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The Kosher Koala

Newsletter of the Australian Jewish Genealogical Society, Inc
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Sunday September 5

**Workshop – 9.30 a.m.
Jerusalem Conference
Report
with Kim Phillips and
David Laufer**

**Sunday October 3
Workshop – 9.30 a.m.
*Resources at the Australian
Jewish Historical Society*
with Jeannette Tsoulos**

**Sunday November 7
Workshop – 9.30 a.m.**

**Saturday November 13
Bar Mitzvah
Celebration
9.30 a.m.**

See page 16 for details

**Sunday December 5
Workshop – 9.30 a.m.**

**The Committee of the
AJGS wishes all our
members
A HAPPY NEW YEAR**

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By Rieke Nash

It has been an eventful few months with an expectation of more interesting times ahead. In November it will be thirteen years since the Society was established so we have decided to celebrate it with a Shabbat service and lunch on November 13 (*Shabbat Toledot*). We hope that many of you will be able to join us.

A small group of members from our Society attended an outstanding conference in Jerusalem, presenting papers, making contacts and collecting new resources that are already providing successful outcomes for some of our members. The Conference Syllabus and CDs will be available at the September workshop during the session with Kim Phillips and David Laufer.

Thank you to all who have supported our Rookwood Cemetery Project by purchasing the CD and for the congratulations. Colin Marks commented "a truly wonderful effort and a most important contribution to the archives, records and research facilities of the Community. Apart from the vast research, information gathering and photography involved, the technical production of the CD is excellent. It is easy to navigate and generally user friendly."

After seeing in the news this week the devastation of the Jewish cemetery in Wellington, New Zealand, the task of documenting and photographing existing cemeteries by family historians seems even more urgent. How many of you have photographed your family's tombstones? I think that the motto of JewishGen says it all:-

"preserving our history for future generations"

Our new CDs and recently arrived publications are providing opportunities for research not available on-line. They are being consulted at our monthly workshops but we will do look-ups for any member unable to attend. Journals from around the world are also available at the workshops and those published by the Special Interest Groups are particularly valuable. For those who can't make it on Sunday mornings, we may be able to arrange an alternate time. Let us know.

Finally, members are encouraged to submit their database forms so that we are aware of their research interests. The form is available from our website on www.ajgs.org.au. By submitting her form we helped one member solve a problem – the current name of the town and its country that she was researching.

A happy and rewarding year to you all!

Rieke Nash, President
president@ajgs.org.au

EDITORIAL

By Miriam Shifreen

Welcome to the Rosh Hashana 5765 Kosher Koala! Kim Phillips has photographed and recorded the tombstones in the Old Jewish section of Rookwood Cemetery, the largest cemetery in the southern hemisphere. Genealogy is all about preservation of our past. Her time and devotion to this wonderful project is what enjoins so many of us in Jewish Genealogy to help not only each other, but also to help those whom we do not even know to find out and research their ancestors. Kim presented this research at the International Jewish Genealogical Conference in Jerusalem in July. My special thanks to Kim for helping me find my lost Uncle Jacob Levy, buried 99½ years ago in Rookwood in an unmarked and misnamed grave.

Christine Yeats has written about some of the interesting resources in the State Archives enticing us to explore what other gems are waiting there for us to discover. Her report is on page 4.

John Norris tells us how to obtain confirmation of Family Events using a Transcription service. (p.7)

Our Translation Day is further proof of the generous volunteers to be found amongst us. (p. 8)

Dianne Johnstone, a most dedicated researcher continues to enchant us with her amazing discovery of her birth mother and family on page 10.

Child survivor of the Holocaust, Charles Feldman told us at our AGM in March this year about his determined plan to present a Righteous Award to one of the families who saved him. Jeannette Tsoulos reviewed the talk on page 13.

Kim Phillips and David Laufer brought back a collection of books and other resources from the International Conference in Jerusalem. Some of them are reviewed in this issue, and all will be available at the Sunday morning workshops.

We are 13 years old this year. Enjoy the service in the Lindfield Synagogue and meet and exchange information over lunch. Come and say hello to me.

In wishing you all a New Year of Joy and Reward, there are so many people I would like to thank: those of you who have helped make Kosher Koala so successful by contributing your stories and articles; photo editor Ken Lipworth for making this KK look so good; Peter Nash for his careful proof reading; Rieke always there to discuss problems; those who answer queries on sites like our AJGen or overseas like Rosemary Wenzel from JGSGB who looked up information about my grandparents; and to all the wonderfully helpful people researching Jewish genealogy.

Miriam Shifreen, editor@ajgs.org.au

ROOKWOOD CEMETERY CD

By Kim Phillips

Finally, it's here! A CD Rom is now available of the over 1700 burials in the Old Jewish section at Rookwood. The cemetery was active from 1867 to 1906. There are some earlier burials where relocations from Devonshire Street Cemetery were made, together with a few later burials.



Tombstones in the old Jewish Section of Rookwood Cemetery

The CD has taken over a year to complete, but has been 30 years in the making. It contains photographs of every headstone, transcriptions of the epitaphs, translations of the Hebrew inscriptions, details from the Burial Registers where available and copies of newspaper death notices, where they have been found. These newspaper notices contain vast genealogical data including married names of daughters and location of family members. The CD also contains photographs of some headstones, taken in the 1960s. These are invaluable as some of the stones have since been destroyed.

The section has been carefully mapped and Synagogue records have been cross-checked with known burials. This enabled us to locate some 600 burials where no headstones have been erected. In a lot of cases, current family were unaware of where these relatives' remains rested.

What's next? We are listing Jewish burial sites around NSW and the rest of Australia with a plan to eventually photograph headstones and record information. We have commenced Sandgate - Newcastle, Maitland Cemetery and further sections of Rookwood. We are also working on producing a "virtual" record of Devonshire St Cemetery and Raphael's Burial Ground, previous Sydney cemeteries that no longer exist. We are also

planning on including death or transcription certificates and photographs of the deceased, where available.

What can you do to help?

Do you have a relative who was buried in a Jewish cemetery in Australia, prior to 1910? Do you have a copy of their death certificate, or a photograph of them or their headstone? If you do, can you please contact me at kim.phillips@csiro.au and send me a scan of the documents/photos? Or post them to me at PO Box 706, North Ryde 1670.

The CDs can be purchased through AJGS. The order form can be downloaded from www.ajgs.org.au

Kim Phillips, a committee member of our Society, attended the 2004 conference in Jerusalem where she presented a paper "Buried Down Under and Other Australian Projects".

LIVES AND TIMES OF 19th AND EARLY 20th CENTURY SETTLERS

FAMILY HISTORY SOURCES IN THE STATE RECORDS AUTHORITY OF NSW

By Christine Yeats

Introduction

This article is based on a presentation to the Australian Jewish Genealogical Society in November 2003. It identifies the key family history resources in the NSW State archives including not only references to the important colonial sources but also lesser known records relating to businesses and the administration of deceased estates. Using examples from the records it highlights the rich and often colourful lives of some of the early Jewish settlers.

Where to find us

State Records has two reading rooms. The City reading room is at 2 Globe Street, The Rocks. The Western Sydney reading room is at 143 O'Connell Street, Kingswood. Microform material is held at both locations. All uncopied/original records are held at the Western Sydney Records Centre.

In addition, the Archives Resources Kit (ARK), which comprises copies of the core of the State's historical records, is available in 40 community access points throughout country NSW. A number of other institutions and organizations around the State also hold parts of the ARK.

Accessing the NSW State Records

State Records holds the records of long-term value — the NSW State archives — that were created or received by NSW government agencies or departments from 1788 until the present day. The State archives collection is described in *Archives Investigator* and the *Concise Guide*. In addition, a number of special subject guides, short guides and Archives in Brief (fact sheets) have been developed to further improve the availability of information about the collection. These are available on the website at:

www.records.nsw.gov.au/holdings/holdings.htm.

Online indexes are another important resource for researchers. They include indexes to convict, shipping; land; census; bankruptcy; gaol photographs; naturalisation and court records. They are listed at:

www.records.nsw.gov.au/indexes/indexes.htm

Colonial Secretary's Records

The history of the Colonial (later Chief) Secretary's Office dates from 1788 until well into the twentieth century. Because of its close association with all aspects of the administration of NSW, especially early colonial life the correspondence records are an invaluable resource for all researchers. They include petitions and applications from settlers and convicts on a range of topics including permissions to marry, petitions for mitigation of sentences, requests for land grants or leases, licences and requests to have their wives and families join them.

We have produced two Archives in Brief (AIB), which provide further information about the Colonial Secretary's records and how to use them. They are AIB 64: *An introduction to the Colonial Secretary's correspondence* and AIB 65: *Indexes and registers to the Colonial Secretary's correspondence, 1826–1966*. They are available in the reading rooms or online at:

www.records.nsw.gov.au/publications/inbrief.htm

The earliest records of the Colonial Secretary from 1788–1825 have been indexed. The index is available online at:

www.records.nsw.gov.au/indexes/colsec/default.htm

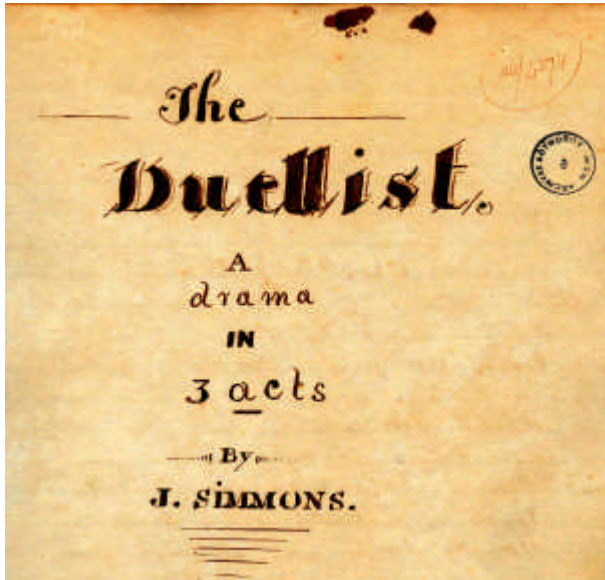
It is an excellent starting point for anyone researching colonial history. As expected, there are a number of entries for many well-known early settlers, including Isaac Nichols, Solomon and Barnett Levey (as well as their less fortunate brother Samuel) and Joseph Raphael.

For those with an interest in the development of the theatrical life of early Sydney, there is a petition from Isaac Saunders and Robert Brown to open theatre on the Brickfield Hill, Sydney in 1822, CGS 897, [4/1759 p.71], Reel 6054. Robert Brown also recommended the memorial (application) of Henry McKeen and other convicts at the Prisoners' Barracks for permission to perform a play in 1822, CGS 897, [4/1752 p.30b], Reel 6052.

Post 1825 records can be accessed using a range of indexes and registers, which are available on microform in both State Records' reading rooms. As mentioned previously, these records are described in AIB 65. While much of the Colonial Secretary's post 1825 correspondence has been microfilmed, all uncopied records are held at our Western Sydney facility at Kingswood.

The later records also include letters sent relating to land (1826–56), CGS 907, which feature extensive applications from Barnett Levey, among others. There is also correspondence relating to the

plays that were submitted for approval prior to being performed (in accordance with an Act dated 1 September 1828) together with the scripts of the plays themselves. The copies of the plays retained by the Colonial Secretary are now part of the State archives. Among the collection is J. Simmons' play *The Duellist*, CSS 908, [SZ54] Reel 2558.



OTHER KEY COLONIAL RECORDS

Musters and census records

In addition to the Colonial Secretary's records there are a number of other key sources. Musters and census records (see Short Guide 12) can establish when a person came to the colony and whether they came as a convict or arrived free.

An online index:

www.records.nsw.gov.au/indexes/1841census/search.htm

has been compiled from the surviving Household returns and Abstracts of returns from the 1841 Census. The index offers researchers the option of searching for an individual or by locality, for example Windsor.

Court records

Court records offer a wonderful insight into colonial life. It is important to remember that these records cover a wide range of matters, not just prosecutions and litigation. For example, the online Index to the Bench of Magistrates, 1788–1820 includes criminal and civil cases, publicans' licenses issued and/or cancelled and the appointment of constables appointed. The online index to Quarter Sessions cases, 1824–37 deals with trials for offences that did not have a death penalty. A quick browse of the index reveals that Barnett Levey appeared before the court in Sydney in July 1828 Sydney, CGS 3397, Case number 43 in [4/8449].

Maps and plans

The Surveyor General's records, in particular the maps and plans 1792–1886, are another important source. They include some of the earliest surveys of New South Wales, including the survey of the Jewish Burial Ground, near the town of Yass by surveyor Larmer in June 1845, CGS 13859, [Map 2027] and the plan of allotments for Jewish School and Synagogue, Goulburn by surveyor J. F. Mann in April 1851, CGS 13859 [Map 2171]. The Index to the maps and plans is online at:

www.records.nsw.gov.au/indexes/surgen/search.htm.

For other information on the Surveyor General see Archives in Brief No. 63: *The Surveyor General's cartographic and related records* and the *Concise Guide* and Short Guide 13: *Surveyors' Field Books*.

Clergy and School Lands Corporation

The records of the Clergy and Schools Lands Corporation provide further insight into life in the colony. Ann Raphael's application to the Clergy and School Lands Corporation for the infant Isabella Mary Gill 10 February 1827, CGS 783, [4/333], Reel 2776 is one such example.

Business and related records

The range of company, business and related records held at State archives are sometimes overlooked when researchers are seeking information about individuals. Government requirements meant that information such as subscribers to companies, the addresses of smaller businesses and the particulars of individuals working as hawkers were recorded and many of these records have been retained at State archives.

Companies

One of the most useful sources is the series *Documents lodged under Companies Acts, 1876–1969*, CGS 12951, which relates to companies incorporated in NSW and dissolved or deregistered between 1876 and 1969. The records are accessible using a company number which can be found in the Australian Securities Commission's *Dead Companies Index Pre-1969*. This index is available in both reading rooms. More information on these records can be found under Registrar General Companies Branch in the *Concise Guide*. Other records are listed in the *Concise Guide* under Corporate Affairs Commission.

Examples of company records include the file for Nathan Cohen and Co, 1908, Number 3052 [3/5785], Victor Cohen and Co P/L, 1937, Number 17587, [17/9566] and David Cohen and Co Pty, 1950, Number 28557 [17/9502].

Registers of firms under the Registration of Firms Act of 1902, 1903–22

The 1902 Act to provide for the Registration of Firms required all firms, defined as ‘two or more persons lawfully.....carrying on any business’, to be registered. The *Registers of firms under the Registration of Firms Act of 1902, 1903–22*, CGS 12961 includes an entry — 1198 in [2/8526] — for the NSW Motzo Company, which tells us that the company manufactured motzo and motzo meal at 13 Brown Street, Camperdown and Harris and David Solomon were operating the business.

Records of hawkers and second hand dealers

Hawkers were required to have a licence, which they generally obtained from the local Court or police station. The *Concise Guide* under Courts of Petty Sessions and Police for various localities at

www.records.nsw.gov.au/cguide/httoc.htm

for a full list of these records. Additional listing of hawker’s licences may also be found in the interim finding aid *Records not in the Concise Guide*, which is available in both reading rooms.

There are interesting examples of applications for hawkers’ licences in Central Court of Petty Sessions CGS 3428, Court papers — General Licenses, 1919–48, [14/3782, 14/3783–88] including Solomon Daniels’ 1922 applications for a Collector’s Licence (under the Second Hand Dealers’ and Collectors Act), [14/3784] and a Hawker’s Licence on foot, [14/3784].

Insolvency and Bankruptcy

The records relating to insolvency and bankruptcy offer researchers a wonderful resource as the files often include a complete list of the person’s assets, right down to details about their furniture and clothing! The main record series are Insolvency files, 1842–87 CGS 13654, [2/8650–10411] and Bankruptcy files, 1888–1929 CGS 13655, [10/22500–4400].

The Insolvency files are being indexed and the first stage of the online index covering the letters A–N is now available at:

www.records.nsw.gov.au/indexes/Insolvency/search.htm.

It is possible to search by name, occupation, locality and year. Isaac Nathan composer of the colony’s first opera was one of those forced into insolvency in 1844, CGS 13654, [2/8775]. More information on these records is provided in Archives in Brief 58: *Bankruptcy and Insolvency records*.

Probate and Deceased Estate records

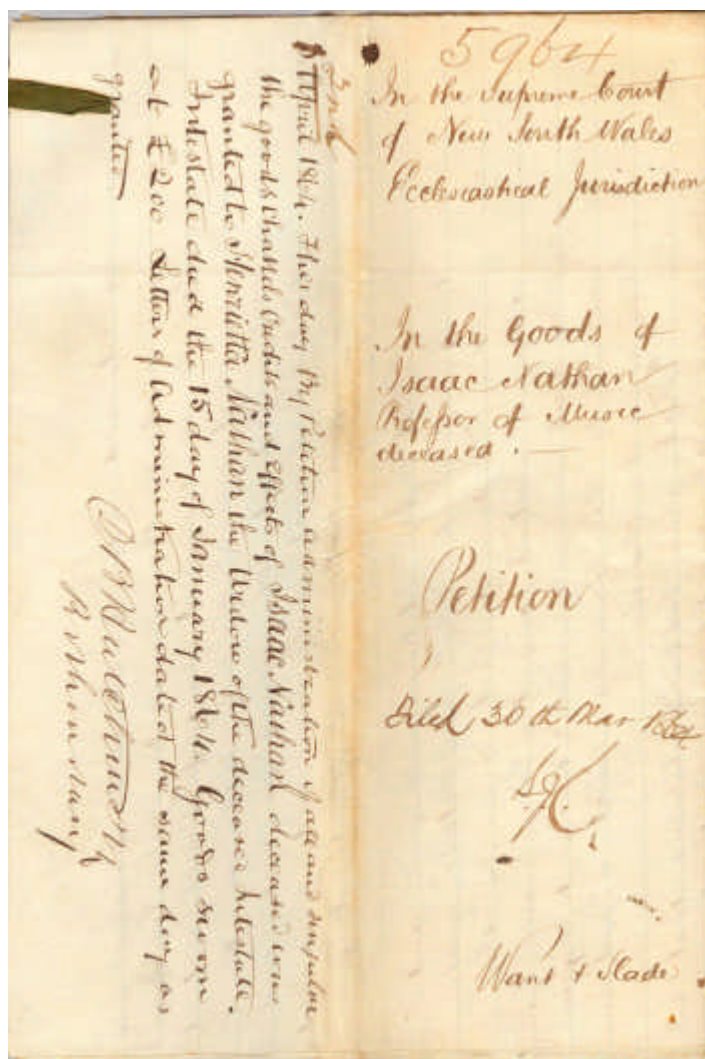
The two absolute certainties in life, death and taxes, result in the creation of some very valuable series of records.

Deceased Estate records

The first of these are the deceased estate records. Death duties were payable in NSW from 1880 until their abolition in 1981. Under the legislation, no probates (wills) or letters of administration could be granted until the duty was paid. Duty was also charged on those living outside New South Wales as long as they owned sufficient property or possessions in New South Wales. For example, death duties were assessed on the NSW ‘estate’ of Louis Monash (father of John Monash) in 1898. While Louis was resident in Melbourne, he owned property in Jerilderie. CGS 13340, [20/134]. Archives in Brief 29: *Deceased estate file, 1880–1958* has more information on these records.

Probate packets

Probate records date back to the establishment of



the Court of Civil Jurisdiction in 1787. The Supreme Court is progressively transferring Probate packets to State Records. The information in a Probate packet can vary considerably. Examples of documents that may be in the packet include the last will and testament, and any codicils (additions or revocations to the will). The will in the probate packet is considered by the Court to be the only legal document. There may also be a range of accompanying documents.

Interesting examples from the Probate packets include the records of Solomon Levey, 1836, NRS 13660, [14/3366, 5964], Barnett Levey, 1838, NRS 13660, [14/3197, 898] and Isaac Nathan, 1864, Probate packet 5964 in [14/3366]. The fascinating inclusion in the Probate packet for Isaac Nathan is the 1935 letter from someone living in America requesting genealogical information from the Court.

Law and Order

No examination of the State archives would be complete without reference to who fell foul of the law in the nineteenth and early twentieth century. The story of Edward Davis, the bushranger, is well known but there are many others who were caught up in criminal activities. One of the most fascinating sources for information about crimes, 'criminals', apprehensions and missing persons is the NSW Police Gazettes, 1862–1977, CGS 10958.

The Index to gaol photographs, online at:

www.records.nsw.gov.au/indexes/gaols/search.htm

is another useful way of tracing those who were in gaol, even for a short period of time. The index covers the years c1870–1930, although the dates of the records for each gaol vary.

Conclusion

As you can see from this brief survey of the various sources, the State archives offer a variety of resource materials for all historians, whether they are chasing ancestors or studying the social conditions of the day. Whatever your interest State Records is here to help you with your research.

Christine Yeats is the Manager, Public Access at State Records NSW, where she coordinates the public programs and services. These include the reading rooms, copying and enquiry services and extension activities.

State Records Authority of NSW (State Records)
P.O. Box 516,
Kingswood NSW 2747,
Australia
www.records.nsw.gov.au

CERTIFICATE OR TRANSCRIPTION?

By John Norris

In family research we often need official documents to provide or check information. For New South Wales, so-called Records Transcription Agents, can get Births to 1905, Deaths to 1945 and Marriages to 1918.

The details required for a Transcription are: The event: Birth, Death or Marriage, Given Names and Surname and Index Reference Number

What are the advantages of using their facilities?

1. Cost is approximately \$13.00 for a full Transcription, to approximately \$7.00 dollars for a check and verify. So, two Transcriptions could cost less than one official New South Wales certificate.
2. You can write direct or e-mail your request.
3. One of the Transcription agents if required will e-mail the transcription back, so you can transfer the information without having to type it in.
4. All information that appears on the official form, will be on the Transcription.
5. Research match up (one of the Transcription agents) has a free service that allows you to contact others who have ordered the same Transcription.
6. The Transcription hard copy is type-written on an A4 size sheets.

The disadvantages are the Transcription cannot be used in any official capacity and there could be an error in the transcription. If you think there has been an error you can ask for a verification, and one agent will give a credit if a mistake has been made.

Some people think they are getting their ancestors signatures on Official Certificates. Unfortunately, BDM registrations were originally entered into a book at a Country Courthouse, and, every three months details were copied, and sent to Sydney, where they were written up on certificates and filed.

You would only get an original signature on a Wedding Certificate in a Church Register or from the original Wedding Certificate given to the Bride and Groom when they married.

Death Certificates can often be the most incorrect as the person giving the details may not know the correct information, while the most correct is the Wedding, as the details are supplied by the future Groom and Bride (if there is a great age difference between them, the ages shown may be wrong).

Two web sites for transcription agents are www.joymurrin.com.au (who will e-mail the details, and has research match up), and www.marbract.com.au.

John Norris has been an active and enthusiastic member of our Society since 1997.

TRANSLATION DAY EVENT

Reported by Peter Nash

To assist members with translation of documents a Translation afternoon was held on 23 May 2004 at the Folk Centre in Bondi Junction. Well before this date the organiser of the event, Gary Luke, created a database of members who required some translations. Translators, members and non-members were then asked to attend.



Michael Taub, and Judy Traurig ably assisted Stephen Kary (centre) with documents in Hebrew. However they were stumped when Martin Prins required a translation, which turned out to be in Aramaic.



Liane Corbett (right) sought Peter Nash's advice on researching some family in the U.S.A.



Ruth Leiser (left) helped Shirley Arnold with some Yiddish translation.



Ernest Fajwul (far left), Martin Prins (second on left) were on standby, but also exchanging ideas with Gary Luke and Rieke Nash.



A talk *Buried Downunder and Other Australian Projects* that was presented by Kim Phillips at the Jewish International Genealogical Conference in Jerusalem in July, was given a dress rehearsal to round off this very successful Meeting.



This occasion was also an opportunity for Rieke Nash, to honour Terry Newman, with a Life Membership of our Society for his many years of dedication in recording genealogical data from Synagogues, cemeteries and the personal notices published in the Sydney Morning Herald.



Ernest Fajwul overseen by his wife was deeply engrossed in Rieke Nash's Polish documents. Ernest was amazed by the scope and volume of the records accumulated by the Jewish Records Indexing-Poland Project.



Michael Taub (right) offers Gary Luke a friendly hand with some Hebrew translation.

ANOTHER BEGINNING

By Dianne Johnstone

I've called my story "Another Beginning" because four years ago, I discovered another family – my birth family.

In 1944, I had been adopted. I was never told of this although I'd had strong suspicions for many years. I made enquiries after my adoptive parents, my Mum and Dad, had passed away, and I, at last, found out the truth.

I was fascinated to learn that my mother's family was Jewish. They had come to England from Russia and Austria around the mid 1850's. Here was a completely different cultural background from the one in which I'd been raised. My adoptive family were fifth generation Australian, coming from Irish stock with two English convicts thrown in for good measure!

Now, if I were to research the history of my new family, then communicating with the family members was crucial. There were, however, many questions associated with finding my birth family this late in the day. I was 56 years old.

Were any members living? Were they willing to meet me? Where were they living? Would they share their family history? Would they trust me with it? In fact, if we were to meet, we would be perfect strangers.

I was no longer the 6 weeks old baby my mother knew all those years ago.

How lucky I was! I made contact with them. My mother is still alive and quite well, living on the Central Coast. She was thrilled to meet me. I have a sister, Jennifer, who has been the custodian of the family photos, postcards, our grandmother's diary and birth certificate. They told me they were unsure as to where to start looking with all this information but have been very happy to share these details of the family records, and support me in my search. They are as keen as I to find out about our family background – about who we are.

Very briefly, in 1929, my great grandfather, Bernard Black (his previous name was Schwarz) died in England. A year later, twelve of his fourteen children sailed out from Hull, Yorkshire, to Sydney. Amongst them were my grandmother and her 7 year old daughter, Pearl, my mother. I have met my 97 year old great aunt living in Sydney who kindly gave me the address of a second cousin in England. The cousin, like myself, was adopted when a baby by a neighbouring family after her mother passed away so she, too, has very little



All the Girls on Mother's Day, 9 May 2004,
from the right: Jenny, my sister; Pearl, my mother;
me, Dianne; Renee, Jenny's daughter and Tamar,
Renee's daughter

information about our birth family. We write regularly – we're both happy to have found another relation.

Over the first 18 months or so, my aim was to collect family birth, death and marriage certificates. For this information, I went to the Family History Centre at Latter-Day Saints in Carlingford. They have since moved to North Parramatta. I accessed details from the St Catherine's House Index which gives BDM from 1837. I used the Joy Murrin Transcription Agency to acquire the Certificates.

On my original birth certificate, my mother's residential address in Ashfield was given. The Californian Bungalow is still standing and in good repair. I contacted Ashfield Council. They turned out to be a great source of information on the history of the house and its ownership.

I found complications when family members changed their names on the different children's birth certificates. I spoke to the staff at LDS about my predicament and they suggested I meet Rieke Nash from the Australian Jewish Genealogical Society. As luck would have it, Rieke was coming round the very afternoon I was at the Centre. We met and I joined this Society. Rieke has clarified so much for me, providing background information on Jewish names, meanings and customs.

Jeanette Tsoulos from the Australian Jewish Historical Society gave me two invaluable leads to follow up.

- 1) Local Studies Library in Hull: the resident genealogist is Gareth Watkins.
- 2) Latter-Day Saints in Hull: they traced my great grandfather's business in the Trades Directory of 1904. Bernard Schwarz was a carpenter and upholsterer.

Mr Richard Cooper whom I contacted through the Jewish Genealogical Society of Great Britain

also directed me to the Court of the Chief Rabbi in London for information on family birthplaces and marriage records. Mr Charles Tucker from the Research Unit there in London sent me details of my g.g.grandparents' marriage that took place in the synagogue in Hull in 1877. To find their European birthplaces, he suggested I look up probate records and also check their gravestones. The Latter-Day Saints in Hull made an exhaustive search for the graves but had no luck.

And then, in January this year, I received a letter from a David Lewis who works in the communal archive at the Hull Family History Unit. I'd originally written to the resident genealogist there and he had kindly passed on my enquiry to David. David located the tiny cemeteries where my g.g.g.grandfather, g.g.g.grandmother and g.grandparents are buried. By an amazing coincidence, he has made a detailed study of the history of the Hebrew Burial Sites in Hull and recently published an article about them.

Another helpful resource has been the Society of Australian Genealogists here in Kent Street, Sydney. I tapped into the English 1891 Census and found a Goldstein family which may be related to my g.grandmother's family. Two Polish towns were registered on the census but were very hard to decipher. I turned, once again, to Rieke and Peter Nash for assistance. They have book and map resources one can't get hold of anywhere else. We think we've found the towns – in Lithuania, just across the border from Poland! That was a cause for celebration!

Following on from this, I found an entry on the JG Family Finder by an Elaine Paradise for Goldstein families in Hull. Rieke remembered the name from the Washington Conference she had attended and gave me Elaine's postal address in London. I must mention that my main channel of communication is by letter. I can access the Internet only at the local Library and the computers regularly crash.

Elaine and I have written, and it seems there may be a family connection. We've agreed on the name of one of the Lithuanian towns. Elaine told me she had been searching for the towns for 15 years!

Incredible though it may seem, two weeks after we'd made contact, Elaine and her husband flew into Sydney and we were able to exchange our latest news over a pot of tea at Circular Quay!

It was at the Society of Australian Genealogists that I had another breakthrough. I located my great grandfather's Will. In it are the names of the family members as well as the addresses of g.grandfather's

brother in New York, and sister in Alexandria, Egypt.

Rieke gave me the address of a researcher in Victoria who is tracing the Jewish population in Alexandria. He, in turn, has supplied me with addresses of Egyptian researchers as far away as Switzerland and Brooklyn, New York.

Then, a wonderful piece of news! In March this year, I gave a talk about my research at the AJGS AGM meeting.

I mentioned that my great grandfather spoke of a brother in his 1929 Will who was living in New York – one Isaac Locker. Peter remembered he'd had a similar situation with a relative's Will and immediately got in touch with researchers, Gloria and Larry Freund, in New York.

With so many genealogical resources at their fingertips, they were able to trace Isaac Locker's family from his parents who were Yiddish Austrian; to Isaac's birth in Cairo; his migration to America, down three generations, to Isaac's grandsons. Two addresses were found, and I wrote letters to the two brothers: one in California and the other in the Virgin Islands. And all this in four days!!

In answer to my two letters, I received a phone call from David Locker, Israel's grandson. He rang from Georgia around midnight his time. We had a great chat. It seems that the Lockers have been searching for the Black family for many years.

I also received a letter from Morton (Morty) – the grandson of Isaac who is living in California. He was pleased also to hear the news. I've since sent a second letter with two photos of our Great Uncle Sam, my grandmother Tamar's brother. Apparently, Sam Locker and Sam Black/Schwarz were first cousins. They met up in Sydney in the late 1920's. Sam Locker was in the American Marines at the time and a dentistry student.

Another cousin of Morty, Judi Wenger from Florida, sent me an email. She and her husband are flying out for a holiday in Nov/Dec. and would love to meet up. Of course, I said "Yes".

But, there is sad news to relate. On Saturday, 22 May, David rang to tell me that Danny, Morton's brother, who lived on St Thomas Island in the Caribbean, had just had surgery for a brain tumour. Eight days later, I received an email from the family telling me that Dan had passed away. The three brothers – Mitzy, Morton and Dan – were very, very close.

On the Goldstein branch, Elaine Paradise has written to confirm what I suspected: Eleazer Barnet, my g.g.g. grandfather, is one and the same person as Lazarus Barnett and Barnett Lazer. Elaine has discovered that he was born in Shalvery which she suspects may be the town of Kalvaria, Lithuania, the same town that her Bennett family came from. Her Bennetts were once known as Barnets. So we are still looking for connections.

I sent away for a film of the School Registers from 1894 to 1925 for the Hebrew School in Hull. This film is stored in the Hull Records Office. Eleazer Barnet may have taught at the school as he was a teacher of Hebrew.

Coincidentally, Elaine, now back in England, has been working on the same film of the Hebrew School Register. We haven't come up with any details on my Goldstein/Barnet families but I found entries for my grandmother, Emily (Tamar), and her sister, Dinah.

The Jewish community in Alexandria, Egypt, have found the birth of baby Eugenia, daughter of Anna and Isaac Lazofsky in 1896. More may be uncovered about the family details of Bernard Schwarz and Isaac Locker who were born in Cairo. The brothers had different surnames – Anita in Leeds suggested they may have been half brothers.

I have also been given another contact in Egypt: the Jewish Community in Cairo. I have asked for information about the births and marriages of the Schwarz and Locker families. I'm waiting with bated breath for an answer, as you can imagine.

This continues to be a wonderful journey of discovery. Next year, I plan to go to Hull in England and meet my second cousin. We'll visit our families' gravesites and document old family anecdotes.

I could not have achieved so much without the support and encouragement of my two families, the genealogy society members both here and overseas, and especially to Rieke and Peter who have shared my enthusiasm in finding my birth family.

Dianne's early research was reported in the Koshers Koala, Vol 10 No 1 March, 2003

CONGRATULATIONS

**To Selma Jackson
and
to Alan Shroot
on each gaining a daughter-in-law
and to all the new grandparents
who have added a new leaf
to their family trees.**

THE LURIE LEGACY

by Neil Rosenstein

**Published by Avotaynu Inc. New Jersey
2004**

Reviewed by Gwenda Harris (née Lurie)

This long-awaited monumental publication enlarges on the history of the Lurie Family. According to Dr. Rosenstein, the Lurie family, from its earliest genealogy, developed an intricate network of relationships from which stemmed almost every major Ashkenazi rabbinical family from the fifteenth century onwards.

The book contains extensive complex genealogical tables, all cross-referenced and annotated. One can study them for hours and be amazed at the mobility and adventurous spirit of people in difficult times. There are manuscripts, documents and memoirs reproduced and, if necessary, translated for the modern researcher.

Browsing through various sections, one becomes aware of the many talents and interests different members of the Lurie families were involved in, besides their well-documented Rabbinical achievements. In the nineteenth century, Luries were active in banking, manufacturing, education, politics, medicine, etc. There are also anecdotes and extensive writings involving historical personalities like Napoleon, Sir Moses Montefiore and Chaim Weizmann, etc.

Wonderful letters and memoirs have been preserved including those of Rebecca Lurie Anikster who wrote a moving account of her journey to Jerusalem and her life in the Holy Land in the booklet "Zecher Shalom". There are other autobiographical and eye witness accounts of different Lurie experiences in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries in Europe and America.

There is so much information and material in this one volume that it is churlish for an amateur family historian like me to criticise it. Perhaps the addition of a couple of maps would enhance and clarify the narratives and genealogy charts.

My family connection to the Lurie family is included on pages xxii and xxiii of *The Lurie Legacy*. My father, Morris Benjamin Lurie, was a son of Sarah and Chaim Leib (Lieberman) Lurie. Chaim Leib Lurie died in Port Elizabeth, South Africa in 1935 aged 70 years.

Gwenda Harris is a member of our Society.

CHARLES FELDMAN'S STORY

Report from the AGM March, 2004

By Jeannette Tsoulos



Speaking at our AGM on 28th March this year, Charles Feldman, a long-time member of our Society, told us his Holocaust-related story. He was born in Paris in 1937, and with his mother and older sister, Jacqueline, survived the war in France, thanks to the kindness of

various French people who helped them.

Their father was arrested in 1941 and perished in the camps. The family escaped a secret round-up in Paris in July, 1942, thanks to a tip-off by a policeman who knew them, and the help of their concierge. A young couple with children, Pierre and Simone Moreau, took them in at great risk to themselves and hid their mother for the rest of the war. Charles and his sister were hidden separately, and spent the war years moving from shelter to shelter.

On a visit to Yad Vashem a few years ago, Charles felt the need to honour the Moreau family and others who had helped his family, and began the lengthy nomination process. This was successful for the Moreau family and Charles contacted their children who were still alive and thrilled at the honour to be bestowed on their family. Charles arranged to go to France but missed the main ceremony for all those to be honoured that year as Righteous Gentiles, and had to arrange a separate one for the Moreau family to be held later.

In the meantime, he set about finding some of the places where he had been hidden during the war, one of which was Castera, near the Spanish border. In this he was helped by members of organisations researching Jewish internment and deportation, some of whom are non-Jews doing this work in their spare time. It was pleasing to hear that the French are doing a lot of soul-searching about their treatment of Jews during the war.

The Righteous Gentile Ceremony was to be held in the village of Argy. The very reluctant Mayor finally rose to the occasion after being told in no uncertain terms by the Mayor of the neighbouring village that this was a proud moment and a great honour for France. In the event it was a magnificent ceremony - many people came, including the media, fine speeches were made and the Moreau family were quite overcome.

Charles also spoke of a whole town honoured by Yad Vashem This was Chambon sur Lignon, in western France, where the Protestant townspeople, descendants of the Huguenots, saved over 5000 Jews.

The search is continuing, as Charles hopes one day to honour the policeman and the concierge who risked their lives to save his family.

Jeannette Tsoulos whose Book and Lecture Reviews appear regularly in our KK, is the Resource Librarian of our Society and Secretary of the Australian Jewish Historical Society.

ON THE INTERNET

New ShtetLink - Brest-Litovsk (Brisk)

Russia (now, Brest, Belarus) can be found at:

www.shtetlinks.jewishgen.org/brest/home.html

www.shtetlinks.jewishgen.org/brest/Research_Minsk_Archives_2004.html

www.shtetlinks.jewishgen.org/brest/Research_Minsk_Archives_Dec_2003.html

www.shtetlinks.jewishgen.org/brest/Brest_Trip.html

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/brest_belarus/

First American Jewish Families

By the late Rabbi Malcolm H. Stern

This book which is in our Society Library contains the family trees of Jewish families that arrived in the USA 1564 – 1838. A searchable index for this book has been placed on the internet by the American Jewish Archives:

www.americanjewisharchives.org/aja/FAJF/intro.html

Our Society has a copy of the book.

Global Surname Search

An Internet site located in Germany will simultaneously search up to ten different Internet locations at one time: including the Mormon FamilySearch site, Ancestry.com, Gendex, Internment Cemetery Transcriptions, Gencircles, and Rootsweb. See:

www.rat.de/kuijsten/navigator/index.html

Learn Basic Hebrew – One Word Each Day:

www.milingua.com/home.htm

Yad Vashem Digitizing Master Index of International Tracing Service (ITS)

Information about the ITS, including a sample index card, can be found at:

www.avotaynu.com/Holocaust/ITS.htm

ITS has a website at

www.its-arolsen.org

THE KOSHER KOALA CD-ROM

Rieke Nash and Kim Phillips have just produced a CD on behalf of our Society containing the forty issues of our newsletter THE KOSHER KOALA from Volume 1 Number 1 published in September 1993 to Volume 10 Number 4 published in December 2003.

Easily word searchable, the word *tombstone* e.g. produces at least 40 references, while *family trees* has over 70 results. There are helpful hints for beginners, important research techniques and wonderful stories, e.g., *Tapestry of Life* by Ephraim Finch.

There are handy references for the experienced researcher and lots more.

For the cost of one year's subscription to the AJGS you can acquire ten years of articles such as:

For Those with Sephardi Jewish Roots in Turkey,
Where the World's Jews Live,
Australian Jews in the Boer War

The cost which includes postage is:

\$AU 35.00	AJGS members (Aust.)
\$AU 40.00	Overseas members
\$AU 50.00	Non-members (Aust)
\$AU 55.00	Non-members (Overseas)

See our website at: <http://www.ajgs.org.au>

Or contact:

The Australian Jewish Genealogical Society
P.O.Box 42, Lane Cove NSW 1595
Sydney, Australia

NEW RESOURCES IN OUR LIBRARY

At the International Jewish Genealogical Society Conference in Jerusalem, our Society acquired a number of interesting and valuable books and CDs which can be read and inspected at our Sunday workshops. Here are a few to wet your appetite.

THE JEWISH VICTORIAN:
Genealogical Information from the Jewish Newspapers 1861-70

by **Doreen Berger**

This latest volume, a companion to *The Jewish Victorian 1871-80*, contains 400 pages.

In this volume the births, marriages and deaths of the community have been taken from the Jewish newspapers of the period. Also included are condolence messages, obituaries, anecdotes and snippets of information about individuals from within the pages. It contains many references to Australia.

Among fascinating stories from inside the pages of the newspapers are the vacillations of Rev. M.B.

Levy regarding ministerial positions in the Sydney and Melbourne communities, the enticement of Esther Lyons from her home and the sensational trials that resulted from this case, the dastardly murder of the gentleman known as the "King of Whitton", an extortion attempt upon the Rothschild family, the dreadful murder of Barnett Zussman, an action for slander brought against the Chief Rabbi, the missions of Sir Moses Montefiore to Morocco, the Holy Land and Roumania, the tragic death in childbirth of Evelina de Rothschild, the fight against cholera and the argument about taking the English oath in a Court of Law.

The price is £29.95, plus packing and postage surface mail £6, airmail £11, and is available from: Robert Boyd Publications, 260 Colwell Drive, Witney, Oxon OX28 5LW, www.boydpubs.co.uk
Email BOYDPUBS@aol.com.

Doreen Berger is a founder member of the JGSGB.

**MARRIAGE RECORDS OF THE GREAT
SYNAGOGUE LONDON 1791-1885**
By **Harold & Miriam Lewin**

Printed by **Desktop Publishing**

After ten years of arduous transcription and computerisation, this book of 673 pages contains the records of 8000 marriages, and combines marriage certificate with synagogue register data for 1837-1879. It includes almost 5000 marriages with address, age of groom and bride over a 42 year period. The address information may lead the researcher to a population census return, thereby listing other family members.

The book is in two sections, each sorted according to family name of groom and bride, with all civil and patronymic names in the records:

e.g. Groom's Name, Groom's Father, Groom's Patronymic, Groom's Address, Bride's Name, Bride's Father, Bride's Patronymic, Bride's Address, Film No., Record Ref., Volume., Marriage Date (DD.MM.YYYY format) and Notes.

There are also marriages from Prince's Street, Sandy's Row, Bayswater and other synagogues often included in the Great Synagogue records.

The authors are currently working on records of the Hambro and New Synagogue Registers (checking and refining transcriptions made from microfilm about 10 years ago that were indexed and printed but not published).

Price: US\$62.80

Contact **Harold & Miriam Lewin**

POB 253, JERUSALEM 91002, ISRAEL

or har_mir@bezeqint.net

The Australian Jewish Genealogical Society

OUR Aim is to encourage and assist those with Jewish ancestry to research their family histories

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SYDNEY WORKSHOPS

All workshops are usually held at the Rev Katz Library, North Shore Synagogue, Treatts Road, Lindfield, once a month on Sunday mornings, from 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

See front page for dates.

Articles and material may be submitted to the Editor at: P.O.

Box 42 Lane Cove NSW 1595
Sydney, Australia
Or by email: editor@ajgs.org.au

The Editor has the right to accept or reject or publish in revised form as might be appropriate.

Permission to reproduce articles and material from the Kosher Koala should be sought from the Editor and all articles should be acknowledged.

INTERNATIONAL JGS CONFERENCES

The 2005 Conference will be at the Flamingo Hotel in LAS VEGAS from July 10-15.

The 2006 Conference will be at the Marriott Marquis Hotel in New York City from August 13-18.

Mark Your Diaries!

The Society is turning 13 in November.

To mark the occasion we are celebrating with a

BAR MITZVAH

at the North Shore Synagogue, Lindfield
on the morning of
Shabbat Toledot,

13 November, 2004.

AUSTRALIAN JEWISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY DATABASE

Names being researched by our members

September, 2004

Id	Surname	Town	Country	Dates
542	AUDET	SYDNEY	AUSTRALIA	1870+
542	COLLISS	SYDNEY	AUSTRALIA	1870+
543	DA COSTA		ENGLAND	1860-1940
542	ELKAN	LONDON	ENGLAND	1800+
542	GARCIA	SYDNEY	AUSTRALIA	1870+
542	GOMES	SYDNEY	AUSTRALIA	1870+
542	HOPLEY	SYDNEY	AUSTRALIA	1870+
542	HYMANN	SYDNEY	AUSTRALIA	1870+
542	INGRAM	SYDNEY	AUSTRALIA	1900+
12	ITZIG	LASIN	POLAND	1800s
542	LEVY	SYDNEY	AUSTRALIA	1870+
542	MOSES	LONDON	ENGLAND	1800+
542	NATHAN	LONDON	ENGLAND	1800+
542	NATHAN	SYDNEY	AUSTRALIA	1853+
542	NOLAN	SYDNEY	AUSTRALIA	1900+
11	PINKUS	NIESZAWA	POLAND	1800s
543	SCHWARTZ	HULL	ENGLAND	1850-1920
543	SCHWARTZ	BRISTOL	ENGLAND	1850-1920
11	SIEGENFELD	ST LOUIS	U.S.A.	1900s
542	WATSON	SYDNEY	AUSTRALIA	1900+
11	WLOCLAWSKI	NIESZAWA	POLAND	1800s