

# The Kosher Koala

# **Newsletter of the Australian Jewish Genealogical Society**

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#### **EDITORIAL**

We have just completed the third year of our society's existence, with close to one hundred members living in five states of the Australian Commonwealth and some overseas. Volume two will start with our next issue, and we anticipate that from now on each volume will consist of four issues only. Eagle-eyed readers may have noticed that two issues ago we became respectable and acquired an International Standard Serial Number as part of our title, ISSN 1322-6401, through the good offices of Stuart Shaw and the National Library of Australia.

It is the season of Chanukah, dedication, the festival commemorating the liberation of Judea by the Maccabees from Greco-Syrian oppression, a festival we celebrate by the lighting of candles over eight days, eating latkes and soufganiot, and the singing of Chanukah hymns. Due to the proximity of Christmas, it has also become the season of the year when Jewish families exchange gifts, although this used to take place at Purim, in February-March. It's certainly easier to shop for gifts now, when everybody else is, too.

We are approaching the end of the working year for most Australians, and the beginning of well-deserved summer holidays. From mid-December our society will close up shop until early February, but we are already able to give you advance notice of the 1995 dates of our monthly Sunday morning workshops at the Reverend Katz Library of the North Shore Synagogue on the next page.

In case you wonder why these are not on a fixed Sunday of the month, it is because we take account of Jewish religious holidays and the times when the synagogue requires the library. We are grateful to Mr David Blitz, president of the North Shore Synagogue, to Mr Toby Weiner, the executive secretary, and to the whole congregation, for making the facilities of the synagogue library available to us, and we hope this pleasant association will continue for a long time. It is helped, of course, by the fact that Rieke Nash, our vice-president, is also a very active member of the Reverend Katz Library committee, and is able to coordinate and supervise our mutual needs.

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### **ANNOUNCEMENT**

On Sunday, March 5 1995 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., the Society is holding a one day

**SEMINAR** 

on

# HOW TO RESEARCH YOUR FAMILY HISTORY

at
Shalom College
University of New South Wales
Kensington

For Registration, phone 427-6075 \$15 for members \$45 non-members Lunch will be available at the College.

### Office Bearers of the Society

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Vice-President	Rieke Nash	
Secretary	Terry Newman	
Treasurer	Stuart Shaw	
Resources Librarian	Rieke Nash	
Membership Chairman	Stuart Shaw	
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Australian Jewish Genealogical Society
P.O. Box 154
NORTHBRIDGE SYDNEY NSW 2063
AUSTRALIA

Annual Membership \$Aust30.00 Pensioner or Student \$Aust10.00 Annual Overseas Subscription \$US28.30

#### **WORKSHOPS 1995**

Our regular workshops will be held at the Reverend Katz Library, North Shore Synagogue, Treatts Road, LINDFIELD on the following Sunday mornings at 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m

February 5	August 13
April 2	September 3
May 7	October 1
June 11	November 5
July 2	December 3

N.B. On March 5 meeting there will be a whole day seminar at Shalom College (See announcement this page)

### EDITORIAL (continued from page 1)

Several activities have been planned for 1995. On Sunday 5th March 1995 at Shalom College, University of NSW, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., will take place our third Seminar for Beginners in Genealogy. The seminar is being jointly planned by Rieke Nash and David Laufer, and the day's educational activities will take place under the leadership of Gael Hammer. David Laufer (Tel: 412 1259 a.h.) and Rieke Nash (427-6075) are organising some of our members and others, who have skills in the various areas of genealogy, to pass on some of their knowledge at the seminar. If you have had some valuable experiences that you would like to pass on to others, please contact David or Rieke. A 20-minute presentation is envisaged.

On Tuesday 28th March 1995 at 7.45 p.m. the Australian Jewish Genealogical Society and the Australian Jewish Historical Society are jointly sponsoring a lecture by Dr Anthony P. Joseph, M.B., B.S., of Birmingham, U.K., who is an overseas member of each society. He will speak to us on "ANGLO-JEWISH HISTORY AND ITS GENEALOGIES: A PERSONAL VIEW", a talk he gave initially at his recent inauguration as president of the Jewish Historical Society of England in London. Dr Joseph, who is a distinguished genealogical researcher in both England and Australia, is well-known to many of our members. It is expected that the lecture will take place at the Great Synagogue Israel Green Hall, 166 Castlereagh Street, Sydney.

Our 1995 Annual General Meeting is planned for Sunday 23rd April in the evening, just after Passover 1995. All executive and committee positions are open for election and we hope that many new members will come forth for election, or even old members who have not previously made themselves available. You will shortly receive nomination forms and are asked to seriously consider nominating for a position.

(continued on page 7)

#### PIECES OF THE PAST

#### by Ralph B. Bennett M.D.

As a child, I remember that my Uncle Milos had a gloomy and cavernous railroad flat type apartment on North Racine Avenue in Chicago. It was a wonderful place for us kids to play hide and seek in, which we did whenever we came to visit. We used to go there sometimes for marvellous dinners that my aunt and uncle used to host on special Sundays where the whole family would gather around; it was totally unlike the traditions of today, where we have small families and they're scattered all over the country. After the meal, Grandpa would make music on his stringed bandura, which was an instrument like a balalaika, and everyone would join in the singing.

The first time I can remember my grandfather Maier telling me stories about my ancestors' lives in the "old country" was at one of those family gatherings when I was a little boy of about six or seven. On that particular Sunday I must have done something naughty. I can't really remember what it was, but my father had chastised me and made me go and sit by myself in the corner. My grandfather, who was a wonderful old gentleman with a white handlebar moustache, came over to comfort me by telling me one of his secrets; when he was just about my age he had also done something naughty, much naughtier than the little affront that I had committed! What was it? He had gone out to the barn to see the new calf and he had started playing with a lantern; inadvertently, he had set the whole farm on fire! Maier had been born on that farm in 1876, in the foothills of the Carpathian Mountains in territory that belonged at that time to Austria-Hungary; now suddenly, his family had become homeless. His parents were forced to divide up their family among various relatives and Maier was sent to live with a cousin in the city of Lemberg (now Lvov, Russia). Later on the cousin arranged for him to become an apprentice to a millinery manufacturer; there Maier grew up working in the haberdashery trade, first as a maker of hats, and later on as a salesman.

As I grew older, I learned more bits and pieces of grandpa's life story. The years had passed until 1904. Then one day, when Maier was twenty-eight years old, the woman who was to become my grandmother walked into the shop. Her name was Jenny Lapidos. Jenny was only eighteen years old at the time, but had been in business for herself already for three years. She and her sister Ida travelled all through Galicia (an area that is now in Southern Poland) selling women's fine haberdashery items which were manufactured in a workshop run by Jenny herself. Quite a remarkable achievement for an eighteen year old! She was beautiful, petite and bright as a penny. Jenny took one look at Maier and decided that he was the man of her dreams. They were married in 1905.

It was Jenny who first had the idea to come to America.

She was ambitious and felt that business opportunities in the New World were much greater than anything she could ever hope to achieve in Galicia. Picking up and leaving was easier said than done, however; I remember hearing about all the many hardships they had to face along the way. First of all, by the time they decided to leave, Jenny was already pregnant with my father. I also knew that people had cheated them and robbed them of their money while they were en route. But I never realized how incredibly difficult their trip was until only recently, when I learned something about the experiences of the immigrants who were leaving Europe to come to the New World at the beginning of this century.

I had discovered the itinerary via which my grandparents had travelled when I obtained from the United States Marine and Navigational Service an extract of the record of their ship's passenger list. The document stated that the couple had "emigrated to the United States from Rotterdam, Holland on the vessel Noordam on February 9, 1906 and had arrived at the port of New York City on February 20, 1906."

Some further research revealed that at the turn of the last century, Rotterdam was a major port for the exodus of refugees from Eastern Europe, along with Liverpool, Hamburg, Bremen and Southampton. The main shipping company using this Port was the Holland-American Line. In the year 1913, for example, over 82,000 immigrants sailed from Rotterdam to the New World. In the book Days of Our Years, Pierre van Paassen, who grew up in the Netherlands, described Rotterdam in those years. He wrote how, at the age of ten he saw all of the immigrants passing through on their way to the new land of freedom;

"Thousands...were waiting to board ships for the great unknown. It was evening when we arrived on the wharves. In the sheds, by the unsteady light of a few petrol lamps, we could see that mass of fugitives lying or sitting on their bales and sacks of baggage. Infants wailed. Young girls shrieked in their sleep. Old men were sitting forlornly in the open doorways, staring with unseeing eyes at the river which at that hour was sprinkled with silver by the last rays of a sinking sun. Most of these people were in rags. Hunger and long years of destitution had left an ashen imprint on their faces. There was an air of hopeless impotence about their movements; a dumb defeatist resignation, almost unhuman. We learned that many of the emigrants had not eaten for days. Others had spent their last kopecks in buying bread in local bakeries. Naturally, certain charitable organizations had done their utmost to relieve the distress, but their resources had proved inadequate. Every train from the east brought new contingents of poverty-stricken starvelings who had invested their last resources in a steamship ticket."

Not only did the couple leave Eastern Europe to come to a new country, but they also discovered that they had come into a whole new technological world as well. There were all kinds of inventions here including the telephone, phonograph, and automobile, which were entirely new to their eyes. They were also shocked to find that they had arrived in their new homeland in the midst of a financial crisis which became known as "the panic of 1907." So their early years here were economically very rough. They had gone from being substantial business people, to being suddenly quite poor while struggling to adjust to a new language, culture and locale.

One thing I'd often wondered about is how my family had acquired our very British sounding surname Bennett. Again, it was only recently that the truth came to light, due to the discovery of an old document long forgotten amidst my deceased father's papers. It seems that his father Maier's original family name was Beresteczyk. After consulting with a number of linguistic scholars, I found out that the name was Polish in origin and meant "from the city of birch trees." The name referred to Maier's family's ancestral origin from the Polish city of Brest-Litovsk, which is now the Russian city of Brest. In any case, after my grandparents' arrival in North America in 1906, Maier found that his unwieldy name was not only unpronounceable, but also totally unspellable in He very quickly "Americanized" it and English. shortened it to Bennett.

I often think now how unfortunate it is that I never thought to ask my parents and grandparents more about our family's background while they were still alive and could tell me about it. Now that I've developed a thirst for knowledge about my heritage, I have to rely on research from books, plus the scattered jigsaw pieces of my childhood memories, to put together the picture. But it is a quest I relish!

Ralph Bennett is a physician in Hayward, California. He first became interested in his family's history when he discovered that his wife's ancestors were among the first Dutch Jews to settle in Surinam, later Dutch Guyana, north-east South America, in the 1660's. Dr Bennett has published over three dozen articles on medical subjects, history, Jewish genealogy, art history, anthropology, and economics.

# FUTURE JEWISH GENEALOGY CONFERENCES

The next Jewish Genealogical Conference will take place in Washington D.C. from 25th to 29th June, 1995 at the Hotel Washington. Highlights will include special access to the USA Holocaust Museum and its research facilities, the Library of Congress, etc.

For further details contact: the Jewish Genealogy Society of Greater Washington P.O. Box 412, Vienna VA 22183-0412, USA.

In 1996, a similar conference will take place in Boston, Massachusetts, USA.

#### MORE ABOUT JOHN HENRY RICHTER

by Robert Beecher

I was sad to read about John Richter's death in "The Kosher Koala". I corresponded with him for several years from 1984 and met him in his home and "underground" archives in August 1985.

John Richter was a short, stocky man with a total dedication to Jewish-German genealogy and a sincere wish to help anyone in that field. His enthusiasm often led him from one point to the next, sometimes leading a long way from where you started. But he was so enthusiastic and fired up that you were reluctant to pull him back.

He told us that his interest in genealogy started when he was a boy and later on, when he emigrated to the USA, he deliberately chose a job as a librarian which would give him easy access to genealogical information.

In 1985, on a trip from relatives in New York to relatives in Los Angeles, we decided to make a stop-over in Ann Arbor and meet him. It was in character that he sent very detailed instructions on how to get there and how to contact him. Let me quote from my diary, after our arrival:

"Phoned John Richter and he came to our hotel on his bicycle. Tried two German restaurants, but without any luck. Then dinner at Maude's. He talked almost continuously and I recorded this inspite of background noise. Agreed to meet next day."

Next day:

"Walk and taxi to J.R. His work area is in the basement, down wooden steps. Big area of reference books, records, filing cabinets, boxes, stamp catalogues. Stove, lamps and the classical records he plays while at work. Lots of talk by him. Enthusiastic, side tracking all the time as he gets himself more and more interested. Showed us trees, extracts of registers, correspondence, filing systems, photo of his great grandfather, biographies and told lots of stories. Told us of sources and who to write to. Reluctantly we had to catch a taxi and train".

After reading about John's death I put on the tape recording I made in the noisy restaurant and later at his home. Hearing the German accent I could almost see his intense eyes and I am glad that I met this remarkable and most helpful man.

Robert Beecher is a foundation member of our Society.

#### **NEW ADDRESS FOR AVOTAYNU**

155 North Washington Avenue, Bergenfield NJ 07621, USA Tel: 201-387-7200 Fax: 201-387-2855

Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies

# THE JEWISH DYNASTY OF JOAN AND JACKIE COLLINS

by Sophie Caplan

The father of celebrated film and television star Joan Collins and of equally famous best-seller author Jackie Collins wrote his own autobiography A TOUCH OF COLLINS, published in 1987 in paperback by Headline Book Publishing PLG, the year before he died.

In his book Joe Collins freely touches on his Jewish roots.

His mother, Henrietta Assenheim, was the seventh of the nineteen children of Joseph and Leah Assenheim of London. Others were Mark and Jack. Leah had converted to Judaism and gave her husband Joe a lively and hardworking brood. The family business in the East End was to make hokey-pokey, a kind of ice-cream, and to sell it from street stalls. Three Assenheim daughters took to he music-hall stage - Bessie, Hannah and Henrietta, who took the stage-name "Hettie Collins" at the urging of her boy-friend, later her husband.

Hettie's boy-friend, born Isaac Hart on 9th November 1876 in London, came from a line of East End fishmongers. His grandfather Zelig Hart had a fish-shop in Bayswater and his father Zuesman Hart opened two fish shops, one in Bloomsbury and the other in the West End Theatre district. This vicinity of the theatres enchanted young Isaac who abandoned the family calling to become a theatrical agent and changed his name to "Will Collins" in admiration of young London music-hall queen Lottie Collins, and also persuaded his girl-friend to become a dancer and singer and to change her name to Collins. They married in South Africa during a tour at the time of the Boer War. Their first child Joe Collins was born in South Africa during the same extended tour.

Isaac Hart's mother was Julia Phillips, the daughter of East End dealer, Isaac Phillips, after whom Isaac Hart was later named. Julia Phillips and Zuesman Hart married on 23rd February 1875 at the Great Synagogue in Duke Street, London. Although Will Collins drifted away from his paternal family, he still named his eldest child and only son after his grandfather Joseph Assenheim. Thus Joseph, known as Joe Collins.

Joe Collins married a non-Jewish Londoner, Elsa Bessant, and their three children, Joan, Jacqueline and William were not brought up in any faith. His second marriage, after the death of his first wife in 1962, was to a German-born Gentile, nee Irene Korff in Essen. Although not halachically Jewish, the Collins sisters are Jewish on their father's side.

Although Joan Collins was married several times, always in a registry office ceremony, it was never to a Jew. Her sister Jackie is long married to Jewish businessman Oscar Lerman, born in Philadelphia, PA, USA.

In his book, Joe Collins also speaks of his long career as a theatrical entrepreneur, particularly on the lighter side of entertainment. Among the many artists and agents with whom he came into contact during his long professional life were the Beatles very early in their career, and their first manager, Brian Epstein of Liverpool, England. Nearly as famous were two young music hall artists, sons of a Russian immigrant trouser-presser and button-maker, Isaac Winogradsky and his wife Olga. The two young men Lew and Bernie (originally Barnet) became established in show business by winning Charleston competitions. Eventually they also became agents. Today they are better known as Lord Lew Grade of Elstree and Lord Bernard Delfont of Stepney.

There are some ASSENHEIMs in Australia, particularly in New South Wales.

# FOR THOSE WITH SEPHARDI JEWISH ROOTS IN TURKEY

The "Roots Committee" in Turkey as appointed by the "Chief Rabbinate":

Ceni Bali Tel-233 8683 Address: Büyük Çiftlik Sok., 20/14 - Nisantas, Istanbul, Turkey

Seli Bahar Tel-372 3393 Address: Suadiye, Çamli Sok., Yilmazlar Apt, 13/7 Istanbul, Turkey

Leyla Ipeker Tel-260 0709 Address: I. Levant, Engin Sitesi, Birlik Apt., 169/12, 80600, Istanbul, Turkey

Stella Kent Tel-369 3542 Address: Suadiye, Ulus Sok., Saral Apt., 11/22 Istanbul, Turkey

Seli Kohen Tel-247 3501 Address: Halaskargazi Cad., Ocak Apt., 202/13. Osmanbey, Istanbul, Turkey

Lizet Loya Tel-358 9682

Address: Tasmektep Sok., 13-B Daire 23,
Göztepe, Istanbul, Turkey

Sara Yanarocak Tel-346 9633 or 302 0462 Address: Sair Latifi Sok., 42/4, Bahariye, Kadiköy, Istanbul, Turkey

Information courtesy of Leyla Ipeker.

# SOME BURIALS AT THE OLD JEWISH BURIAL GROUND, LOUTH PARK, MAITLAND, NEW SOUTH WALES, AUSTRALIA 1849-1931

Michael Barnett, died 1905, aged 69 years.

Morris Benjamin, died 1897, aged 61 years. (We know that this man was buried by Rev. S. Levi; that he had 2 sons, Henry and Alfred, living at the time in Sydney. Also that he was born in Hobart).

Jane Cohen, died 1849, aged 11 years.

Hannah Cohen, died 1849, aged 16 months.

Barnett L. Cohen (of Murrurundi), died 1880, aged 36 years.

George Judah Cohen, died 1889, aged 69 years. He was the father of Sir Samuel Cohen and Alroy Cohen.

Henry Cohen, died 1860, aged 45 years.

Celia Cohen, daughter of Morris, died 1860, aged 21 months.

Morris Cohen, died 1878, aged 51 years. (We know that he was a member of the David Cohen family. He had five brothers living).

Leah Cohen, daughter of George and Rose Cohen, of Tamworth, died 1874, aged 5 years.

Henry Samuel Cohen, son of William and Sarah Cohen of Tamworth, died 1862, aged 1 year.

Ethel Cohen, daughter of George and Rose Cohen, died 1872, aged 9 months.

David, son of Lewis Cohen, died 1861, aged 7 years.

Harry Septimus Davis, son of Rev. A. B. Davis, died 1897, aged 35 years.

Henry Nathaniel Friedman, died 1877, aged 15 years.

Nathaniel Jacob Friedman, died 1877, aged 2.

Daniel Frisch, died 1897, aged 63 years.

Rosina Goulston, died 1862, aged 2 years.

Solomon Goulston, died 1862, aged 3 years. (These children were the daughter and son of Joseph Goulston).

Solomon Harris, died 1878 aged 67 years.

Henry Harris, died 1859, aged 55 years.

Benjamin Hart, died 1905, aged 84 years.

Henry Hart, died 1931, aged 79 years.

Elizabeth Hart, died 1869, aged 36 years.

Samuel Hart, died 1877, aged 47 years.

Myer Illfeld, died 1924, aged 73 years.

Caroline Illfeld, died 1928, aged 72 years.

Elizabeth Israel, died 1865, aged 57 years.

Charles Lewis Israel, son of Isaac Israel, died 1868 aged  $17\frac{1}{2}$  years.

Joseph Friedman, died 1906 aged 68 years.

Isabella Friedman, died 1924 aged 76 years

Ruby Violet Irwin, aged 14 weeks (Granddaughter of Isabella Friedman).

Celia, daughter of L.W. Levy, died 1854, aged 2 years.

Julia, a 19-month old daughter of Benn W. and Zara Levy, died 1880.

Samuel W. Lewin, died 1903, aged 68 years.

Rachel Lewis, died 1908, aged 73 years.

George Levien, died 1852, aged 4 years.

Myalla Levien, died 1854, aged 4 years.

Robert Lipman, died 1902, aged 66 years.

Sarah Lipman, died 1903, aged 50 years.

Lena Rebecca Lipman, died 1882, aged 6 months.

Lydia Isabella Levi, died 1898, aged 2 years.

George Levie, son of Wilfred and Rebecca, died 1851

Elizabeth Marks, died 1875, aged 30 years. (She was a daughter of Samuel Benjamin, wife of Joseph Marks. She died in childbirth, and the baby also died and was buried with her. She left a husband and three children).

Harriet, daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth Marks, died 1869, aged 11 weeks.

Hyam Elias Mandelson, died 1919, aged 58 years.

Isaac Martin, died 1879, aged 32 years.

John Samuels, died 1873, aged 79 years.

Morris Reuben, died (Mudgee) 1859, aged 12 months.

#### JEWISH RECORDS IN LONDON

The following is a brief list of the major series of records of genealogical interest held by various institutions in London.

#### Offices of the United Synagogue

Printed annual list of members arranged alphabetically by congregation 1885-1939

Registers of Defunct Congregations Great Synagogue (1770-1973) Hambro Synagogue (1770-1938) New Synagogue (1774-1992) Bayswater Synagogue (1865-1965)

Registers of Closed Burial Grounds Brady Street, Stepney (part) 1796-1858 West Ham Cemetery (part) 1858-1872

#### **Burial Society of the United Synagogue**

General Burial Registers July 1872-1912 Burial authorisation Registers July 1872 to date

#### **Marriage Authorisation Office**

Marriage Authorisations June 1845 to date

#### Court of the Chief Rabbi (London Beth Din)

Proceedings Books 1876-1938, 1940 to date Case Files C1945 to date

Certificates of Evidence containing details of the applicant's dates and place of birth and/or marriage abroad required as proof of age etc. 1921-1966.

With the exception of the Certificates of Evidence, all series of documents held at the Beth Din are confidential and information will only be sent to those with a legitimate legal interest.

All enquiries of an historical or genealogical nature which involve the inspection of the above records are dealt with by the research unit of the London Beth Din. The fees charged are linked to the time taken up by searches and the costs involved in making copies of documents.

Some series of documents of genealogical value contain particulars superior to those on vital records issued by the civil authorities. For example, the (240,000+) marriage authorisations issued since February 1880 state the parties' places and/or country of birth; this is not recorded in the marriage registers issued by the Registrar General's office. The same detail has appeared on the burial authorisations (350,000+) issued since 1896, although it did not appear on English death certificates until April, 1968.

The certificates of evidence are also an immensely valuable source since they refer, for the most part, to people who were never naturalised and thus provide evidence as to their place of origin and/or marriage abroad which is recorded nowhere else.

Enquiries should be made to the Registrar, Court of the Chief Rabbi, Adler House, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9HP, U.K. from whom full details as to the likely costs involved will be available by return.

Editor's note: "The parties' place and/or country of birth", is often stated in very vague terms e.g. for my husband's grandparents, "Russia" for groom and "same" for bride. In fact they each came from Lithuania, one from GRODNO and one from VILNA. But the fees are very reasonable.

### LANDSMANSHAFT BURIALS IN NEW YORK CITY AREA FOR LYSYANKA, TAGANCHA, KUZNICA, RACIAZ and SOKOLKA

Flora and Herbert Gursky of 10201 Walker Lake Drive, Great Falls, VA, 22066, USA, have compiled a list in the New York City area of Jewish burials for people who belonged to several landsmanshaft societies of towns from LYSYANKA and TAGANCHA in Ukraine, and of RACIAZ (Racionz), SOKOLKA and KUZNICA in Poland. In New York there was not one Chevra Kadisha (Jewish Burial Society), but groups bought large tracts in certain cemeteries and sold them to members of their particular ethnic area (landsmanshaft) who were buried there.

The information includes the name of the individual and, when it is available, the birth and death dates, age, Jewish name, and annotations of family relationships.

The Gurskys have provided us with a list of surnames found in each cemetery, and many surnames are also present in Australia.

For specific information write, citing surnames, with a self-addressed envelope with two international answer coupons.

#### **EDITORIAL** (continued from page 2)

Much work goes into compiling and publishing the KOSHER KOALA and trying to make it interesting and informative. We get feedback from our readers both in Australia and overseas, telling us that they enjoy reading it. Most of the work is carried out by Rieke Nash and by me, and by those who supply us with articles bearing their names as authors. We are constantly looking for new contributors to describe their research experiences, their trip to the country of their forebears, or the ways and means in achieving success in genealogy. Although your editor reserves the right to select articles, and to edit and delete, much care is taken to preserve each contributor's individual style and voice. So do not be shy.

Send us your contribution to our postal address at P.O.B. 154, NORTHBRIDGE, NSW, 2063.

And have a wonderful summer holiday and a good rest.

Sophie Caplan, Editor

# WHAT'S HAPPENING IN SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

#### South African Jewish Genealogical Society Formed

The contact man for this new society is

IAN MALTZ,

Green and Seapoint Hebrew Congregation,

Marais Road.

Sea Point, 8001, South Africa.

Tel:439 7545.

The society's aims include helping the children of emigrants from South Africa to discover their origins in South Africa.

### Northwestern Lithuania Special Interest Group Being Formed

This group at the moment intends to concentrate on the areas of Mazeikiai (Muravievo, Mozejki), Telsiai (Tel'she, Telsze), and Siauliai (Shavli, Szawle). This group is looking for people who will also help with cooperative research. They intend to develop and maintain a list of people who are interested in Jewish genealogy and history of that area. Anyone interested please send a letter or card with your name, address, phone number, fax number if any, and towns of interest to

EDMUND U. COHLER, 85 Bloomfield Street, LEXINGTON, MA 02173-5534, USA Tel: 0011-1-617-862 1219.

More towns or areas will be included if there is sufficient interest in them.

#### American Association of Polish-Jewish Studies

This Association is dedicated to preserving the history and culture of Polish Jews. It cooperates with the Institute of Polish-Jewish Studies in London in publishing in book form an annual journal called POLIN, which carries articles discussing various Polish-Jewish communities, social and political movements, and literature of high level. For further information write to

AAPJS.

1583 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, MA, 02138, USA.

#### National Yiddish Book Centre

This organisation endeavours to preserve Yiddish culture through the rescue and redistribution of Yiddish literature. They can help you acquire books in Yiddish which contain information about a family or shtell IF YOU KNOW THE NAME OF AUTHOR AND TITLE. The emphasis is on literature, not genealogy. Write to:

National Yiddish Book Center, 48 Woodbridge Street, South Hadley, MA 01075, USA. Fax: 0015-1-413 535 1007.

# Federation of East European Family History Societies (FEEFHS)

This has been formed and we will investigate whether we should join. This federation plans to publish a newsletter dealing with new developments in Eastern European research.

Individuals intereted in subscribing to the newsletter should send their name and address to the Editor

JOHN C. ALLEMAN, 377 N 220 W, Salt Lake City, Utah, 84103, USA

Presumably this is a Mormon-sponsored federation, since it is centered in Salt Lake City.

# From LINEAGE, JGS of Long Island Vol. 3 Nos 2-4, Summer 1991

(per SHARSHERET HADOROT, Israel G.S. Vol. 5, No. 3, October 1991)

### Jewish Vital Statistics in Byelorussia

Yacov Gutman, a resident of Minsk, is willing to access and copy Jewish vital statistics from Byelorussia, for the period 1837-1913. He may be contacted via his daughter, Olga Gutman, 2402 63rd Street, Apt 6C, Brooklyn, NY 11204. Information from Rita Hodes of Miami JGS.

#### Researchers in Warsaw, Lublin, Lomza and Poznan

The following researchers are recommended by LINEAGE:

WARSAW Adam Jankiewicz, Sloczylasa 10, am5, 03-465 Warsaw (all regions of Poland).

LUBLIN Ewa Wierzbowska, ulica Młodziczowa, 7/36, 20-468, Lublin, Poland.

LOMZA Polish Gen. Soc. of Connecticut, 8 Lyle Road, New Britain, CT, 06053, USA

POZNAN Irena Skorczyk, ulica Słowicza 32, 60-123, Poznan, Poland

(N.B. These names are offered by way of information and no responsibility is taken for any services performed by these researchers. *The Editor*)

### Gravestone Inscriptions in Andrychow, Poland

A list of 200 Jewish gravestones in Andrychow, west of Cracow, was compiled by Jessica Skippon, 1/47 Shelton Street, LONDON WC2H, 9HJ, U.K. She is willing to share this information. Please send large self-addressed envelope and three answer coupons.

#### Research in Czech Republic

Those intending to do research in Czech archives are advised to obtain advance permission of at least two months from ARCHIVNI SPRAVA, OBRANCU MIRU 133, PRAHA 6, CZECHIA, 16621

### JEWISH GENEALOGY BOOKSHELF

#### by Sophie Caplan

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.

## **BOOKS ON AUSTRALIA**

There are few books specifically on Australian Jewish genealogy, but many books on Australian Jewry which are interesting to the family historian as background reading, and also a few published family histories which may link up with the family you are researching.

- The AUSTRALIAN JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY JOURNAL, from 1938 to the present, Vols I-XI, is a mine of information, with all surnames indexed by volume. Present in major Australian and some overseas libraries, the full XI volumes can still be purchased from the Historical Society, 166 Castlereagh Street, Sydney, 2000, NSW, Australia, for \$AUS500.00 plus postage. This includes several books published under the aegis of the Society.
- \* \* GEORGE F. J. BERGMAN and JOHN S. LEVI "AUSTRALIAN GENESIS, JEWISH CONVICTS AND SETTLERS 1788-1850", 1974, Rigby, Sydney, was a bench mark publication which tells the story of both individuals and communities in Australian Jewry. Now a rare book, but present in all good Australian libraries. Possibly to be reprinted.
- DICTIONARY OF BIOGRAPHY OF THE JEWS OF AUSTRALIA, 1788-1830", 1976, a special publication of the Australian Jewish Historical Society, Sydney, is still in print and available for \$AUS 10 plus postage. This includes an introductory chapter on convict transportation, the 1828 census and such matters, and the main part which is the indispensable biographical dictionary. The author, Rabbi John Levi of Melbourne, has been promising us the eagerly awaited extension of the biographical dictionary to 1850 at least.
- \*\* NICK VINE HALL "TRACING YOUR FAMILY HISTORY IN AUSTRALIA, A GUIDE TO SOURCES", second edition, 1994, published by author, is now out. Like its first edition, this is essential for anyone doing research on an Australian family as it guides one through the maze of state and federal records and archives, and even family history societies including our society and the KOSHER KOALA. Essential for "Finding" BMD, shipping and naturalization records. Distributed by Scriptorium Family History Centre, 386 Ferrars Street, Albert Park, Melbourne, Vic., 3206 at

- \$AUS 55 posted within Australia, \$AUS 65 overseas by surface mail, and \$AUS 85 overseas by air.
- DIASPORA, TWO CENTURIES OF JEWISH SETTLEMENT IN AUSTRALIA", 1988, Collins, Sydney. This was the first of the general histories of the Australian Jewish community over the full two hundred years, giving an overview. A few copies still available from the Australian Jewish Historical Society, 166 Castlereagh Street, Sydney, 2000 NSW Australia at \$AUS 25 plus postage.
- ★ HILARY and WILLIAM D. RUBINSTEIN "THE JEWS IN AUSTRALIA, A Thematic History" in two volumes, one by each author, 1788-1945 and 1945 to 1990, 1991, William Heinemann Australia, Melbourne, is a more ambitious history with Appendices of presidents of major Jewish organisations and many names and matters of genealogical interest within the text. Still in print. Recently seen selling for \$AUS 45.
- ★ LAZARUS MORRIS GOLDMAN "THE JEWS IN VICTORIA IN THE NINETEENTH CENTURY", 1954, published by the author in Melbourne, now a rare book, is a thorough and scholarly history with many names, well-indexed.
- ★ HILARY L. RUBINSTEIN "THE JEWS IN VICTORIA 1835-1985", 1985, limited edition by Jewish Museum of Victoria Australia, Melbourne, tells the story of the first one hundred and fifty years of settlement in Victoria. Good index, many names.
- **★** HILARY RUBINSTEIN "CHOSEN, THE JEWS IN AUSTRALIA", 1987, Allen and Unwin, Melbourne, is an earlier version of Hilary Rubinstein's major book, but a full treatment of the subject. Good index and bibliography.
- \* \* AARON AARON "THE SEPHARDIM OF AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND", 1979, published by the author, Sydney, is a thorough study of Sephardim in the antipodes, citing many names, with lots of photographs, but alas no index. Still available from author, 26 Curlewis Street, Bondi, Sydney, 2026 NSW at \$AUS 25 plus postage.
- \* HANS KIMMEL aka Dr Joseph Staedter "SYDNEY'S JEWISH COMMUNITY, Materials for a Post-War (II) History 1948-1953" in two volumes, 1953 and 1955, self-published by author, is a pioneering effort by this lawyer turned journalist and historian. Some copies still available from author's daughter, Elizabeth Segall, 308 Cricklewood Lane, London, NW2 2PX, England. Galley-proofs of the unpublished third volume are in the care of the Australian Jewish Historical Society. Names, photographs and index in published volumes.
- **★ PETER Y. MEDDING "FROM ASSIMILATION TO GROUP SURVIVAL, A Political and Sociological Study of an Australian Jewish Community"**, 1968, F.

W. Cheshire, Melbourne, is an in-depth study of the Melbourne Jewish community, which has some interest for the family historian.

"AUSTRALIAN JEWRY'S BOOK OF HONOUR, WORLD WAR I" is extremely rare, but has a list of those who served in the Australian military during 1914-1918, and a list of those who were killed. Probably in leading libraries. The Australian Jewish Historical Society has a copy.

- **★ "AUSTRALIAN JEWRY'S BOOK OF HONOUR, WORLD WAR II"**, The Griffen Press, Netley, SA, written by Jack Epstein, edited by Gerald Pynt, also has a list of those who served in the military and of those who died in active service. Unfortunately in many cases there are only initials instead of first names.
- ★ SERGE LIBERMAN and JOY RUTH YOUNG "BIBLIOGRAPHY OF AUSTRALIAN JUDAICA", 1987, Mandelbaum Trust, University of Sydney, is useful for its index of authors, its union list of Australian Jewish periodicals, its list of Jewish libraries and where to find reports and journals.
- **★** ERIC SILBERT "DINKUM MISHPOCHA", 1981, Artlook Books, Perth, is the history of the extended Silbert and Masel families of Perth, Western Australia, and of the Reform congregation they established. Down home style, but has index and lots of information on Perth Jewry.
- ★ DAVID MOSSENSON and LOUISE HOFFMAN "HEBREW, ISRAELITE, JEW THE HISTORY OF THE JEWS OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA", 1990, University of Western Australia Press, Perth, is a major study of the Westralian Jewish community from the establishment of the colony on the Swan River in Perth, to Fremantle, Coolgardie and Kalgoorlie. Excellent index. Still available from Perth Hebrew Congregation Bookshop at \$AUS 30 plus postage, Cnr Plantation Street and Freedman Road, Menora, Perth W.A. 6050, Australia.
- \* \* LOUISE HOFFMAN and SHUSH MASEL "WITHOUT REGRET", April 1994, Centre for Migration and Development Studies, University of Western Australia, Perth, is a collection of oral history derived biographies of Jewish refugees and survivors from various European countries including Germany, Austria, Italy and Poland, who settled in Western Australia. No index, but useful for the family historian.
- **★** JOHN FOSTER, editor, "COMMUNITY OF FATE, MEMOIRS OF GERMAN JEWS IN MELBOURNE", 1986, Allen and Unwin, Sydney, is a moving and involving book on the fates of fourteen German Jews who had to flee Germany in the 1930's and who settled in Melbourne. May still be in print.
- **★** ANNE ANDGELL "FIFTY YEARS OF CARING, THE HISTORY OF THE AUSTRALIAN JEWISH WELFARE SOCIETY, 1936-1986", 1986, Australian

Jewish Historical Society, Sydney. A history of the organisation which sponsored many pre-war refugees and postwar survivors who immigrated to Australia. Still in print, \$AUS 10 plus postage from Australian Jewish Historical Society.

Two major family histories and some minor ones:

- ★ BEVERLEY DAVIS "BE FRUITFUL AND MULTIPLY", 1979, self-published by author, Melbourne, is the family histories of various families linked to the author's husband, John Mark Davis, namely Marks, Solomon, Moses, Isaacs, Rehfish, Snider, Davis, Plostok, Horwitz, Nathan and others. Clearly set out. Many photos, index. May still be available from author, POB 255, Camberwell, Melbourne, 3124, Vic., Australia.
- ★ GAEL HAMMER "PHILLIP BLASHKI, A VICTORIAN PATRIACH", 1986, P. Blashki and Sons, Melbourne, is a beautifully produced history of the fourteen Blashki children, really Wagczewski, born in Melbourne, and their descendants. Beautifully illustrated, with clear charts and a good index, this is an excellent family history by a member of our society. Still available from the author, P.O. Box 155, Rose Bay, Sydney 2029, NSW, \$AUS 30 including postage for Australia, \$AUS 35 for overseas.
- \* TERRY LYONS "THE LYONS FAMILY OF LAUNCESTON", 1992, unpublished manuscript, is a competent history of an English Jewish family which came to Australia. Lyons, Sutton and Jones are the original surnames. Terry is a member of our Society.
- \* \* PETER BAUME "BAUME, FURTHER RECORD", 1980, self-published, Sydney, a family tree of the BAUME family including radio personality Eric and Liberal Parliamentarians Dr Peter and Michael BAUME. Also the families BRODZIAK, EHRENFRIED, AARONS, ABRAHAMS, COHEN, DAVIS, VAN MILLIGEN, YELDHAM.

A number of synagogues have had their history published.

- ★ WILLIAM KATZ "AND THE ARK RESTED...the Story of A Jewish Community Born During the Holocaust in Europe", 1966, self-published by author, Sydney, is a moving and thorough history of the congregation where the Australian Jewish Genealogical Society has found a home. A few copies possibly still available for institutions. Names of all people married or who had Bar Mitzvah at North Shore Synagogue, Sydney. Appendices with names of Sunday school, etc., but no index.
- ★JOSEPHARON and JUDY ARNDT"THEENDURING REMNANT, THE FIRST 150 YEARSOFTHEMELBOURNEHEBREWCONGREGATION,GREGATION,1841-1991",1992,MelbourneUniversity Press, is the story of the congregation with<br/>many names in the text, an index, and an extended

biographical appendix on leaders of the community. Of great interest to family historians.

- NEWMAN ROSENTHAL "FORMULA FOR SURVIVAL, THE SAGA OF THE BALLARAT HEBREW CONGREGATION", 1979, The Hawthorn Press, Melbourne, is the story of a small kehillah in country Victoria, which arose through the gold rush and is now practically defunct. A good index, and an appendix listing all burials in the Ballarat Jewish cemetery by name and first name, age and date of death makes it useful for the family historian.
- \* \* HARRY STEIN "A GLANCE OVER AN OLD LEFT SHOULDER", 1994, Hale and Iremonger, Sydney, was recently published posthumously shortly after the author's death. It is an autobiographical story of a Jewish leftist who was born and bred in the Melbourne suburb of Carlton, the son of working-class parents who had emigrated from Safed, Israel. There are moving and instructive chapters on the poor MelbourneJewish milieu. Available at \$AUS 19.95 from Australian bookstores.
- ARNOLD ZABLE "JEWELS AND ASHES", 1991, Scribe, Melbourne, also published in USA in 1993, is an outstanding book recording the extended trip of a young Australian Jew to Lithuania, Poland and Latvia to search for his roots. At once informative and poetic, it is a masterpiece. Reprinted in Australia and also launched in USA in 1993, it is a model of the genre. Available in paperback.

The Australian Jewish Genealogical Society has also acquired a number of books, booklets and microfiche to serve as guides to the Australian family historian:

- \* JENNIFER HARRISON, Editor, STATE LIBRARY OF QUEENSLAND, **FAMILY HISTORY GUIDES**, 1989, consists of seven booklets written by five different experts on aspects of research into Queensland family history. Nothing of specifically Jewish interest, but useful for those with roots in Queensland. One booklet is on holdings of the NSW Archives Office for genealogists, generally 19th century information.
- \* \* ROD FISHER and BARRY SHAW, Editors, "BRISBANE, THE ETHNIC PRESENCE SINCE THE 1850's", 1993, Brisbane History Group Papers No. 12, Brisbane, has a nine-page section on "The Jewish Enclave in Brisbane" by John Trone, which is accurate and well-written and has some photographs. Probably still available from Brisbane History Group Inc., PO Box 12, Kelvin Grove, Queensland, 4059, Australia, \$AUS 18.
- \* \* ANDREW G. PEAKE, Editor, "NATIONAL REGISTER OF SHIPPING ARRIVALS, AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND", 1992, Australasian Federation of Family History Organisations, Sydney, describes in which archive or library these shipping arrivals are kept, and whether there are microfiche available for purchase. IT IS NOT a list of shipping arrivals. Still in print.

- ANDREW GUY PEAKE "BIBLIOGRAPHY OF AUSTRALIAN FAMILY HISTORY", 1988, Tudor Australia Press, South Australia. This bibliography attempts to index by the primary surname, all published histories and pedigrees with Australian connections. There are a number of Jewish family histories listed, including the Blashki and Davis histories listed above, some families researched and written up by Dr Anthony Joseph, our British member, and various families which may have been Jewish originally, such as Rose, Rosenberg, Rosenzweig and Kalish, all of South There are also histories of many German Australia. Christian families with names deceptively like Jewish surnames.
- \* NICK VINE HALL "PARISH REGISTERS IN AUSTRALIA, A List of Originals, Transcripts, Microforms and Indexes of Australian Parish Registers", 1990, published by author, Melbourne, is authoritative, but has little of Jewish interest, since few contemporary synagogues keep registers which are listed and available for perusal.
- \* \* JUDY WEBSTER "SPECIALIST INDEXES IN AUSTRALIA, A GENEALOGIST'S GUIDE", 1994 Edition, published by author, 77 Chalfont Street, Salisbury, Queensland, \$AUS 12.00 plus postage, is not a complete listing of every index in Australia, but mainly a listing of those which are privately held and/or accessible by mail inquiry, as well as some published indexes. Little of specifically Jewish interest, except Sadie Pritchard collection in S.A. Genealogy and Heraldry Society, but various indexes e.g. Queensland Hotels and Publicans pre-1900, or Sudden Deaths in South Australia, or American Civil War Veterans buried in Australia, might be of interest.
- \* \* MARTYN KILLION and HEATHER GARNSEY, editors,"CEMETERIES IN AUSTRALIA, A REGISTER OF TRANSCRIPTS", 1994, Australian Federation of Family History Organisations, is a listing of Australian cemeteries, the state in which they are situated, dates when in use, and WHERE transcripts of inscriptions are held, NOT THE TRANSCRIPTS themselves. Jewish portions of general cemeteries are included. Beverley Davis's transcripts of Jewish graves in Australia, New Zealand and various Pacific Islands are not included.

(N.B. The Society owns microfiche with an index to the Jewish graves in Rookwood).

- \* \* NICK VINE HALL "MANLY CEMETERY TRANSCRIPTS, 1845-1993", 1993, published by the author, has a full list of transcripted inscriptions, indexed, including some Jewish-sounding names, but no Jewish section. Manly is a northern suburb of Sydney.
- \* LINLEY HOOPER "SEARCHLIGHT, A SELECTED INDEX TO JOURNALS IN THE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA LIBRARY", June 1994, Genealogical Society of

Victoria, Inc., Melbourne, indexes some articles pertinent to Jewish genealogy from unknown journals.

- \* \* JANET REAKES "OVERSEAS RESEARCH FROM AUSTRALIA (NON-BRITISH)", 1992, revised version, published by author, P.O. Box 937, Pialba, Queensland, 4655. The author is a Mormon and one of Queensland's leading genealogists, and this book explains the Mormon attitudes to genealogy and the IGI, short for International Genealogical Index, the facilities at the LDS Family History Library in Salt Lake City, addresses for LDS Family History libraries in Australia, as well as addresses of consulates and of many overseas genealogical societies, though not Jewish ones.
- \* \* JONATHAN D. SHEA and WILLIAM F. HOFFMAN "FOLLOWING THE PAPER TRAIL, A MULTILINGUAL TRANSLATION GUIDE", 1991, Language and Lineage Press, New Milford, CT, USA, is a guide to understanding and translating family documents and papers obtained and collected by the family historian. Available in Australia from genealogical bookshops. \$AUS 45.
- \* LENORE FROST "DATING FAMILY PHOTOS, 1850-1920", Valiant Press, published by author, 8 Cliff Street, Essendon, Vic., 3040, describes the clues in identifying heirloom family photographs both by photographic technique and clothing fashions and obtaining a timespan for the photographs.
- \* ERIC and ROSEMARY KOPITTKE "EMIGRANTS FROM HAMBURG TO AUSTRALIA: 1856", 1992, Queensland Family History Society Inc., Brisbane, seems to be one in a series of extremely clearly set out annual lists of emigrants to Australia via the port of Hamburg, giving surname, first name, age, profession and place of origin. Unfortunately there are very few Jews on this list.
- \* JOANNA ARMOUR RICHARDS, HEATHER GARNSEY, ANGELA PHIPPEN "INDEX TO THE MICROFORM COLLECTION OF THE SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIAN GENEALOGISTS, as at 1990", 1990, Society of Australian Genealogists, Sydney is a record of microfilm holdings of SAG. Cost \$AUS 17.95 plus \$3 postage. Many of those will spare searchers a trip to the State Archives, or to another state. Non-members have to pay a daily fee to use SAG facilities.
- \* \* C. J. SMEE "FIRST FLEET FAMILIES OF AUSTRALIA", 1988, Woolnough Publishing, Artarmon, Sydney, "SECOND FLEET FAMILIES..." and "FOURTH FLEET FAMILIES...", published 1990-1992. We intend to acquire also "THIRD FLEET FAMILIES". The author has painstakingly researched the dates of birth, marriage, and death of all the passengers of these four fleets which brought the official first white men and women to Australia, whether convicts or soldiers to guard them. Also places of BMD, names of ships, names and dates of children and grandchildren if these could be ascertained. There are of course Jews



# FOREBEARS AUSTRALIAN FAMILY FINDER

Our Family Finder column 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. Please communicate directly with inquirer, but kindly inform us if this column has helped you to advance in your research.

00018 LIESL MICHEL BINZER, c/o Beth Terezin, Givat Chaim Ichud, Israel 38935. Tel: 972-6-389515. Seeking **ELFRIEDE ZAHLER** from Vienna who was with her in Terezin until liberation and would now be 58. Any information welcome.

00019 IRVING B. SCHOENBERG, 1018 Winding Ridge Court, Dunwoody, GA 30338-3950, USA. Seeking descendants of families SCHOENBERG/SHONBERG/SCHONBERG, FISHMAN/FICHMAN, BRONSTEIN/BRONSHTEIN and HOCHMAN/GOICHMAN, all from the shtetl of Telenesht in Bessarabia, or nearby. Planning a visit to Australia in 1995 and would like to meet relatives.

00020 EVA COWAN, 57 Golders Gardens, LONDON, NW11 9BS, U.K. Tel: 441-455 4602. Seeking information about family **TRAUB**, from Luka near Jilove, Czechoslovakia. Parents or relatives Marie and Josef Traub, daughters Vera, Hanka and Eva, possibly twins, all sent to Terezin with convoy Bg on 12 September, 1942 and from there to Birkenau on 18 December, 1943 with transport Ds. Eva and Hanka are believed to have survived and to have arrived in England in May 1946. Any information about this family appreciated.

among them, and these books can serve as a supplement to John Simon Levi's "THE FOREFATHERS".

ROLL OF "NOMINAL INTERNEES TRANSFERRED FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM TO AUSTRALIA PER H.M.T. 'DUNERA' "German internees disembarked at Sydney" "German internees disembarked at Melbourne". Through the courtesy of HENRY LIPPMANN of the DUNERA ASSOCIATION we have a list of the men who were shipped out from Great Britain on the DUNERA, arriving on 6th September 1940 in Sydney. This list of several hundred men is alphabetically indexed but contains, besides many Jews, also the names of many Gentile men of German nationality, both anti-fascists and Nazis, and some Italians, also shipped out on the same vessel. There is no way of determining which is which, except by guesswork from names.