



# The Kosher Koala

Newsletter of the Australian Jewish Genealogical Society, Inc.

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## EDITORIAL

Greetings from Sydney, the city of the year 2000 summer Olympic Games which recently ended. We were all gripped by Olympic fever, and your editor spent a good chunk of her time as a volunteer at the Olympic Village main dining hall in menial but necessary tasks. This and illness in my family caused the abandonment of a separate September issue of this journal. At least one USA Jewish swimmer, Lenny Krayzelburg, born in Odessa, won several gold medals. And I had the good fortune to be present in the Olympic Stadium on the night described as "the defining moment" of these Olympics, when 'our Cathy' Freeman won gold in the 400 metres. And I noticed that when the mayor of Athens accepted the Olympic flag for the 2004 Olympics his name

was Avramopoulos, 'son of Abraham'. Many Jews were volunteers, including David Landor, Simon Nash and Steven Traurig, son and son-in-law of Rieke and Peter Nash of our Society. The Olympic and Paralympic Games, and the Jewish New Year and Yom Kippur, caused a quiet three months, without speakers. We continued our regular monthly Sunday morning workshops. Back on Sunday 23rd July, we had a joint lecture at the Sydney Jewish Museum when Professor Yom Tov Assis of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem spoke to us on "Sephardi Culture and Tradition After the Expulsion". Professor Assis intends to visit Australia again in July-August 2001 to give a series of lectures on aspects of Sephardi culture on which he is an expert. We hope that we can  
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## SYDNEY WORKSHOPS 2001

As an experiment to see whether our members will attend during the summer recess period a workshop will be held on Sunday 14th January, 2001

All workshops are usually held at the Rev Katz Library, North Shore Synagogue, Lindfield, on Sundays, from 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

<b>January 14</b>	<b>July 1</b>
<b>February 4</b>	<b>August 5</b>
<b>March 4</b>	<b>September 2</b>
<b>April 1</b>	<b>October 7</b>
<b>May 6</b>	<b>November 4</b>
<b>June 3</b>	<b>December 2</b>

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**Our Annual General Meeting will take place  
on Sunday evening 25th March, 2001  
at 7.30 p.m.**

**in the Wilson Hall of the North Shore  
Synagogue, 15 Treatts Road, Lindfield.**

**All executive positions and committee positions  
are open for elections and nominations are  
invited since several members of the executive  
intend to retire at this A.G.M.**

**All members and friends are invited to attend  
WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS**

### New South Wales

Lisa Bortz  
Joan van Gelder  
Alan Joffe

Wendy Milston  
Monica Perrott  
Julia Weisz

Emanuel, Carol and Susan Wineglass

### Victoria

Joseph Bekinshtein  
Simone, Henry and Nicola Beyfus  
David Brott  
Dr. Sam Chani  
Gilda and Russell Feldman  
Susan Feldman  
Eleanor Hart  
Lucie and Trevor Jacobs

Ari Morris  
Yvonne Mushin  
Janina Nowak  
Leslie Pahoff  
Pauline Rockman  
Linda Ryszman  
David Sonenberg  
Louise Shostak

David Stone.

### South Australia

Yvette Alhanati

### Western Australia

Graham Green

## ON THE INTERNET

### JEWISH GENEALOGY IN AUSTRALIA

<http://www.zeta.org.au/~feraltek/genealogy>

### AUSTRALIAN JEWISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

<http://www.zeta.org.au/~feraltek/genealogy/ajgs>

### THE HOME OF JEWISH GENEALOGY

<http://www.jewishgen.org>



## MY LUCKY RESEARCH

by Miriam Shifreen

In this article I am going to talk mainly about the amazing good luck I have had with my research into the Alexander, Moses, Moss and Levy line of my husband's family with the support and help of a large number of very special people. Not that I haven't spent many tedious hours on this research, but every time I think of giving up, I make a new and unexpected discovery.

When my husband Joe, took me home to meet his family, his grandmother, Edith Alexander, must have liked me straight away, because at that very first meeting she told me all about the Alexander, Moses, Moss, and Levy family history. Unfortunately, all that I remember are three family myths: one, that her mother-in-law, Catherine Moss had a twin sister who had married Sir John Monash, two, that her father-in-law, Lewis Moss Alexander had owned a huge and valuable property called Norwood, in Goulburn NSW, and three, that the first known Alexander in the family had come from Alsace where his name had been La Pique. He had changed it to Alexander, because he was called The Pig in England.

Some years later my mother-in-law, Thelma Alexander Shifreen, mentioned to me, in passing, that a new antique shop had opened up near her and she was planning to sell all the old family photos that she had been storing down in an old garden shed. Nobody wanted them, she said.

By this time I had been the archivist at The Correspondence School for a number of years, storing away pieces of paper. I was good at collecting things, so I persuaded her to give me the photos, amongst them were pictures of her parents and grandparents and a number of newspaper cuttings about family events. As I said, I was good at storing things, but I didn't really do anything with this material at that time.

And, of course I didn't really become interested in genealogy until there was no one of whom I could ask the really relevant questions.

But, one day while on holidays, some 12 or so years ago, Joe and I were driving through Kiama, south of Sydney when I saw in the NRMA magazine that Kiama had just opened a genealogy centre and the volunteers there were willing to help any interested newcomers. Suddenly, I wanted to know all about that twin who had married Sir John Monash

I spent the morning at this Centre and, as there was no one else there, the volunteer was very happy to give me her full time and for a small fee showed me how to use microfiche and Indexes and by the time I

left, I had discovered that Joe's grandmother's mother-in-law, Catherine Moss wasn't one of twins, although indeed she had two sisters who were but, of course, neither had married Sir John Monash!

So my next move was to visit the Woollahra Library for a biography about John Monash and to see whom he had married. He had married Hannah Victoria Moss, daughter of Rebecca Alexander, as it turned out subsequently, Catherine's first cousin. So, I've come to believe that family myths have an element of truth, that one must take with a grain of salt.

And talking about family myths. In my own family there was the story that the Chalezkys of Nicapol, in the Ukraine, derived their name from the Hebrew word Chalutz, meaning a pioneer, and that the "sky" ending in the name showed they had probably come from Poland. A bit far fetched I had always thought, until recently when the Belarus Newsletter, had a story by Chaim Freedman, that the Czar had forced Jews to leave Belarus and settle in the Ukraine, and Chaim named those towns where Jews had been forced to go, and those towns all surround Nicapol! One of the towns, Metapol, is the original home of a Chalezkly family that Sophie Caplan discovered for me, living in Washington, USA, and while we cannot link our families, I'm sure there's a connection somewhere. Thank you Sophie!

So, now I must go back to the story about Norwood, the property at Goulburn. Was there a myth here too? I wrote to the Goulburn Historical Society and Goulburn Genealogical Society and back came some details about Moses and Moss families that were irrelevant, but there was a very important newspaper cutting about Norwood, itself. The owner of the original land grant had sold the property to a Maurice Alexander and following the advice of Mr Roberts, a volunteer who answered my query, that if I approached Mr Bob Wood, the gentleman in charge of the archives at the Lands Department Office in Macquarie Street, I could see the original land sales documents. His assistant Peter Chadwick helped me discover Maurice Alexander had transferred this property to his nephews, Lewis Moss Alexander, Joe's great grandfather, and his brother George Moss Alexander. So, myth number 2 was correct.

Of course this stirred me on! Months went by at Woollahra, Waverley and Sydney Libraries, looking up Indexes, reading newspapers, and Sands Directories. I even visited St Catherine's House and the London Chief Rabbi's Archive Office for marriage certificates, while on a visit to London for a family wedding. I made copious notes in case I discovered an important connection at a later date. As I was about to put all this aside again, I decided to visit the Jewish Historical Society and with the help



of Helen Bersten wrote to a Margaret Davis née Alexander.

Months after I wrote to her, and when I was watching the final episode of a serial on television that I been following for months, Margaret rang. So, while I will never know how the TV story ended, that phone call led to one of my greatest finds. Margaret, of course wasn't related to my husband's Alexanders but to an earlier branch, the Leveys and she led me to a tree in the Jewish Historical Society which took me back a further four generations.

Helen Bersten provided me with the family tree that Margaret Davis had suggested, and based on this tree, a huge book of individual family trees. Where to start? Believe it or not, on the very first page that I opened at random, were the names that I was looking for: Alexander, Moss, Moses, and Levey. And though I spent the rest of the day going through every page of this large book there was not another single reference to these names. I had found it all in the first half hour! This was an exciting find because now I had a family tree stretching from our daughter back ten generations to Deborah and Moses Levey, his father and his grandparents, Moses and Elizabeth Levy.

I've had luck too, finding the original or at least one of the earliest Alexanders, Isaac. Through our own Society, I wrote to Carlton Brooks, an Alexander researcher, in Arizona. He passed me on to Bill Gladstone of Toronto, Canada. Bill was writing a book at the time I wrote to him, and said he would help me when it was finished. A year or so later, as he had instructed, I wrote again, and bingo, he discovered amongst his records, the relevant file held by the LDS. A teacher friend, offered to look up the reference for me at SAG (The Society of Australian Genealogists), and she found the relevant page and copied it. Isaac Alexander, Yitzhak Isaac ben Meier, son of Meyer, born in 1791 in Whitechapel who married Susan Levy on 23rd Oct 1817 at the Great Synagogue, details from the 1851 Census followed. So, is there a La Pique out there waiting for me to find him?

And talking about Censuses, when the 1881 English Census came out on disc, I casually asked Rieke Nash could she find MY grandfather, Solomon Levy! Of course, wasn't nearly everyone called Solomon Levy? But Rieke found My grandmother Miriam Benjamin Levy, at 64 Umberstone Street, St George in the East, London, with the most important information that both my grandparents were born in Poland. Thank you Rieke. And so a new search will begin. And I wonder, can I continue to be as lucky?

I'd like to add here, the 2000-strong Shifrin Family Circle found us when Seymour Kawaller, Editor of the Shifrin Family Circle Newsletter, was on a

holiday in Australia, and he decided to do a search of the name in the Sydney Telephone Book and he phoned us. Since then we have not only kept up a regular correspondence, but we have attended a weekend Reunion at a Shifrin-owned hotel, The Pines, up in the Catskill Mountains outside New York, and so met a large number of 'cousins' from all over the USA and even from Melbourne.

Finally, I have this latest stroke of luck to tell you.

In the middle of last year the Newsletter of the Jewish Historical Society mentioned a book called the Eight Children of Deborah and Moses Levey. It was some six months before I finally got around to looking at this book. The author, Mrs Diana Wright had done immense research and had covered each of the branches including the Alexanders right down as far as Joe's mother and her two sisters. (And if you think you have a connection to this family, Diana has just donated a copy of her book to our library.) My immediate reaction was that I could have just got this book in the first place and saved myself twelve years of time and effort. But of course, if I hadn't done all that research I would never have known about the connection to Deborah and Moses Levey in the first place!

*Miriam Shifreen gave this talk to the Jewish Genealogical Society's Annual General Meeting on 19th March 2000. She is a member of the Society in Sydney and now publisher of this Journal. (Editor).*

#### **CALL FOR PAPERS BY LIMMUD-OZ**

Limmud-Oz is a dynamic festival of Jewish learning and culture to be held at the University of NSW in Sydney from June 9th -11th, 2001. Its purpose is to provide the community with the largest and most diverse Jewish educational experiences

Members of the community and visiting scholars are invited to make presentations at Limmud-Oz in their areas of interest or expertise.

Topics should be suitable for one or more of the following streams:

Jewish lifestyle; Jewish Story and Literature; Relationships; Hebrew or Yiddish Language; Jewish History; Jewish Film Studies; Judaism and the Environment; Social Justice; Ethics; Torah; Spirituality; Jewish Philosophy; Jewish Music, Dance, Drama, or Art; Contemporary Issues; Israel; Holocaust Studies.

Sessions may be presented in a wide range of styles: lectures; workshops; forums; debates; or text-study.

Please submit a 50 word proposal/ abstract and a brief CV, including relevant contact details, to:

"Limmud-Oz", c/o The Shalom Institute, UNSW, Sydney 2052

Enquiries: 96630655  
Fax: 93137145; e-mail: [limmudoz@hotmail.com](mailto:limmudoz@hotmail.com)



## 20th INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON JEWISH GENEALOGY

9 - 14 JULY 2000 Salt Lake City, Utah

### A Report by Bubbles Segall

What an experience! For someone who rarely touches a drop, an observer could be forgiven for thinking I was high on alcohol for a week. From the day preceding the conference, events took the form of a whirlwind with so much happening, so many people to meet, talk to, exchange information with, events to get to, a most wonderful library that was hard to leave to fit in anything else and the most wonderful group of people I could ever hope to know.

I met Sophie Caplan, President of the Australian Jewish Genealogical Society for the first time the day before the conference opened. She made sure I knew the ropes inviting me to the pre-conference wine and cheese reception as her guest, and everything blossomed from there. People were amazed at the distance I had travelled and had some trouble getting their heads around the remoteness of Kalkaringi where I live, finding it hard to imagine an eight-hour drive before I could get on the plane in Darwin, let alone the twenty seven hours of air travel that followed. This proved to be a great icebreaker, for many people approached me wanting to know about my trip, my work, Australia, and how I manage to do research living in such a remote location.

A distant cousin from West Hollywood whom I had never met earlier, made the effort to attend. We got on famously and together contacted many other American relatives by phone. A family reunion is sure to come out of this in the near future.

The conference set up was outstanding. Some of the highlights for me were putting faces to names of people associated with "Avotaynu," "JewishGen" and "Kosher Koala", meeting fellow Litvak researchers, assisting fellow genealogists with their research, learning more about the Family History Library, networking, making new friends, and of course, listening to many notable speakers. The program featured many well-known speakers including Alex Abraham, the Director of Yad Vashem Hall of Names, Gary Mokotoff, the publisher of "Avotaynu", Susan King from 'JewishGen', Dr Neil Rosenstein the author of "The Unbroken Chain", and many, many more.

Throughout the week I was torn between attending sessions at the conference or poring over the large amount of Jewish records at the LDS Family History Library. There was always too much on. I was very impressed with the staff at the library.

They were extremely helpful and went out of their way to make our visit memorable.

Something I must share with you. My postal address is a private Mail Bag in Katherine, some, 500 kilometres from where I live. On the first day of the conference people started telling me there was a Canadian genealogist who saw my address in the list of registrants' publication and who was desperate to meet me. It turned out that his Australian-born mother (who died when he a young teenager) served as a nurse in Katherine during W.W.II, I lived and worked in Katherine for many years and I was able to give him a number of details on the spot and have followed up by providing information about the role of army nurses in Katherine during the war, the significance of her service medals and of Anzac Day to Australians. He had little idea of the part this plays in the Australian psyche.

As I said in the beginning 'what an experience!' I can wholeheartedly recommend attending the annual conference (next year in London), if ever, you get the chance.

*Bubbles@nt-tech.com.au is researching these names: Claff, Goldman, Gutman, Kibort, Leiserowsky, Lurie/Lourie, Milwidski, Pikela, Segall/Segal, Sharfanovich, Silkes, Weiner*

*Lilly "Bubbles" Segall has been a steadfast, if unseen, member of our Society for several years, always living in the Northern Territory, previously in Darwin. In fact before the foundation of the society, circa 1990, she was unwittingly responsible for an interview I was asked to give to ABC radio reporter Sandy McCutcheon, now of "Australia Talks Back", on the topic of Jewish genealogy, because she had lent him a copy of "Avotaynu" where my name appeared. (Editor)*

### The Australian Association of Jewish Studies

13th Annual Conference

February 11th-12th

Shalom College, University of NSW, Sydney

The Conference theme is - "From Destruction to Redemption"

Details of the Conference at  
[www.zeta.org.au/~feraltek/genealogy/brochure.htm](http://www.zeta.org.au/~feraltek/genealogy/brochure.htm)

If you would like to present a paper, please visit -  
[www.zeta.org.au/~feraltek/genealogy/papers.htm](http://www.zeta.org.au/~feraltek/genealogy/papers.htm)

Please address all correspondence to  
[M.Dacy@library.usyd.edu.au](mailto:M.Dacy@library.usyd.edu.au)



## The AGM OF IAJGS at SALT LAKE CITY

By Sophie Caplan

The Annual General Meeting of the International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies also took place during the Salt Lake City Conference. The executive was elected at the 1999 AGM and stays in place until July 2001. It consists of Howard Margol, president; Vice President Hal Bookbinder; immediate past president Karen Franklin; treasurer Marilyn Natchez; honorary Secretary Arline Sacks. However shortly after the conference ended we were advised that Arline Sacks had resigned from the executive, and she has been replaced by one of the newly elected council members.

Eight people nominated for the six places on the IAJGS committee apart from the executive, of which the following were elected: Dr Anthony Joseph from Birmingham, U.K., who is also a member of our Society; Michael Brenner from New York, Michael Posnick from Minneapolis, Daniel Schlyter, the Mormon head of the International floor at the LDS Family History Library and Gary Stein of Toronto.

Arthur Kurzweil, who in recent years was given the Lifetime Achievement Award in Jewish Genealogy, offered himself for election in absentia, but was not elected.

At the conference it was announced that instead of a second CD-ROM on Jewish cemeteries worldwide, the records of some 800,000 tombstones will be entered on a new Jewishgen site. Later a new CD-ROM will also be produced.

Other new initiatives were also announced at the conference:

The long-term project of the Family Tree of the Jewish People combining the three databases of the IAJGS, started by Gary Mokotoff, Jewishgen and the one from Dorot Archives at Beit Hatefutsot has now been successfully accomplished by Bruce Kahn and will soon be available on CD-ROM (Windows) at what is stated to be an affordable price, hopefully also in \$AUS.

The 1897 Census of the Jews of Lithuania has now been indexed and will later be available on JewishGen thanks to the efforts of Harold Rhode, Howard Margol, Peggy Freedman and others.

JewishGen will incorporate data from Jewish Records Indexing-Poland (JRI-Poland) at the site <http://www.jewishgen.org/JRI-PL> and will include cemeteries information and records now part of the archives of the Jewish Historical Institute in Warsaw e.g. Records of the Liberal Synagogue of Krakow.

Many of the lists held at Yad Vashem: Pages of Testimony, deportation lists, transport lists are also being indexed. Alex Avraham, director of the Hall of Names at Yad Vashem demonstrated through a link-up with Jerusalem how all the information available on one victim of the Shoah will be brought together on one page of archival material.

Altogether the glimpses into the future initiative should greatly simplify access to archival material, provided of course such material exists and is made available by the holding authorities. In the case of Belarus Jewish BDM this is not available, but archivist Vladislav Soshnikov has made lists of Jewish families and their members through revision lists and other archival material which is available. Some of us paid him \$US25 to find any material to be found about our families I will keep you informed of any results.

Unfortunately Eastern Galician records are also not available for Jews. It has been suggested that these records are being held back by Polish National archives, for reasons not yet understood. However some information will, from the indexing of the contents of the 1929 Polish Business Directory which includes the whole of inter-war Poland i.e. Congress Poland, Belarus Galicia, Dantzig, and Lithuania.

*Sophie Caplan, Editor*

## EMIGRATION OF THE DUTCH SEPHARDIM FROM AMSTERDAM

by Vibeke Sealtiel Olsen

The archive registers in *Gemeentearchief van Amsterdam* has lists that cover the period 1757-1813 with the names of the poor Sephardic Jews who were granted an amount in Dutch guilders against the promise to leave Amsterdam and not to return within the next 20 years. The author would like to hear from anyone who discovers one of their ancestors in the list and would like to share the information. His email is [vibekeolsen@yahoo.com](mailto:vibekeolsen@yahoo.com)

The lists can be found on the websites:-

<http://maxpages.com/donadeli/migration> (A-N) and  
<http://maxpages.com/donadeli/migration2> (O-Z)

For example, the entry :-

*Carvalho Delucena Raphael Curacao 150 1760 08-03 015* means that Raphael Carvalho was paid 150 guilders to migrate to Curacao on 3 August, 1760 (entry on page 15 of register).

The lists highlight the fascinating variety of destinations where Sephardi ancestors settled. Places include Constantinople, Surinam, London, Jamaica, Hamburg, Livorno, Marseilles and Tunisia.



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## FINAL CHAPTER OF REUNION

### Peter Frybort

A long lost niece's search for her aunty, (my mother) began many years ago and came to our attention when you advertised a notice in the KK Vol 4 No 1 March 1997 (00047 ROSEMARY SCHONFELD ..... seeking information on AURELIE NELLY SCHONFELDOVA

The KK Vol 5 No 1 March 1998 carried my story of the contact - A FAMILY REUNION. We invited Rosemary to Australia and she planned to come in 2000. In the meantime, we developed a relationship via mail, email and phone.

In February 2000 Rosemary came to Australia to visit us and meet her Aunty for the first time. It was an emotional experience for all of us and we enjoyed her company for two weeks.

Attached is her account of her search, her links with the past and our time together. It may be a little long, but I'll leave it to you to decide if it is worth including in the KK.

Thank you for your help and dedication in bringing families together.

*Peter Frybort*

### MY SUCCESSFUL SEARCH FOR MY AUNT RELLY BELL 30 March 2000

In 1996 I joined a newly formed Second Generation group in Bristol, England. A Czech member, both of whose parents were Auschwitz survivors, brought back from a visit to Prague in 1997, a recently published two volume tome in Czech of all the Transports which had gone through Theresienstadt. Thanks to 'German efficiency', the names, dates of birth, dates and places of transport and death of everyone was listed. Here I found names of my Uncle Moritz and Relly.

With this specific information I felt able to start placing Search notices. I went to the Wiener Library in London, which is the main Holocaust archive in Britain, and looked up the addresses of International Holocaust centres and as many Australian Jewish organisations as I could find. I also placed a notice in Beit Theresienstadt, a newsletter which my Czech friend had told me about. One of the organisations I wrote to, and I do not know which one, placed my notice in The Kosher Koala. I had not heard of this newsletter. By sheer luck, Relly's daughter-in-law Evelyn had just acquired her first issue, herself beginning to explore her own roots, and saw my notice. In August 1997 I

received a lovely letter from Relly's son Peter, informing me that Relly was alive and very well. It was such a wonderful moment that I was temporarily speechless. I was able to show the letter to my partner, but was not able to say anything at all. What words are relevant for such a momentous event?

Letters and phone calls followed, and I was very lucky that Relly and her family were so open to me. I had known that if I ever did find Relly, there was no guarantee that she would either be interested or willing to communicate with me. Perhaps such painful memories would not want to be disturbed. Fortunately for me, Relly has extraordinary strength of spirit and did not mind telling me about my father's family and the order of events. She had also managed to salvage one of Moritz' paintings after the war, which now hangs on her sitting room wall. In one of her first letters to me she enclosed a photograph of it. Both these things turned my father's family from myth into reality for me. It is hard to describe the effect on me, but it has been profoundly positive.

In February this year I visited Relly, Peter and Evelyn and their children in Sydney. They had very kindly said I could visit and stay as long as I wanted. Very generous to a virtual total stranger! I stayed for two weeks between Relly and Peter and his family, who live close to each other. They showed me the sites in and around Sydney and I had a simply wonderful time. I feel very lucky indeed to have found Relly and my new wonderful relations.

The Internet has increased the chances of successful Searches, but I hope that the fact that I conducted my search before the Internet explosion which has facilitated Jewish Genealogical Societies encourages people to keep trying, whatever their resources might be.

*POSTSCRIPT: Actually it was your editor who used her initiative in taking several notices from the Beit Theresienstadt newsletters and adapting them for our 'Family Finder column'. Throughout the 1980's when I worked as an oral historian I occasionally wrote to Beit Theresienstadt Archives to confirm names and facts from survivors I had interviewed. I always sent a cash donation with my query and they became convinced that I had a personal link to Theresienstadt Camp and put me on the mailing list for their newsletter, which I still receive. I was inspired to re-publish some of their queries, and the above family reunion was the result.*

*Sophie Caplan, Editor.*



## ONLINE WORLDWIDE BURIAL REGISTRY (OWBR)

*Many genealogists have been eagerly awaiting the release of the Jewish Cemetery Project Second CD-Rom. This will now be replaced by the Online Worldwide Burial Registry. We all have cause to be grateful to Arline and to Sid Sachs of Greater Washington JGS who pioneered the Jewish Cemetery Project and administered it on a voluntary basis for several years. Editor*

### What is it?

The Online Worldwide Burial Registry is a searchable database of Jewish burial records the world over. We hope to catalogue extant names and other identifying information from cemeteries and burial records, from the earliest records to the present. This project is a joint effort of JewishGen, Inc. and the International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies (IAJGS), who have agreed in principle to enter into a data sharing agreement for this purpose.

The project links two databases: a database of burial records and the database of information on cemeteries worldwide that had been an integral part of the former IAJGS Cemetery Project. In addition, we are requesting that any available photos of the gravestones (matzevot) be mailed to us. The appearance of the database will be similar to that of the Bristol Cemeteries database at <http://www.jewishgen.org/databases/bristol.htm>

### How will the project work?

Indexing of burial records is the responsibility of the Research Division of JewishGen under Joyce Field, Vice President of Research, and Gayle Wilton, Technical Coordinator of OWBR. The cemetery data, which had been a part of the IAJGS Cemetery Project, is the responsibility of Ellen Sadove Renck, IAJGS Cemetery Project Coordinator.

To help accumulate burial data, we are initiating an "Adopt a Cemetery Plot" program to encourage Special Interest Groups, local Jewish genealogy societies, synagogue youth groups, Jewish Federations, and other interested parties to adopt a cemetery or a landsmanschaft plot and index its records for submission to this project. We hope to appoint coordinators for cities, states, and countries

outside the United States who will organize efforts to collect data for their areas. Those people who wish to become coordinators should contact Joyce Field at [jfield@jewishgen.org](mailto:jfield@jewishgen.org)

### Forms

All forms and explanatory material are available online at:

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

a donor's agreement, a template in Excel for data entry, and an explanation of the fields. If you cannot download the Excel spreadsheet or the donor's agreement, please contact Joyce Field at the above email address or Gayle Wilton at [gwilton@jewishgen.org](mailto:gwilton@jewishgen.org) and we will send the forms as an email attachment.

If for some reason you are unable to enter the data yourself, please contact Gayle Wilton and we will arrange to have this done by one of our volunteers. Please also remember that we are not accepting information on individual burials, only information for landsmanschaft or synagogue plots or cemeteries.

All contributors of burial data will be asked to submit a donor's agreement giving permission for this material to be put online. On this form there is a box for the donor to indicate if the burial data may be included on a possible CD version of the database. Persons who contributed burial data to the former IAJGS Cemetery Project are asked to resubmit the data along with a donor's agreement.

Completed spreadsheets and donor agreements are to be returned to Gayle Wilton at the address on the donor agreement.

Again, contact Joyce Field to volunteer as a coordinator, Gayle Wilton for technical questions on burial data, and Ellen Sadove Renck for questions about and submissions of cemetery data.

Joyce Field, [jfield@jewishgen.org](mailto:jfield@jewishgen.org)  
Gayle Wilton, [gwilton@jewishgen.org](mailto:gwilton@jewishgen.org)

In the coming weeks and months, we look forward to the OWBR becoming an extraordinary resource for those researching their Jewish heritage. We look forward as well to a broad base of grass roots support to see this project to fruition.

Susan E. King  
President  
email: [susan.king@jewishgen.org](mailto:susan.king@jewishgen.org)



## NEWS FROM THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN BRANCH

By Helen Twersky-Steiner

The South Australian members enjoy spending an evening together. For months we had been promising ourselves a "research" evening.

On Wednesday 16th August Klee Beneveniste packed our small collection of resources which we have through the thoughtfulness and generosity of Sophie Caplan, into two cardboard boxes. Manolo and Marjorie Luno transported them; Hilde Hines added some "Avotaynu" issues and we met at the home of Andrew Steiner and Helen Twersky-Steiner.

The weather co-operated with a low bleak temperature, so it was an ideal night to be in a home warmed by a wood fire.

Some members broadly browsed, others pursued specific information and there was sharing of 'finds'.

We held a short discussion centred on two features. The first, to consider adding to our resource materials; the second, the possibility of a base, a place of residence, for our material so that it is centred in one place rather than in several homes.

We are extremely fortunate that a member, Jeanie Susman, is a librarian with previous experience in setting up the research and historical collection at the noted Urrbrae House on the Waite Campus of the University of Adelaide. Would that ours was comparable!

Our next meeting took place on the 18th October at the home of Hilde Hines at 8pm.

In late October, Kingsley Ireland, a Council Member of the Pioneer Association of South Australia, addressed their Luncheon. His topic was Philip Levi one of the early Jewish colonists in South Australia. Levi played an important part in pastoral and mercantile pursuits.

In his halcyon days it is logged that he 'owned a thousand hills and 172,000 sheep and cattle' and for more than half-century he was a 'most familiar figure'.

The Pioneer Association's members are descendants of migrants who arrived in the Province between 1836 and 1845. Only an energetic and committed genealogist like Kingsley could 'detect' so many descendants - some meeting for the first-time.

Marjorie Luno and I were both honoured and delighted to be there.

Our meeting of the 15th November is the last of this year: One pressing problem has been the

appointment of a new secretary and a new treasurer. Although the actual appointment cannot take place until our AGM in February next year, Jeanie Susman has consented to become secretary, and will be immediately accessible on her e-mail address: Chatsworth@picknowl.com.au

Ben Carr will take the position of treasurer. The members then brought us up to date on the success or otherwise of their particular searching via the Internet.

Helen Wishart brought along a guest, Rabin Baban, a Jew from Kurdistan who has endured a long hard land journey over some years, from Kurdistan to Adelaide. Maybe we can help him locate some family in Israel.

And speaking of journeys, next month Margot Salom will launch her book about the Salom family, here in Adelaide. "In Sure Dwellings: A Journey from Expulsion to Assimilation"

**The South Australian Branch can be contacted by post:**

*Jeanie Susman, Honorary Secretary,  
Australian Jewish Genealogical Society (SA Branch)  
C/- Adelaide Hebrew Congregation  
P.O. Box 320, Glenside, SA 5065*

*Or phone Chairperson, Hilde Hines 61-8-8379 6030*

### VALE RALPH KAISER

**24th May 1929 – 6th October 2000**

Our gentle modest member and honorary treasurer Ralph Kaiser died suddenly and left the Adelaide Community in shock at his untimely passing.

Son and elder child of Albert and Thea Kaiser, he was born at Unruhstadt, Germany on 24th May, 1929. He met and married Ruth born in Aberdeen, Scotland at Kibbutz Kfar Hanassi, Israel, where their first son, Alon was born. This second child, Geoffrey was born in Adelaide.

Ralph was a committed Zionist; for fifteen years the Hon. Treasurer of JNF in South Australia and for over twenty years a Committee Member. The current 'Drop of Life Project' focusing on the water-recycling scheme for the people of Shlomi, the people of Peace, in Israel's western upper Galilee will bear a memorial plaque in Ralph's honour.

Ralph was an involved and beloved member of Beit Shalom Synagogue. Whenever a volunteer was required-Ralph would be the first to stand in line. A past headmaster of the Sunday School, and editor of the monthly journal - his reliability, his willingness, his open friendliness will be missed.

We extend our sincere sympathy, to Ruth, Alon, Geoffrey and their families.



## AUSTRALIAN JEWISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY (Vic) Inc.

### Report from Lionel Sharpe

The Society was alarmed to read in the Jewish press during August about the planned expansion of the Coffee Shop at the entrance to the Beth Weizmann Jewish Community Centre in South Caulfield. If approved by the City Council, the Makor Library will lose a sizable area of floorspace. Our concern is that Makor Library houses our genealogical resources. As at November there has been no further news of this development.

The Makor Library is a vital and valuable community resource which is open during normal working hours Monday to Thursday, Wednesdays to 8.00 pm and Sunday afternoon 2.00 to 5.00 pm.

The Society has held a number of functions over the last few months. On Wednesday 12th July, a very well attended meeting listened to a panel discussion with Basia Celler-Lacey, formerly of Lodz, Poland and Penny Blankfield and Enid Yoffa Elton, Victorian committee members who recently visited Poland. The topic was JEWISH ANCESTRAL RESEARCH IN POLAND.

Basia Celler-Lacey was born in Lodz, is a lawyer and a graduate of Lodz University on Public International Law and Civil-Property Division. She has been a director of Monumentum Iudaicum Lodzense Foundation and is now married and living in Melbourne. Basia presented us with a recent map of Poland indicating Jewish sites of interest for the traveller.

On Wednesday evening, 16th August, Jenny Harkness, spokesperson for the National Public Affairs Council for the Latter-Day Saints (LDS) spoke on FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH AND THE MORMON CHURCH to a capacity audience. Using a large number of overhead slides the lecture explored a number of ways of accessing the data on [www.familysearch.org/](http://www.familysearch.org/)

Our regular beginners workshops were held on Sunday, 27th August and again on Sunday 29th October at 2.00 pm at the Beth Weizmann Community Centre. On Wednesday 13th September at 7.30 pm Penny Blankfield gave an on-line demonstration of new useful internet sites such as [www.jewishgen.org/](http://www.jewishgen.org/) using an overhead projector. There was great excitement when members of the audience discovered ancestral names.

A very successful trip to Ballarat took place on Sunday in November 12th. Ballarat is a city about 90 minutes drive from Melbourne. Its old Synagogue and Jewish cemetery are of particular

interest to genealogists. Local cemetery expert, Dot Wickham, guided us through the cemetery, which has Jewish graves dating back to 1857 and local resident, John Abraham, President of the Ballarat Hebrew Congregation, opened the Shule.

The following week the Australian Jewish Historical Society invited us to join them on a bus tour to Sorrento, where Jewish convicts first set foot on Victorian soil, and the Point Nepean Quarantine Station. A full report of these events appear in the November issue of 'Jewish Genealogy Downunder'.

Our final event for 2000 will be held on Wednesday, December 13th at 7.30 pm, at Beth Weizmann Community Centre. Rodney Eisfelder, AJGS Vic. committee member, will present a demonstration of useful AUSTRALIAN DATABASES available in our collection on CD-ROM. He will use our newly acquired converter which enables us to project computer images on a TV screen.

We are also pleased to advise our members that we have acquired three used computers which we plan to upgrade for use in our regular workshops. Members will have an opportunity to search our British Census records, the Australian Vital Records Index, Cemetery records and other CDs in our collection. Our next workshop will be held on Sunday March 4th, 2001 at Beth Weizmann.

The first year of this century has been a busy year packed with activities. Our President, Les Oberman and his committee wishes all our interstate friends a healthy and productive 2001.

#### Enquiries:

Lionel Sharpe (03)9523 6738

[sharpe@labyrinth.net.au](mailto:sharpe@labyrinth.net.au)

Les Oberman (03)9571 8251

[oberman@tmxmelb.mhs.oz.au](mailto:oberman@tmxmelb.mhs.oz.au)

See our home page on:

[www.melbourne.net/csaky/AJGSmainpage.htm](http://www.melbourne.net/csaky/AJGSmainpage.htm)

### LEO BAECK INSTITUTE AND YIVO MOVE

As of July 5, 2000 the new address for the Leo Baeck Institute and YIVO will be:

*The Jewish History Center*

*15 West 16th Street*

*New York, N.Y. 10011-6301*

*Tel: (212) 246 6080 fax (212) 292 1892*

*Leo Baeck Tel.: (212) 744 6400*

*Leo Baeck fax: (212) 988 1305*

*Leo Baeck: e-mail: [lbi1@lbi.com](mailto:lbi1@lbi.com)*

*(Leo Baeck information submitted by*

*Carol Davidson Baird) from*

*Discovery Vol 15 No. 2 Spring, 2000.*



## NEW BOOKS IN OUR LIBRARY

We have acquired Doreen Berger's *The Jewish Victorian*, an index of names culled from *The Jewish Chronicle* and two other Jewish newspapers which appeared between 1871 and 1880, giving short biographical notes as well as cross-indexing for relatives. A very valuable book for those who had ancestors in England in that period.

Also *Marriages In The Great Synagogue of London* between 1790 and 1830. Both books were described in greater detail in Vol 6 No 4 page 8.

Also, *The Lost Synagogues Of London* by Peter Renton, Tymsder Publishing, PO Box 16039, London, NW3 6WL, UK, published 2000, pp210. This is a lavishly illustrated account of the many synagogues that were destroyed or put to other uses, both prior to the expulsion of Jews from England in 1290, and in recent centuries due to population movements or to bombing during the Second World War. The illustrations include, photographs, reproductions of paintings, sketches, maps, and also portraits painted or photographs of rabbis and cantors. It is interesting to see what the synagogue where one's grandparents got married looked like.

A new book to complement our copy of Abraham Laredo's *The Names of Jews from Morocco* (in French) is *Les Juifs de l'Afrique du Nord, Demographie et Onomastique (The Jews of North Africa, Demography and Surnames)*, first published in 1936 in Algeria by the Chief Rabbi of Algiers Rabbi Maurice Eisenbeth and republished in 2000 by the French Cercle de Généalogie Juive and La Lettre Sepharade in Paris. Although this book is in French, its format makes it easy to use by those with a modicum of French linguistic knowledge.

*A Dictionary Of English Surnames*, by P.H. Reaney, third edition with corrections and additions by R. M. Wilson, published in 1997 by Oxford University Press. The surnames cited include some common Jewish surnames found in England.

*The Last Eyewitnesses – Children of the Holocaust Speak*, edited by Wiktorina Sliwowska, translated from the Polish and annotated by Julian and Fay Busgang, was published in 1998 by Northwestern University Press in Evanston, Illinois. It is the individual stories of survival of sixty Jewish children from various parts of prewar Poland, including those which are now in Ukraine or in Belarus. All of these children's survival was due to Poles who took pity on them, some ordinary people, some priests or members of religious orders. These children by definition also remained

in Poland after the Second World War and some of the youngest did not know until recent years that they were Jews. Most of them are now members of the Association of the Children of the Holocaust in Poland.

In 1998 or 1999 the surnames and original names of these children were put on a website. This resulted in a reunion with her first cousin in Krakow by Saba Feniger, an active volunteer of the Jewish Holocaust Centre in Melbourne. Each cousin had believed for over fifty years that the other had perished. All these books were presented by Sophie Caplan.

A book donated to the Reverend Katz library, so that it may be borrowed is Dr Gerry Black's *Lord Rothschild And The Barber, The Struggle To Establish A Jewish Hospital In London*, also published by Tymsder Publishing in 2000. This has an excellent index and biographical details of all who participated in the struggle, and also medical personnel, including relatives of some of our members.

Gary Luke has donated a copy of *Safe Haven, Records Of The Jewish Experience In Australia* by Malcolm J. Turnbull of Melbourne (NOT the Guru of Republicanism) a research guide published by the National Archives of Australia in December 1999. The cover photo includes the likenesses of the parents of the late Rabbi Schmu'el Gorr and of the father or grandfather of Itiel Bereson. It can be purchased by mail from the National Archives, PO Box 7425, Canberra Mail Centre, ACT 2610, or by fax (02) 6212 3699, or by e-mail [archive@naa.gov.au](mailto:archive@naa.gov.au)

We omitted to mention previously that Gwenda and Alec Charleson last year donated Rose Zwi's *Last Walk In Naryshkin Park*, published in 1997 by Spinifex Press, pp 272, in memory of the 220,000 Jewish Lithuanians who were massacred in 1941 by the Nazis and their local collaborators in Lithuania. This book covers much of the Holocaust in Lithuania.

On the same topic we recommend our readers see the Australian-made film shot in Lithuania *Uncle Chazkel*, about a 95 year old man who lived through the Russian Revolution, two world wars, Nazi genocide, a communist regime, and the transition of Lithuania from Soviet republic to independent state, and was the compiler of major dictionaries of the Lithuanian language. A moving and heart-warming film about a relative of the filmmaker.

Sophie Caplan



## **EDITORIAL**

(continued from page 1)

again secure his services for our Society.

Last year I purchased in Israel, an English language video series running 6-8 hours on "The Sephardim of Spain and Portugal," narrated by Itzhak Navon. This was considered too long to be shown at one session, but it has been touring Australia free of charge to our members with Sephardi roots and has even caused new members to join our Society in order to be able to borrow it. Each borrower posts it on to the next member as instructed, once they have finished watching it. Among the many interesting facts revealed in this video are two major Spanish Catholic librarians and archivists stating separately that they have come to the conclusion that Christopher Columbus was a converted Jew, born in Majorca and that his original name was Jacob ben Maimon. Apparently Columbus had an unusually detailed knowledge of the Five Books of Moses and the Hebrew Bible, as evidenced in his journals and correspondence, which would have been unheard of among Catholics. Also he started many of his letters with the Hebrew script letters **יהוה** used by religious Jews above the main text. According to the two Spanish archivists the story that Columbus was born in Genoa and was an Italian Catholic was disinformation spread with the connivance of the Spanish royal family to hide the fact that the man who was instrumental in their acquiring their colonies and their wealth was a converted Jew. You will recall that Columbus left for his first epic voyage on the final day of the expulsion with several Jews, including Luis de Torres, on board.

Both Bubbles Segal and I attended the Salt Lake City Jewish Genealogical Conference. Bubbles was honoured for being the person who travelled the furthest to attend the conference, a total of 35 hours, beginning with a long drive from Kalkaringi, five hundred kilometres from the Katherine in Central Australia, to Darwin, and several plane trips to follow. In comparison my nine hours from Sydney to Los Angeles, then two to Salt Lake City was very quick.

The conference had six hundred and twenty participants, far less than the 1300 who attended the previous one in 1999 in New York. But New York had seven hundred local Jewish genealogists who attended and six hundred from elsewhere. Since SLC has no JGS, the 620 who attended were equivalent. The conference speakers were the usual high standard with the Russian archivist Vladislav Sosnikov, Regina Kopillevich from Vilnius and

Jerusalem, Stanley Diamond of JRI-Poland, Warren Blatt and Susan King as my personal favourites.

The very high standard Jewish Genealogy Yearbook 2000 prepared for the International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies (IAJGS) by its current vice-president, Hal Bookbinder, is presented as part of the conference registration package to each participant, with printed input from each JGS and each speaker. Great demand for the book has resulted in the reprinting of 200 copies at \$US35 each, which can be ordered from the IAJGS

Marilyn Natchez,  
IAJGS, P.O. Box 251683, West Bloomfield,  
M.I.48325-1683, U.S.A.

As usual the most rewarding part of the conference was meeting again old friends and acquaintances, and the hours spent at the Family History Library researching one's own ancestry. Unfortunately the daily programme of three simultaneous lectures every hour, plus the hours one wanted to spend at The Family History Library, meant that there was a constant conflict of interest for each participant. Spending a large amount on fares from Australia, or Europe, or Israel, for a very crowded five days of conference, not to speak of jetlag, seems to suggest that a less crowded conference programme over seven or eight, or even nine days, would make more sense to most participants.

One paid in advance for a seat at the final banquet and was assured by organisers that there were "no reserved seats". It would have been delightful to sit with a mixture of attenders from several countries. Yet Jean-Pierre Stroweis, the president of the Israeli JGS, and I met in the middle of the banquet hall, each trying to find a seat at a table with obviously still unoccupied seats, but which were notionally "reserved" by zealous agents of this or that U.S. JGS who turned us both away. Eventually we joined forces and I suggested that we both make for a totally unoccupied table at the furthest corner of the hall where we were joined by a few other rejected Israelis and others. This matter of being unable to sit anywhere pre-empted by a US state JGS will make me, for one, think twice before booking for another USA-based IAJG conference. It reminded me of being left out as a Jewish child in Nazi Germany, and later as a refugee child and a new immigrant. It is not a set of feelings which I would have expected to resurface at a Jewish Genealogical Conference.

**Sophie Caplan OAM**  
*Editor*



## NEWS FROM WESTERN AUSTRALIA

By Michelle Urban

On Sunday 28th May 2000, our second meeting took place and attracted nearly fifty people with Ruth Miller presenting a talk entitled : *My Life in Kalgoorlie*.

Ruth's English greatgrandparents, Charles and Sara Alman, travelled to Kalgoorlie from Ballarat in the late 1890s and established themselves as small shopkeepers.

They had the first ice-making machine in town. One of the drawbacks of living in early Kalgoorlie was that it was difficult to obtain water. Until the opening of the Mundaring to Kalgoorlie pipeline in January 1902, subterranean salt water had to be boiled and condensed into fresh water and cost eight to ten shillings for 100 gallons. It was necessary to padlock water tanks at night to prevent theft.

The first Jewish religious service in the area had been held in Coolgardie in 1894 on Rosh Hashana, in a tent with 11 men. *The Goldfields Congregation* obtained land from the government and constructed a wooden synagogue on it in November 1896. With the discovery of rich gold mines in Kalgoorlie however, the majority of the Community relocated to Kalgoorlie and by 1899 *The Goldfields Congregation* was disbanded in Coolgardie. The new *Kalgoorlie Hebrew Congregation* had its first meeting on October 1901 and in 1902 a shule was erected for approximately 70 members.

Due to lack of finance a loan was raised to pay for the building and, over the years it was let out for other purposes. It was finally sold and the proceeds donated to the Maurice Zeffert Home for the Aged in Perth, in 1969. The Scrolls of the Law, as well as a kiddush cup and a shofar, were given to Perth's Temple David by Ruth's grandfather, Louis Alman, who was the Mayor of Kalgoorlie, and President of Kalgoorlie Hebrew Congregation from 1931 until his death in 1969.

Ruth was raised in a traditional Kalgoorlie country style house with big verandahs and a central hallway, and a woodstove in the kitchen. In the intense heat of summer Ruth often slept out on the verandah or on the lawn. Attached to Ruth's house was a shade house for hammocks, plants and a Coolgardie cooler for storing food.

*[This is an Australian homemade food safe and evaporation method cooler. Ed.]*

The Kalgoorlie lifestyle was good for children: schools were of a high standard, weekends revolved

around sporting activities, and camps at Esperance provided trips to the sea.

Ruth's only negative memories were of being chased by local convent students, because she was Jewish and she "killed Jesus". At thirteen, Ruth attended her first Habonim camp and experienced a deep emotional link.

She later moved to Perth to continue interacting with fellow Jews and to complete her education.

On her marriage in 1962 Ruth and her husband became one of the first Jewish families to settle in Dianella, a new Perth suburb.

*Submitted by Carolyn Milton-Smith*

A Beginners' Workshop took place on Sunday 27th August and our final meeting for the year was an Internet Workshop on Sunday 26th November 2000 both held at Michelle Urban's house.

*Enquiries can be directed to:*

*Michelle Urban*

*Tel: 08-9375-3874*

*Fax: 08-9375-3574*

*Email: urban@wantree.com.au*

*or*

*Gillian: 08-9401 2835*

## EXCITING ANNOUNCEMENT FOR ALL LITVAKS

By Howard Margol, President, IAJGS

On January 3, 2000 a momentous and history making endeavour began in the Historical Archive in Vilnius, Lithuania. A project to microfilm ALL of the Jewish vital records stored in the archive got underway. As a result of an agreement between the Lithuanian Archive Administration, and the FHL in Salt Lake City, Utah, the archive is doing the actual filming with the use of microfilm equipment furnished by the Mormons.

When completed, the microfilm will contain over 500,000 Jewish vital records. It is estimated that it will take approximately 18 months for the completion of the project. After that, it usually takes 18 to 24 months before the Mormons have the rolls of film available to the public.

In the meantime, learn how to recognise your ancestral surname written in Russian Cyrillic as the vital records are written in that language. The vital records are also repeated in Yiddish so if you cannot read the Russian Cyrillic but you can read Yiddish, you are in luck.

Stay tuned for further announcements.



## LONDON CONFERENCE 2001

9-14 July, 2001

London 2001: promises a catalogue of events as varied and as exciting as London itself. The really exciting news is that our location allows us to present a platform for speakers from all over the world, including Eastern Europe. London 2001 will provide unequivocal first-hand information, advice, and research opportunities, as well as a jumping-off point for travel around the UK and to Europe and beyond.

**Our speakers:** archivists, librarians, historians, geneticists, and expert genealogists. See below for an appetizer. Lectures, seminars, panel discussions, special interest groups and birds-of-a-feather meetings, and workshops for beginners and experts alike, will all be featured.

**Archival resources** (a few highlights): guided tours to Public Record Office, Family Records Centre, Metropolitan Records Centre, Mocatta Mormon Family History Library, and British Library.

**Side trips:** of Jewish interest in and around London. Visits to the East End (London's old Jewish quarter); the Imperial War Museum's new permanent Holocaust Exhibition; films and theatre; regional tours to provincial England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales should all be considered.

**London highlights:** Tate Modern and the Millennium Bridge, Tate Britain, Courtauld Museum, Wallace Collection, Jewish Museum, British Library, Shakespeare's reconstructed Globe Theatre, the classic tourist destinations of Tower Bridge and the Tower of London, Westminster Abbey and Big Ben, music, dance, theatre, Royal Parks, shopping, restaurants (it's true :London is now one of the food capitals of the world). And, finally. . . .

**Linked tours** for conference participants: Poland, Lithuania, Latvia, Belarus, Ukraine, Provence, Alsace, Morocco, Tuscany, Romania, Hungary, Israel –

### ShtetlSchleppers London2001

ShtetlSchlepper: a person who has already taken a quantum leap out of the present and visited the towns, cities or shtetls of ancestral origin and who, in the words of one such traveller, has enjoyed "a life changing experience".

The Pre or Post London2001 JewishGen's ShtetlSchleppers programs will be available in both scheduled group or individual departures to any of our presently listed hub cities in Poland, Lithuania, Latvia, Belarus, Ukraine, Romania, and Hungary.

Trips to hub cities in Provence, Alsace, Morocco, Tuscany, or other major areas of Jewish interest

This is a perfect opportunity for family groups, research groups and individuals who wish to return to and search their ancestral towns of origin to have a departure customized to meet their needs. It is not too early to begin the planning process. ShtetlSchleppers basic itinerary: all are one-week programs, extendable if required. The design is to select a hub city in the country of interest, spend three days there to learn the country and the customs and then four days on individually planned visits to towns or shtetls of ancestral origin.

The hub city always includes visits to sites of Jewish interest, and a meeting with the Jewish community. All these city tours and meetings have the services of a professional guide, knowledgeable in both the language and history of the area. The four day visits to ancestral towns include the services of a private car or small van, a guide who speaks the local language and is equipped to read the Hebrew on gravestones.

Prior research: available by contracting for services of a local researcher. Adequate information must be provided a minimum of 6 months prior to departure to insure research results will be available.

Sephardic heritage trips: are in the planning process and will be available if sufficient interest is shown. For further information: we invite any and all inquiries and encourage you to visit our web site: [www.jewishgen.org/ShtetlSchleppers/2000.html](http://www.jewishgen.org/ShtetlSchleppers/2000.html) to see what is available for this year or feel free to email us at: [shtetlschleppers@jewishgen.org](mailto:shtetlschleppers@jewishgen.org)

**Schedules for London2001** will be available mid September/early October  
<http://www.jewishgen.org/ShtetlSchleppers/>

### A small selection of the speakers at the LONDON2001 CONFERENCE:

Professor Aubrey Newman:  
*Patterns of Migration and Transmigration*

Karen Franklin (New York): Leo Baeck Centre  
*German Jewish History Centre*

Paul Armony:  
*History of the first Jewish Settlements in Argentina*

Laima Trasviate (Director) & Galina Baronova  
(Head Archivist):  
*Lithuanian State Historical Archives*

Vitalije Gircyte (Head Archivist):  
*Newly discovered holdings in the Kaunas Archives*

Professor Ruvin Ferber:  
*History of the Jews of Latvia*



Irina Veinberga (Head Archivist) & R. Bogdanova,  
H. Polovceva (Archivists)

Ilana Tahane:

*Illustrated Hebrew Manuscripts in the British Library*

Peter Nash (Australia):

*China: European, Russian, & Sephardic Communities*

Professor Vivian Moses:

*Genetics, Genealogy and Jews*

Professor Michael Alpert:

*Crypto-Jews and Inquisition Records*

Dr. Anthony Joseph:

*The Jews of Birmingham*

Stanley Diamond:

*Jewish Record Indexing-Poland*

David Hawkings:

*Criminal Records in England & Wales 16th-19th C.*

Ezra Kahn:

*Genealogical sources at 'Jews College' Library*

Wendy Bellany:

*The Jews of Methyr Tydfil and the Welsh Valleys*

Frederick E. Cohen:

*Jews in the Channel Islands during Nazi Occupation*

Anton Felton:

*Jewish Carpets: genealogy of the carpet makers*

Michael Gandy:

*Jews in non-Jewish Records*

Susan E. King:

*JewishGen, Inc.*

Miriam Rodrigues-Pereira:

*Bevis Marks Records*

Bill Williams:

*Jewish Community of Manchester & Salford 1728-2000*

Shirley Flaum:

*Sources of Jewish Records of Lodz*

Henry Wellisch:

*Canadian Records of Jewish Interest*

Check the rest of the programme on the

**LONDON2001 website:**

<http://www.jewishgen.org/london2001> or  
[info.london2001@talk21.com](mailto:info.london2001@talk21.com)

Hope to see you next year in London!

*Dr Saul Issroff*

## QUEENSLAND REPORT

by Morris S. Ochert OAM

Only routine activities were carried out in the period under review, and I have nothing out of the ordinary to report. Therefore, I take this opportunity to remark on the various excellent genealogical publications that reach us from various parts of the USA.

They are most interesting and are valuable for those who research Jewish genealogy and history. The dedication of the many folk who are involved in that labour of love is made obvious by the number of conferences, some overseas, which they attend and the research and writing in which they occupy themselves. It must be at a great expense of time, money and effort!

I would say that 'AVOTAYNU' is the 'flagship' of all those periodicals and the work of Sallyann Amdur Sack and Gary Mokotoff is truly spectacular. I make special mention too of the Spring 2000 issue of 'Generations', produced by the Jewish Genealogical Society of Michigan. On its front cover is a brief article and photo of US Commodore Uriah P. Levy (1792-1862) who is among the outstanding figures in modern Jewish history. A few years ago I prepared a small manuscript about him and will now make it available to Sallyann.

What I have written above does not detract from the quality of the 'Kosher Koala'! Our Founder-President edits a periodical, which does not suffer by comparison with any of the overseas publications. To our own Sophie, we must say "Kol Koved" — "All Honour" — if she did not exist, we would have had to invent her!

Enquiries to:

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## AUSTRALIAN JEWISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY DATABASE

Names being researched by our new members      December, 2000

Id	Surname	Town	Country	Dates
476	ABRAHAMS	SYDNEY	AUSTRALIA	1898+
484	BLUM	VELKE MEZIRICI	CZ REPUBLIC	1800-1930
484	BLUM	WIEN	AUSTRIA	1900-1941
483	CHURNIN	YORKSHIRE	ENGLAND	1900-1952
484	FILLENZ	WIEN	AUSTRIA	11850-1945
484	FISCHER	VELKE MEZIRICI	CZ REPUBLIC	1800-1870
484	FISCHOF	WIEN	AUSTRIA	1850-1925
488	GREEN	STRATFORD	ENGLAND	1800-1910
488	GREEN	LONDON	ENGLAND	1800-1910
488	GREEN	PERTH	AUSTRALIA	1900
484	GROSSMAN	WIEN	AUSTRIA	1850-1945
484	GRUNER	KRALOWITZ	CZ REPUBLIC	1800-1850
484	GRUNER	WIEN	AUSTRIA	1850-1930
483	HAUSER	PARNDORF	AUSTRIA	1850+
488	JACOBS	EAST LONDON	ENGLAND	1800-1910
476	KERSH	SYDNEY	AUSTRALIA	1888+
11	LASKY	SHEFFIELD	ENGLAND	1874+
476	LEVY	SYDNEY	AUSTRALIA	1864+
476	MENSER	SYDNEY	AUSTRALIA	1863+
483	MONET	YORKSHIRE	ENGLAND	1900-1952
483	MOSBERG	WIEN	AUSTRIA	1850+
476	MOSS	SYDNEY	AUSTRALIA	1842+
11	QUASKEY	SHEFFIELD	ENGLAND	1890's
483	REINDLER	PARNDORF	AUSTRIA	1850+
476	ROSEN	SYDNEY	AUSTRALIA	1903+
476	SCHACHTEL	SYDNEY	AUSTRALIA	1862+
484	SCHWEINBURG	WIEN	AUSTRIA	1800-1865
476	SCOTT	SYDNEY	AUSTRALIA	1875+
484	SPITZ	LINZ	AUSTRIA	1800-1835
483	WALLACH	WIEN	AUSTRIA	1900+
11	ZELICKMAN	SHEFFIELD	ENGLAND	1880's

All the research interests of members of the Australian Jewish Genealogical Society have been entered on the Jewish Genealogical Family Finder (JGFF) which can be found on <http://www.jewishgen.com/jgff>

All up-to-date contact information such as names, addresses and email addresses can be found on this site.

All members are advised to check their own contact information as well as the entries for their research interests.

If changes are needed, a password is required. This can be obtained from the Society.

## AUSTRALIAN JEWISH GENEALOGY DISCUSSION GROUP FORMED

Gary Luke has formed a discussion group for Australian Jewish Genealogy. It is a meeting place for Australian researchers to help with access to records in other states, allow exchange of hints about overseas archives, and assist overseas researchers with Australian connections.

Information & subscription via: <http://www.zeta.org.au/~feraltek/genealogy/>

[It's the first link on the contents page]

Or send a blank email to [AJGen-subscribe@listbot.com](mailto:AJGen-subscribe@listbot.com)

Any enquiries please email [AJGen-owner@listbot.com](mailto:AJGen-owner@listbot.com)

**Gary Luke**

**Sydney, Australia**