate of Solomon is named after another family member, V. L. Solomon.

The Great Solomon Reunion Saturday 10 March - Monday 12 March 2012, Melbourne, Australia.

Day 1: Saturday 10 March (Optional)

Discover Bearbrass: A Historic Tour of Old Melbourne

\$45.00 per person (includes afternoon tea or coffee and cake/biscuits)

Capacity: 20-25 people per tour

Time: 2 to 2.5 hours

For details: <http://www.melbournwalks.com/file/Home.html>

Bookings and Payment:

1. Confirm your booking by email via melbwalks@gmail.com.au or by telephone: 0408 894 724 or (03) 9090 7963
2. Send a cheque to Meyer Eidelson at 18 Wright Street Middle Park, VIC 3206
Or: Direct Funds Transfer: Account Name: Meyer Eidelson
BSB: 063148; Account: 00624331
Payment details: please include your name.

Day 2 and Day 3: Sunday 11 March and Monday 12 March

Cost: \$100.00 per person inclusive.

Venue: Alma Sports Club, 1 Wilks Street, North Caulfield, Melbourne <http://almasportsclub.com.au/>

Parking: 60 spaces on the premises, off-street parking also available, public transport close to the venue.

Sunday 9.00 am - 5.30 pm

- 9.00 am - 9.45 am: Registration
- 10.00 am - 11.00 am: Trevor Cohen - *Samuel Moss Solomon and some of his descendants*
- 11.00 am - 11.30 am: Morning Tea
- 11.30 am - 12.30 pm: Todd Knowles - *Knowles Collection and the records within pertaining to the Solomon family*
- 12.30 pm - 1.30 pm: Lunch
- 1.30pm - 2.00 pm: Family photograph
- 2.00 pm - 3.00 pm: Rabbi John Levi, *Digging Up the Past? The Free and the Fettered*
- 3.00 pm - 4.00 pm: Afternoon Tea
- 4.00 pm- 5.00 pm: Madeleine Say, *Early Victorian Photography*

Monday 11.00 am - 4.00 pm.

- 11.00 am - 12.00 noon: (TBA)
- 12.00 pm - 1.30 pm: Lunch
- 1.30 pm - 2.30 pm: Marjorie Luno, *Legends and Memories*
- 2.30 pm -4.00 pm: *Computer sharing of Family Trees and photographs*

Bookings and Payment Details:

If you wish to attend please contact katrina.jenny@bigpond.com as soon as possible as numbers need to be finalised.

2011 Census

The 16th Australian Census of Population and Housing will take place on the night of 9 August 2011.

Help to preserve information for future researchers by ticking the box to elect that your form not be destroyed, and will therefore be available after 99 years.

Even more helpful to future researchers is to make a copy of your completed census and place it with your personal papers. That way, your descendants won't have to wait 99 years for the release of your information.

New books in our library

Rieke Nash

Birth Records of the New Synagogue and Marriage Records of the New and Hambro Synagogues, London by Harold and Miriam Lewin, 2010.

Harold and Miriam Lewin have published a third volume of the records from early London synagogue registers. This valuable project has translated and transcribed the original Hebrew entries from microfilms and, as well as having multiple indices to the records, includes additional information from the registers, such as fathers' names and addresses. There are over 2,000 marriages and 1,550 births:

- New Synagogue births 1774 - 1896
- New Synagogue marriages 1790 - 1823 and 1837 - 1860
- Hambro Synagogue marriages 1797 - 1837 and post-1862

The two earlier volumes from the Lewins were:

Marriages for the Great Synagogue, London, 1791 to 1885, and
Births for the Great Synagogue 1791 to 1877 and for the Hambro Synagogue 1770 to 1905.

Many of our members have found entries from these volumes and all three are available at our workshops.

To My Brave Wife, Dunera Notes from a Jewish 'Enemy Alien', by Dr. Kurt Epstein.

Published in 2011 by the Australian Jewish Historical Society, 385 Abercrombie Street, Darlington NSW 2008. This is a welcome addition to the collection of material on the *Dunera* episode. As an enemy alien during World War II, Dr Kurt Epstein kept a diary of his experiences documenting the day-to-day events and his personal reactions to the unfolding tragedy. Written at the time of the events, rather than as a later memoir, it is a powerful and moving story. The format includes a copy of the original German diary entries and translations into Hebrew and English.

Congratulations to the Australian Jewish Historical Society for this publication and, in particular, for the use of the distinctive facsimile of the original exercise book on the cover.

Other news of interest

Major project to digitise up to 40 million pages from 1700-1870

The British Library and Google have announced a partnership to digitise 250,000 out-of-copyright books, pamphlets and periodicals published from 1700 to 1870. Content will be delivered free through Google Books (<http://books.google.co.uk>) and the British Library's website (www.bl.uk). Google will cover all digitisation costs.

For more information: <http://tinyurl.com/5ublrn9>

The NSW State Reference Library will be closed from 1 August to 18 September.

To check access to resources and services during this time: <http://blog.sl.nsw.gov.au/refurbishment/>

The 'new look' Library will reopen on 19 September.

New Group for descendants of former residents of Klishkivtsi, Ukraine

Aizic Sechter wrote to the Ukraine SIG:

My father and ancestors several generations before him were born and lived in a shtetl called by the Jews, *Klishkovitz*. Without the necessity of leaving their village, their citizenship and name of their village changed numerous times - Turkish, Russian, Romanian, Soviet Russia, Romanian again, Soviet Russian again, and today part of Ukraine called Klishkivtsi.

I would like to start a world-wide internet discussion group of descendants of former residents of Klishkivtsi and neighbouring towns: Malinty, Zaroshan, Shirovtsy, Nedoboyevtsy, Kolenkovtsy and others, since all these towns are just a few miles/kilometres North, East, South or West of Klishkivtsi.

So would descendants of families from Klishkivtsi and its vicinity please contact me personally so we can start the ball rolling and see where this discussion group will lead us.

Aizic Sechter

Rishon Le Zion, Israel

sabaisio@yahoo.com

New Group for Sub-Carpathia

Marshall KATZ Camp Hill, PA, USA wrote to the Ukraine SIG:

A Sub-Carpathia Research Group mail list has been created for researchers with Jewish roots in villages and towns located in present-day Ukraine, but which were formerly located in the pre-1918 Hungarian counties of Bereg, Maramaros, Ugocea and Ung, the 1918-1939 Czechoslovak territory of Podkarpatska Rus' (Subcarpathia Russia) and the inter-war Hungarian territory called Carpatho-Ukraine.

While today, parts of Bereg are in Hungary/Ukraine, parts of Maramaros are in Romania/Ukraine, parts of Ugocea are in Romania/Ukraine and parts of Ung are in Slovakia/Ukraine, this discussion list is only concerned with those parts of these four former Hungarian counties in present-day Ukraine.

To complement the Sub-Carpathia Research Group mail list, a Sub-Carpathia Portal (web site) was created for gathering, presenting and preserving genealogical and historical information about Jewish life in Sub-Carpathia. If you have content of interest to enrich the portal, please contact me via the e-mail link at the portal.

To join the Sub-Carpathia Research Group mail list go to:

http://www.jewishgen.org/ListManager/members_list.asp

To visit the Sub-Carpathia Portal (web site), go to:
<http://www.jewishgen.org/Hungary/Sub-Carpathia/>

JewishGen Screencasts

<http://www.jewishgen.org/JewishGen/FirstTimer.html>

There is a new learning tool on *JewishGen* to help people navigate the website and databases. So far this includes the following modules:

- Prepare For Your Research
- Navigate JewishGen
- Find Your Ancestral Town
- Communicate With Other Researchers

Keep an eye on this link as additional modules are being prepared.

JRI-Poland "Town Pages" link to JewishGen Communities Database

Jewish Records Indexing - Poland, JewishGen, and the Museum of the History of Polish Jews (Warsaw), have agreed to link the "town pages" for all 3 organisations.

JRI-Poland's "Your Town" pages now include links to both the towns in the JewishGen "Communities Database" and the Museum's "Virtual Shtetl" pages for the same towns.

Go to <http://www.jewishgen.org/jri-pl/town/index.htm> and select your town. If pages for the town exist at the other sites, you will be able to click on the link.

ITS Makes Available Additional Documents

The International Tracing Service (ITS) in Bad Arolsen, Germany, has handed over to six partner organizations in Belgium, France, Israel, Luxembourg, Poland and USA, digital copies of a further 76,000 correspondence files as well as remaining documents from the Child Tracing Service and general, non-personal documents on Nazi persecution.

This adds to the nearly 88 million images already handed over.

See the complete announcement at <http://www.its-arolsen.org/en/press/index.html>.

IAJGS Genealogical Conference in Washington

You can still register for the IAJGS conference which takes place in Washington DC on 14th to 19th August. Online registration ends July 31. This will be the last time you can register online or make modifications to your registration. Thereafter, registration will have to be at the hotel.

All particulars about the conference can be found at <http://www.DC2011.org>.

New and updated websites

The United Synagogue (UK) - Marriage Authorisation Certificate Records - updated

http://www.theus.org.uk/support_services/find_your_family/marriage_records

With the most recent additions (1892), there are now 9,295 records within this database between 17 February 1880 and 31 December 1892.

British Newspaper Archive – new website

www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk

Launching in Autumn 2011, the British Newspaper Archive will make millions of pages of historical newspapers available online.

The first stage of the British Newspaper Archive focuses on runs published before 1900 and will include titles from cities such as Birmingham, Derby, Manchester, Nottingham, Norwich, Leeds and York, along with local titles from London boroughs. Newspapers which aimed for county circulation – from Staffordshire to Sussex – will also feature prominently.

Findmypast Ireland - new website

<http://www.findmypast.ie/>

Findmypast Ireland is a new website set up by Eneclann, a research and publishing house with extensive experience in family history in Ireland, and [findmypast](http://www.findmypast.com/) family history website. Records include, land and estate records, Griffith's Valuation of Ireland, directories, military and rebellion records, migration records and wills. Searching is free, but to view most records or to use some features of the website you will need to buy PayAsYouGo credits or subscribe.

GenAmi - update

<http://www.genami.org/en/>.

The French Jewish Genealogical Society, GenAmi, now has an English version of its website.

Wirtualny Cmentarz (Database of the Jewish Cemeteries In Poland) - updated

<http://cemetery.jewish.org.pl>

A growing database of tombstones in Mazovian Jewish cemeteries. Includes surviving matzevot from Blonie, Brok, Gabin, Garwolin, Gora Kalwaria, Grodzisk Mazowiecki, Karczew, Laskarzew, Losice, Minsk Mazowiecki, Mszczonow, Nowy Dwor Mazowiecki, Okuniew, Otwock, Piaseczno, Plock, Pruszkow, Przytyki Strzegowo, Radom, Siedlce, Sierpc, Sochaczew, Szydlowiec, Warszawa, Wegrow, Wiskitki, Wysokie Mazowieckie, Wyszkwow, Zelechow and Zyrardow.

JewishGen Ukraine Database - update

<http://www.jewishgen.org/databases/Ukraine/>

14,861 new records from two microfilms of the Bessarabia Revision List project have been completed and submitted to JewishGen for uploading to the Ukraine Database.

Shtetlach in this group include Bendery, Mileshty, Kaushany, Chimishliya, Izmail, Reni, Kiliya, Kagul, Leovo, Akkerman, Beltsy and Kishinev.

Another 30-40 microfilms in this group will be progressively indexed.

Cyndislist – updated website

<http://www.cyndislist.com/>

A comprehensive, categorised & cross-referenced list of links which has had a complete facelift. Really useful for finding resources for particular countries, Cyndislist also has links to over 600 sites with Jewish records.

American Joint Distribution Committee Names Index – updated website

<http://archives.jdc.org/sharedlegacy/search-names/>

The American Joint Distribution Committee (JDC) has created an index to more than 500,000 names of people who sought assistance during the Holocaust and post-Holocaust era. This collection includes requests to and from Australia, but the Australian records are index-only, no images.

The Joint site also includes a photo gallery <http://archives.jdc.org/sharedlegacy/photo-galleries/>. You are encouraged to help identify individuals in the photos.

US National Archives - International Research Portal for Records Related to Nazi-Era Cultural Property - new website

<http://www.archives.gov/research/holocaust/international-resources/index.html>
or <http://tinyurl.com/3hytzz4>

This website is a collaboration of US national and other international archival institutions with records pertaining to Nazi-Era cultural property. The portal links researchers to archival materials consisting of descriptions of records. In many cases there are digital images of the records relating to cultural property stolen, looted, seized, forcibly sold, or otherwise lost during the Nazi-era. Cultural property documented in these records covers a broad range from artworks to books and libraries, religious objects, antiquities, archival documents, carvings, silver and other artefacts.

Canadian Heritage Jewish Network - new website

<http://www.cjhn.ca>.

This site brings together online catalogues and digitised archival material of the Canadian Jewish Congress Charities Committee National Archives (CJCCNA) and the Jewish Public Library Archives of Montreal (JPL-A).

Genealogy-related records includes information from:

- Jewish Immigrant Aid Services (JIAS) 1922–1952
- Jewish Colonization Association 1906–1951
- Translated Yiddish obituaries from the *Keneder Adler* 1908–1931
- Hebrew Sick Benefit Association of Montreal's membership listings 1897–1925
- Canadian Jewish Casualties while serving in WWI, WWII, and the Korean War.

Brit Milah from Aleppo, Syria – new website

<http://www.sephardicgen.com/databases/AleppoBritotSrchFrm.html>

Adding to the comprehensive resources at SephardicGen <http://www.SephardicGen.com>, is a new database of 7,549 Brit Milah (circumcision) records from Aleppo, covering the years 1868-1945.

Forthcoming Workshops at Rev Katz Library, Lindfield:

- Sunday mornings (9:30am-12:30pm)
August 7, September 4, October 2 and November 6
 - Monday mornings (10:00am-1:00pm)
August 15, September 12, October 15 and November 14
- (See our website www.ajgs.org.au for all events)

Robyn Dryen
ed@ajgs.org.au