



The Kasher Koala

Newsletter of the Australian Jewish Genealogical Society

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EDITORIAL

Since the last issue of this newsletter two major genealogical conferences have taken place in our ambit, both attended by your editor, and the first one also by your publisher.

They were the Fourth International Seminar on Jewish Genealogy, held in Jerusalem from 29th April to 5th May, and the Seventh Australasian Congress on Genealogy and Family History, which took place in Brisbane at the University of Queensland from 7th to 10th July, 1994. The first is reported on elsewhere in this issue, the report for the second will be in the next issue.

Each conference was most worthwhile attending, and one could learn much genealogical craft at each one. Some of us cannot afford to attend a conference, either because of the fares and other costs involved, or because it is inconvenient to take leave from work or from one's family at that

particular time. If my experience can be any guide to you, I strongly recommend that you try to budget your time and your money, and make family arrangements to attend at least one future genealogical conference. The next Jewish one is in Washington, D.C., U.S.A. from 25th to 29th June, 1995, and the eighth Australasian Congress will take place in Christchurch, New Zealand, in February, 1997 with Immigration Patterns as its major topic. So much can be learnt, so many contacts made and worthwhile experiences gained.

In Sydney recently we had the pleasure of listening to Dr Yitzchak Kerem at a meeting of our Society open to visitors at Beth Wizo in Edgecliff on Sunday evening, 17th July. Dr. Kerem is a lecturer in Sephardi History and Culture in the Department of Romance Languages at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, and editor of the quarterly SEFARAD. He knows Hebrew,
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WORKSHOPS 1994

All members are encouraged to attend our regular workshops held at the Reverend Katz Library, North Shore Synagogue, 15 Treatts Road, LINDFIELD on Sunday mornings at 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m

The following are the dates for the remainder of the year:

September 4	November 13
October 2	December 4

As well as inspecting the "New Arrivals", members exchange information on all that concerns them, whether it be Bulletin Boards or where to write to for some information.

Office Bearers of the Society

President	<i>Sophie Caplan</i>
Vice-President	<i>Rieke Nash</i>
Secretary	<i>Terry Newman</i>
Treasurer	<i>Stuart Shaw</i>
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AUSTRALIA

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EDITORIAL (continued from Page 1)

French, Greek and Judeo-Español, and reads Russian and some Turkish, and proved his thorough knowledge of a vast array of Sephardi archival sources in a variety of countries. He answered questions for nearly an hour and a half after his lecture, and there seemed no end to his erudition on this topic. (We have a copy of his talk on tape).

On Sunday 28th August we are staging a joint Jewish Genealogy Day with the Australian Jewish Historical Society, the Australian Association of Jewish Holocaust Survivors and the Sydney Jewish Museum at the Jewish Community Centre and the Sydney Jewish Museum at 148 Darlinghurst Road, Darlinghurst from 1 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. There will be a combined entrance fee of \$7 for both the Museum and for the displays of genealogical books, microfiche, videos and lectures or \$5 without the Museum visit. We are also calling on our members to volunteer to help with the display of our books and other artifacts, in order both to help the public who will come to view and use and gain knowledge, and to safeguard them for our future use.

We hope this year to have an excellent speaker on "Jewish Genetic Diseases and Qualities", and to hold an evening of video films on genealogical topics from films recently purchased in Israel and the USA.

We are receiving most encouraging feedback about the quality of the contents of our newsletter, and we aim to keep it up.

Sophie Caplan, Editor

NORTHERN SUMMER RESEARCH IN JEWISH ETHNOLOGY

Dr Valery Aronovich DYMSHITS, The Director of the Institute for the Investigation of the Jewish Diaspora at the Petersburg Jewish University stated at the Fourth International Seminar on Jewish Genealogy in Jerusalem recently that he would be delighted to have Australian or other Diaspora students or retirees as participants in the research his Institute undertakes every northern summer into former Jewish towns, their synagogues and cemeteries, recording and photographing and trying to preserve what remains.

This is unpaid and participants must pay their own expenses.

For all information please contact Valery Dymshits directly at Tel: (812) 292-28-30 or (812) 233-50-95. Fax: (812) 268-75-68. By mail: POB 10, ST PETERSBURG, 196247, RUSSIA.

THE INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR IN JERUSALEM

by Sophie Caplan

For those of us who attended the Fourth International Seminar on Jewish Genealogy which took place in Jerusalem, Israel, from 29th April to 5th May 1994 inclusive, it was a week of fascinating experiences, diverse learnings, founding of new friendships with people of many backgrounds and cheerful networking.

My greatest memories are of finding a Page of Testimony on my maternal grandfather filled in by his youngest brother who had survived in Eretz Israel but whom I never met, in the Yad Vashem Hall of Names; of sighting the surname Traurig, borne by Rieke Nash's son-in-law, on a New York participant's list of names being researched, at the opening cocktail party; of proudly hosting the respective heads of the Polish and the Ukrainian National Archives through the Israel Museum; and of the moving sight of Ida Selevan from Cincinnati, USA, my friend from the 1987 London Seminar, catching sight of her son Barnea, an Israeli citizen, just back from a month's reserve duty, and embracing him still in his sweat-drenched fatigue uniform in the midst of the huge food display for the breakfast at the hotel restaurant.

We were approximately two hundred and fifty full-time participants, plus some daily attenders from the Israeli public. The majority were American but there were Jewish genealogists from England, Canada, Switzerland, Turkey, France, Germany and Russia, Brazil, and two of us from Australia. Also some non-Jewish genealogists researching their Jewish roots. Previous international seminars had taken place in 1984 in Jerusalem, in 1987 in London, and in 1991 in Salt Lake City, USA, but this was the best yet.

Having attended the 1987 seminar in London, and narrowly missed those in 1984 and 1991, it was a joy to meet again those friends made in London. Dr Anthony Joseph, now also a member of our Society, Dr Sallyann Sack, editor of AVOTAYNU, René Loeb, president of the Swiss Jewish Genealogical Society, Chava Agmon, the custodian of the multinational Caro descendance, of which some of our members are part, and her husband Hugo, and Jürgen Sielemann, the archivist of the Hamburg Archives and seaborne emigrants lists, who attends these Jewish Seminars more assiduously than many Jewish genealogists, and the knowledgeable Randy Daitch.

The arrangements made by the organisers were superb, working smoothly in the setting of a great and busy hotel, with taxis always available at the door, and within walking distance of both the Givat Ram campus of the Hebrew University, housing both the Hebrew and National Library and the Central Archives for the History of the Jewish People and also a clutch of museums including the Israel Museum with its current "The Shtetl"

exhibition, some new exciting archaeological finds, the Bible Lands Museum, and the Shrine of the Book. All the intricate arrangements worked well, with participants able to stay both at the Holiday Inn, formerly the Jerusalem Hilton, and at a cheaper venue. We had large conference rooms for the lectures, with ample seating room for those who preferred to network outside, facilities for sending and receiving faxes, a telephone message recorder in one's room, and those marvellously abundant Israeli breakfasts which sustained one all day, if need be, as one battled to rush from one archive to another, trying not to miss the rich array of lectures, which stretched from mid-afternoon to late evening, with only a two hour break to take in dinner.

Lectures ranged from "Jewish Immigration and Settlement in Argentina", "Resources for Jewish Genealogy in Spanish Morocco" to "Jewish Surnames in the Kingdom of Poland", "Genealogical Research in Germany Today" to lectures on "Research on Synagogue Art in Czechoslovakia" and how to get genealogical data from Nazi censuses for deportation in Hungary. The amazing diversity of Jewish geography and history in various parts of the world was well explored, and the only problem was how to follow one's major interests without missing out on important lectures featuring one's minor interest. Many of the lecturers were top academics in their field, and it was gratifying that my lecture titled "Your Australian Cousins", was also well attended and well received. It resulted in our gaining several new overseas members, including a young Brazilian student and some Israelis. Most time-tabling was of parallel lectures on Sephardi and Ashkenazi topics, possibly in the expectation that participants would be exclusively interested in one or the other. I would gladly have had a longer Seminar enabling me to take in more of the lectures by world authorities in their field like Professors Haim Avni, Haim Beinart, Aaron Demsky, or Ruth Kark.

Former President of the State of Israel, Yitzhak Navon, gave the opening keynote address on "The Importance of Genealogy for the History of the Jewish People", an erudite and moving speech, replete with memorable anecdotes, and Dr Paul Jacobi, a living treasure of genealogical knowledge on rabbinical families, was the scholar-in-residence who tried to help us with difficult problems. Dr Chaim Rapaport, who had been our guest lecturer in early November 1993, acted as his secretary and assistant.

The Resources Room, presided over by Gary and Ruth Mokotoff and Eileen Polakoff, was always crowded. It contained computer terminals for the Dorot Archives worked by Dorot Personnel Diane Sommer and her staff, microfiche readers, indexes of names in printed registers and on microfiche, and samples of books and journals and newsletters of most participating genealogical societies. We took it as a compliment that the four copies of THE KOSHER KOALA, arduously put into plastic folders, as requested, went walkabout on the first day and

never reappeared, evidently collected by discerning participants. At the end of the conference I was able to "collect" issues of MISPOGE, the Dutch JGS newsletter, and the Russian equivalent which nobody else had thought worthwhile collecting because of the language barriers.

The best part of the Seminar was perhaps the networking, the meeting of people with interests in common in some aspects of Jewish genealogy. Informal meetings were arranged to discuss these. At every opportunity personal discussions took place, reinforcing links with overseas JGS. It was great to meet Belle Holman of Illinois JGS, Robert Weiss of Los Angeles, with whom I had corresponded, and not so great to be haunted in lifts and common rooms, seemingly forever, by an American gentleman who kept on reproaching me for having sent inadequate replies to his demands for research on an early 19th Century sea-captain active in Australian and New Zealand waters. I had actually passed his letter on to someone as being too hard for me....

Other highlights for me were meeting with several members of the French Jewish Genealogical Society, of which I am probably the only adherent east of Suez. I had enrolled as a member in 1987 in London, and have participated from afar with articles, queries, and responses to queries published in their excellent quarterly journal. But Rosine Alexandre and Jean-Louis Hollander, whom I met in London, were no longer active in the Society, so it was wonderful to actually meet people with whom I have corresponded, Phillip Abensur the General Secretary, and Editor of the Revue, Basile Ginger, the assistant secretary, Laurence Hazan, and others, and to speak French again.

I am definitely hoping to go to the next International Seminar, wherever it may be. I hope many of you will also come.

RESEARCH TRIPS TO SALT LAKE CITY MORMON LIBRARY

In 1993 GARY MOKOTOFF and EILEEN POLAKOFF, noted Jewish professional genealogists, initiated a joint research trip for Jewish genealogists to Salt Lake City to give a group of people the opportunity of discovering the holdings of the Family History Library of the Mormons relevant to Jewish research. This year they are arranging two more such trips from 21-29th July 1994 and from 3-10th November 1994. Details of arrangements from

Gary Mokotoff by phone 0011-1-201-837-8300 (US Eastern time 9am to 5pm) or 0011-1-201-767-1299 (US Eastern time evenings) OR

Eileen at 0011-1-212-787-4371 (US Eastern time evenings, which is mornings in Australia). Or write to SLC Genealogical Trip, P.O. Box 900, TEANECK, NJ 07666, USA.

(Rieke Nash also has some details at 02-427-6075.)

JOHN HENRY RICHTER (1920-1994)

by Bernard Orenstein, June 1994

"He will be greatly missed, apparently by more people than I could ever have guessed, and I say that as one who knew that his extensive correspondence reached every part of the globe. In addition to being a kind and loving father, he was an explorer and adventurer - a sleuth, really - who did not let distance or history alienate him from his task."

*Juliet Pressel - daughter of John Henry Richter
Ann Arbor, Michigan, 1 May, 1994*

John Richter was born in Vienna in 1919 but was raised in Berlin and lived there until 1941. He deeply believed in his obligation to share the fruits of sixty years of family history research. His efforts have resulted in a personal archive of one thousand and sixty-five manilla folders containing some four hundred genealogical tables. In order to share his collection with contemporary generations, John Richter requested that his archive be relocated to the Leo Baeck Institute for German Jewish historical research in New York after his death.

His bibliography runs to more than four hundred published journal articles and four books. He was also a frequent contributor to Avotaynu. His last article was in the Summer 1993 edition on "The families of Jewish private bankers - reflections on a genealogical study."

John Richter's first "guide to genealogy" was Dr. Jacob Jacobson, who was director of the German Jewish "Gesamtarchiv" for 20 years and author of the invaluable Berlin Jewish genealogical references: "Die Judenbürgerbücher der Stadt Berlin 1809-1851" and "Jüdische Trauungen in Berlin 1759-1813". John Richter records in his correspondence that: "In 1939 (almost too late) I went to see him in what will again be the place of the old Gesamtarchiv der Deutschen Juden (Oranienburgerstrasse 28, Berlin) where he patiently and most cordially showed me the original records of Maerkisch-Friedland..."

Although my correspondence with John Richter only began in July 1993, and I never had an opportunity to meet with him in person, I found him to have both an incredible wealth of knowledge and to be a most generous man. Using his background and skills as a retired librarian, he happily visited and corresponded with institutions such as the Library of Congress to help people like myself with their genealogical pursuits. Nothing was too much trouble. His last letter to me records how he grappled with huge volumes of original 1920 editions of the "Berliner Tageblatt" to copy notices on my behalf.

John Henry Richter died in Ann Arbor, Michigan, on 20 April 1994. Indeed, he will be greatly missed, not only by his family and friends, but by the international Jewish genealogical community as a whole.

FINDING FAMILY WITH PHONE DIRECTORY ASSISTANCE

by **Peter Nash**

As my father, Herbert NACHEMSTEIN, was getting on in years, I decided to get him to pass onto me as much information as possible about his side of our family. Fortunately he was a hoarder of old letters, postcards, photos and old address books, and also was very alert mentally and had a good memory. In one of his old address books I noticed two names : David NACHEMSTEIN and Erich NASH. David was a cousin but my father was not quite sure how he was related, while Erich was David's brother and had in fact changed his name to Nash just like I did when I was sixteen.

My father did not know if either of them was still alive. He had corresponded with David who was living in Muenster, Germany, but they had not been in touch with each other for about ten years. My father had met Erich in Los Angeles about thirty-five years earlier, but neither had been in touch with each other since then. So I decided to check with telephone directory assistance to see if I could get an active phone number. To my surprise I was given a phone number for each but I decided to write in the first instance and indicate my interest in researching our family connection. To David I wrote in German, with which I am still fluent, and to Erich in English. About one month went by without reply.

My daughter and son-in law happened to be travelling through Germany around that time (July 1992) and as I got an active phone number for David I asked them to try and visit David. It turned out that David was very much alive and ninety-two years of age! Of course he could not converse in English, but they managed to communicate with the help of an interpreter. David had survived the Holocaust, but had lost his wife and one-year old daughter in the camps. He had a suitcase full of letters, photos, etc, including letters from my father.

My daughter then found an article from the Toledo, Ohio, USA, daily newspaper dated 3 November, 1948, describing the arrival of Erich Nacheinstein and his family in the US to start "a new life". When David was quizzed about the article and his brother Erich, he steadfastly denied that Erich had survived the war and said that he had been shot dead. David had completely blocked out the existence of his brother who was two years older. The Toledo article also had a photo of Erich with his wife and three children and the names of the children, namely, Joe, Evelyn and Donnie. A ninety minute audio tape was also made of the conversations, including the contents of a letter written after 1945 by Erich, from Switzerland, to his brother then in Sweden, telling David that he should never consider going back to

Germany to live after the tragedy that befell his wife and daughter. So the denial of Erich's survival through the war was certainly strange.

I then puzzled how I could find any of the three children. I decided to try telephone directory assistance again and asked for a phone number for Joe Nash in Los Angeles but without address. The operator responded with a 'negative' but that there was a phone number for 'Joseph Nash', which I then noted, saying "I'll take that". So I dialled that number and found myself talking to the inevitable "answering machine" - "You have rung the offices of Newmark, Nash and Bartlett, we are unable, etc, etc". I then realised that I was calling after 5 pm on a Friday local Los Angeles time. I tried again on the following Monday local time and was told that Joseph Nash was not in - but that his brother Dan would be in shortly, noting that the name in the article was 'Donnie'.

After dialling again I connected with Dan Nash and told him that I was calling from Sydney, Australia, because I believed that there was a family connection. Without hesitation Dan said "That's not possible". Well, I had anticipated that reply as, after all, I had reacted similarly on numerous occasions over the last forty years as my birth name was Nacheinstein and not Nash. I then said to Dan "Your brother's name is Joseph ? - Yes". "Your sister's name is Evelyn ? - Yes". "And your father's name is Erich ? - Yes". Then your birth name was "NACHEMSTEIN - Yes". "How did you find us ?" said Dan. It was easy - "through telephone directory assistance".

Erich had died in 1978, apparently a very melancholy and morose man. He had never communicated any more with his brother David and the three Nash children and their mother were totally unaware that their uncle was still alive. Since then I have had regular contact with my cousins. I was also able to supply death notice and burial records of Erich and David's father, Joseph, as well as photos of his well-preserved tombstone located in the Weissensee Cemetery in Berlin, all of which were obtained by my daughter and her husband after their visit to David Nacheinstein. My father recalled that he had been to the funeral of Joseph Nacheinstein in the late 1920's, in fact he died in 1928, where he thought he also met Erich and David.

How am I connected to the Nashes in Los Angeles? Well, from the birth dates of our respective great-grandfathers, it seems that most likely they were brothers. Another interesting fact was the Hebrew name of Joseph's father inscribed on Joseph's headstone: "Izhak". So now I have to prove that the Hebrew name of my great-great grandfather was Izhak !

Peter Nash, born Nacheinstein in Berlin, Germany in 1935, he grew up in Shanghai, China (1939 to 1949) and now lives in Sydney, Australia.

JEWISH GENEALOGY BOOKSHELF

by Sophie Caplan

BOOKS ON POLAND

(continued from last issue)

(N.B. Those books with an asterisk (*) in front are held by our Society, books in the personal library of some of our members are marked with two asterisks (**) and books marked with a ☆ can be borrowed from the Reverend Katz Library at the North Shore Synagogue where our workshops are held).

A few more Holocaust related books have come to light:

☆ EARL VINECOUR and CHUCK FISHMAN **"POLISH JEWS: THE FINAL CHAPTER"**, 1977, McGraw-Hill Paperbacks, New York, is an account of what can still be found now of synagogues, cemeteries and monuments recalling the prewar days of Polish Jewry. Lavishly illustrated with good photographs.

** NAHUM COHEN and HOWARD ROITER **"A VOICE FROM THE FOREST"**, 1980, Holocaust Library, New York, is a simply told tale of how Jewish partisans lived and fought in the forests during World War II.

☆ ROBERT MARSHALL **"IN THE SEWERS OF LVOV"**, 1990, Collins, London, is a Tasmanian-born author's true story of survival of a group of Jews in Lvov.

☆ MARIAN PRETZEL **"BY MY OWN AUTHORITY"** aka **"THE YOUNG FORGER"** is a true story of a group of young Jews from Lvov who survived in Ukraine, and later Rumania, by forging impressive looking documents. The author lives in Sydney.

The recent Fourth International Seminar on Jewish Genealogy also yielded the following: * **GUIDE TO THE SOURCES FOR THE HISTORY OF THE JEWS IN POLAND** in the Central Archives For the History of the Jewish People, 1988, Jerusalem. This lists the holdings on Poland in the Central Archives by period and alphabetically by names of towns.

* DR HANNA VOLOVICI **"POLISH SOURCES FOR THE GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH IN THE CENTRAL ARCHIVES FOR THE HISTORY OF THE JEWISH PEOPLE IN JERUSALEM"** is a typewritten text of nine pages, describing more precisely the holdings of genealogical interest in the Central Archives.

ISAIAH TRUNK has written two very informative books on Polish Jewry during the Nazi era:

☆ 1. **JUDENRAT, THE JEWISH COUNCILS IN EASTERN EUROPE UNDER THE NAZI OCCUPATION**, the definitive book on Jewish Councils,
** 2. **JEWISH RESPONSES TO NAZI PERSECUTION, COLLECTIVE AND INDIVIDUAL BEHAVIOR IN EXTREMIS**, 1982, Stein and Day,

New York. First published in Yiddish, these two very thorough books can be found in many libraries.

A number of books of folktales on Polish Jewry explain the history of the Jews in Poland through a mixture of history and anecdotes:

** DIANE AND DAVID ROSKIES **"THE SHTETL BOOK"**, 1975, Ktav Publishing House, New York has a number of maps, a plan of a typical shtetl, photographs of synagogues and other illustrations to explain the life of a Jewish shtetl in Eastern Europe.

MARK ZBOROWSKI and ELIZABETH HERZOG **"LIFE IS WITH PEOPLE : THE CULTURE OF THE SHTETL"**, 1968, Schocken Books, New York, a warm in-depth account of the varied customs of the Jews in the Shtetlekh of Eastern Europe with their daily life and festive occasions which will make you realise the origins of many of the customs current in your family, perhaps even now.

☆ MAGDALENA OPALSKI **"THE JEWISH TAVERN-KEEPER AND HIS TAVERN IN NINETEENTH CENTURY POLISH LITERATURE"**, 1986, Zalman Shazar Centre, Jerusalem, is a study of the stereotype of the Jewish innkeeper in the village and his role in village culture. Of particular interest to those who had ancestors who were tavern-keepers.

** CHONE SHMERUK **"THE ESTERKE STORY IN YIDDISH AND POLISH LITERATURE"**, 1985, Zalman Shazar Centre, Jerusalem. The story of the Jewish mistress of Polish King Casimir is a legend with resonances for both Poles and Jews, which reveals much about the two cultures.

☆ MATILDA ENGELMAN **"JOURNEY WITHOUT END"** and **"THE END OF THE JOURNEY"**, 1977 and 1978, Lantana, Melbourne, is a very moving autobiographical story of a Polish mother and child's survival during the Holocaust years against all odds, and their subsequent emigration to Australia and early years in Melbourne.

** ADELE MONDRY **"WYSZKOWO, A SHTETL ON THE BUG RIVER"**, 1980, Ktav Publishing House, New York, translated from the Yiddish by Moshe Spiegel, is a lively account of what life was like for shtetl Jews in Eastern Europe before World War II.

BOOKS AND PAPERS ON LITHUANIA

The Society has recently received its best resource book on Lithuania, * NANCY & STUART SCHOENBURG **"LITHUANIAN JEWISH COMMUNITIES"**, 1991 Garland Publications Inc., New York. It is being used constantly by many of our South African members. Its major value lies in the translations from the Hebrew of articles published in Volumes III and IV of Yehadut Lita, 1967, Association of Lithuanian Jews, Tel Aviv that were previously inaccessible to English only researchers.

There is also a short history on how Jews came to be in Lithuania and some detailed maps. The Appendices include Yiskor dates for communities and some lists of survivors.

* We also have two short typewritten texts prepared for the recent International Seminar on two Lithuanian towns:

1. LEIPALINGIS (LEIPUN) by YOSEF ROSEN, translated by Len Yodaiken, two and a half pages and
2. VIERKSIAI (VEKSHNYA, WIEKSZNIE, VEKSHNA) by Professor DOV LEVIN, about a small town in Zamut, Eastern Lithuania.

* The periodical of the Suwalki-Lomza Interest Group, LANDSMEN, has an enormous amount of information of a genealogical nature on Southern Lithuania, as well as on north-eastern Poland. Many Births, Deaths and Marriage records of towns have been translated and published, often after alphabetical indexation.

BOOKS ON UKRAINE

Not many books on Jews in Ukraine are available in English in Australia. * * BARBARA BARATZ **"HOLOCAUST MEMOIRS FROM UKRAINE 1941-1944"**, reprint 1987, Darmstatter Blatter, is a reprint of the translation of the original Russian text.

In current politico-geographic terms, the former Eastern Galicia is part of Ukraine, but books on genealogy are distinctly about Ukraine or about Galicia, and the two areas had quite different histories until World War II and the years since, when they were united under Russian hegemony. Some of the books about Russia also apply to Ukraine.

BOOKS ON RUSSIA

* * CAROLE MALKIN **"THE JOURNEYS OF DAVID TOBACK"** as told by his grand-daughter, 1981, Schocken Books, New York, is an account drawn from original memoirs in Yiddish, about life in the Russian Pale of settlement in the late 19th century and pre-revolutionary years.

Books on Russian Jewish History

A number of books tell the history of the Jews in Russia. Among them:

* * GERARD ISRAEL **"THE JEWS IN RUSSIA"**, Charles Knight and Co Ltd, translated from the French by Sandford L. Chernoff. A popular history, easy to read and to digest.

* * JACOB FRUMKIN, GREGOR ARONSON, ALEXIS GOLDENWEISER, JOSEPH LEWITAN, Editors, **"RUSSIAN JEWRY 1917-1967"**, Thomas Yoseloff, London and New York, 1969, is a collection of essays on

Jewish history, not only in Russia itself, but also in Ukraine, Byelorussia and the Baltic countries.

☆ LOUIS GREENBERG **"THE JEWS IN RUSSIA, THE STRUGGLE FOR EMANCIPATION"**, 1976, Schocken Books, New York, tells of the struggle of the Jews in Russia from 1772 until 1917.

Several books concentrate on Jewish participation in socialist labour movements:

* * NORA LEVIN **"WHILE MESSIAH TARRIED, JEWISH SOCIALIST MOVEMENTS, 1871-1917"**, 1977, Schocken Books, New York, is not only about the Russian but also about the American and Eretz Israel Jewish labour movements.

☆ A. L. PATKIN **"THE ORIGINS OF THE RUSSIAN-JEWISH LABOUR MOVEMENT"**, 1947, Cheshire, Melbourne. The writer, born in Russia, lived in Melbourne for many years and founded the monthly "The Zionist" in 1941.

* * SAMUEL A. PORTNOY **"THE LIFE AND SOUL OF A LEGENDARY JEWISH SOVTA..., THE MEMOIRS OF VLADIMIR MEDEM"**, 1979, Ktav Publishing House, New York.

Then there are books on Jews in the Soviet period of Russian history:

* * LIONEL KOCHAN, Editor, **"THE JEWS IN SOVIET RUSSIA SINCE 1917"**, 1978, Oxford University Press, Oxford, with articles by many of the authors of books mentioned previously.

☆ MOSHE AJZENBUD **"THE COMMISSAR TOOK CARE"**, 1986, first published in Yiddish 1956, Globe Press, Melbourne, is a slightly fictionalised account of life in Soviet gulags during the Second World War. This book is being reprinted and still available from the author in Melbourne. Its price is \$AUS10.00 and the address is 43 Lincoln Avenue, East Brighton, Vic, 3187.

☆ ELIE WIESEL **"THE JEWS OF SILENCE, A PERSONAL REPORT ON SOVIET JEWRY"**, 1968, Vallentine Mitchell, London, the book which electrified world Jewry with its first published reports that Jews in Russia still held vibrant Jewish feelings and were not totally lost to Judaism.

☆ MARTIN GILBERT **"THE JEWS OF HOPE, THE PLIGHT OF SOVIET JEWRY TODAY"**, 1984, Macmillan, London, tells about the experiences of some of the leading refuseniks in Russia in the 1970's and 1980's.

One book on Russia during the Shoah * * **"THE BLACK BOOK"** edited by ILYA EHRENBURG AND VASILY GROSSMAN, 1980, YAD VASHEM, 1981, Holocaust Library, New York, documents the Nazis' destruction of one and a half million Soviet Jews. This book was suppressed by Stalin and therefore only became available in Hebrew in 1980 and in English in 1981.

BOOKS ON SLOVAKIA, BOHEMIA, MORAVIA and CZECHOSLOVAKIA

There are books available in English and others in German. Books in English include:

* * a three volume **"HISTORY OF THE JEWS OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA"**, edited by the SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF CZECHOSLOVAK JEWS, 1968 onwards, and published jointly by the Jewish Publication Society of America and by the Society for the History of the Jews of Czechoslovakia.

* * **"THE TRAGEDY OF SLOVAK JEWRY"**, documents and photographs, 1949, Bratislaw, an early and excellent book. No author given.

EZRA MENDELSON **"THE JEWS OF EAST CENTRAL EUROPE BETWEEN THE WORLD WARS"**, 1983, Indiana University Press, Bloomington, is an authoritative one-volume textbook on the topic, prepared for students and teachers, but with the right amount of information for the family historian. It deals not only with Czechoslovakia, but also with Poland, Hungary, Romania, Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia. Still in print.

* * B. VAGO and GEORGE L. MOSSE, Editors, **"JEWS AND NON-JEWS IN EASTERN EUROPE"**, 1974, John Wiley and Sons/Israel Universities Press, is a similar volume edited in Israel.

* * JIRI FIEDLER **"JEWISH SIGHTS OF BOHEMIA AND MORAVIA"**, 1991, Sefer, Prague, is a guide-book which also has a long chapter on the history of Jews in Bohemia and Moravia. Also well illustrated with maps and with sketches of architectural features, it is a sort of Michelin guide on Jewish Bohemia and Moravia. Still in print and obtainable from Gefen Books in Israel at POB 6056, Jerusalem 91060, Israel, or from Gefen Books, 12 New Street, Hewlett, NY 11587, USA.

Fax: (516) 295-2739.

* * ARNO PARIK AND PAVEL STECHA **"THE JEWISH TOWN OF PRAGUE"**, 1992, Oswald, Prague, also obtainable from Gefen, is a guide to the synagogues, Jewish monuments and cemeteries of Prague with short chapters on the history of Jews in Prague throughout the ages.

MISSING IN RUSSIA ORGANISATION

A new mutual self-help group for relatives of people missing in the former Soviet Union.

Details from PETER MAYO,
M.I.R.O.,
75 Wellmeadow Road, Hither Green,
London SE 13 6TA, England

Reprinted from SHEMOT,
July 1994 Vol 2, No 3,
Jewish Genealogical Society of Great Britain

☆ HERMAN DICKER **"PIETY AND PERSEVERANCE, JEWS FROM THE CARPATHIAN MOUNTAINS"**, 1981, Carpatho-Russian and Hungarian Jewry, their history and social life.

☆ HANA GREENFIELD **"FRAGMENTS OF MEMORY: FROM KOLIN TO JERUSALEM"**, 1992, Gefen, Jerusalem, is one of the few autobiographical accounts in English of the Holocaust in Czechoslovakia.

* PETR EHL, ARNO PARIK, JIRI FIEDLER **"OLD BOHEMIAN AND MORAVIAN JEWISH CEMETERIES"**, 1991, Paseka, Prague, explains how old tombstones are often the only significant archives left by a community. Lavishly illustrated.

* * GERDA HOFER **"THE UTITZ LEGACY"**, is a genealogical family history going back to sixteenth century Prague, published around 1985 and may still be in print.

* * JAN PARIK AND DAVID SHAHAM **"KAFKA-PRAGUE"**, 1980, Beth Hatefutsoth, Tel Aviv, is the printed book in Hebrew and English released for an exhibition on the quintessential Czech Jewish writer Kafka.

* * MARTIN SPITZER **"STORM OVER TATRA"**, 1989, Oasis Print, Salisbury, South Australia was purchased at the bookshop of Kibbutz Lohamei Hagettaot (The Ghetto-fighters' Kibbutz), but written by a resident of Adelaide, telling the story of a Czech Jewish family and through it the fate of Czech Jewry during the Shoah. Still in print.

CATSKILLS JEWISH CEMETERIES PROJECT

Since 1987, David Joel Prierer has been carrying out a project of transcribing and translating the Jewish tombstone inscriptions of Sullivan County in the State of New York, better known as the Catskills, or even the Borsht Belt. He plans to extend this project to cover Ulster County nearby as well.

David now has records of over 4,000 burials from 28 cemeteries and he is also cross-referencing these with newspaper death notices to obtain maiden names for women. While not planning to publish, David invites people who think they may have ancestors buried there to write to him with self-addressed envelope and international answer coupon at

DAVID JOEL PRIEVER, P.O. Box 1062, South Fallsburg, N.Y. 12779-1062, USA.

(Some years ago we were able to help David find his Brunengraber connections in Sydney).

DID YOU KNOW?

by Stuart Shaw

The Society has recently purchased a set of the microfiche index to the Jewish Section at Rookwood cemetery put out by the Society of Australian Genealogists.

This is a microfiche index to the inscriptions on tombstones in the Jewish Section at Rookwood from Section 1 to Section 23A. It covers the period December 1905 to August 1988.

This index lists the person's name, date of death, age (not in all cases) and a six digit reference number. This reference number refers to a separate fiche mentioned below. This fiche contains the actual inscription on the headstone (the English inscription only), the person's date of death, the section number, row number and the plot number.

The actual inscriptions are on a separate microfiche which our society has just purchased. This microfiche can also be consulted at the Society of Australian Genealogists library. Only headstones with an English inscription were transcribed. Graves with no headstone do not appear in the index.

When checking the index for accuracy, I discovered that the last row in Section 19 has been left out. Another member of the society has also found the names of some of her relatives are also missing, so the index is not exhaustive.

SUMMER SEMINAR ON JEWISH GENEALOGY

Every year in North America, if there is no International Seminar on Jewish Genealogy, there is a Summer Seminar on Jewish Genealogy. In recent years they've been held in Salt Lake City, in New York and in Toronto, using the particular facilities of each city and bringing in a strong panel of speakers. The Fourteenth Summer Seminar on Jewish Genealogy is planned for Washington D.C. from the 25th to the 29th June, 1995. If you are planning a trip to the USA next year, it may be worth your while to include this seminar in your itinerary. It will be held at the Hotel Washington on 15th and Pennsylvania Avenue within walking distance of both USA National Archives and the new Holocaust Museum, and with easy access by metro to the Library of Congress. At present the organisers are open to suggestions from prospective patrons for cemeteries to visit in Baltimore, or State Archives in Maryland or in Annapolis. Also specific requests for workshops, lectures and speakers. Papers can also be submitted for consideration.

The organiser is RITA KRAKOWER MARGOLIS,
11112 Arroyo Drive, Rockville, MD 20852-3602 USA
Fax: 0015-1-301-530-3257.

Or write to THE JEWISH GENEALOGY SOCIETY OF GREATER WASHINGTON, P.O. Box 412, VIENNA, VA 22183-0412, USA



FOREBEARS AUSTRALIAN FAMILY FINDER

We have started a Family Finder column which will be charged for at the rate of \$AUS 8 or \$US 5 for 25 words plus address and telephone number, or fax number of inquirer. This issue we are still printing a few free of charge! Please communicate directly with inquirer.

00003 DR KRZYSZTOF MAKOWSKI, Instytut Historii, Uniwersytetu im Adama Mickiewicza, ulica SW Marcin 78, PL 61-809 POZNAN, Poland.. Fax: 00- 48(0)61-535-535. Seeking information for a post-doctoral thesis about Jews who lived in **Grand Duchy of Posen**, later province of **Posen/Poznan** in years 1793-1918, including memoirs, documents, books, family knowledge of emigration from there. Reads and writes English fluently.

00004 AVIVA NEEMAN, P.O. BOX 48010, Tel Aviv, 61480, Israel. Tel: 972-3-699-2813. Fax: 972-3-699-3852. Runs the **JAFFE/JOFFE/YOFFE** Family Association and would like to hear from anyone with ancestors or collaterals from that family.

00005 LEON CHAMEIDES, 65 West Ridge Drive, West Hartford, Connecticut, 06117, USA. Seeking members of the **CHAMAIDES/CHAMEIDES/CHAMAYDES** family who are recorded in Arolsen International Tracing Service records as having emigrated to Australia in late 1949 or 1950, David Chameides born 14.8.1923 and Rozi Chamaides born 21.4.1929, or their descendants.

00006 FREDERIC REVEREND, 22 rue du Faubourg, St Martin, 75010, Paris, France. Seeking information on families **SIDI, MORDOH, NAHON** originally from Spain and Turkey, from anywhere.

00007 JUDITH RABINOVITZ, 10 Homestead Road, West Simsbury, Connecticut 06092, USA. Seeking anyone connected with **Moishe Mirkine and Basha Gensher** or their children Fay, Israel Mayer, Louis, Ofim, Gershon born 1877 Kriechev, died 31.12.1965, married Sarah Schaffman, born 1881, died 23.3.1959. Their children were Louis, Thomas, Julius, Beatrice. Some family went to Australia.

00008 ROBIN H. NAFTALIN, 5 Rechov Ya'arot, Ahuzah, Haifa 34787, Israel. Tel: 972-4-345468. Seeking NAFTALIN worldwide from Lithuania and Latvia. Also SEGAL/SIEGEL, LEVINE from Trishky, Lithuania, ZUKERMAN, RUBIN, BERMAN, REZNEK/RESNIK, LEVINSTEIN, LIVINGSTONE, KURETSKY, GLICKMAN from Lithuania, U.K., and South Africa.

SOUTH AFRICAN JEWISH GENEALOGY USEFUL ADDRESSES

from the lecture by **Dr Saul Isroff** of London as presented at the Jerusalem Conference 1994

Central Statistical Bureau
Private Bag X44
Pretoria 0001

Information about specific individuals, relationships, religion, year of arrival and place of birth.

The Registrar Births Marriages and Deaths
Department of Home Affairs
Private Bag X114 Tel: 27 12-314 8911
Pretoria 0001
(Sentrakor Buildings, 173 Pretorius Street)

The Chief
State Archives Department
Private Bag X236 Tel: 27 12-323 5300
Pretoria 0001 Fax: 27 12-323 5287

The Chief
Cape Archives Department
Private Bag X9025 Tel: 27 21-462 4050
Cape Town 8000 Fax: 27 21-452 960

The Chief
Free State Archives Department
Private Bag X20504
Bloemfontein 9300
Lists of private researchers in each province are available from these offices.

The President
Human Sciences Research Council
(Section Genealogy)
PO Box X41 Tel: 27 12-202 911
Pretoria 0001

Master of the Supreme Court
Dept of Justice Tel: 27 12-286 521/
Private Bag X60 27 12-286 512
Pretoria 0001
(Santam Building, c/r Church and Queen Street)
Personal searches are required. Deaths in other provinces: consult the Master of the Supreme Court in that Province. Estates prior to 1900: consult the Magistrates Archives of the South African Republic.

The Chief
SA Defence Force Archives
Private Bag X615
Pretoria 0001

Chief Archivist
SA National Museum of Military History
PO Box 52090 Tel: 27 11-646 5513
Saxonwold, 2132 Fax: 27 11-646 5216
Transvaal

South African Jewish Board of Deputies
P.O. Box 87557 Annerley House
Houghton 2041 Annerley Office Park
Johannesburg Killarney
Fax: 27 11-646 4940 Johannesburg

The Secretary
Johannesburg Jewish Helping Hand and Burial Society
(Chevra Kadisha)
2 Elm Street Tel: 27 11-487 3840
Houghton 2196 Fax: 27 11 487 1318
P.O. Box 1105
Johannesburg

United Chevra Kadisha
P.O. Box 543
Cape Town 8000

Kaplan Centre for Jewish Studies
University of Cape Town
Rondebosch Tel: 27 21-653 062
Cape Town 8000

Office of the Chief Rabbi
United Hebrew Congregation
Wolmarans Street Tel: 27 11-725 54444
Johannesburg 2001

United Progressive Jewish Congregation of
Johannesburg
Paul Nel Street Tel: 27 11-484 3003
Johannesburg 2001

Union of Orthodox Synagogues of SA and Beth Din
191 Buitenkant Tel: 27 21-461 6310
Cape Town 8000

Genealogical Society of South Africa
P.O. Box 4839
Cape Town 8000

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Family History Library
1 Hunter Street
Johannesburg
P.O. Box 33642 Tel: 27 11-618 1890
Highlands
Johannesburg

SOUTH AFRICAN JEWISH GENEALOGY BIBLIOGRAPHY

by Dr Saul Isroff

- Abrahams, Israel
The Birth of a Community: a history of Western Province
Jewry from earliest times to the end of the South African
War, 1902.
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- Arkin, Marcus (ed.)
South African Jewry, A Contemporary Survey.
Oxford University Press, Cape Town, 1984
(Good review with extensive annotated bibliography).
- de Saxe, Morris and Goodman, I.M. (eds.)
South African Year Book 1929
SA Jewish Historical Society, Johannesburg, 1929
- Feldberg, Leon (ed)
South African Jewry, A Survey of the Jewish Community:
its contributions to South Africa; Directory of Communal
Institutions; Who's Who of Leading Personalities 1965
Fieldhill Publishing Co, Johannesburg, n.d.
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South African Jewry, A Survey of the Jewish Community:
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edition 1967/1968.
Fieldhill Publishing Co, Johannesburg, n.d.
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South African Jewry 1976/1977
Johannesburg.
(These four year books have surveys of most aspects of
Jewish life in S.A. and very good brief biographies of
many prominent individuals).
- Gillon, Philip
Seventy Years of Southern Africa Aliyah
SA Zionist Federation-Telfed,
Adar Productions Israel 1992.
- Herrman, Louis
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times to 1895
Victor Gollancz, London 1930.
- idem
revised South African edition,
South African Board of Deputies,
Johannesburg and Cape Town, 1935.
- Kaplan, Mendel and Robertson, Marian
Jewish Roots in the South African Economy,
C.Struik, Cape Town 1986.
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Founders and Followers Johannesburg Jewry 1887-1915
Vlaeberg Publishers, Cape Town, 1991.
(Comprehensive socio-history with very good
bibliography. AJGS has a copy of this book in its
collection).
- Kosmin, B.A.
Majuta, A History of the Jewish Community of Zimbabwe.
Mambo Press, Gwelo, 1980.
- Mendelsohn, Richard
Sammy Marks-The Uncrowned King of the Transvaal
David Phillip-Jewish Publications,
South Africa and Ohio, 1991
- Saron, Gus and Hotz, Louis (eds.)
The Jews in South Africa from the earliest times to 1895.
Geoffrey Cumberlege, Oxford University Press, Cape
Town, London, New York, 1955.
- Shain, Milton
Jewry and Cape Society
Historical Publication Society, Cape Town, 1983
- Sherman, Joseph (ed.)
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Jewish Publications-South Africa, Cape Town, 1987
- Shimoni, Dr. Gideon
Jews and Zionism The South Africa Experience
1910-1967
Oxford University Press Cape Town 1980
(An AJGS member has a copy of this book.)
- Sichel, Dr Frieda (ed.)
From Refugee to Citizen
A.A. Balkema Cape Town-Amsterdam, 1966
(German Jewish refugees in S.A.)
- South African Jews in World War II
S.A. Jewish Board of Deputies, 1950
- Sowden, Dora and Konvisser, Rev M (eds.)
The Jew in South Africa: A Record of what individual
Jews are doing in various spheres of the Country's life.
Century Publishing, Johannesburg, n.d. circa 1945
(Good who's who).
-

SYDNEY DATABASE

**Additional surnames and places being researched by members of the
Australian Jewish Genealogical Society**

August, 1994

Id No	Surname	Name Town Was Known As	Current Name of Town	Province	Country	Relevant Dates
5	ABRAHAMS					1847
5	ALLEMAND		CAMBRAI		FRANCE	1826-1965
5	BAKER	VINDANE		COURLAND	LATVIA	1866-1993
42	BALDINGER		KRAKOW	GALICIA	POLAND	1850-1939
42	BALDINGER		NOWY SACZ	GALICIA	POLAND	1850-1939
5	BARNETT					1758
42	BRATTER		LVOV	GALICIA	UKRAINE	
5	BRENNER					1809
5	COHEN		AMERSFOORT		HOLLAND	
41	DEITZ	DVINSK	DAUGAVPILS		LATVIA	19th Cent
5	EMANUEL		LONDON		ENGLAND	1772-1869
5	EMDEN		WELLINGTON		NEW ZEALAND	
42	FAUST		ZOLKWIE	GALICIA	POLAND	1850-1939
42	GOLDMAN		ZOLKWIE	GALICIA	POLAND	1850-1939
43	GORFINE		VILNIUS		LITHUANIA	1800's
5	HALLENSTEIN					1800-1989
5	HART				ENGLAND	1786-1902
41	HILLMAN		BUNNYTHORPE		NEW ZEALAND	1920-1940's
41	HILLMAN		GLASGOW		SCOTLAND	1890-1920's
41	HILLMAN	DVINSK	DAUGAVPILS		LATVIA	1870-1890's
5	JACOB(S)					1772
41	JOSEPHS		RIGA		LATVIA	1870-1890
41	JOSEPHS		GLASGOW		SCOTLAND	1890-1920's
41	JOSEPHS		BUNNYTHORPE		NEW ZEALAND	1920-1940's
41	KERSH		MANCHESTER		ENGLAND	1898-1913
41	KERSH		KREMENCHUG		UKRAINE	1868-1898
5	LEVY					1791
5	LUAZER					1796
5	MEINRATH		MAINROTH	BAYERN	GERMANY	1764-1993
5	MEYER					1809
5	MICHAELIS					1788-1963
5	MORDICIA		LONDON		ENGLAND	1809
5	MOSES		ISLE OF SHEPPEY	KENT	ENGLAND	1700-1969
12	NACHEMSTEIN		LESSEN	GRAUDENZ	GERMANY	1840's
5	NURICK	GOLDINGEN	KULDIGA	COURLAND	LATVIA	1869
41	ROSENBERG		MANCHESTER		ENGLAND	1870-1900's
42	SPIRA		SZCZAWO	GALICIA	POLAND	1850-1939

DON'T FORGET!

The Australian Jewish Genealogical Society
The Australian Jewish Historical Society
The Australian Association of Jewish Holocaust Survivors
and
The Sydney Jewish Museum
are holding a

JEWISH GENEALOGY DAY

at

The Sydney Jewish Museum
148 Darlinghurst Road, Darlinghurst

TICKETS **Genealogy Day** **\$5.00**
 Museum Entry & Genealogy Day **\$7.00**

Sunday 28th August, 1994
1 p.m. to 5.30 p.m.