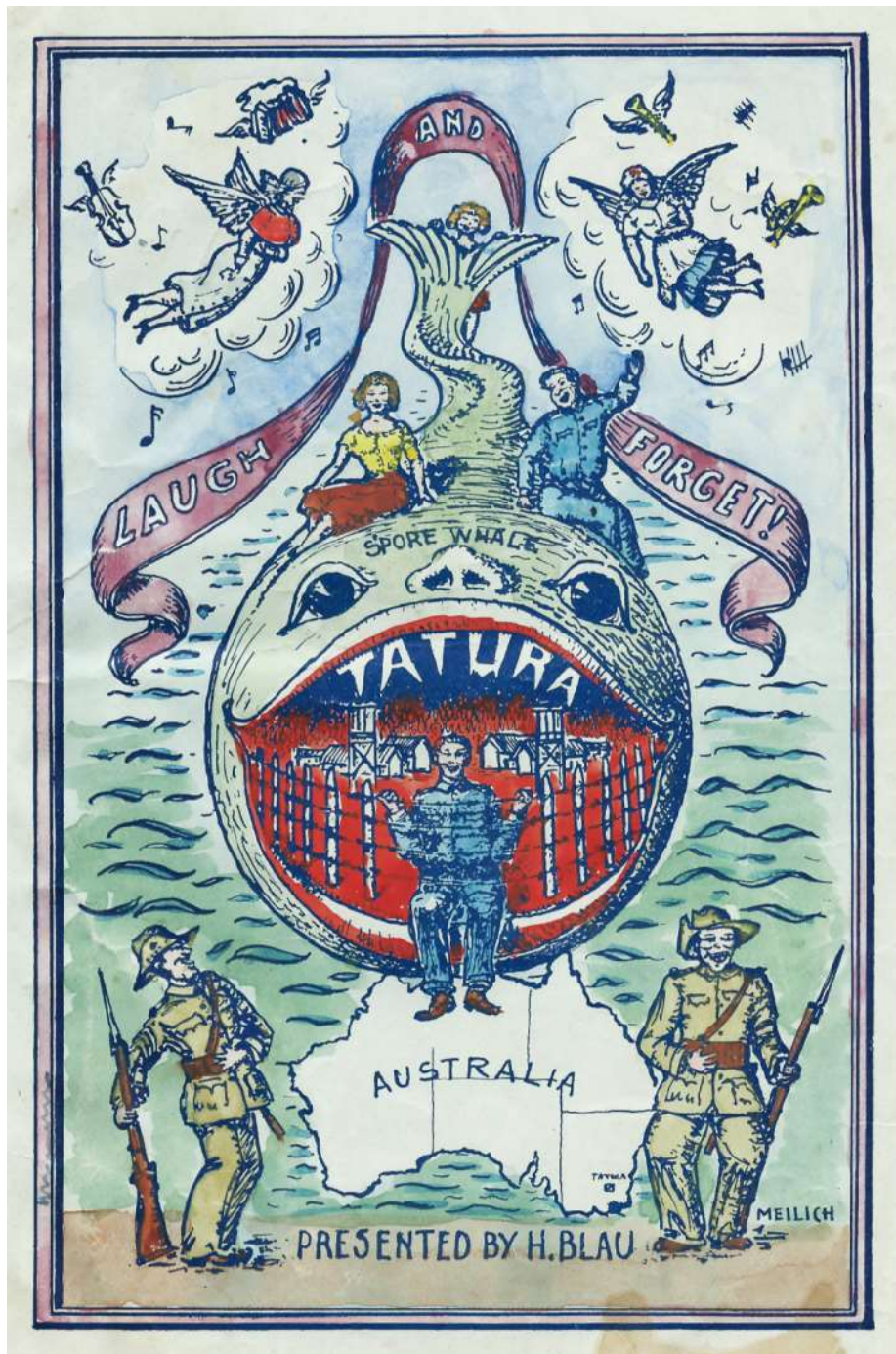


KOSHER KOALA

Newsletter of the Australian Jewish Genealogical Society Inc.
www.ajgs.org.au



September 2017



Program cover for *Laugh and Forget* - a musical review performed by refugees from Singapore, in Tatura camp, circa 1941

Portnoj collection – courtesy of Julia Trainor – see p.15

President's Report to 2017 AGM

This is an edited version of the President's Report to the 2017 AJGS AGM in March.

Our membership numbers for 2016 were: 5 honorary members and 144 paid members. During the year we welcomed new members Deborah Palmer, Alan Nathan, Regina Mehr, Elizabeth Bretherton, Glenda Poynter, Peter Ivany, Susan Davis and Yanal Peles.

We continued to hold workshops one Sunday and one Monday per month at Lindfield. I thank Jeannette Tsoulos for her constant attendance and sharing of expertise, and Dani Haski, Evelyn Frybort, David Laufer, Jack Jellins and John Norris who so ably helped out at the workshops during my stay in the US.

As the Monday workshops continued to be very quiet, we have reduced these by one each quarter for 2017. This year we will have 12 Sunday workshops and 8 Monday workshops at Lindfield and two Sunday workshops in the Eastern suburbs.

Dani Haski and Kym Morris continued to develop our new website. We ran into a temporary roadblock establishing a paypal portal. AJGS does not have a business structure, and while the AJGS President is the Public Officer for the society, it is not appropriate that the person holding this office be personally liable as the last recourse for any financial claim that results from our use of the paypal facility. The investigation of suitable alternatives continues.

We made two major administrative changes in 2016. Firstly, we trialled MailChimp as a communication platform. This was necessitated by an increasing number of ISPs and anti-virus programs blocking attachments from mass mail outs. So far, this platform seems to serve us well.

After questions at last year's AGM about the adequacy of our insurance coverage, we went out to the market. We now have a Small Business package with GIO which includes coverage for \$10m for each of public and product liability; \$10,000 cover for property damage or theft; and \$5,000 portable items cover for taking equipment and resources to other locations. The annual premium for this package is less than we paid in 2015 for far less adequate coverage.

On the International front, we joined forces with our Victorian counterparts to have an Australian JGS table at the Share Fair at the IAJGS conference in Seattle in August. It was a great success, with many enquiries about researching lost relatives in Australia.

I was allotted the unseemly timeslot of a 7.30am start for my presentation on researching in Australia and NZ so I was really moved when the Oz-contingent turned out in numbers to lend support. While there seems to be considerable interest among participants for information on researching outside of Europe and the US, there is little support from conference co-ordinators and programmers to support our efforts. That said, the 2018 conference will be in Warsaw, the first in Eastern Europe, and I expect it to be wholly Europe-centric – but a fabulous opportunity, particularly for those with Polish roots.

Requests to the Society for research assistance continue in numbers. This past year saw a surge in requests about researching Jewish convicts and their ancestry – always a challenge. Also numerous have been requests to authenticate possible Jewish roots. As one inquirer remarked – “it would be so cool to have Jewish ancestry!” Unfortunately I couldn't find any!

One of the more interesting searches came from a chance discovery of a very old *machzor* at South Head shul. On its flyleaves were three interlinked family trees. I was finally able to ascertain that the family lines had ended with the Holocaust. We are now awaiting a reply from the Jewish Museum in Prague as to their interest in adding the *machzor* to their collection as Prague was home to the youngest persons on the tree. Failing any interest there, we will approach the town from which the families originated.

Kosher Koala took a bit of a back seat this past year. Dani Haski produced a marvellous edition in my absence, and will again edit an issue or two this year. I have an issue almost ready to go – we will trial the MailChimp link for distribution. I thank those who have contributed articles and reviews, or passed on new and interesting items that help to make *Kosher Koala* an interesting read and a useful resource.

Finally remaining on the agenda since last AGM is the matter of our constitution.

Amendments made to the *Associations Incorporation Act 2009* came into effect on 1 September 2016. There are three new matters that every constitution must address:

- the maximum number of consecutive terms of office of any office-bearers on the committee;
- the conduct of ballots by post or electronic means (the electronic voting method is new); and
- procedures for the winding-up of the association.

Updating our AJGS constitution will be our priority for 2017. We will post the standard version of the model constitution on the website, seek comment on desired changes, draft a customised AJGS constitution for comment, then call a special AGM to finalise. Please check your email regularly for notification of progress.

There are many to thank for our achievements over the past year.

Firstly, I thank Rabbi Lewin and Sarah Zuckerman for continuing to make our society welcome, here at Lindfield.

I also thank:

- Bill Bowes and Summit/Norwest Internet, for their ongoing support and sponsorship of our website. Their response is always prompt and cheerful;
- Gary Luke, who continues to be the AJGen moderator; and
- Peter Arnold, who has given us another year of impeccable sub-editing of *Kosher Koala*.

My role could not be accomplished without the support of the AJGS Committee:

- Kim Phillips, our Vice President and continuing Website Manager;
- Sunny Gold, our Secretary and Minutes Secretary;
- Kym Morris, our Treasurer – who put on the training wheels and has done a marvellous job of steering us through banking changes and who also assisted Dani Haski with our website development;
- Jeannette Tsoulos our Librarian, and Resources co-ordinator who has been stocktaking to update our resources catalogue ably assisted by committee member Evelyn Frybort; and
- Dani Haski who has continued to plug away at developing our website which we are about to launch. She will assume the role of AJGS Webmaster and is also now a co-editor of *Kosher Koala*.

Lastly I thank the Winters – Paul and Annette. Annette – for her support of the committee and generosity in hosting our committee meetings throughout 2016; and Paul – for his careful audit of our books for another year.

New Members

AJGS welcomes new members: Alan Charak, Ann Knight, Robert Marks, Melanie Joy Morningstar, John Mylonas, Annie Niemiec, Michelle Sanders and James Simmons. We hope you enjoy researching your Jewish families, discover much about their lives and don't encounter too many impenetrable brick walls.

The WACHMANS – *three Lithuanian Jewish families – obviously connected but how?*

By Di Edelman

It's a mystery I've been pondering for a while and I'd just love to find the missing links. Perhaps you can help me?

Let me tell you about them – I know that two of the families are connected to my husband, David EDELMAN. The first family is descended from his great grandmother, Tsipe WACHMAN, or as she became known in Australia, Sophia EDELMAN and this is David's direct family line.

The second family I found through David's Ancestry DNA test. This revealed a link to a Liza Percer being a 5th (shared 4xgreat-grandparent) to 8th cousin. Liza lives near San Francisco in the USA and we are really looking forward to meeting her and her family next May when we visit there.

Photos show that there is a definite family resemblance between Sophia and Shmuel WACHMAN, Liza's grandfather, I think. Don't you agree?



Tsipe WACHMAN



Shmuel WACHMAN

We have found mentions in both of their histories to Raseiniai, Lithuania although finding information is very difficult. A couple of years ago we hired a researcher in Riga to see what he could find of the EDELMAN and WACHMAN families in Latvia/Lithuania and the only record he could find was an 1879 census record which could be Louis and Tsipe living in Kražiai, Raseiniai.

Shmuel WACHMAN left Lithuania for Jerusalem in the 1920s, when he was a young man (we're not sure of his exact birth year, but think it was around 1900). He met his future wife, Shayna SAKS in Jerusalem, and they married and had all their children there. In 1939, Shmuel took the oldest, Yehuda, to New York, and Shayna followed about eighteen months later with their other three children: Moshe, Amnon and his twin sister, Dahlia.

Shmuel's parents were Moshe WACHMAN and Miriam KANTZIPOVITZ. Moshe was a teacher (*melamed*) and his father was either Zorach Yehiel WACHMAN or BUCHMAN. Liza is not sure about the surname as her grandfather said he could remember going to a house with the name BUCHMAN on it – another mystery.

Shmuel had five siblings.

- ♦ Elhanan WACHMAN, who married Hantza GLICK and lived in Israel;
- ♦ Hannah who married Yankel YANKELOV and perished in the Holocaust;
- ♦ Ahuva who married Moshe KURTZWEIL and lived in Israel;
- ♦ Lina who married Shmuel Svirski ZAHN and perished in the Holocaust; and
- ♦ Sarah who married Michael HIRSHIN and lived in Israel.

Records tell us that Tsipe WACHMAN (David's great-grandmother) was born c.1851 in Memel, Germany (now Klaipėda, Lithuania), the daughter of Sarah and Samuel WACHMAN. She married Louis (Leib) EDELMAN (1845-1905) in Vieksniai, Lithuania c.1873.

Together they had six children:

- ♦ Eliot Zawell (Edward George) (1875-1958),
- ♦ Aaron (Albert) (1878-1941),
- ♦ Harry (1879-1952),
- ♦ Roy (1883-1962),
- ♦ Annie (1887-1978), and
- ♦ Woolf (William) (1887-1929).

Louis migrated to Australia, arriving, we think, on the *Cuzco* in 1889 with his two eldest sons, Edward and Albert. Tsipe came in 1890 with the rest of the children and they settled firstly in South Australia, before moving to Broken Hill in New South Wales. There they became pillars of the Jewish community and Albert was very involved in the establishment of the synagogue in 1910.

Albert and his family moved between Broken Hill and Adelaide but Tsipe's other children moved to Perth, Western Australia around 1910 and there they built their lives. Here I find them interacting with the other Australian WACHMAN family that I am investigating.

The head of this, the third WACHMAN family, is Moshe (or Morris or Moses) WACHMAN and his wife, Seina (Seine or Jane) JACKSON. Seina, the daughter of Rachel Leah, was born in Russia around 1871 and Moshe, son of Avraham, was born in 1865 also in Russia. They both arrived in Ireland (I'm not sure how) where they were married in Dublin in 1885. I believe there was quite a community of Jews in Dublin at that time.

Moshe and Seina had three children in Ireland (Abraham, Daniel and Robert) and then migrated to South Africa. Three more children – Edward Issy, Harry and Saidie Reva – were born in Capetown. Moshe was naturalised in South Africa in 1903 so became a British subject. His naturalisation documents show that he was born in Tels (Telšiai), Kovno – the same region where the EDELMAN family originated and quite close to Vieikšniai, one of the places mentioned in the EDELMAN story.

I cannot find when Moshe migrated to Australia but come, he did. Seina and the children came on the *Afric*, arriving in South Australia from Capetown in 1905. Also on the ship were her mother, her brother, Harry JACKSON, and other members of the Jackson family. I don't know where they were between 1905 and 1907 but their son Ernest WACHMAN was born in Broken Hill, New South Wales on 7 May 1907. Daughter Betty (Beatrice) was born sometime in 1913 in South Australia.

By 1916, the family were settled in Perth, Western Australia and Moshe lived there until Seina died on 8 March 1927. Sometime later Moshe moved to St Kilda, a suburb of Melbourne, Victoria, where he died on 23 September 1937. He is buried in the Jewish section of Fawkner Cemetery.

The fact that they spent time in Broken Hill where Louis and Tsipe had settled suggests that Mores and Tsipe may have been related. Were they cousins perhaps? Tsipe had died in 1903 but Louis and the children would still have given them a family connection, very important to Jewish people looking to find a place to settle.

In Perth, Moshe and his family lived in Mt Lawley, the same suburb where Edward George EDELMAN and his family were living. Digitised records of Australian newspapers at <http://trove.nla.gov.au> show the WACHMAN and EDELMAN families attending each other's weddings, playing cricket together and generally being part of each other's lives.

I have been unable to find any living Australian descendants of Moshe and Seina. I even called the WACHMANS listed in the white pages. So what happened to their children and are there any living descendants?

Abraham WACHMAN married Nellie Elizabeth Eddington LAWSON in 1917 in Sydney, New South Wales. He enlisted in the Australian Imperial Force early in 1918 but by 1923 was living in Bondi, New South Wales and by 1926 in St Kilda, a suburb of Melbourne. Their son, Ronald John WACHMAN, was born in Bega, New South Wales in 1917 and their daughter Shirley Joy was born in Mt Lawley Western Australia in 1928. Abraham died on 20 September 1950 in Bondi and was buried in the Jewish Cemetery, Rookwood,

New South Wales. Ronald John WACHMAN married Noleen Dallas PATERSON and lived in various suburbs of Sydney. He died on 23 June 2001.

Robert WACHMAN served in World War I in the 48th Australian Infantry Battalion and was killed in action on 11 April 1917 in France. He is buried at Villers-Bretonneux.

Simon Daniel WACHMAN joined the 44th Battalion Australian Imperial Forces in January 1916 when he was living in Perth Western Australia. Sometime later he moved to St Kilda, Victoria and he died in Caulfield, a neighbouring suburb, on 12 November 1955.

Edward WACHMAN married Deborah JONA in the Perth Synagogue on 15 June 1927. He died in Perth and was buried at the Karrakatta Cemetery in Perth on 16 Oct 1959. I can find no record of any children.

Harry WACHMAN married Mina Elizabeth STEVENSON in Waverley New South Wales in 1941. He died on 9 August 1955 in St Kilda Melbourne and was buried in the Jewish section of Fawkner Cemetery. Again, I can find no record of any children.

Saidie Reva WACHMAN married Leon Arie WHITE in the Synagogue in Perth on 21 October 1926 and they had one daughter, Robin Joy who was born in 1929. Saidie died, aged 28, on 23 August 1932 in Fairfield, Victoria and is also buried in the Jewish section of Fawkner Cemetery.

I have very little information about Betty/Beatrice WACHMAN except that she went to South Africa as she is mentioned as living there in Simon's death notice in the newspaper.

Ernest WACHMAN seems to have lived mainly in Victoria but he did return to Fremantle, Western Australia at one stage. He married Nancy Winifred (surname unknown) and they were living together at various Melbourne addresses from 1949 onwards as per the electoral rolls but I cannot find any record of a marriage or children. He served in the military during World War II, signing on in Ripponlea Victoria and he died in 1981 at Sandford, Victoria. He was buried at the Springvale Necropolis in Melbourne on 2 November 1981. The inscription on his grave is: "Husband of Win"

So, do any of the descendants of Louis and Tsipe EDELMAN know these WACHMANS? Can I find them and can they give us any leads?

Edward George EDELMAN married Bessie Leah Judolowitch SMITH in Adelaide on 28 April 1903 as George Elliot EDELMAN. On his migration papers he was Eliot Zowell EDELMAN. So many name changes they all had! They moved to Perth around 1910. They had five children: Samuel (1904-1969), Louis (1906-1965), Harry Jacob (1914-?), Joseph Robert (1920-1999) and Elka EDELMAN (c1907-1991). Elka married Frederick David BOOK in the Synagogue at Mt Lawley Western Australia on 9 August 1933. I have made contact with Brad EDELMAN who tells me that Harry Jacob EDELMAN and his wife Bertha have a son, Peter. I haven't been able to contact Peter to see if he has any information.

My husband, David, descends from Albert EDELMAN who married Sarah Gordon (daughter of Louis Gordon and Gnesa Krantz) in Broken Hill in 1909. I'm pretty sure that none of Albert's descendants have any information for me that will help and I'm also sure that the best leads will be from the Perth side of the family.

Roy EDELMAN was never married and had no children as far as I know.

Woolf EDELMAN married Lily Silverman in Perth on 3 May 1923. From other Ancestry trees I can see that they had a daughter, Shirley who married Jack Macklin and together they had two children Janice & William.

Harry EDELMAN married Rachel Gild in Adelaide, South Australia on 3 March 1909 and they had two children in Broken Hill: Leah who was born in 1910 and Naomi who was born in 1911.

Annie EDELMAN married Marcus FELDMAN in Broken Hill in 1910 and they had two children Zipah and Simon Ferdinand. Annie died on 2 June 1975 in Perth Western Australia. Zipah FELDMAN never married. Simon married Ida GRUZINSKY in 1941 in Perth, Western Australia and they had two sons: Marcus William and David.

Brad EDELMAN is the son of Joseph EDELMAN, another of the sons of Edward George EDELMAN, I am in contact with Brad but he knows nothing of the WACHMAN family.

To add to the mystery, EDELMAN family anecdotes tell us that Louis EDELMAN had a *reisenbillet*, a special ticket that enabled him to travel between Russia and Ireland as a trader, taking horses to Ireland and returning to Russia with crystal. Could this be true? I can find absolutely nothing that substantiates it but it is interesting, to be sure, to be sure! Another story says that an EDELMAN had to flee from Ireland because he murdered his wife or a barmaid? Again, I can find no proof.

All these Irish connections are fascinating.

Louis' father was Jacob and his mother was Clara JOHNSTONE. What could be the Jewish name from which JOHNSTON has originated? Was Clara from Ireland? Or was she from Lithuania and her surname could have been Johnson or Jonson, Ioanson or Ionson or even Yanson? It is unlikely that Jacob would have been in Ireland as early as 1845 to marry Clara. (Their son Louis was born around 1845.)

So these are my WACHMAN families, descending from Tsipe and two Moshe. Are these links just a series of coincidences or is this one family reunited half way around the world from where they started? I really think it is but I am unable to prove it.

Any ideas?

If you do have any information, clues or suggestions for me, please contact me at diedelman@me.com

In the Land of the Dragon: A Tour of China (with a Jewish Touch)

By Evelyn Frybort

From 7-20 September 2016, I joined a tour to the People's Republic of China. I had never previously visited China and this tour had the added bonus of the "Jewish Touch".

Professor Paul Forgasz who has led Jewish tours in Poland and Spain, organised and led this tour. In China, Professor Xu Xin, the Nanjing University Glazer Chair Professor of Jewish and Israel Studies arranged and managed the internal programme.

Over two weeks we covered vast areas of the country, visiting the cities of Beijing, Harbin, Zhengzhou, Xian, Nanjing and Shanghai.

Highlights in Beijing were the Great Wall, Summer Palace, Temple of Heaven, Tiananmen Square and the Forbidden City.



New Synagogue Museum in Harbin

In Harbin, we were very conscious of the city's Russian influence due to Harbin's proximity to Russia. We strolled along the attractive Songhua riverfront, then along streets bordered by Russian-style 19th and early 20th Century buildings including those built by Russian Jewish immigrants. Some of these buildings retain impressive architectural features and are well maintained after so many years. A couple of our tour members had ancestors buried in the Harbin Jewish Cemetery and were able to say *Kaddish* at their tombstones during our moving visit to the Cemetery.

We visited the impressive New Synagogue which is now a Jewish Museum showing the history of the lives of the former Harbin residents. The Old Synagogue nearby is now a well-maintained Music Centre for the local Chinese. We were witness to a room full of women singing a choral piece. A star of David remains on both these former Synagogues.

Our visit to Zhengzhou was substituted for our planned visit to Kaifeng which is the oldest known area in which Jews settled centuries ago. Shortly before our departure from Sydney, we were informed that Chinese authorities had closed access to the Jewish Museum in Kaifeng. No explanation was given by the Chinese.¹

The purpose of our bullet train journey to Xian in the west of China was to visit the Terracotta Warriors. We were not disappointed as we toured around the three massive pits containing thousands of mainly broken figures. Work continues on repairing the statues – a mammoth task.

Professor Xu Xin who accompanied us everywhere, arranged a visit to his University's Department of Jewish Studies in Nanjing. The Institute of Jewish Studies was established in May 1992 to meet a growing demand for Jewish studies in China. It also promotes the study of Jewish subjects among Chinese college students and a better understanding between China and Israel following the establishment of full diplomatic relations between them in January 1992. The department actively participates in international academic activities and launches exchange programs with countries such as the USA, Israel, the United Kingdom and Germany. Many of the Institute's students study or conduct research at Israeli Universities

and through these activities, the Institute has established strong international ties with Jewish academic circles and Jewish organisations. We spoke with some of Professor Xu Xin's students and we were very impressed with his lifetime-work educating and finding common links between the Chinese and Jewish cultures.

Shanghai was a delightful city with its well-preserved European art deco buildings along the Bund as well as its state of the art modern high rise commercial and apartment buildings nearby. Israeli Shanghai resident, Dvir Bar-Gal, led us on an excellent tour of the former Jewish quarter with its original buildings and to the Ohel Moishe Synagogue Museum of Refugees.

China is a land of huge contrasts between the shrinking numbers of small original dwellings and the many high-rise and wide residential skyscrapers emerging throughout the country. Communism is a relic of the past and capitalism is alive and growing albeit under a strong authoritarian regime.



Ohel Moishe Synagogue, Shanghai

¹ See: <http://tinyurl.com/kfjews> for one view of what was happening in Kaifeng.

Reconnections - The Letters of Barnet Lazer

By Dianne Johnstone

Last year, 2016, I took a return trip to London on an important mission.

David Lewis, my intrepid Jewish historian and Hull archivist, had arranged for me to view two letters dated 1878 and 1882, written by my 3rd Great Grandfather Barnet Lazer. David had discovered them back in 2011 in the London Metropolitan Archives, and he had sent me photocopies of the originals together with translations. But on this April morning, five years later, I was to see those actual letters and touch the paper on which my ancestor had written.

The contents of the letters were not happy ones. Barnet Lazer wrote of tragedy and hardship suffered by his small family since their arrival in Hull, Yorkshire in the 1870s. He had corresponded with the Chief Rabbi, asking for help. Barnet was a Hebrew teacher, and his letters, according to the translators, were well written in Hebrew and in Yiddish. Here are the translations of his two letters.

Letter of 7.3.1878

For the honour of the great eagle, the famous one, whose name is honoured throughout the world and especially in the entire kingdom of England, who sits on the throne of the rabbinate to do righteousness and justice at all times. The Rabbi Mr Nathan Adler, the Cohen, is the son of the deceased genius Rabbi Adler. I ask for a kind favour in the following matter, to take pity Mordechai and have compassion for this unfortunate woman, Henya, here in Hull. Last year, this girl, a virgin, from the town of Kallvarea, from a respectable family, married. She is called Hinda but in the registry she is listed as Hannah and the groom is from Saki. He is called David Goldstein. In the registry office he is listed as Daybush Goldstein. The wedding took place on the 7th day of Shevat in 1877 in the Great Synagogue in Hull under the authority of the President Mr Wacholder and the treasurer Mr Moss.

He was with his wife 2 months. He left her without anything and she was pregnant. By now she has a child. A few weeks ago we received a letter from Manchester he wants to remarry. They took him out of the wedding canopy because there were people who lived in Hull (and they stopped the ceremony). The Manchester people told the Hull people he went off to London. He is young, about 22 years old, ginger, short, fat, and he has a very coarse face. The woman he wants to marry is Hannah Feiga. Therefore we are asking the rabbi to please have mercy on this poor woman, like the father has mercy on his children to write this matter in the newspapers because there is no other advice. The pain of the woman with the child is indescribable. If this story would have happened in Poland or Russia we could accept it, but in England there is no other option than to post it in the papers so that he should not be able to get married. Very soon you will see an end if you will do this. You will see plenty of good which is saved up in the world for the good and righteous. Thursday of parsha P'kudei (14 March, the dates don't quite agree) 5638 (1878).

From me, the father of this woman, Dov Eliazer from Kallvarea.

Letter of 27.6.1882

The day which is doubly good Tuesday 10th Tammuz 5642 here in Hull, England – 1882. Much peace!

To honour the son of the famous rabbi, the honoured great eagle who brings light to all the kingdom of England who sits on the throne of justice to do justice and charity at all times, Naftali Hertz HaCohen. I came to honour the rav to inform him about the murderous conduct and the cruelty of the Hull Board of Guardians for, if not for the local people, then the people of Hull would be on the street. They do not help because the Board of Guardians are all foreigners,

not English. Mr Barnett and Mr Zekob. Barnett was not there and Mr Zekob could not do it on his own. Only there is nothing that can be done, as my daughter Hannah Goldstein married in Hull in 1877 and her husband left her. In the past year there was a trial in Manchester with her husband. He arranged a 'silent marriage', as is known to the rav and my daughter has a child aged 4 years and 7 months. May you not know of such things. She went crazy from a broken heart. Recently on Shavuot (Pentecost) they took her to the mad house Surelman and the child is with me. I am alone in my home. My wife is in Poland. She has been bedridden for 5 years now. The widow Mrs Elzas reads the letters for me that I receive from Poland. The young man, Barnett Elzas, was my student for 4 years. My earnings are only 10 shillings a week. I have only black coffee and black bread, that's all I have. My house cost me 4 shillings a week and I must send 4 shillings a week to my sick wife in Poland. I have nothing more to give the child other than what I eat.



They would have taken her into the poor house immediately but I did not want to send her there because she would have to eat non-kosher food so I went to the Board of Guardians to ask for at least, 2 shillings a week for the child. They answered that I should come back in 14 days and they would see what they could do. So I went to them again with the child and they told me to wait another 8 days. It is such a great pity for the child. Oho to such cruel, low, contemptible people like these, that they should be the guardians of charity. People in their position should be important, merciful, sons of the merciful but not cruel.

People born in England have much compassion for others but I have not come to this kind of person. When my daughter was well she did not depend on them. She worked very hard for her piece of bread and if she would occasionally go and ask them for help, they did not give it to her either. They give only to people like themselves.

May God lengthen your days and years with pleasantness and judge the poor with righteousness etc.

A grey folder tied with a blue ribbon was brought out from the archives. David and I opened it together and found the two letters.

I was amazed to find that Barnet had written on much smaller pieces of paper than I'd imagined, given the detailed information in his correspondence. I picked them up. The paper was thick and rough in

comparison to the paper on which we are accustomed to writing today. In spite of this, it was clear to see that the Hebrew script was written in a fine hand.

And here I was, four generations later, holding these two letters: letters that had been written by a troubled father and grandfather, pleading for help in a strange country with a different language, different laws and a different religion.

I was overwhelmed, and my eyes filled. These letters, written a hundred and thirty years ago, now carried a new meaning for me today. The contents give me a picture of my family's life in a personal and historical setting. And they give me a portrait of the man, my third great grandfather.

On so many occasions, family historians can only glean the barest of details about an ancestor through a census, BMD registers, newspapers or war records. So often, we are left with only a name on a register. But an ancestor's letter brings the writer to life. Barnett's letters reconnect me to a family who I found so late and very nearly lost.

News

News from the 37th IAJGS Conference in Orlando

The 2017 IAJGS Board elections produced a new Executive team

- ♦ Ken Bravo, President (JGS Cleveland)
- ♦ Jay Sage, Vice President (JGS Greater Boston)
- ♦ Avraham Groll, Secretary (JGS NY, Inc. and Director, JewishGen.org)
- ♦ Doug Cohen, Treasurer (JGS Greater Boston)

IAJGS Achievement Award winners for 2017:

- ♦ Outstanding Program or Project: Reclaim the Records, Brooke Schreier Ganz, founder
- ♦ Volunteer of the Year: Rose Feldman, IGRA
- ♦ Lifetime Achievement Award: Jan Meisels Allen, JGSCV

38th IAJGS Conference in Warsaw

IAJGS will hold its 38th International Conference on Jewish Genealogy in Warsaw, Poland 6-10 August 2018. Co-hosts are POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews and Emmanuel Ringelblum Jewish Historical Institute, both located in Warsaw. This is the first IAJGS conference to be held in Eastern Europe.

During this week there will also be a special one-day conference to be held jointly between Gesher Galicia and AGAD (the Central Archives of Historical Records in Warsaw) on the theme of *Archives and Jewish Galicia*.

This special event, for which Gesher Galicia members will have priority when booking, will take place at the AGAD building in Warsaw on Tuesday, 7 August 2018.

Commonwealth Gazette now in Trove

The Commonwealth of Australia *Government Gazette*, from 1901 until 1957, is now available online at Trove <http://trove.nla.gov.au/gazette>. The Office of Parliamentary Counsel (OPC) supplied the content and the National Library of Australia digitised the documents. Each gazette documents the day-to-day business of defence, postal, telegraphic, immigration and trade services.

These gazettes include notice of naturalisation certificates and give the address of the applicant and frequently note change of name.

Pubs and Publicans in New South Wales

The Society of Australian Genealogists has released *Pubs and Publicans in New South Wales 1860-1900*. This database contains 112,000 entries, giving details of over 26,000 publicans and 8500 hotels across the state. It includes over 3000 mini-biographies of publicans. The database is searchable by given name and surname of the publican, hotel name, location and the year of the licence.

Many of these publicans were Jewish.

Available on CD or USB, \$30.00 + p/h. More details on the SAG website:

<https://www.sag.org.au/shop/new-and-featured-items/pubs-a-publicans-cd-rom-41-detail.html>

Treblinka Database

The Memory of Treblinka Foundation has established an online list of Jews murdered at Treblinka, and is asking the public to add names to the database. Currently it only has about 3,200 names. Wikipedia estimates that between 700,000 and 900,000 Jews were killed in Treblinka's gas chambers in addition to 2,000 Romani people. Search results can include first name, last name, maiden name, age, city, mother's name, father's name, profession and photo.

Information about the project can be found at <http://pamiectreblinka.pl/en/the-names-of-the-victims/>.

Information about the questionnaire can be found at <http://tinyurl.com/trebsurv>

The Yad Vashem Central Database of Shoah Victims' Names currently identifies nearly 106,000 Jews murdered at Treblinka. After filling out the questionnaire for the Memory of Treblinka Foundation, check whether the Yad Vashem site has a Page of Testimony for the victim (<http://yvng.yadvashem.org/>). If not, fill out a Yad Vashem Page of Testimony at <http://db.yadvashem.org/forms/pot/filling/out?language=en>.

Library of Congress podcasts

New podcasts at the Library of Congress which may be of interest:

- ♦ How I Found my Jewish American Family – Daniel Horowitz, IAIGS Board member and MyHeritage executive talks about his research journey.
http://www.loc.gov/today/cyberlc/feature_wdesc.php?rec=7904&loclr=eanw
- ♦ *Never Tell a Boy Not to Fight* – author, Harry D. Boonin, discusses his new book about four Jewish boxers from Philadelphia.
http://www.loc.gov/today/cyberlc/feature_wdesc.php?rec=7771&loclr=eanw
- ♦ *Jüdische Kulturbund Project* – project creator and director, Gail Prensky, tells the story of Jewish musicians and performing artists who organised in 1933 Nazi Germany and performed until the 'Final Solution' in 1941.
http://www.loc.gov/today/cyberlc/feature_wdesc.php?rec=7769&loclr=eanw

For more on the *Jüdische Kulturbund* project, see: <http://www.judischekulturbund.com/>

It's database-update time!

Every year, in the lead-up to the IAIGS conference, SIGs and other groups upload major additions to their databases. This year has been no exception. Updates include:

- ♦ **GenTeam additions**
<https://www.genteam.eu/>

Vienna: Civil marriages – additional records 1909-1919

Prague – Jewish marriages records 1784 and 1873

♦ **All Lithuania Database**

<https://www.litvaksig.org/search-ald/>

Vital Records: Births for Marijampole District in Suwalki Guberniya. Marriages and divorces for Vilnius City. Deaths for Marijampole District and Vilnius City.

Internal Passports: for Vilnius City, Siauliai Uyezd and Zagare.

WWII Evacuees to USSR 1941

♦ **IGRA**

<http://genealogy.org.il>

There are now over 1,000,000 records in the All Israel Database (AID). Latest additions include:

- * Tombstones of the Jewish Cemetery of Salonica, Greece – with images;
- * Palestine Marriage/Divorce Certificates – with images;
- * 1928-31 Petah Tikva Marriages & Divorces – with images;
- * 1931-40 Jerusalem Marriages (Sephardi and Oriental community) – no images;
- * 1939-45 Contributors to the Dublin Committee for the Relief of Russian, Polish & Palestine Jews – with images;
- * 1940 Prohibited Immigrants to Palestine – with images;
- * 1941 Members of Histadrut HaMorim (Teachers' Union) – with images;
- * 1942 Enlistment to the British Army from Petah Tikva – with images;
- * 1946-7 Polish HaShomer HaTzair Youth – with images;
- * 1948 Municipal Employees in Petah Tikva – with images;
- * September, 1949 Operation On Eagles Wings (immigrants from Yemen) – no images;
- * 1954 Name Changes – with images;
- * 1963 Telephone Directory, Vol. 2, surnames beginning with A, E and F – with images; and
- * 2016 Engagements – no images

♦ **1851 Anglo-Jewry Database**

The web version of this database has been updated and uploaded to the JewishGen JCR-UK pages and can be searched at <http://www.jewishgen.org/jcr-uk/1851/search.asp>

The revised version has user-contributed data including new entries, corrected entries and additional data for some individuals. There are now over 30,000 individuals in the database.

Database developer, Petra Laidlaw, estimates that some 2,000-3,000 Jews are still unlisted in the database. If you have identified Jews in the 1851 census of England and Wales who do not appear in the Anglo-Jewry database, please contact Petra by email [<thompsonlaidlaw@btinternet.com>](mailto:thompsonlaidlaw@btinternet.com)

Can you help?

The Quincentennial Foundation Museum of Turkish Jews in Istanbul is planning an exhibition on Jewish life in Trakya/Thrace. It will attempt to include all the localities, from Edirne to Gelibolu, including Tekirdag, Tchorlu, Silivri, Kirklareli (Kirk Kilise), Canakkale, and Luleburgaz etc. It will range from ancient days to present time.

The museum is asking for material for the exhibition – digital photos of people and artefacts, and stories.

If you have something that might be of interest please contact Metin Delevi: metindelevi@gmail.com

New museum in Lithuania

Šeduva, a small town 18 km E of Radviliškis and 156 km NW of Vilnius, is to get a state of the art Jewish museum designed by the same architects who designed Warsaw's award-winning POLIN Museum. To

open in 2019, the museum will be part of the *Lost Shtetl* memorial complex and will be located across the road from the town's restored Jewish cemetery.

Advanced technologies will be used to tell the history and culture of Šeduva and similar Litvak shtetls.

Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett, the chief curator of POLIN's core exhibition, is on the international team of advisors for the Šeduva museum.

Do you have Chiune Sugihara documents?

In 1992, UNESCO launched the Memory of the World Programme (MOW) to protect and promote the world's documentary heritage through preservation and access.

The town of Yaotsu, in Japan, operates the Chiune Sugihara Memorial Museum which honours this brave diplomat who provided transit visas for many refugees in 1940. Yaotsu officials now wish to preserve as many of the original documents as can be located, and register them as a project with the UNESCO MOW Programme.

If you, or your family, are in possession of any relevant documents, please contact: Masaru Nakayama n-masaru@town.yaotsu.lg.jp so your historical documents can be added to the database.

Update on Egypt

In February, the Heritage of Jews in Egypt Facebook page announced that Mrs Magda Haroun Silvera, head of the Jewish Community of Cairo, revived a near defunct Jewish charity into a government approved Egyptian Jewish Heritage NGO. The *Goutte de Lait* (Drop of Milk) brings together pro bono volunteers of various professional and religious backgrounds to protect, restore, promote and maintain Cairo's Jewish Heritage.

In May, Culture Minister Helmy Al-Namnam recognised the right of access to the registers recording the life cycle of Jews in Egypt since 1830. These records were taken from the Community offices to the National Archives of Egypt. Minister Al-Namnam confirmed that he would have no objection to a scanned copy of the registers being deposited with the Chief Rabbinate of France in the Consistoire of France once their cataloguing is complete, and subject to the agreement of the Foreign Office of Egypt.

This is a huge advance for those who have been seeking this access for years.

In July, the Ministry of Antiquities' Projects Sector approved the disbursement of LE40 million for a comprehensive restoration and development plan for the Eliyahu Hanavi Synagogue in Alexandria. 30 workers delegated by the Ministry of Antiquities have started restoration work.

The Cairo Community has been granted over \$50,000 by the American Research Centre in Egypt (ARCE) to document the history and architecture of the Synagogues of Cairo.

Encyclopaedia of Camps and Ghettos 1933-1945

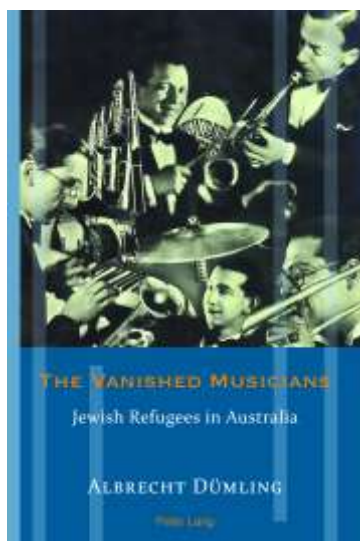
The first two volumes of the *Encyclopaedia of Camps and Ghettos, 1933-1945*, are now fully accessible and free to the public on the US Holocaust Memorial Museum's website at <http://tinyurl.com/campsencyc>

Volume 1 includes the major concentration camps, their sub-camps, SS construction brigades, and early camps set up by the police, SA and SS shortly after the Nazis seized power. Volume 2 includes ghettos in German-occupied territories.

You will be asked to complete a very brief form prior to accessing the files.

Volume 3 will cover camps and ghettos in German-allied countries and is scheduled to be released in print this year. It will also be made available online after the print volume has been available for a few years.

Book Review



The Vanished Musicians: Jewish Refugees in Australia by Albrecht Dümmling. Translated from the German by Diana K. Weekes

Peter Lang, Bern, 2016. 571 pages. ISBN 978-3-0343-1951-5

Reviewed by Julia Trainor

Are you descended from a refugee musician who came to Australia from Europe in the middle of the twentieth century? If so, this book is a gift to your family history and a treasure trove for your research. It describes the experiences of Jewish musicians in Germany and Austria who fled Nazi oppression and found refuge in Australia.

My grandparents Heinrich and Annie Portnoj were musicians in Vienna. They lost their livelihoods after the Anschluss in 1938, and fled to Penang, then Singapore, travelling on passports issued by the newly expanded German Reich. For two years my grandfather worked as a pianist and

music teacher in Singapore. After the outbreak of war in 1939 they became enemy aliens free on parole. In 1940 the British government decided that these enemy aliens posed a security risk, and the Germans in Singapore were brought to Australia and detained in internment camps, including Tatura in Victoria.

When I started to write the history of my grandparents, I found myself wanting to learn more about their refugee experience. How exactly were their lives affected by the Anschluss in 1938? How did they manage to get out of Vienna? What were the circumstances of their life in Singapore? What was it like for them to be interned in Tatura?

Like many others, my grandparents shared nothing of their war experience with the next generation – they went to their graves without ever mentioning that they were Jewish, that they had fled Hitler, that their families perished in the death camps, or that they had been interned at Tatura for up to two years after arriving in Australia.

I found the major milestones of their lives were documented in family papers, libraries, archives and museums, and these provide the outline of their story. Dümmling has investigated archival sources in several countries for a very large number of individual musicians, which reveals both their common experiences and what differentiates them from each other. *The Vanished Musicians* helps fill the gaps in our ancestors' lives.

The special magic of Dümmling's book is the interviews he conducted with living people, giving him access to both their stories and their personal documentary collections. Some of these documents are reproduced in the book, providing poignant evidence of the richness, tension and drama of their lives. We learn of the conditions for individual musicians living in Berlin under the Nuremberg laws, and the sudden impact of the Anschluss on individual musicians in Vienna. Many history books will recount the same appalling stories over and over again, but Dümmling recounts the individual experiences of many different musicians, and how they responded to the same historical circumstances in their many different ways. We read detailed accounts of the struggle of various individuals to obtain visas to leave Germany before the war. For the Austrian musicians, Dümmling provides a list of the documents that had to be produced in order to leave Austria after the Anschluss (p.101). The interviews are informative and matter-of-fact in style, even when describing the anguished indecision of many individuals who had to flee with almost nothing, leaving their loved ones behind. Refreshingly, Dümmling allows the emotion to come from the facts as told by the interviewees, rather than from the author's commentary.

The Vanished Musicians is helpful in explaining social conditions of the time, including education, social class and cultural life. It describes the role of unions in the working lives of Jewish musicians in pre-war

Germany and how unions attempted to provide work for Jewish musicians whose livelihoods were disappearing.

Similarly, the interviews cast light on the social conditions of the refugee musicians in Singapore, including accommodation, employment, cultural life and the growing community of Jewish refugees. Some musicians bound for Shanghai were persuaded to stay in Singapore, rather than continue their journey. Social conditions in the internment camp at Tatura, Victoria are revealed through individual experiences, which provide a more nuanced understanding of internment than a general description. Such details are difficult to discover in official records.

In Australia, the encounter between refugees and the host community is remarkably similar today. Dümpling is particularly helpful and sensitive when he describes and explains the nature and origin of anti-German feeling in Australia during and between the two world wars, and the different ways it affected the refugee musicians.

After the war many of the stateless musicians wanted to obtain naturalisation in Australia. Dümpling describes their new struggles with Australian bureaucracy, seven years after their struggles with European bureaucracies in order to leave their home countries.

Once they were in Australia, the musicians provided each other with a supportive network in a new land, but they were also competitors for the scarce opportunities for professional musicians in Australia. The refugees had to compete not only with each other, but with musicians already employed in Australian orchestras. The Australian Broadcasting Commission had to consider the possibility of being “swamped with an influx of artists of outstanding ability” (p.194).

As a young person I never saw my grandparents as part of a network of refugee musicians. I knew they were different from other grandparents – they were singing teachers who spoke with German accents. However, they moved in a warm social circle with their Australian-born students, who seemed to love and appreciate them. They were very committed to being Australians and fitting into their new country. Of course my childhood knowledge of them was far from complete, and Dümpling provides a more realistic perspective on their social networks in Australia. He interviewed people who knew my grandparents well, either in Vienna or in Singapore and Tatura. As they were all musicians, their lives overlapped before, during and after the war. The book has helped me to understand better some of the items in my grandparents’ personal collection, such as a picture of *Weintraubs Syncopators*, or the manuscript music for a German song *Nights of Singapore* which they wrote in Tatura camp, or a scratchy recording of my grandfather conducting the Jewish Men’ Choir.

Dümpling’s interviews have helped me to understand why an elderly stranger appeared at the graveside at the lonely funeral of my 89 year old grandfather in 1984 – it was Werner Baer who had spent the war years with my grandfather in Singapore, Tatura, and in the Army. After leaving Berlin and Vienna respectively, Werner Baer and Heinrich Portnoj had worked in parallel music careers for the rest of their lives. Ilse Baer and Sybil Baer were both interviewed by Dümpling. I have never met these women, but they both knew my grandparents over many years, and they certainly knew much more about their lives than I did.

Dümpling refers frequently to the journal *Australian Musical News and Musical Digest*. This journal is full of information about the refugee musicians and their work in Australia, and Dümpling has mined it deeply. These references are particularly valuable for the researcher as this journal is not digitised and indexed by the National Library’s Trove service. I had no idea that my grandparents had written delightful and engaging articles in this journal in the 1940s, when they were still quite new Australians.

Where did Albrecht Dümpling find the motivation for such a specialised work? *The Vanished Musicians* is an English version of his original work *Die verschwundenen Musiker: Jüdische Flüchtlinge in Australien* (Cologne: Böhlau, 2011). The original work grew out of a meeting between Albrecht Dümpling, a Berliner, and Australian composer George Dreyfus during a visit to Berlin in 1992. His encounter with George Dreyfus sparked Dümpling’s interest in researching the large number of German-speaking musicians who had sought refuge in Australia.

Dümling visited Australia in 2000 and 2003. He travelled widely and visited Australian libraries, archives, museums, organisations and individuals. His extensive contacts and interviews uncovered a wealth of original documents and manuscripts that have informed and illustrated his work, and give a flavor of their musical achievements of our refugee ancestors, as well as the administrative and legal hurdles that they had to jump over.

Dümling holds the reader's attention by balancing detailed personal accounts with his wider social and musical perspective of the times they were living in. He summarises his own work perfectly at the end of his first chapter:

... The history of the refugee musicians in Australia consists of many individual memories that have never been presented as a coherent record, fragments of a mosaic that has never been pieced together. They are documents of failure as well as of astounding endurance, all of them belonging to the collective memory of humankind.

The English translation by Diana K. Weekes is immensely readable. But this is also a scholarly work. The excellent bibliography serves as a researcher's checklist. The index contains about 1000 personal names, and is thorough. I have not yet found any omissions from the index. I was surprised at the accuracy of the book in telling my grandparents' story, and this reflects Dümling's respect for his sources. I found only a couple of minor errors in the bibliographic citations for journal articles, which did not prevent me from finding them quickly.

The short biographies of ninety-nine musicians are treasure for the family historian. A list of these ninety-nine names is provided at the end of this review. If one of your family members appears in this list, you will almost certainly want to buy this book. For those with a more general interest in Jewish refugee musicians and their impact on Australia, I have donated a copy to our Society's Library in Sydney.

The book is available for purchase as a paperback or in electronic format from the publisher Peter Lang (see <https://www.peterlang.com/view/product/47114>) and other major booksellers.

Names for which there are short biographies in *The Vanished Musicians: Jewish Refugees in Australia*

Adam, Manfred

Adler, Heinrich (Henry) Max

Alberti, Victor Gustav

Bader, Hans

Baer, Werner Felix

Baerwald, Werner Bruno Richard

Behrens, Max Kurt (Alex)

Berg, Karl (Charles) Josef

Bischofswerder, Boas (Bojas)

Blach (Black), Kurt

Blanks, (Fritz) Fred Roy

Blau, Hans

Blau, Otto

Brandmann (Brandman), Salomon (Fritz/Frederick)

Brenner, Adolf (Dolf)

Byk, Ellen

Chlumecky-Bauer, Johannes

Clusmann (Henghes), Gustav Heinrich (Heinz)

Cohn (Colin) née Caspary, Elisabeth (Elizabeth)

Coper, Fritz

Coper, Willy

Danemanis (Dane), Mordchais (Mario)

Dreyfus, Georg (George)

Dullo, Walter Andreas

Edelmann, Hans

Ehrenfeld, Adolf Paul Alfred

Faktor (Factor), Adolf (Adrian) Abraham Josef

Feigel, Leonie

Fisher, Adolf (Addy)

Fisher, Emanuel (Manny)

Fleischer (Fletcher), Oskar

Forst, Hans Richard

Frenkel, Erwin

Goldner, Richard

Graff, Horst

Hacker, Gertrud

Hajek-Bodan, Olga

Harband, Janusz Hans (John Edward)

Herweg (Hirsh), Kurt

Hirschberg, Günter

Hoffman(n), Endre (Andrew)

Holzbauer (Wood), Hans (John)

Kalb, Joseph

Kassner, Eduard (Edward)

Katz, Werner Hans

Kaufmann, Ernst Norbert

Kay, Sydney John
Kimmel, Emma (Emmy)
Kinston, Steven
Kolben, Robert
Kolos, Lily (Lyvia)
Kramer, Friedrich (Frederick)
Krips, Heinrich (Henry) Josef
Krug, Günter (Gerald)
Krutsch, Martin Michael
Kurtz, Edmund
Landauer, Alfred
Langer, Peter
Laqueur, Rudolf (Rudi) Siegfried
Lemberg, Walter Friedrich
Liffmann, Erich (Eric)
Lorber, Marcel
Martin, Raymond Stuart (b. Kurt Kohn)
Mathy, Marianne
Meyer, Max (Peter)
Neumann (Newman), Käthe (Kate)
Pietruschka, Majer (Max, Ivan)
Portnoj, Annie
Portnoj, Heinrich (Henry)
Prerauer, Kurt (Curt) Emanuel
Reither, Karl (Carl, Charles)
Roth, Leo
Schildberger, Hermann

Schoenberger, Theodor Isador
Schönzeler, Hans-Hubert
Schulvater, Cyril
Schulvater, Ernst (Ernest)
Silbermann, Alphons
Silberstein, Otmar
Spitzer, Therese
Spivak (Spivakovsky), Adolf
Spivak (Spivakovsky), Isaac (Issy)
Spivak (Spivakovsky), Jascha
Spivak (Spivakovsky), Nathan (Tossy)
Stadlen, Peter
Steiner, Paul
Stern, Dobra (Dory)
Stiwelband, Mischa
Tichauer, Salo (Solomon) Max
Veit, Otti
Wagner, Eva
Wagner, Wolfgang
Weintraub, Stefan
Weiss, Emma
Weiss, Leo
Werder, Felix
Werther, Rudolf Theodor
Würzburger, Walter Erich
Zander, Hans Bernhard

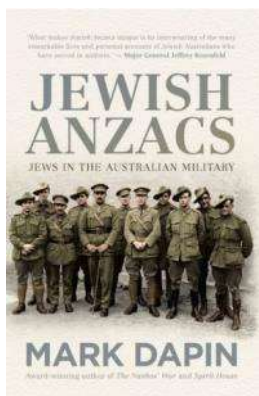
Other New Books of Interest



Peter Nash, *Escape From Berlin*, Ventura Press, 2017

In 1939, three-year-old Peter Nachemstein and his parents were forced to escape Nazi Germany by fleeing to Shanghai – one of the only havens left for them and 18,000 other European Jews. Although safe, they became displaced and isolated from the rest of their family, who were scattered across Europe.

In telling his story, Peter investigates what became of his family members following WW2. The text is illustrated with wonderful photos and documents and is a fascinating read.



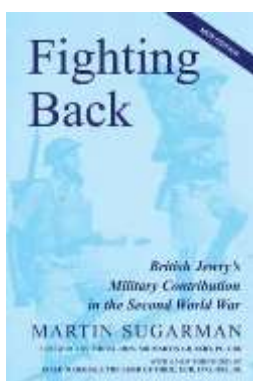
Mark Dapin, *Jewish Anzacs: Jews in the Australian Military*, New South Books, 2017

There is a myth that Jews do not figure largely in military history, but more than 7000 Jews have fought in Australia's military conflicts. From Sir John Monash, the Commander in Chief of the Australian Defence Forces in WWI, to Pte Gregory Sher who served, and died, in Afghanistan there have been many heroes, but there have also been many other Jewish servicemen and women whose contribution has been known only to family.

Basing his narrative on official records and interviews, private letters, diaries and papers, Dapin brings pays due respect to all who served.

The book includes a memorial roll with 342 names and cemetery or memorial

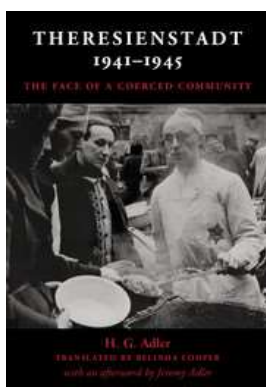
details; and a list of the names, ranks and units of 6798 Australian Jewish servicemen and women.



Martin Sugarman, ***Fighting Back*** – British Jewry's Military Contribution in the Second World War. Vallentine Mitchell, 2017
Revised edition.

The scope of this book is wider than is apparent from the title. As well the Anglo-Jewish participation in WW2, it discusses the role of Jews in the Spanish Civil War and the Korean War. It includes the Jewish paratroopers at the Battle of Arnhem; the Jews in the Auxiliary Services of Civil Defence; those at Bletchley Park; and the Jewish-Palestinian volunteers from Israel.

Available from the publisher Vallentine Mitchell <https://www.vmbooksuk.com/> or local booksellers.



H. G. Adler, ***Theresienstadt 1941-1945*** – The Face of a Coerced Community. Translator: Belinda Cooper. Co-published by the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum (USHMM) and the Terezin Publishing Project (TPP)

This book was first published in German in 1955 and revised in 1960. Through a collaborative effort between the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum and the Terezin Publishing Project it is now available in English translation.

The publisher says

Adler, a Theresienstadt survivor, provides a history of that ghetto, a detailed institutional and social analysis of the camp, and his informed understanding of the psychology of the perpetrators and the victims.

Useful and interesting websites

Online Index to 19th-Century Name Changes in Hungary

<http://www.macse.hu/names/names.aspx>

The Hungarian Society for Family Research has an online index to Name Changes in Hungary. Access to 156,946 records for the period 1815-1932 is available to everyone. Society members have complete access to 167,843 records from 1815-1955. The site is in Hungarian. Use Google Translate or similar to translate to other languages.

Additions to GenealogyIndexer

GenealogyIndexer.org has added many Hungarian directories and six new *yizkor* books to its collection.

The Hungarian directories include an 1845 Hungary Trade Almanac and numerous Budapest address and telephone directories from 1822-1950.

The newly added *yizkor* books are for the towns of Kleck, Kobryn, Kielce, Kisvarda, Klobucko and Klosova.

Transport Lists and Photographs of People Deported from Belgium

<https://beeldbank.kazernedossin.eu>

From August 4, 1942, to July 31, 1944, more than 25,000 men, women and children—almost all Jews—were deported to Auschwitz from Belgium's detention camp *Caserne Dossin* in Malines (Mecheln).

The Memorial Museum and Documentation Centre on Holocaust and Human Rights located in Malines (Mecheln), Belgium, has placed online copies of the original lists of transports from the SS-Sammellager Mecheln (Dossin barracks) to Auschwitz-Birkenau, Buchenwald, Ravensbrück, Vittel and Bergen-Belsen. Each sheet contains the names of 10 to 20 deportees on a specific transport, their place and date of birth, profession and nationality. In the case of married women, the name of the husband was written. In some cases the record includes the family's last address in Belgium. There are more than 9,650 portraits of those deported.

In the first instance, search for the surname only, and then using these results, add the given name as an additional search term to narrow the results to a specific individual. Married women are listed by their maiden name.

There are also more than 4,200 portraits of Jewish men, women and children from Belgium, who were deported from the French camps Drancy, Angers, Beaune-la-Rolande, Compiègne, Pithiviers and Lyon to Auschwitz-Birkenau, Sobibor, Majdanek and Kaunas between March 1942 and August 1944.

Thanks to Gary Mokotoff, *Nu? What's New*, for this information

Chicago Jewish Database (JJCD)

<http://jgs.jgsi.org/jjcd/>

The JGS of Illinois has expanded its database of Chicago-area burial information to include several other collections of information.

The cemetery information in the JGSI Jewish Chicago Database comprises entries that often include date of death, date of birth and plot location numbers within Chicago-area cemeteries.

Among the additions to the newly expanded database are:

- * Memorial plaque transcriptions and photos from two Chicago synagogues: B'nai Zion-Shaare Tikvah and Lawn Manor Beth Jacob Congregation;
- * Intake reports from the Drexel Home for the Jewish Aged;
- * Death notices published in the JUF (Jewish United Fund of Metropolitan Chicago) *News*, 1994-2005;
- * An index of death notices with date of birth and date of death extracted from the *Chicago Tribune* (latter half of the 1990s)

Database information is still being processed from two Chicago orphanages: the Chicago Jewish Orphans Home, which operated from 1894 to 1942, and the Marks Nathan Jewish Orphan Home, which operated from 1906 to 1948.

The Bezalel Narkiss Index of Jewish Art

<http://cja.huji.ac.il/browser.php>

The Centre for Jewish Art at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem has launched the world's largest online database of Jewish art. The *Bezalel Narkiss Index of Jewish Art* is a collection of digitised images and information about Jewish artefacts from all over the world. The online collection includes more than 260,000 images of objects and artefacts from 700 museums, synagogues and private collections in 41 different countries, as well as architectural drawings of 1,500 synagogues and Jewish ritual buildings from antiquity to the modern day.

Foreign Jews interned in Italy during WW2

<http://www.annapizzuti.it/>

This online database contains the names of over 9,000 foreign Jews who were interned in Italy in 1943.

The database contains fields including name, father's name, date and place of birth, location in Italy, information on the last documented internment, and occasionally what happened to the individual after 1943.

Entries are linked to other relatives to help construct a family grouping.

The website is in Italian.

National Library of Wales digitises Welsh Journals

<https://journals.library.wales/>

The National Library of Wales has launched a new website: *Welsh Journals Online*. It contains more than 1.2 million digitised pages from more than 450 Welsh and English language journals 1735-2007. Searches can be limited to either Welsh or English-only publications. It is possible to browse by year, decades, title and editions. The titles range from academic and scientific publications to literary and popular magazines.

Thanks to Jan Meisels Allen for this information

Subject: Update to Bradford Jewish Cemeteries Database

http://www.jewishgen.org/jcr-uk/Community/Bradford/Bradford_Cemeteries/Cemetery_menu.htm

The searchable records for both Bradford Jewish Cemeteries (within the grounds of the Scholemoor Cemetery) have been revised, updated and enhanced by Alan Tobias. All new burials to 2 May 2017 have been recorded, new headstone images have been added following consecrations and renovations and images of most other headstones have been retaken.

New features include the adoption of the "official" row allocations for the Orthodox cemetery, as well as the inclusion of GPS coordinates for each individual grave (accurate to about one metre) together with a button which, when clicked, brings up a Google satellite image of the cemetery section showing the location of the grave.

The database contains records of over 200 interments in the Bradford Synagogue (Reform) Cemetery (in use from 1877) and over 400 interments in the Bradford Hebrew Congregation (Orthodox) Cemetery (in use from 1912).

Berlin/Frankfurt online address books

A useful posting to the JewishGen Discussion List listed various online German directories:

- ♦ Berlin Jewish Address Book (*Judisches Adressbuch Berlin*) for 1931 at https://digital.zlb.de/viewer/image/1931001_1931/1/LOG_0003/
- ♦ various Berlin Address Books 1799-1943 at <https://www.zlb.de/besondere-angebote/berliner-adressbuecher.html>
- ♦ Frankfurt/Main address books from 1834-1943 <http://sammlungen.ub.uni-frankfurt.de/periodika/nav/classification/8688176>

New Czech Holocaust Database

https://www.ushmm.org/online/hsv/source_view.php?SourceId=42179

The United States Holocaust Museums' *Survivors and Victims Database* has a new collection: *Selected Records from the National Archives in Prague*, Ministry of Interior, Fond JAF 828. This Czech collection contains more than 71,000 names from 520 name lists. The records relate to confiscation of Jewish properties.

Included are index cards relating to deportations, primarily from Theresienstadt, as well as charges against Nazi leaders. You can request the digitised document linked to each name and receive the relevant document in your email.

JewishGen France Database

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

JewishGen now has a *JewishGen France Database*, a multi-database search facility containing more than 150,000 records of Jews living in France and other French-speaking regions.

This database searches all of JewishGen's records for France, other French-speaking areas such as Belgium, Luxembourg and Switzerland, and former French colonies and protectorates such as Tunisia, Algeria, and Morocco. The database is a work in progress, and new entries will be added regularly.

Components of the database include:

- * Jewish Marriages in Alsace, 1792-1899
- * The JewishGen Online Worldwide Burial Registry (JOWBR) for France, Belgium, Luxembourg, Switzerland, Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia
- * The JewishGen Family Finder (JGFF)
- * The JewishGen Memorial Plaques Database
- * Sub-sets of the *JewishGen Holocaust Database* which relate to French Jewry, including:
 - French Jews who were issued immigration visas to Brazil
 - French Prisoners in the Stutthof concentration camp
 - 'Certificates of Disappearance' for French female deportees
 - Hidden children in France
 - Gurs Deportations to Auschwitz-Birkenau
 - Rivesaltes Deportations to Auschwitz-Birkenau
 - Jewish arrivals in Switzerland, 1938-1945

Warsaw Jewish Historical Institute digitising their collection

<http://cbj.jhi.pl/>

The Jewish Historical Institute in Warsaw is in the process of digitising their collection. There are already more than 62,000 documents online. This project includes the Ringelblum Archive which is registered by UNESCO as a part of the Memory of the World Program. Also included are numerous Holocaust-era Death Cards and documents that include photographs of individuals.

The site is in Polish or English, however search is only in Polish so you need to use accented characters where these apply, e.g. if searching for a town – Żyrardów produces no results, but Żyrardów produces 57 results.

Provincial Jewry in Victorian Britain

<http://tinyurl.com/newmangb>

In 1975, the Jewish Historical Society of England held a conference – *Provincial Jewry in Victorian Britain*. A section of this conference was devoted to Rabbi Bernard Susser's transcription of data from an 1845 questionnaire issued by Chief Rabbi Nathan Adler. This questionnaire asked all the congregations under his control for detailed information about synagogal, charitable and educational activities. The results were never published. The transcription by Rabbi Susser, which he described as 'Statistical Accounts', has now been reformatted and posted in full together with other papers from that conference.

Transvaal, Probate Records from the Master of the Supreme Court, 1869-1958

<https://familysearch.org/search/collection/2520237>

This is a newly indexed and digitised collection which contains both death registrations and probate records. It is particularly useful for finding married names of deceased's daughters and also maiden

names of females as it includes both father's and mother's names. Also includes the date and place of birth.

Southern African SIG (SA-SIG) Newsletter

<https://www.jewishgen.org/safrica/newsletter/index.htm#MENU>

The South African SIG (SA-SIG) newsletters January 1999 to 2017 are all online and available for download. The most recent issue, Volume 15, Issue 1 is a bumper edition with much of interest if you have links to South African Jewry.

Zimbabwe and Zambian Jewish Communities

<http://www.zjc.org.il/showpage.php?pageid=1>

This web site celebrates Jewish Communities in Zimbabwe and Zambia. From a peak of some 8,500 Jews in the early 1970s, the total Zimbabwe and Zambian Jewish community is now less than 120.

This website tells the story of once vibrant communities in what was originally Rhodesia – now Zimbabwe and Zambia. It contains burial databases, family histories, digital images of *ketubot* and much else.

Newly digitised Australian Electoral Rolls

Both *ancestry.com* and *FindMyPast* have added to their Australian electoral rolls databases.

Ancestry.com has added new years for NSW, and new rolls for SA and the Northern Territory.

FindMyPast has added new rolls for Queensland and Tasmania.

Both databases can be accessed at our workshops, and in larger public libraries (including Waverley Library).

Workshop Dates for the rest of 2017

The Society will hold workshops on the following dates at:

- ♦ **Rev Katz Library**, North Shore Synagogue, Treatts Road, Lindfield:

Sunday workshops 9.30am to 12.30pm	Monday workshops 10.00am to 1.00pm
	18 September
15 October	
5 November	20 November
3 December	18 December

- ♦ **Waverley Library**, Denison St, Bondi Junction: 2.00pm to 5.00pm

Sunday 29 October	1st Floor Theory Room
<i>Really useful but less well-known websites for Jewish genealogy</i> RSVP essential: society@ajgs.org.au	

The Last Word

This is my last issue as Editor of Kosher Koala. After 5 years, it is time for fresh eyes and new ideas. Dani Haski has both in great quantities and has generously offered to be our new Editor.

Thank you to everyone who has submitted material that increased our knowledge of Jewish genealogical resources, and who enriched our understanding of our place in history with personal stories of loss, survival and connecting with family.

I have learnt more than I could have imagined in my time as editor – it has been both a privilege and a lot of hard work. The final product has been immeasurably enhanced by Peter Arnold's wordcraft, and I thank him for the wonderful support he has given me over the years.

I wish you all L'shana Tova and hope that you have enjoyed this much delayed issue.

Robyn Dryen
Editor: ed@ajgs.org.au