



The Kasher Koala

Newsletter of the Australian Jewish Genealogical Society, Inc

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**A Supplement To Jewish Genealogy
Downunder and The Kasher Koala,
December, 2008**

Report on the

**NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON JEWISH
GENEALOGY, Canberra, October, 2008**

WORKSHOP DATES

2009

**Sunday, January 11
from 9.30 a.m.**

**Monday, January 19
from 10.00 a.m.**

**Sunday, February 1
from 9.30 a.m.**

**Monday, February 16
from 10.00 a.m.**

**Sunday, March 8
from 9.30 a.m.**

**Monday, March 16
from 10.00 a.m.**

AGM

March 29, 3 p.m.

COA

**25 Rowe Street
Bondi Junction**

Guest Speaker

*Professor
KONRAD KWIET*

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Our year has ended with the memorable event, our first National Conference held in Canberra. It was very satisfying, that, after all the preparations and attention to detail, everyone enjoyed it so much and that their research opportunities were extended. Many thanks to all who helped make this event so successful and especially, Kim Phillips, conference convenor, for her professional control of the arrangements.

Next year we will continue to schedule interesting events such as visits from overseas speakers. Recently we enjoyed visits from Anthony Joseph from the UK and Martha Lev-Zion from Israel.

As foreshadowed in the last edition, it has been decided that, for a number of reasons, Kasher Koala will no longer be published. Societies and organisations around the world are changing to available digital methods for keeping in touch with their members and we hope that the new formats will be as useful as Kasher Koala has been in the past. The final methods have yet to be decided upon and we invite anyone who may have an interest in either, the decision making, or their implementation and/or monitoring to contact us.

I have been involved with the preparation and publishing of every Kasher Koala except one edition. That's 59 editions! Through this interest I have been kept up-to-date with new releases, techniques and websites and so my own research continued and every so often, I made a new discovery. I strongly recommend volunteering as a way of keeping tabs on the current developments in Jewish genealogy.

Without the expense of printing and posting a hard copy newsletter, it is expected that the cost of membership will continue to remain at the current levels. As usual members will be notified by email about upcoming events and those few without email will not be neglected.

Despite the fall in the Australian dollar increasing the cost of books and journals, the membership funds, as in the past, will be used for purchasing resources for our reference library. This year we are grateful to those members who donated publications that were important additions to possibly the best reference library for Jewish genealogy in Australia.

May 2009 bring success and enjoyment to you and your families.

Rieke Nash
President
president@ajgs.org.au

EDITORIAL

This is a very special edition of the Kasher Koala.

Those who came to our very first ever National Conference in Canberra will be able to reminisce as they read the stories and examine the photos and remember all the wonderful new *cousins* and friends they met.

To the organisers of this wonderful event, I say thank you. The efforts that you all made and all the hard work that you put into making this Conference such a successful and amazing event is truly appreciated by all of us who were so fortunate to be able to attend.

Those who were unable to attend will be able to learn about what happened and what we did, and make a note not to miss the next National event.

It is also that very special time of the year when we celebrate Chanuka and have time to enjoy reading the Kasher Koala over our long hot summer days.

As from next year all the news will be on-line, so this year as you read The Kasher Koala you will not miss a word because this is the very last printed edition and very sadly I say goodbye to you as the editor after six and a half years.

I've met so many special people since becoming editor. Thank you to all our readers. Thank you to those who have submitted articles and ideas that have helped make this newsletter so special and such a good read. Thank you to photo editor Ken Lipworth for the interesting new look his photos gave to each edition, and to Rieke and Peter Nash for their invaluable input, work, and support at all times, and to all those who have assisted me in producing something as special as The Kasher Koala.

Those doing research in England will be interested in Adèle Schaverien's *The Jewish Chronicle* based on back copies of the Jewish Chronicle and Peter Nash tells the latest about his mother's passport.

If you have a Sephardi background you will be interested in Bernie Freedman's book review of *Baghdad To Bombay* by Pearl Sofaer. As well there are websites to research, news items and much more.

And of course this final Kasher Koala will be the one copy that you will store in your archives.

Happy Reading! Happy Chanuka!

Miriam Shifreen,
Editor
ed@ajgs.org.au

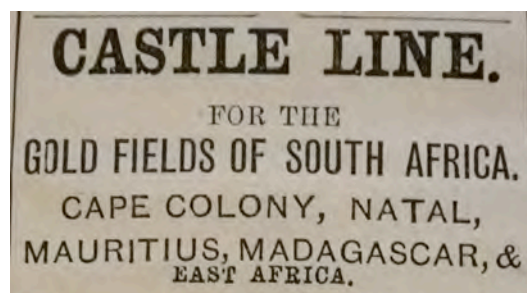
THE LONDON JEWISH CHRONICLE IN THE 1880s

By Adèle Schaverien

When Rieke (Nash) generously gave me the chance to read through back copies of the Jewish Chronicle that she rescued, it was too good an opportunity to miss. I hoped to come across information and trace elusive family members, a problem many of the readers will recognise in our genealogical pursuits. Although, it was not just the search for names that was uppermost in my mind. The pages revealed lists of donors' names that supported their favourite charities (a chance perhaps to see if a family name appeared there?); news about communities that had settled in many of the provincial towns in England; articles on what was happening in the Jewish communities world towards the end of the nineteenth century; and old advertisements which reflect life in that particular period.

All this conspired to distract most enjoyably from the original task in hand. In my experience from research into my special field of interest, it is often material you do not need that is most absorbing and diverting.

Whilst I worked my way through these journals I was struck by how little the selection of articles and features had changed to those that appear in current editions. Perhaps the biggest difference was in the fact that there was a series under the title 'Foreign and Colonial News' describing the state of the many Jewish communities around the world, including Australia.



The sad plight of Jews is graphically described: in Morocco, Tripoli, and Algiers as well as in many parts of Europe. The daily impositions put on other communities spread throughout Europe were a reminder of how settled life in England was for the Jewish community. Apart from anti-Semitic comments and certain restrictions, which could apply to a job application, membership of a club, or the occasional punch-up, life in England did not hold a threatening presence. One example of the cancer of anti-Semitism is recorded in these words accusing Kaiser Friedrich Wilhelm as 'Juden Kaiser Friedrich Cohn' which were to be seen,

daubed on walls and placards in Germany. Other examples reported were: a pistol fired into the Sephardi synagogue in Temesvar in Hungary and, parading of images of Judas Iscariot on Good Friday in Tangiers, while the authorities looked away. As the classic saying goes 'What's new?'

The names of the leading families in England appear in many of the charity lists, together with the amounts donated! The families of the Mocattas, Montefiores, Rothschild, Salaman, Samuel, Sebag-Montefiore, Sassoon, Henriques, Guedella and Tiarks. Many of those names have since intermarried and are part of the English upper class. The dowager Duchess of Woburn was Henrietta Tiarks before she married, although her family was no longer connected with the Jewish community.

On the 20th August 1888 (p.9 no. 995) there was an appeal by Lord Rothschild, then President of the Jew's Free School. My interest was alerted to this piece, as my father went to the Jewish Free School and was Head Boy before he left at the age of fourteen. The school was described as a great school sited in Bell Lane and had a commitment 'by history and existence of Jews to Religious Education'. The late Matthew Arnold was apparently the first non-Jew to recommend 'the excellent work done in Bell Lane.' The view that the school should have sufficient funds to ensure all its needs could be met was the reason for this appeal. The increasing problem of a large number of poor immigrants (described as 'the foreign poor') could 'only be solved by Education.' It is worth quoting directly from the article: 'To free them from the influences of oppression which affected their elders. To teach them self-reliance and self-restraint, as good and industrious citizens', and 'trained to become part of the fabric of community well-being'. The article continues in a spirited and patriotic vein. The majority of the 3,000 children entered as foreigners but 'they leave as potential English men and women, prepared to take their part in the struggle for life in the spirit of English citizens.' The other influence practised by the school expressed the hope that students remain loyal to the Jewish traditions and so help to break down superstitions commonly held by their Christian neighbours and the wider community.

'If it did not exist, it would have to be created. The children of raw Russian immigrants, could not, without positive cruelty, be handed over to the tender mercies of the Board Schools, (i.e., public schools) filled, as they are, with a juvenile population only too ready to give at peculiarities of speech and manner' and 'to ill-treat by word or deed the hapless foreigners and Jews'. The

institution 'of the Jew's Free School allows them to forget they are strangers with sympathy and gentleness and gives them an education in a benign atmosphere'. The article ends with hopes for a most successful appeal.

A supplement on the Anglo Jewish Historical Exhibition held at the Albert Hall ran for three or four weeks, with the usual number of grumpy letters to the Editor, pointing out *which* artefacts should have been included and pointing out perceived errors and omissions. What an amazing collection of social and political knowledge is to be found if only one had unlimited time to follow up these fascinating articles.

Another illuminating view of life at that time is the advertisements; particularly when a number of these companies are still trading. Bookbinding was offered by Joseph Vallentine; they are a publishing and printing company to this day; the well-known brand of L. A. Britton & Sons, then provision merchants but today a brand of purveyors of bottled pickled cucumbers and other Jewish food favourites.



Bonn's Matzos are still in business and the nineteenth century Jewish princess was catered for as she could purchase Passover cakes (the very best at 3½d per lbⁱ) from Messrs Abrahams and Jacobs (patronised by the late Sir Moses Montefiore and established in 1716); and this company would (obligingly) pack own customers' boxes – free of charge. Or you could purchase a free-standing patent deep fryer for the onerous and weekly task of cooking for Shabbatⁱⁱ.

THE CHALLENGE (REGISTERED) FISH FRYER.

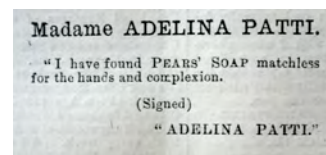


The pan is cast specially for this purpose; WILL NOT BURN. It is fitted with 2 atmospheric gas ring burners, each fitted with a separate tap so that the heat is equally distributed all over the pan.

REQUIRES NO FIXING.
Size over all, 31 in. high, 20 diam.
PRICE 17s. 6d.

AMERICAN STOVE STORES,
139, CHEAPSIDE.
Proprietors and Patentees—WM. POORE & CO

Advertisements for Mohels and Monumental Masons, Boarding schools, and Finishing schools in Belgium, France and Germany, articles for sale, music lessons and companion/housekeepers as well as furniture and fashion and Pear's soap featured regularly.



Silk tallisim could be purchased from Jane Buckridge, manufacturer and 'successor to her father' John, offering the lowest possible prices; established over 50 years and removed

from number 6 to 137 Whitechapel High Street. The ultimate was an advertisement by W & F Thorn, established in 1824 (London only) for a New Patent Safety Brougham, suitable for 15 hand horse.



It has been a great privilege to work my way through the old copies of the Jewish Chronicle and if I had to compare the advantage of this over research through their internet site, I would choose the hard copy every time. Perhaps this is a generational approach on the writer's part. No doubt, the speed of retrieval from the internet has the edge, but the joy of taking time is a salutary reminder that our lives today are so filled with gathering and collecting information at a cracking pace compared to our ancestors; and also a means of getting in touch with the pace of life lived by our forebears. Their lives were certainly as stressful in their way, but at least they were not assailed by the modern tools that were supposed to make our lives easier. The other advantage of the hard copy means one can copy down the full text and not have to pay to view!

ⁱ The poet 1822-1888

ⁱⁱ 12 pence to one shilling, 20 shillings to the pound (£)

ⁱⁱⁱ The price 17s. and 6d. A subsistence wage was approx. 3s 3d per week

Adèle Schaverein, a welcome new member of our Society, is a relatively recent arrival from England having decided to retire here close to family.

POSTSCRIPT TO MY PASSPORT STORY

By Peter Nash

In early October 2008 I received an unexpected invitation to come, with Rieke, to Shanghai to participate in a programme of talks centred on how Shanghai became a place of refuge for nearly 20,000 German, Austrian, Polish and other European Jews.

The story of Shanghai as a haven for nearly 20,000 Jewish refugees is still a little known chapter in the history of the Holocaust. So it was an appropriate theme for the planned programme whose target audience was German ex-patriates working and living in Shanghai, other foreign nationals as well as Chinese who were either engaged in Jewish Studies or from the media. Included also was a presentation to school-age children of German speaking origin (children from working parents) and Chinese children learning German in the foreign language schools. I was also asked to present in German – in which I am still fluent.

During the main presentation to a packed audience of well over 100, Thomas Dorn described how he found my mother's passport and then me - by 'Googling' my name. (See KK Vol 15 No 1, March 2008). At this point he called me up to the podium and handed over my passport, this time to keep. I was overwhelmed and others there were quite moved.

The other presentation to over 60 German speaking and Chinese school children was held at the recently restored Ohel Moishe Synagogue at its original location in the former Ward Road (now Changyang Lu). The site is also a Museum and has a new building behind the courtyard where there is a gallery of photos and artefacts. After a short tour of the nearby Hongkew (now Hongkou) area including a visit to the commemorative plaque at the former Wayside Park, I spoke about my life as a child in the Hongkew Ghetto.

Later Rieke and I wandered around the former ghetto area which has not been redeveloped and I was amazed to find that the house where my parents and I lived in a single room for 10 years was still standing. We went inside and up to the second floor room and the Chinese tenant allowed us entry. It was a strange feeling to be there and to tell and show Rieke how we lived – and survived.

The full story of the visit to Shanghai and the presentations can be found on the former Shanghailanders website: www.rickshaw.org



THE DESIGNATED AREA FOR STATELESS REFUGEES

From 1937 to 1941, thousands of Jews came to Shanghai fleeing from Nazi persecution. Japanese occupation authorities regarded them as "stateless refugees" and set up this designated area to restrict their residence and business. The designated area was bordered on the west by Gongping Road, on the east by Tongbei Road, on the south by Huimin Road, and on the north by Zhoujiazui Road.

Hongkou District People's Government

RESEARCH TOOL AT THE SYDNEY JEWISH MUSEUM

By Mariela Sztrum

The USC Shoah Foundation Institute for Visual History and Education's archive is now available at the Sydney Jewish Museum. This stand-alone Server provides access to the Australian collection of 2,481 testimonies from Holocaust survivors, other victim groups and witnesses.

In 1994, Steven Spielberg established Survivors of the Shoah Visual History Foundation to videotape and preserve testimonies of Holocaust survivors and other witnesses. As of January 1, 2006, Survivors of the Shoah Visual History Foundation became a part of the University of Southern California's (USC) College of Letters, Arts & Sciences and adopted the name USC Shoah Foundation Institute for Visual History and Education.

The Institute interviewed Jewish survivors, homosexual survivors, Jehovah's Witness survivors, liberators and liberation witnesses, political prisoners, rescuers and aid providers, Roma and Sinti survivors (Gypsy), survivors of Eugenics policies, and war crimes trials participants.

The Archive will enable visitors to the Museum to undertake academic research as well as family history research.

All Museum members and volunteers are welcome to conduct searches using this exceptional tool, located in the Museum's Library & Resource Centre.

An official launch will take place early next year.

For further information, please contact Mariela Sztrum on 9360 7999 or msztrum@sjm.com.au

Sydney Jewish Museum
148 Darlinghurst Rd
Darlinghurst NSW 2010

Note

The complete database of over 50,000 interviews world wide can be searched at:
www.usc.edu/vhi

where it is possible to discover references to testimonies that may be of interest. For example, searching town of birth or place of interview will provide information to be followed up and, for Australian interviews, they can then be accessed at the Museum.

Monash University in Melbourne has the complete set of testimonies.

IT'S NOT ALL BLACK AND WHITE!

THE SOUTH AFRICA TO AUSTRALIA STORY NOW AT THE SYDNEY JEWISH MUSEUM

www.sydnejewishmuseum.com.au/exhibitions/current.asp

From Lithuania, Latvia and in fact, all of Europe to South Africa to Sydney, Australia – this is the story in the South African exhibition, the latest at the Sydney Jewish Museum. The exhibition chronicles Jewish life in 20th century and 21st century South Africa, using artifacts, photographs, documents, film and personal stories. It explains the events which then propelled South African Jews to emigrate to Australia.

The exhibits, together with the texts, quotes, stories and images offer the visitor not only a trip down memory lane, but an insight into the social, political and religious life of Jews in South Africa. The backbone of the exhibition is the historical narrative written by Louise Leibowitz, from arrival of the first Jews in South Africa, to economic success, Zionism, antisemitism, daily life, apartheid, then on to waves of migration and the many reasons for leaving. The exhibition unfolds with *Destination Down Under* – the joy of arriving in a new land, integration and settling in.

On January 26, 2009 there will be free entry to the museum.

NEUE FREIE PRESSE (NFP) 1864 to 1939

New Free Press, Vienna

[//anno.onb.ac.at/cgi-content/anno?aid=nfp](http://anno.onb.ac.at/cgi-content/anno?aid=nfp)

All pages for the years 1864 to 1939 for this Viennese publication have been added to the above website. The NFP was a daily publication and the site is organised by year, month and day so it is particularly useful for finding Death Notices if one knows the approximate date of death. These notices contain vital information about family members and can be easily read although in German.

The above notice appeared in the September edition of *Kosher Koala*. Society member, Lindsay Broughton, followed up on it *even though she knew that WILHEM LOVINGER had never lived in Vienna* but some of the family had gone there. He had died in Pozsony (now Bratislava), Slovakia. The value of the find to Lindsay was the confirmation for her research of surnames and married names of the children and grandchild listed in the notice. Check the date 10 July, 1918 or look at the following website to see the detail in this Death Notice.

[//anno.onb.ac.at/cgi-content/anno?apm=0&aid=nfp&datum=19180712&seite=14&zoom=2](http://anno.onb.ac.at/cgi-content/anno?apm=0&aid=nfp&datum=19180712&seite=14&zoom=2)

Shipping lists from the U.K. 1890-1960

The British site, www.findmypast.com has now expanded its index of people emigrating from the UK to include the years 1890–1960. It is a fee-for-service site although, at no charge, the site displays the passenger's surname and first name, year of birth, sex, year of departure, departure port, destination port and country.

A transcript of the entry for a specific passenger costs five units. To get a copy of the actual page of the passenger manifest costs 30 units. You can purchase a minimum of 60 units for £6.95. There are discounts for larger purchases.

FindMyPast has a number of other databases, such as 1841-1891 census data, military records, and vital records index books so for researchers with UK family interests, a year's subscription could be well worthwhile.

Shipping lists to the U.K. 1878-1960

Passengers arriving in the UK from ports outside of Europe and the Mediterranean are now available on ancestry.co.uk

1911 U.K. Census

The 1911 census for England and Wales will be launched online in 2009 at www.1911census.co.uk, the official census website, powered by findmypast in association with The National Archives. This will be a pay-per-view site, and customers who are already registered on findmypast.com will be able to enter their username and password and use any findmypast units across both sites. This means you'll be able to view records from each census from 1841 to 1911, plus many more essential family history records, by purchasing just a single package of units. Later, the 1911 census will also appear on findmypast.com, which will then be the only family history site to offer the 1911 census as part of a subscription package, providing unlimited access to the records for a fixed annual fee.

UK Newspapers

Two British newspapers, the *Guardian* and the *Observer* have placed more than 212 years of their back editions on the Internet. They are offering free access at any library or institution that subscribes to the ProQuest Historical Newspapers Service, or, for the nominal cost of £7.95, you can purchase access for 24 hours. There are rates for longer term access. The site is located at [//archive.guardian.co.uk/](http://archive.guardian.co.uk/).

Burial enquiries for Edmonton and Rainham

The Federation of Synagogues in the UK now has a website at www.federationofsynagogues.com

We were very sad to hear of the recent passing of one of our long-time members, Beverly Flider. Many of our members will have had correspondence over the years with Beverley and will miss her enthusiasm.

BEVERLY FLIDER (nee Bliss)**28th April 1926 – 18th April 2008**

Beverley Flider was a descendant of Samuel Marks and Fyla (Fanny/Sophia) Collins (Collan) from Amsterdam and of their grandson Charles who migrated to New Zealand from London in 1857. Samuel's father was described as "one Mark [MARKS] of Amsterdam" in Rev Rosebaum's letter in the Australian Jewish Historical Society article in 1950.

Beverley was an enthusiastic researcher of her family history and especially her Jewish ancestry. She first started her research in 1976 and like many researchers struck brick walls and especially on her MARKS and COLLINS ancestors from Holland. To a lesser extent she also researched her WOOLF and ASHER/ASCHER ancestors. Bev was absolutely delighted when a series of breakthroughs in Holland emerged in the last year or two.

She was always very appreciative of the input from numerous other keen Jewish researchers in Australia, New Zealand, USA, and England. Bev joined the Australian Jewish Genealogical Society about the beginning of 1996 and she very much valued that connection. When her four grandchildren started coming along from 1996 onwards Bev's attention quite rightly diverted to them and her research endeavours, but not her enthusiasm, diminished.

Kindly submitted by Ray Skinner

GOOGLE YOUR FAMILY TREE

is a new book available from Avotaynu at www.avotaynu.com.

Gary Mokotoff recommends it as 'a must for every household, not merely for family history research, but for every family member who uses the Internet to glean information.' The Society has ordered a copy.

From ETZ CHAIM: TAPHOPHILIA**ARE YOU A TAPHOPHILE?**

Do you have an excessive interest in graves and cemeteries? Wikipedia defines it as a passion for and enjoyment of cemeteries. If you have a strong interest in cemeteries and see visiting such places as interesting, historical, and educational, then you may be thought of and considered a *Taphophile*.

JEWISHGEN DATABASES

JewishGen is pleased to announce the release of 120,000 new records, in various databases. These include:

JewishGen Holocaust Databases

Hidden Children in France

Information on 4,000 children hidden in France by the Oeuvre de Secours aux Enfants (OSE)

Rhodes to Ferramonti

Persons from Rhodes who were transferred to the Ferramonti Di Tarsia Internment Camp, 12 January, 1942

"Jews For Sale": The Rudolph Kasztner Transports
Names of 1,900 rescued Hungarian Jews, 1944

Arad Census - 1942

9,698 names in a census of Arad,
Hungary/Romania, 1942

Lost Train from Bergen-Belsen

Bergen-Belsen to Trobitz, April 1945

The JewishGen Holocaust Database is a collection of 150 datasets, containing nearly two million records about Holocaust victims and survivors.

www.jewishgen.org/databases/Holocaust

Hungarian Census Records

1,519 records for Bereg county, 1832, 1842

www.jewishgen.org/databases/Hungary

Bialystok area 1895 and 1903 "Vsia Rossiia":

1,264 entries from Russian business directories for Bialystok, Bielsk, and Sokolka uyezds districts, Grodno gubernia (now in NE Poland).

www.jewishgen.org/databases/vsia

Bessarabia Vital Records

More than 20,000 additional birth, marriage and death records for Beltsy, Bendery, and Kishinev (now in Moldova).

www.jewishgen.org/databases/Romania

Lithuania

Tax and Voters Lists

1,598 records for Telz & Shavl districts
1880s-1915.

Revision Lists

8,148 records
Panevezys district 1887
Troki district
1834-42

Lithuania Vital Records -

24,114 new records:

Births

Alytus 1922-1939 (incl. Butrymonis, Daugai, Jieznas, Simnas)
Babtai 1875-1891, 1913-14
Cekiske 1865-1906
Grinkiskis 1844, 1873-75, 1881-1914
Jonava 1922-31
Josvainiai 1836-37, 1844, 1873-1914
Kaunas 1880-85
Panevezys 1876, 1883, 1885, 1892-1903, 1905
Seredzius 1897-1906
Simnas 1922-26
Vilkija 1838-1897
Vilijampole 1880-1882, 84-85, 90-91

Deaths

Babtai 1875-1884
Birzai 1881-1898
Butrymonis 1922-26
Joniskis 1919-39 (includes Linkuva, Zagare)
Kedainiai 1854-1910
Panemune Frentzela 1826-1837
Panevezys 1875, 1880, 1922-24
Pasvitinys 1922-26
Raseniai 1922-39
Varniai 1852-66; 1868-75, 1881-1913
Vilkija 1854-57, 1861-1914
Vilijampole 1881

Lithuania Internal Passports

886 records for Siauliai (Shavl),
338 for Panevezys (Ponevez)

www.jewishgen.org/databases/Lithuania

Duma Voter Lists - Minsk Gubernia:

Names of more than 35,000 men eligible to vote in the Russian parliamentary elections in 1906 and 1907 and nine districts of Minsk Gubernia, now Belarus

www.jewishgen.org/databases/Belarus

Thanks to all of the volunteers and donors who made these databases possible.

All of JewishGen's databases can be found at
www.jewishgen.org/databases

Warren Blatt

Managing Director, JewishGen

wblatt@jewishgen.org

NEW RESOURCES IN OUR LIBRARY

BAGHDAD TO BOMBAY In the Kitchens of My Cousins

By Pearl Sofaer
(Self published)

Reviewed by Bernie Freedman

Pearl Sofaer, the author of this book has devoted, and enjoyed 30 years of her adult life in Palo Alto, USA, 'fulfilling a duty given to her by her father in a dream.... find, gather and protect the riches of our family'. Initially unaware of what might be such riches, except to know that the family was huge, had deep roots in many Eastern countries and now were flourishing almost everywhere.

Pearl is not a genealogist, so her 240 page book does not contain family tree diagrams. Instead the history and culture of the family is told through food, the special recipes handed down through the generations.

Little is recorded of the family Babylonian roots, only the name Hanassi ye Haskell Bechor from Persia or of the family traditions in Baghdad.

In far more detail is the Burma, Rangoon history from the early 1800s and Bombay in the 19th and 20th centuries. After partition, the families moved on to London, America, Israel, Sydney and New Zealand. The family names, activities and many photographs are included with family details so that if genealogy connections are sought the information in the book can be a helpful start.

Both Pearl's parents had 10 siblings, giving Pearl 60 plus first cousins in Bombay, and surrounding her with the crowning joys of extended family homes and lives. To rediscover such riches did not require researching library books, it required many years of travelling, visiting, socializing, and most importantly eating with cousins in their homes and families. The reputation of the mother of each family was gained not from her beauty or her ability to produce ten children, but from her speciality dish, proudly proclaimed, long remembered and dedicated to her name.

These treasured recipes from each of the families have now been collected. In Pearl's book, a total of 60 recipes, each given a full page of explanation, and then named, and indexed in the back. In addition, indexed are the many herbs with their English and Hindi names.

Copies of the book may be obtained from Bernie Freedman (Tel: 0422 174 123)

ANTIQUÉ MAPS

The Society has acquired (from Avotaynu) a set of 18 antique maps that can be consulted in our library. They cover 18th and 19th Century Europe and show historical borders and towns and villages in remarkable detail. Included are maps of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, Bohemia, the Germany Empire, the Baltic States, Poland and the Russian Empire at various dates with original names for provinces, states, rivers and railways. All who have seen them have been fascinated by the additional information that can be gleaned from them.

Donated by Greg Sachs

KEEP IT FOR THE FUTURE

How to set up small community archives

National Archives of Australia, Canberra, 2007

Available from National Archives, PO Box 7425, Canberra Busines Centre, ACT, 2610, \$5 including postage.

With this book's many helpful hints, the family history researcher can be guided in the preservation and storage of photos, original documents and films even though the book has been written for use by archivists.

AN ANCIENT LINEAGE

European Roots of a Jewish Family

By Edward Gelles

Vallentine Mitchell, London, 2006

Genealogical methodology and historical perspectives are used in this publication of an important and large European family. Even though chapters are devoted to each family, an index would have been helpful. The accompanying booklet (see below) compensates for this omission.

GELLES, GRIFFEL, WAHL, CHAYES, SAFIER, LOEW, TAUBE

FAMILY CONNECTIONS

Gelles – Horowitz – Chajes

A Genealogical Study

By Edward Gelles

Shaker Publishing, Maastricht, 2008

Includes families LOEW, KATZ, JAFFE, SHAPIRO, HALPERN, HILLMAN, ISSERLES, MEISELS, KATZENELLENBOGEN, BABAD, FRIEDMAN, LANDAU, RAPAPORT, FRAENKEL, FISCHER, MARGOLIES and others.

Both books were donated by Sophie Caplan, OAM

THE JEWS OF FRANCE

A History from Antiquity to the Present

By Esther Benbassa,

Princeton University Press, 1999

Donated by Adele Schaverien

LIVES LOST AND FOUND - A Cabaret AJGS Conference, Canberra, 2008

Dianne Johnstone (with Jeannette Tsoulos)

For those who missed the entertainment at the conference dinner, we are very happy that a DVD was made of this memorable performance.

Donated by Dianne Johnstone

AUDIO PRESENTATIONS from the 28th IAJGS International Conference On Jewish Genealogy, Chicago, 2008

The set of 4 CDs includes 110 presentations from the latest international conference held in Chicago. The wide range of up-to-date topics includes the latest in DNA, migration studies, JewishGen and Ancestry as well as expert advice for researching most geographic areas. The list is available in the library.

WEB SITES FOR GENEALOGISTS

Cora Num, 10th Edition, 2008

Available from www.coranum.com.au

this publication is exceptionally useful, especially for beginners.

CALL FOR PAPERS FOR THE 29th IAJGS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON JEWISH GENEALOGY IN PHILADELPHIA, 2009

We are extremely pleased to announce that the Call for Papers for the 29th IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy is now open. Please go to www.Philly2009.org for all the details. We look forward to receiving many proposals and thank you all in advance for participating in our programming process.

The conference is co-hosted by the International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies (IAJGS) and the Jewish Genealogical Society of Greater Philadelphia (JGSGP) and will be held at the Sheraton Philadelphia City Center Hotel at 17th and Race Street, Philadelphia, PA, 19103, August 2-7, 2009. It is a conference you won't want to miss for there is no doubt but that it will be a wonderful experience. Whether you are a beginner or an experienced genealogist, there will be many things of interest and help.

Over the coming weeks and months we will be adding new information to the website so be sure to check back often.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Anne Feder Lee and David Mink, Co-Chairs
information@philly2009.org

FRENCH SHOAH RESOURCES TO BE DIGITISED

A cooperative agreement between the Archives Departementales in Lyon and the Memorial de la Shoah in Paris plans to digitize more than 750,000 views from various sources related to persecutions of the Jews in the Lyon region. A copy will be available in Paris Centre de Documentation Juive Contemporaine/ Mémorial de la Shoah.

This kind of agreement is not the first one in France and the program started by the USHMM in the 90's is almost completed although some departmental archives are still very reluctant to participate even if a national agreement is ongoing.

The Rhone campaign is very unique because of the Foreigner file series which are representing 565 boxes and more than 30,000 Jews for the period 1938-1948. A wide range of nationals are present in that collection with a majority of Polish, German and Austrian refugees, Turkish and other nationals and stateless people who we can trace in various places in France during the time of persecutions.

The Prison of Montluc fond will also be transferred to Paris with the Memorial de l'Oppression and other small collections regarding internment in the area and emigration to Palestine after May 1945. These collections document the people who were arrested in the region of Lyon and deported from Drancy, people put in forced residency, sent to French internment camps in the south of France in may 1940 and later.

A database of the foreigner files is online at www.jewishtraces.org/search.php or through Steve Morse webpage. Because of French regulation on public archives, these documents cannot be uploaded on the Internet, even if we are all aware of the great value for family history.

Dorot association d'histoire is acting as liaison between the two institutions and the company which will digitize and index records. We are proud to participate to this campaign.

For personal inquiries please contact

Manuela Wyler

Lyon, France

www.jewishtraces.org

www.dorot.fr

Dorot association d'histoire

www.exilordinaire.org

15 avenue de Gadagne

69230 St Genis Laval

Tel : 09 65 30 87 32

The Australian Jewish Genealogical Society, Inc.

***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.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

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IAJGS CONFERENCE DATES

2009 Philadelphia 2 – 7 August

The Sheraton Philadelphia City Center Hotel will
be the venue for the 2009 IAJGS Conference
organised by the IAJGS and the JGS of Greater
Philadelphia.

2010 Los Angeles 11-16 July

2011 Washington

AUSTRALIAN JEWISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY DATABASE

Update of the Surnames being researched by our members

December, 2008

Id	Surname	Current name of Town	Country	Dates
642	ABRAHAMSSOHN	HAMBURG	GERMANY	
647	ACKMAN	MELBOURNE	AUSTRALIA	1800s
647	BARNETT	LIVERPOOL	ENGLAND	1800s
647	BARNETT	MELBOURNE	AUSTRALIA	Late 1800s
651	BARTOK	BUDAPEST	HUNGARY	
647	BROTZ	BERLIN	GERMANY	1862-1944
645	DEFRIES	LONDON	ENGLAND	1760+
645	DEFRIES	SYDNEY	AUSTRALIA	c. 1860+
656	GERSHEVICH	VLADIVOSKTOK	RUSSIA	
656	GERSHEVICH	TIENTSIN	CHINA	
656	GERSHEVICH	SHANGHAI	CHINA	
652	HALL	HIGH LYTTLETON	ENGLAND	
647	HARRIS	LIVERPOOL	ENGLAND	1818-1897
646	HELPER	WARSZAWA	POLAND	1873-1886
646	HELPER	LONDON	ENGLAND	1886-1916
656	IRLIAR	SHANGHAI	CHINA	
645	ISAACS	SYDNEY	AUSTRALIA	c. 1875+
647	LEVY	LONDON	ENGLAND	1785-1857
647	MARKS	LONDON	ENGLAND	1780-1842
645	MARKS	SYDNEY	AUSTRALIA	c. 1875+
647	MEYER	BERLIN	GERMANY	1892-1939
644	MORWITCH	KRAKOW	POLAND	1826-1851
644	MORWITCH	BRISTOL	ENGLAND	
644	MORWITCH	BALLARAT	AUSTRALIA	1853+
644	MORWITCH	BRISBANE	AUSTRALIA	1853+
644	MORWITCH	SYDNEY	AUSTRALIA	1853+
652	NELSON	KOLNO	POLAND	
656	NEVLER	CHITA	RUSSIA	
656	NEVLER	TIENTSIN	CHINA	
652	NUNES MARTINES	LONDON	ENGLAND	
652	NUNES MARTINES		PORTUGAL	
652	NUNES MARTINES		SPAIN	
642	OPPENHEIM	HAMBURG	GERMANY	
642	OPPENHEIMER	HAMBURG	GERMANY	
646	PRESS	SIAULIAI	LITHUANIA	To 1898
647	PREUST	BERLIN	GERMANY	1860s
651	SAS	BUDAPEST	HUNGARY	
646	SOLOMON	LONDON	ENGLAND	1879-1916
646	TURRITZ	SIAULIAI	LITHUANIA	To 1898
642	WOLFERS	HAMBURG	GERMANY	
642	WOLFERS	BENTHEIM	GERMANY	
642	WOLFERS	MINDEN	GERMANY	

HAPPY CHANUKAH

and may 2009 be a happy and productive year

First Australian National Conference on Jewish Genealogy - an outstanding success!

The first Australian National Conference on Jewish Genealogy was held in Australia's capital city, Canberra, from 26th-29th October, 2008. Judging by the feedback from those who attended, the success of the event was beyond everyone's expectations.

Picturesque Canberra was chosen as the site for this conference being the home of major resources for Australian genealogical research – for example there is the National Archives of Australia, the National Library of Australia, the Australian War Memorial and the Heraldry and Genealogy Society of Canberra.

Canberra, located in the Australian Capital Territory, is 280 kilometres south-west from Sydney and 650 kilometres north-east of Melbourne. This brings it in reasonable driving distance from the two major State capitals. It is Australia's largest inland city with over 340,000 people and has a small Jewish community.



The Venue - the National Jewish Memorial Centre

The hub of Jewish cultural and religious activity in the Australian Capital Territory is the National Jewish Memorial Centre in Forrest. The Centre was purpose built in 1971 and its Synagogue provides for the needs of both the orthodox and Progressive congregants. It was an ideal venue for plenums, lectures, small group discussions and the conference banquet. During the lunch breaks people were able to spill outdoors on the spacious lawns to chat and share their research or visit the well organised Resource Room .

The local area offers a choice of moderately priced motels and rental apartments within close walking distance to the Centre and a short walk away to the restaurants and shops in nearby Manuka, south of the city centre.



Vernon Kronenberg



Kay Quittner (Vic), Nigel Meinrath (NSW), Jeanette Tsoulos (NSW) and Terry Newman (NSW)

The conference was a very ambitious project for the Australian Jewish Genealogical Societies of both Sydney and Melbourne and, without the support of the small local Jewish community and its AJGS representative, Vernon Kronenberg, who attended to all the local practical arrangements, this conference would not have been feasible.



Kim Phillips

Kim Phillips of Sydney was both the initiator and outstanding convener of the conference, Rieke and Peter Nash and Sunny Gold (Sydney), Vernon Kronenberg (Canberra) and Lionel Sharpe (Melbourne) played a key role in the administration and program planning.

Resource materials of the AJGS were transported by car from Sydney to the conference site, unpacked and then returned to the



Sunny Gold and Jeanette Tsoulos (NSW)



Robyn Dryen and Daniela Torsh (NSW)



Frank Atkinson, A.C.T. historian answered questions about the old Jewish Cemetery at Goulburn in N.S.W., during breaks at the Conference.



Kim Phillips, Rieke Nash (NSW), Lionel Sharpe (Vic)



Joe Safreen and Cecily Parris (NSW)



P.A. Sarah Vorschheimer and Michael Taub (NSW)



Jenni Buch, Margot Schwab and Evie Katz (Vic)



Sunny Gold and Miriam Shifreen (NSW)



Liz James, Debbie Jurblum and Lionel Sharpe (Vic)



Les Oberman (Pres. AJGS (Vic)) and Russell Feldman (Vic)



Sophie Caplan (NSW) and Vernon Kronenberg (ACT)



Allan Jankie (Vic)

home base in Sydney at the end of the conference. Even the Kosher wine and kosher biscuits made the long car journey. This was an enormous amount of work and all credit goes to our Sydney representatives for their dedication and enthusiasm.

Kim, Rieke and Peter rented a three bedroom apartment which served as the office and control centre prior to the opening of the Centre on Sunday morning. The photocopier, brought from Sydney, was working overtime churning out participant and bus lists and notices in preparation for the next few days.



Claire Bruell (N.Z.) Daniela Torsh (NSW)

The conference satchels containing name tags (with ancestral surnames and town names) were also filled with booklets bearing such titles as – ‘Conference Planner’ (13 pages) including a list of participants’ contact information. ‘Conference Resources’ (8 pages), ‘Conference Family Finder’ (8 pages of surnames/town/country submitted by the participants prior to the conference) and a 15 pages booklet, ‘Starting your Jewish Family History Research: A Guide’.

Vernon Kronenberg of Canberra arranged for tourist information booklets, maps and flyers to be included in the satchels. For many this was a long awaited visit or revisit to the capital city and an opportunity to inspect the National Gallery and the National Museum of Australia which only opened in 2001.



Anita Shroot, President of the A.C.T. Jewish Community welcoming the participants.



Martha Lev-Zion

Dr Martha (Levinson) Lev-Zion, who took the long flight from Israel, was the keynote speaker, addressing the theme of the conference, ‘Jewish Genealogy in the 21st Century’.

Dr Lev-Zion is founding president of the Israel Genealogical Society’s Negev branch and a former board director of the International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies. She spoke about the rapid expansion of online records and the use of DNA analysis in genealogical research.

86 participants registered - New South Wales - 38, Victoria - 29, Australian Capital Territory - 13, Ron Orchard, Andrew Steiner and Helen Twersky from South Australia and from distant destinations: Bubbles Segall from Northern Territory, Claire Bruell from New Zealand and Dr Martha Lev-Zion from Israel.





Unlike many past genealogical conferences there were no calls for paper presentations. Instead speakers were invited to address pre-selected topics matching their field of expertise.

Lectures and panel discussions were spread over the first two days and the topics included:

Exploring the Red Cross International Tracing Service in Germany. - A slide presentation by Liz James, Debbie Jurblum and Lionel Sharpe (Vic)

The resources of the National Archives of Australia (Julia Church, (ACT))

The Australian War Memorial (Kim Phillips, Sydney)
The National Library (Frank Atkinson, (ACT))

The Heraldry and Genealogy Society of Canberra (Frank Atkinson, (ACT))

Genealogical Research in Israel (Dr Martha Lev-Zion, (Israel))

SIG groups included Holocaust research, Poland, Austria, Czech, Hungary, USA, Lithuania, UK, South Africa, Sephardi research, Ukraine, Germany and France, early and post World War II Australian research. 30 people attended a Beginner's Workshop on the first day at 8.30 am conducted by Rieke Nash and Lionel Sharpe.

Groups were led by Allan Jankie, Helen Bersten OAM, , Sophie Caplan OAM ,Rodney Eisfelder, Peter Nash, Rieke Nash, Les Oberman, Kim Phillips, Michael Taub, Daniela Torsh, Lionel Sharpe and supported by panel members including: Claire Bruell, Jenni Buch, Russell Feldman, Allan Jankie, Debbie Jurblum, Martha Lev-Zion, Liz James, Dianne Johnstone,

Phil Lipshut, Gary Luke, Terry Newman, Bubbles Segall, John Stanhope OAM.

The final session was convened by Gary Luke the topic was Ongoing Projects – Gaps and Omissions and the Future. Liz James took notes and produced a summary of recommendations.

The Resource Room was equipped with computers and resource folders, genealogical books and old maps, all provided by the AJGS from Sydney. Annita Newman (Sydney) was kept busy tracking who had what resources, photocopying pages and documents and generally running the resources room.

A group of volunteer advisors from among the participants, were available for specialist consultation by arrangement during the breaks. These included: Jenni Buch (Belarus), Peter Nash and Peter Witting (China), Dianne Johnstone (Egypt and Hull (UK), Kaye Quittner (New Zealand) and John Stanhope OAM (Scotland).



The 'China' Group
Rodney Eisfelder (Vic), Peter Witting (ACT), Evie Katz (Vic), Rose Gunsberger (NSW), Peter Nash (NSW)

RESEARCHERS AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF AUSTRALIA



Julia Church, (A.C.T) draws the raffle

THE RAFFLE

A raffle was drawn at the Monday lunch break and many walked away with prizes including a subscription to 'Ancestry.com', books donated by Booktopia of Sydney, vouchers and other goodies. This raffle raised a considerable sum of money towards conferences expenses.

VISITS TO INSTITUTIONS

Following first the two days of the conference participants were dropped off in a hired motor coach at key research institutions for introductory talks and personal archival research. These institutions were very welcoming and speakers were made available to address the groups and answer questions. Margaret Beadman, the guide at the Australian War Memorial, took small group tours of the War Memorial. Her tours received acclaim from those who participated.



Debbie Jurblum (Vic) copies family documents



Herb Epstein and Charles Coppel (Vic)



Gary Luke (NSW) at the National Archives of Australia

A number of participants had ordered documents prior to the visit. These were awaiting them on arrival.



Phil Lipshut (Vic)



The Conference Banquet

A kosher banquet held at the Jewish Centre on Sunday evening and was catered by Canberra's only Kosher caterer.



Dianne Johnstone and Jeanette Tsoulos

During the meal one of the participants, Dianne Johnstone, gave a moving presentation on her life's journey. She spoke about the circumstances which led to the discovery of her Jewish origins. The audience was captivated by the life narrative of her journey from her Christian upbringing as an adopted child to her discovery and revelation that she was born to a Jewish mother.

She subsequently immersed herself in learning about Judaism and Jewish culture. To a piano accompaniment from Jeannette Tsoulos, (AJGS Vice-President NSW) Dianne sang a beautiful Yiddish song *Rozinkes Mit Mandlen* (Raisins and Almonds) in perfect Yiddish. The entire audience was overwhelmed with emotion by her outstanding performance.



Helen Tversky (S.A.) Andrew Steiner (S.A.) Ann Taub (NSW)
Michael Taub (NSW)



Eric Cohen (Vic), Norma Solomon (NSW) Enid Yoffa-Elton (Vic)



Earle Hoffman (A.C.T) and Helen Bersten (NSW)



Sunny Gold (NSW) and Miriam Shifreen (NSW)

ISRAELI EMBASSY RECEPTION



A formal reception was held on the Monday evening at the Israeli Embassy in Canberra hosted by the Israeli Ambassador to Australia, Yuval Rotem and his wife, Miri.

Ambassador Rotem was appointed to the position in August 2007 and was delighted to exchange family names with community members in the hope of finding family connections. Addressing the guests, Ambassador Rotem, whose family name was formerly Frenkel, recounted his emotions on the discovery of surviving family members from Poland in Melbourne.

Chatting with Rieke Nash, President of the AJGS, about her Polish roots, the Ambassador's wife, Miri, discovered that two paintings on the Embassy wall were painted by Rieke's Israeli cousin, Joel Iglinsky, who founded Kibbutz Negba with Miri's grandparents.



Sarah Meinrath (NSW) with Ambassador Rotem



Vernon Kronenberg (ACT) Helen Twersky and Andrew Steiner (S.A.)



Ambassador Yuval Rotem, Rieke Nash, Lionel Sharpe, Peter Nash



Tess Schwartz (Vic), Ambassador Rotem and Bubbles Segall (N.T)



Allan Jankie, Debbie Jurblum, (Vic) Cecily Parris (NSW))Martha Lev-Zion (in blue)) Sylvia Deutsch (A.C.T.) far right

GOULBURN JEWISH CEMETERY TOUR



Restored gates – Old Goulburn Cemetery

On the final day a small group set out in a self-drive hired bus, driven by Gary Luke, well known Sydney genealogist, to the very old 19th century Goulburn Jewish cemetery in N.S.W., one hour drive from Canberra. Local historians met the group at the cemetery to talk about this historic reminder of the early settlers..

In preparation for the tour Frank Atkinson had prepared a poster exhibition in the foyer of the Centre featuring a map of Goulburn, photos of well known personalities, a number of buildings of Jewish significance such as Mandelsons Hotel, and Meyer & Son, Grocers and Ironmongers, the old Jewish synagogue and remaining graves and broken stones at this neglected Jewish cemetery.

This final tour, enjoyed by those who were able to stay on until the fourth day of the conference, brought home the importance of preserving the past and the isolation of these early Jewish rural settlers in maintaining their religious heritage.



Gary Luke (NSW), Rose Gunsberger (NSW) Frank Atkinson (ACT)



Ziva Fain (Vic) with Frank Atkinson (ACT)

A FINAL 'THANKS' TO THE ORGANISERS

Thanks are due to Kim Phillips of Sydney who has been the driving force behind the whole idea of holding a national conference and Rieke and Peter Nash, whose home had been turned into an administrative office during the weeks prior to the event. Special appreciation to Vernon Kronenberg who attended to all the practical arrangements in Canberra such as bus hire, the Embassy reception and the hiring of local staff to assist at the Centre. He was assisted by local ACT community members who prepared the luncheon spread and refreshments.

Finally thanks to all those who contributed on the various sub-committees, who volunteered as speakers and SIG leaders and assisted in the Resource Room.

Plans are now on the way by AJGS (Vic) to host the next conference in Melbourne in 2010.

Lionel Sharpe (Editor, JGD) Victoria
ajgs@exist.com.au

One appreciative participant summed up the spirit of the conference in an email to the organisers: *'What a wonderful conference! It differed from anything I've been to because most conferences concentrate on stroking the egos of the presenters whereas this one focused entirely on the audience needs. Congratulations.'*

Many went away having discovered family connections with those present and came home with a bundle of handouts and fact sheets distributed by SIG leaders and picked up at the institutions visited.