



The Kosher Koala

Newsletter of the Australian Jewish Genealogical Society, Inc.
P.O. Box 42, Lane Cove NSW 1595, Sydney, Australia
Phone: (61-2) 9427 6075 or Email: society@ajgs.org.au
Web site: www.ajgs.org.au

Volume 9 No. 4

ISSN 1322-6401

December 2002

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January 19, 2003 from 9.30 a.m.
Sunday morning workshop

February 2, 2003
2-4 p.m.
Nancy Goodstein-Hilton
*Researching Family in the
U.S.A.*
(the Library will open for re-
search from 1 p.m.)

Monday, February 24, 2003
7.30 p.m.
Julie Meadows
Writing Your Story

March 2, 2003, from 9.30 a.m.
Sunday morning workshop

March 9, 2003
7 p.m.
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Guest Speaker
Dr. Suzanne Rutland
*The Unwanted: Post-War Jewish
Migration to Australia*

Have you tried
The Society's New website?
www.ajgs.org.au

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By Rieke Nash

At the recent Toronto Conference, an appeal was made by Susan King, President of JewishGen, Inc., for help with funding so that the free services of JewishGen can continue. I believe that every reader of this newsletter with or without the Internet as well as every person who has only dipped a toe into Jewish Genealogy must have made some use of the JewishGen web site at some time. If you haven't then it is almost certain that you will have missed out on some worthwhile information and hints. So far around \$US130,000 has been raised towards the \$300,000 needed to support this unique repository and communication channel. The Society has made a modest donation to the fund but we are asking you to help with this worthwhile cause and even though the Australian dollar is weak any help will be appreciated.

Send to 2951 Marine Bay Dr., Suite 130-472, League City TX 77573, U.S.A. or look at the site www.jewishgen.org/jewishgen-erosity/contribute.ihtml for instructions.

The 23rd International Conference on Jewish Genealogy is to be held in Washington, D.C. in July 20-25, 2003. For details look at www.jewishgen.org/DC2003. Even though it is hot then, it is no hotter than an Oz summer and will be a most useful and enjoyable event. Apart from hearing an international panel of speakers, the opportunities for research are outstanding including the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, the Library of Congress and the National Archives. Combine it with a stopover in New York at the Centre for Jewish History where the combined resources of YIVO, Leo Baeck, etc are now located and your research should make some significant advances.

If you are planning to go next year to Washington, try to attend the talk, *Researching Family in the U.S.A.*, on February 2, 2003 to be given by Nancy Goodstein-Hilton.

I recently met a lady who happily told me about her amazing reunion with a lost cousin and all because of an entry in "that Koala magazine"!

Happy Chanukah

Rieke Nash
President

president@ajgs.org.au



EDITORIAL

By Miriam Shifreen

Down in the dumps lately? No successful research results? If you have been discouraged or if your research interests have been waning, then the stories in this edition will soon get you going again!

Thank you to Dennis Bluth. He saw my request for success stories, and after you read *It's a Small World: The Alexander Family*, you will be filled with renewed expectations of finding your family. Is there anyone else out there with such an exciting experience to share? I look forward to hearing from you.

And the solution you have been waiting for! The final instalment of Peter Nash's story, shows that years of research are finally rewarded with *The Breakthrough!*

Fay Nissen tells us about her attendance as a first-timer at an International Jewish Genealogy Conference when she relates her experiences at the Toronto Conference. Fay is already saving up to attend the Washington Conference in July 2003, from 20-25.

Sophie Caplan tells us about two new Jewish Museums, one in Paris and the other in Or Yehuda, Israel. There is contact information for two research institutes, one in New York and the other in Jerusalem. Read all about them on page 13.

Librarian, Tinny Lenthén, reveals the extensive range of holdings available to researchers in the library of the Sydney Jewish Museum on page 7.

Meet three of our long-standing members and read about their interesting research discoveries.

We have had two very successful afternoon meetings for members. Those who came discovered some very valuable sites for research. Our first meeting was with Nancy Goodstein-Hilton on the *Holdings of Jewish Records in the LDS*, see page 8.

At our second meeting, John Stanhope covered the *Overseas Resources at SAG* (the Society of Australian Genealogists), see page 9.

Bernie Freedman invites you to consider lodging your Family Tree with us and explains why this is important. See page 16.

Thank you to Ken Lipworth for organising the photography in this issue.

Chag Sameach
Miriam Shifreen
Editor

editor@ajgs.org.au

NAVIGATING BERLIN RESOURCES TO SOLVE A FAMILY PUZZLE (Part 3)

FINALLY – THE BREAKTHROUGH!

By Peter Nash

I had built up quite a bit of knowledge on the Nachemstein branch of my cousin Marion FISHER whom I only discovered in London in 1994^{1,2}. But I still failed to exactly connect her branch to the overall NACHEMSTEIN Tree.

When I met Marion again in London in 2001 she told me that Malli (= Marie ?) GABRIEL had three daughters, Herta, Lotte and Frieda. At the Public Record Office (PRO) in Kew I searched through the Alien Registration records based on a hint that the United Restitution Office in Berlin had given me². I now found a record for Charlotte Gabriel who was born in Berlin in 1898 and who had arrived in London in 1939. However, her year of birth did not fit well with Marie Gabriel's birth year of 1883. And Marion was sure that Charlotte (aka Lotte) had died childless. Another blank!

I went to Berlin and to the Weissensee Cemetery knowing that Marie Gabriel was buried there² and luckily found her tombstone - but the inscription and epitaph was in German only and without reference to her parents. So as far as finding out Marion's grandfather's name I was stymied - again. But now I had built up more data for Marion's branch of the Nachemstein Family Tree.

Back in Sydney, I focussed on Marion's parents: Max, born in Lessen in 1881 and Klara nee Rosenthal, born in 1879 in the former Schneidemühl now Pila, Poland. I knew that the previously examined Mormon film for Lessen only had Jewish marriages up to 1850, so I wondered if they were married in Schneidemühl, then part of Germany. In late 2001 I ordered two films from the Mormons specifically for marriages spanning the years 1878-1913 and 1914-1937, respectively. After waiting several months I was told that the film for the years 1878-1913 was now "restricted" by the LDS in Salt Lake City, Utah - without further explanation. The second film has so far not been "restricted" nor has it arrived six months on. I understand now that the Mormons have been asked by the German government not to release films from SLC that contain vital records within the last 120 years. However they can be viewed at SLC provided identification and direct descendancy can be shown as evidence.

Not long after my return and while waiting for the films, a website for on-line access to the Berlin

Directories for the years 1799 to 1943 was announced³. So I logged on and tried to establish which Nachemstein's existed in Berlin and from when. This was fantastic especially as I found an entry for the firm R. Nachemstein GmbH with Max Nachemstein as its Geschäftsführer (business manager). Obviously the R stood for Rosalie, his mother. Entries spanned the years 1918 to 1921. So, if his mother was the owner or director of a business surely his father's name must have appeared somewhere! I wondered why the entries stopped in 1921 but noted that entries for Max in his own right existed in subsequent years.

When I was in Berlin I had also gone to the *Landesarchiv Berlin* (Berlin State Archives) to better familiarise myself with their archival holdings but found they were in the final stages of transferring their archives to a new location. Now I decided to write to the *Landesarchiv Berlin* giving them the directory data for the firm of R. Nachemstein GmbH and asked if the name of Rosalie Nachemstein's husband was noted anywhere in connection with Max's mother's business. It was a slim hope but after waiting patiently for three months I got a response stating that R. Nachemstein GmbH was liquidated in 1927 and that amongst the 182 page file that they still possessed was the fact that Salomon was the name of her husband, that is, the grandfather of Marion Fisher. Of course I did not indicate that (some years earlier) I had narrowed down the choice between Wolf Levin and Salomon. This was quite incredible! The existence of a 182 page file for a business that had been liquidated 75 years earlier was astonishing.

I expressed my thanks and great delight to the Landesarchiv and requested and offered to pay for some substantiated evidence that Salomon was who he was. In reply they offered to send me a copy of the whole file, even though it contained pages of no direct relevance to Salomon - and at no charge. I only requested some relevant pages which I now have, including a Statutory Declaration made in Graudenz (a former West Prussian town) in 1910, clearly stating that Salomon was the husband of Rosalie and that Max was their son, and which also mentioning two unnamed daughters - making me wonder why not three daughters? To add a touch of family closeness it also contained signatures in their own handwriting. My cousin Marion in London now marvelled at my genealogical detective work.

A very large number of Jews moved from former Prussian towns to Berlin in the 1800's and early 1900's for better economic opportunities and yet I have no substantiated evidence that Salomon

Nachemstein actually moved from Graudenz to Berlin, although his wife and son did. The answer to my puzzle evolved from different archives in Berlin!

I was very pleased that after eight years I had finally solved a family genealogy puzzle. In retrospect, I possibly could have reached this conclusion in another way, such as the Mormon's marriage records for Schneidemühl, which now can only be viewed at Salt Lake City, provided I fit their criteria and assuming that Salomon and Rosalie were married there (the Mormon's marriage records for Lessen did not go beyond 1850). Or perhaps I could have found their marriage record or their son Max's birth record in Torun, Poland where the archives for Lessen are now kept. Then again, I might not have succeeded any other way.

But other associated puzzles are still there to be solved who were the families of my great-grandfather Leiser Nachemstein's other siblings: Wolf Levin, Rahel, Hana and Abraham (a sibling that I have only just discovered)?

Worth reading also are the paths that Peter S. Cullman of Toronto took when researching his ancestors in Berlin and former Prussian centres and which he described in his AVOTAYNU contribution: "Twelve Steps from the Past to the Present"⁴.

Endnotes:

1. see author's article in Kosher Koala Vol 9 No. 2, June 2002
2. ibid Vol 9 No. 3, September 2002
3. Berlin Directories 1799-1943: <http://zlb.dilib.de/intern/de/frameset.asp?ApplicationID=7>
4. Peter Simonstein Cullman, AVOTAYNU Vol XVI No. 4 Winter 2000, 33

Contact Address:

Landesarchiv Berlin
Eichborndamm 115-121
13403 Berlin, Germany
<http://www.landesarchiv-berlin.de>

Peter Nash (formerly Nachemstein), is a child Holocaust survivor from Berlin who found refuge in Shanghai from 1939 to 1949. He is a founding member of the Society and has researched widely the available resources for tracing the former Jewish communities of China.
riecken@zeta.org.au

A DICTIONARY OF ASHKENAZIC GIVEN NAMES: - Their Origins, Structures, Pronunciations and Migrations – By Alexander Beider

Our Society has acquired Alexander Beider's third book - a scholarly work on Jewish given names. Those of you who are interested in the origin of the names on your family tree will find this book fascinating, if a little daunting. There are 728 pages.

The book published by *Avotaynu Inc* Bergenfield, N.J. 2001 explores Traditional Names; The Development of Names; Pet Names; Phonetic Changes; The Origin of Ashkenazic Communities; Sources; and also provides Maps.

There is a detailed explanation on page 260 on *How To Use This Dictionary*, on page 271 you will find the explanations of *masculine names*, and on page 475 of *female names*, in all 7000 names derived from 740 root names.

On page 606, for example, my favourite aunt's name, Zlata, is treated to almost a page and a half of detailed analysis.

Zlata, came from the Czech adjective *zlatá* (golden), first used by Jews during the Middle Ages in Czech territories. Jews borrowed this name due to its attractive meaning, equivalent to the Yiddish name Golde. Jewish migrants from Czech lands brought it to neighbouring countries: Austria, Eastern Germany and Poland.

The name in Hebrew and Russian and its use at specific times and places is then explained in detail, e.g.: Slatá [German] in the year 1293 - זלטה [Hebrew] 1349 - Zlata [Polish] circa 1680 Злата [Russian] 19th-century Zlate [Yiddish] 19th-century Lithuania, Belorussia, Finally, the name was used as a surname in a wide variety of forms: Zlatkes, Zlatkin and Ziatkis; Zlatke, Zlatetshke [Yiddish] 20th-century Poland.

Reviewed by Miriam Shifreen Editor

CONGRATULATIONS

We wish much joy and happiness to our long-term members:

Terry and Annita Newman
on their recent marriage,

and

Leslie and Sophie Caplan
on the birth of their newest grandson, David



IT'S A SMALL WORLD

The Alexander Family

By Dennis Bluth

Many years ago, I must have registered with a few genealogical sites, the name Alexander being my maternal grandfather's surname and also my maternal grandmother's surname (they had married in Berlin in 1919, but were not related). I was always interested in my mother's side of the family as she was the only child, her mother was an only child and she had few relatives. My mother had lost contact with her father's family when she and her parents left Germany in 1938. Her father, Harry Alexander, was born in Leipzig in 1886, came to Australia in 1938 and died in 1966. Her mother, Rita, was born in 1893 in Okollo-Bromberg, formerly East Prussia now Poland, and died shortly after my parents married in 1948 and before I was born.

Imagine my surprise in February when I received an e-mail from Lucy Singer, looking for ancestors of the Alexander-Katz family. She recalled that her grandfather came from Berlin and she wished to find other descendants and more about her grandfather who migrated to Israel in the late 1930's. She said that her grandfather came from a family of judges and she had noticed my entry of Alexander family from Berlin. I told her that I did not recall anyone of her ancestry in my family and only remembered that my grandfather Harry's father was named Friedmann Alexander. So, I surmised that we were not related.

Ms Singer immediately replied that in her Alexander Family research she had come across a Friedmann Alexander and she gave me the details of that site as:

<http://www.math.rutgers.edu/~zeilberg/family/gerson.html>.

I visited that site and was astounded at a number of things. The site is all about the family of one Doron Zeilberger who is a professor of mathematics at Rutgers University, New Jersey. When you click on the site you find that it is called Gerson Alexander (the father of the father of the father of the mother of Doron Zeilberger). He states that Gerson Alexander was naturalised as a German Citizen at Graetz, Posen (now Grodzisk, near Buk, Poland) on September 11, 1834. He was a teacher, (Lehrer) see page 2 of the *Naturalised Jews of the Grand Duchy of Posen in 1834 and 1835* compiled by E. D. Luft. Doron then lists the children of Gerson Alexander. The eldest son was Solomon Alexander (who is Doron's great grandfather). The second son Bernhard Alexander, had three children, the eldest being Freidmann Alexander, my great grandfather! Gerson had two other children. Doron then lists what he knows about the family tree of each of these children.

I contacted Doron Zeilberger who was delighted to hear from me and I was able to fill in quite a bit of background for his family tree. Freidmann Alexander, had three other children beside Harry. I could only fill in the details from what my mother remembered in Germany prior to leaving in 1938. The family had lost contact with the two brothers of Harry, Kurt Alexander and Bernhard Alexander who had migrated to New York. The sister, Selma died in a concentration camp. It turns out that the family of Gerson Alexander is an extensive extended family with a significant number of members in Israel.

Doron Zeilberger is indefatigable in relation to his extensive research into all aspects of his family. He has researched the ancestors of the Zeilberger family from Ermershausen going back to 1780, the Schoenemann family going back to 1781, the Forchheimer family to 1806, the Bach family to 1788 and the Pimmer family, descended from Rabbi Levin Aron Pimmer of Birnbaum, to 1789. Interestingly enough, somewhere amongst all of that family is a connection with Henry Kissinger!

Ironically, there was another connection with Lucy Singer and the Alexander-Katz family. I had suggested to Ms Singer that as she had no news of her grandfather, who had gone to Israel as she thought in late 1930, that I would ask my great aunt on the Bluth side of the family, whether she was aware of Dr Alexander-Katz. In Palestine all the German immigrants known as Jaecker stuck together. In fact my aunt Miryam Arielly (née Margot Bluth) was one of the last to leave Berlin in 1940 via Minsk in Russia when the border with Russia was still open prior to the attack by Nazi Germany on Russia. She travelled to Palestine via train through Russia down to the Black Sea, Turkey, Syria, crossing the border into the mandate of Palestine from Lebanon.

At 99 she has all her faculties and is in excellent health. My aunt responded by saying that although she did not know personally of Alexander-Katz, she recalled that her sister (my other great aunt) Edith was friendly with a person of that name. She thought he lived in Haifa, and had come to Cologne at the time that both my great aunts lived and worked there assisting with repatriation payments to the citizens of Israel by the West German Government. I passed this information onto Lucy Singer. So the adage "it is a small world" is true.

Dennis Bluth is a member of our Society and a former president of the Australian Jewish Historical Society

Dbluth@abbottout.com.au

22nd INTERNATIONAL JEWISH GENEALOGY CONFERENCE TORONTO CANADA, 2002

By Fay Nissen

Deciding to attend the Toronto Conference is one of the best decisions I have made. As a novice to the field of genealogy, being among so many like-minded people was inspirational.

I arrived at the Sheraton Hotel on Sunday 4th August with plenty of time to spare before the conference started at 1 pm. When I first decided to attend, I looked for accommodation near the hotel but decided to pay the bit extra and stay in the conference hotel itself. I can highly recommend this, as it has many benefits. It was wonderful when I had a break of an hour or so, to be able to go up to my room.

I made my way down to the conference centre in the lower part of the hotel, and after registering received my conference bag with the lecture schedule and syllabus. As this was my first conference, I was a little confused as to what to do next. I decided to sit and look through the Daily Schedule and highlight the talks, that I wanted to attend. There was such a variety to choose from:

Talks on American and Canadian Records Searches, Polish research,
DNA,
Germany,
The Washington and Auschwitz Museums,
YIVO,
Unique Sources for Jewish Genealogy,
Overcoming Obstacles,
Publishing Your Family History,
The Jews of Iran,
plus dozens more.

At noon, when security opened the doors I went to look through the resource room which had a very good selection of CD ROMS, books, maps, etc., a photocopier and several computers for all the attendees to use.

In the room next door, booksellers were able to display and sell their books. It was good to be able to peruse books that I have only heard about via the internet, and of course I bought a few.

The first talk that I wanted to attend, was the *Beginners Workshop On Jewish Genealogy*. A very good lecture with lots of information for both the beginner and the experienced. I am told this is the first lecture at each conference.

On the first night there was the Opening Reception, where we heard from quite a few interesting people, about the importance of the conferences.

Apart from the lectures, another feature of the conference, which is very worthwhile, is the Breakfast With The Experts and the Luncheons. How wonderful it was to be able to sit in these relaxed and informal rooms to hear great speakers. The other benefit is that I was able to meet new people at the tables at which I sat.

One of the most enjoyable parts of attending a conference like this, is meeting face to face with people I have only corresponded with via the internet and on Jewishgen. I was also delighted to meet some relatives that I didn't know of before and for us to exchange information. I now have made some life-long friends.

On the last night there was a Gala Banquet, which makes for a lovely farewell.

For me, this conference gave me an insight and knowledge into my research. I found each day to be full and exciting. I was either meeting new people, learning information at the lectures or discussing with others.

Next year, the Conference will be in Washington DC. I am already saving up to attend, as the resources and archives available in Washington are invaluable.

Fay Nissen is a new member of our Society

IAJGS ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS 2002

The 2002 International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies (IAJGS) Achievement Awards for outstanding individual and organisational contributions to Jewish genealogy were awarded at the Toronto Conference.

1. *The IAJGS Lifetime Achievement Award* was made to Stanley Diamond in recognition of his distinguished service in the cause of Jewish genealogical research. His negotiating skills and unselfish approach to capturing and sharing the indexing of Jewish Records of Poland have made these widely accessible for the benefit of all. His creative moulding of genealogical and genetic research techniques has added dimension to the field of Jewish genealogy. As founder and president of the JGS-Montreal and as a prolific writer and lecturer, he has motivated countless people to research their Jewish Ancestry.

2. *The IAJGS Outstanding Contribution Award* was presented to Jewishgen and Joyce Field for the Yizkor Book Project.

3. *The IAJGS Outstanding Programming or Project Award* was made to the JGS-Ottawa, Canada for its Chernivsti Cemetery Project.

4. *The IAJGS Outstanding Publications Award* was presented to the JGS-Los Angeles for its quarterly journal *RootsKey*.



THE LIBRARY OF THE SYDNEY JEWISH MUSEUM

From a talk by Tinny Lenthen

All members of the Australian Jewish Genealogical Society should be aware of the extensive holdings in the library of the Sydney Jewish Museum. On August 18 this year a large group of members had the opportunity to hear the librarian, Tinny Lenthen, describe how the library could help with family research.

The library is a Research Library and Resource Centre with an emphasis on the Holocaust. It also has references on Australian Jewish History, a limited collection on Judaism as well as reference works, such as *Encyclopedia Judaica*. It is open to general users, students and researchers and is free.

The Holocaust resources include most of the published books of lists of deportations, survivors, concentration camps, labour (lagers) camps. There is a valuable collection of 75 Yizkor books as well as memoirs, testimonies and histories of European communities. Publications such as the *Gedenkbuchs* for Germany, Berlin and Hamburg, general and detailed works on Auschwitz, Bergen Belsen, Theresienstadt, etc. can provide either specific or background information to expand your knowledge of your family history.

Periodicals such as the journals of the Australian Jewish Historical Society, the Dunera Association and Holocaust and Genocide Studies are available and the library has video tapes and newspaper clippings.

Tinny has extensively key worded the catalogue so that any search for towns, camps, etc. has a chance of success. The catalogue is not on-line and, as the library is a reference library, books are not available on inter-library loan but Tinny is

prepared to help with enquiries and check out specific requests. There is some assistance available for very brief translations.

Some of the funds raised at the recent Capital Appeal for the Museum will be used to expand the facilities of the Library and the Archives of the Museum, improve disabled access and provide a well equipped classroom.

Many of the volumes in the library have been donated by those with an interest in the topic of the book as a means of having the reference available in Sydney or as a memorial to their ancestral past.

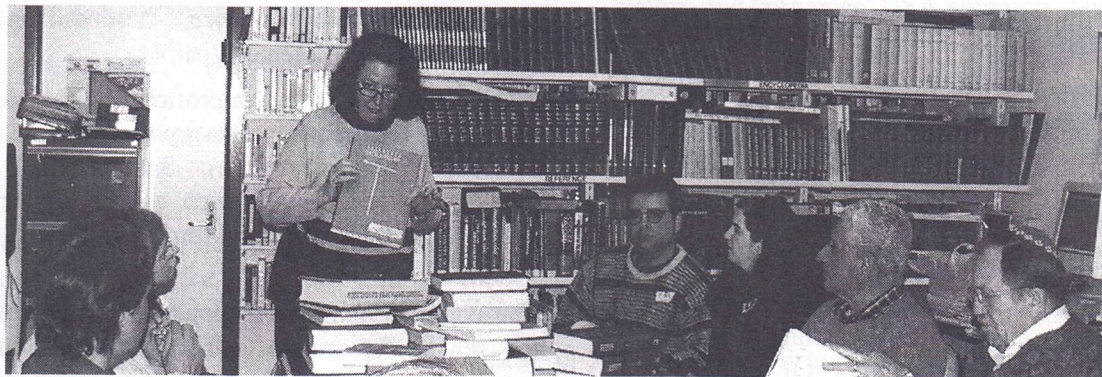
The library has purchased the newly published four-volume edition of *The Holocaust in Lithuania 1941-1945*. Our Society has contributed towards the purchase of this expensive book rather than purchasing it ourselves and urges members who are likely to benefit from consulting it to make a donation towards this purchase to the Library.

The Museum is currently creating a Register of Holocaust Survivors so if you have any information please fill in the form included in this newsletter and send it to the Museum. If you know of others with survivor information make a copy of the form and encourage them to participate in this project.

The library is on the lower floor of the Museum at:

148 Darlinghurst Road,
Darlinghurst NSW 2010
Phone: 9360-7999 Fax: 9331-4245
Email: library@sjm.com.au

Hours of opening:
Sunday to Thursday 10 to 4
Friday 10 to 2
Web site:
www.sydnejewishmuseum.com.au/education/library



**Tinny Lenthen describing the holdings of the Library of the Sydney Jewish Museum
to members of the Australian Jewish Genealogical Society, August, 2002**



On Sunday, October 27 at Waverley Library, fifty visitors and members of the Society were treated to a most entertaining and professional presentation by Nancy Goodstein-Hilton.

Nancy and her husband Lynn are members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and live in Salt Lake City. They are in Sydney for a year. The LDS or Mormons, as they are popularly known, are the repository of the world's largest collection of genealogical records including Jewish birth, marriage and death records.

Nancy has Jewish ancestry and has specialised in how to do Jewish genealogical research. She has authored a nine volume record index of specifically Jewish records in the Family History Library covering 90 countries and territories worldwide. It is the largest index of Jewish records on microfilm, on microfiche and in print ever compiled. From this collection Nancy worked two years to prepare the CD, *Jewish Records in the Family History Library Catalog*. This index has been published by the International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies (IAJGS) and can be viewed at the Jewishgen website at www.jewishgen.org/databases/FHLC.

The CD can be purchased directly from the IAJGS for \$US20 plus \$US5 postage to Australia. Follow the instructions on www.jewishgen/iajgs and email a request to mpoz@earthlink.net. Of course, the CD can be viewed at our regular workshops.

Two of these CDs were donated by her at the talk as "Lucky Door Prizes".

As Nancy demonstrated in her talk, scanning the indexes can produce some surprising results. It is well known that the Mormons have microfilmed many Jewish vital records in towns all over Eastern Europe but they have also filmed British and Australian documents. For example the index to British naturalisations for the years 1844-1900 is available as well as the index to Jewish burials in New South Wales regional cemeteries such as Moree and Bombala.

In the latest Avotaynu, Vol 18 No 2, Sallyann Sack notes some of the "Exotic" holdings indexed on this CD. Ottoman and British mandate era Jewish records filmed in Israel, 18th century Caribbean documents and small communities of the Diaspora are discussed.

If you are researching Poland, it might be worthwhile to first search the JRI-Poland web-site to see if your particular town has already had its index transcribed by volunteers. You will find this site on www.jewishgen.org/jri-pl

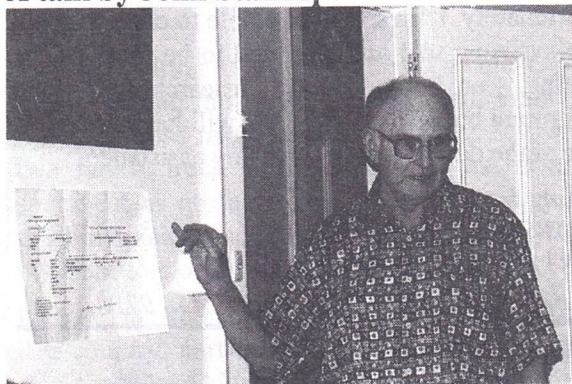
For \$6 microfilms and microfiche can be ordered in at your local Family History Centre or at SAG (see John Stanhope article). Some Centres keep popular indices on site such as (St Catherine's House) Birth, Deaths and Marriages for UK from 1837.

The complete Family History Catalog from which the Jewish Records have been extracted can be searched on www.familysearch.org

Finding some relevant data is very exciting but, be warned, your language skills could then be sorely tested!

OVERSEAS RESOURCES AT THE SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIAN GENEALOGISTS, Sydney

A talk by John Stanhope



On Sunday November 10, long-time member of our Society, John Stanhope described to members the possibilities for research in the collection of the Society of Australian Genealogists (SAG) in Kent Street, Sydney. John is a volunteer for SAG, a society founded in 1932 which is the third largest genealogical society in the world with over 7,000 members.

He became interested in Jewish genealogy when a United Kingdom marriage certificate for an ancestor of his wife, Loreen, showed a synagogue wedding. He was able to trace the SHANNON family in both the Bevis Marks and the Great Synagogue (London) records, documenting the fact that marriages did take place between the Ashkenazi and Sephardi communities in London. One member of the family, Michael HYAM was Governor Darling's "perfect Jew".

The Overseas collection for SAG is housed at Rumsey Hall, 24 Kent Street, Sydney and, depending on the year acquired, has been catalogued in microform, card and more recently computer formats. Our library has a copy of the 1990 Index to the Microform Collection at SAG.

As one would expect, the British and British Colonial records are extensive but there is also a German Special Interest Group whose resources and expertise can be very helpful.

Apart from substantial resources, SAG also provides valuable services. LDS (Mormon) films can be ordered here for \$7.95 per film per month which may be more convenient for some researchers who find it hard to attend Family History Centres at a convenient time and place.

The microfiche of the indexes to the United Kingdom civil records of Birth, Deaths and Marriages, also known as St. Catherine's (House)

indexes are available here for the years 1837 to recent times. The Certificates from these records can be ordered at SAG. These microfiche are also available at the State Library and LDS Centres.

Other certificates for wills from 1750 and probate documents from 1837 can be researched in the indexes at SAG and ordered from there.

John has found that some pre-1837 Parish records included Jewish births. What seemed to be a baptism record was merely the "registration" of a child that might be needed for entrance to schools and universities in later life.

Other useful resources included excellent 1851 UK census data, property records of land owners, many regional UK directories as well as interesting professional and apprenticeship books. Early Business Directories for London and Middlesex range in years from 1805 to 1874.

The maps and Gazetteers available can assist in finding the location of that obsolete London street or provincial cemeteries.

The SAG library has many lists that could prove worthwhile, such as for schools, landed gentry, celebrities of the 19th Century, Poor Laws lists of paupers, the Dictionary of National Biography (which has some middle class entries) and citizens' allegiance lists.

There is an index to the Gentleman's Magazine and the bound volumes up till 1830 are available. The volumes after 1830 can be found in the NSW State Library. This magazine is especially useful for non-Anglican family events up to 1920 and some extracts have appeared in the Journal of the Jewish Historical Society of England.

The SAG resources also include the International Genealogical Index (IGI), books on geography, history and surnames, USA shipping, cemetery and monumental inscriptions for Scotland and the City of London.

The SAG bookshop has a good selection of publications. An admission fee is charged for use of the library by non-members.

John Stanhope OAM has been a member of our Society for nearly ten years. He attends SAG most Saturdays as a volunteer library assistant and is willing to undertake limited enquiries for members unable to attend in person.

MEET SOME OF OUR MEMBERS OF TEN YEARS' STANDING

ANTHONY JOSEPH - President JGSGB



I became *hooked* on looking into ancestry and the background of my family before I had reached my Barmitzvah. Since I am now sixty-five it is not a difficult calculation to note that I have been actively interested in this sort of researching for over fifty years. I joined the London

Society of Genealogists as a life-member in 1955 and I was elected to their Fellowship in 1970. My late first wife was also my fourth cousin and although she never shared my interest, as such, in genealogy she was always very supportive and, of course, we had many mutual relatives, albeit somewhat distant to both of us.

After I qualified as a doctor in 1961 and after I completed basic training in London, we came to Australia, in early 1963 and I joined the Australian Jewish Historical Society within a week or two of arriving in Sydney. Since 1966, after the retirement of the late Cecil Roth, I have been their corresponding member for Great Britain and I enjoy still, holding this honorary position. For many years, while Louise Rosenberg was the secretary of the Australian Jewish Historical Society, we exchanged a regular letter with each other, she writing mid-month and I writing at the beginning of each new month. This ensured that a flow of historical informative dialogue between us was disseminated in both countries. When the Australian Jewish Genealogical Society was formed, I was delighted to be amongst the early membership and I have always endeavoured to promote the dialogue of mutual interest between Australia and *The Old Country*. Of course, for Jewish researching, Britain (while very important in many respects) is by no means the only port of call and many European places share with English records as sources for useful information for latter-day Australian Jews.

I have been the President of the Jewish Genealogical Society of Great Britain since 1998. My own personal family tree can be traced back within England for some three hundred years or more and my forebears on one side were amongst the earliest Ashkenazi settlers to come to London from Eastern Europe.

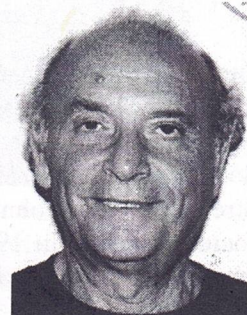
By now, with all the distant collateral branches I have traced out, there are something like twenty

thousand names on my personal family tree records and all of this is contained in handwritten databases much to the dismay of the computer-literate modern generation, who like to see everything on Internet, websites and handled by similar technologies. Unfortunately, I am simply not able to cope with all these systems, so I am delighted to be involved in assisting anybody with researching their background but snail mail or fax will have to be the order of the day, if I am to give any assistance.

*Anthony Joseph,
C/-25 Westbourne Rd., Edgbaston, Birmingham,
B15 3TX, ENGLAND
Tel: 44-121 454 0408 Fax: 44-121 454 9758*

ELLIS SETTON

I was born in Cairo, Egypt in 1933, of a long line of Sephardi Jews. I left Cairo in 1951 (before King Farouk was ousted) and came directly to Australia. I settled in Sydney, married, and have two daughters. Between early 1964 and the end of 1966 I worked overseas.



My interest in genealogy had been with me for as long as I can remember. I used to ask my maternal and paternal Nonnas and Nonnos (grandmothers and grandfathers) endless questions about my uncles, cousins grandfathers etc., (even though I was only five when my maternal Nonno died). I cannot recall if they were able to answer my questions – I don't think they did because my interest in genealogy lay deeply buried somewhere in me until the day I was able to indulge in my favourite pastime.

This occurred some years ago, when I saw an advertisement in the newsletter of the North Shore Synagogue (to which I have belonged since 1969) inviting anyone interested to attend a workshop on genealogy in the Rev Katz Library. My latent interest in the subject was immediately reawakened, and I attended.

I explained my interest to Sophie Caplan whom I have known since the days when my two daughters attended Masada College. She said to me, *In a recent issue of "Avotaynu", there was a short article by Lydia Collins of London, who fortuitously had researched 30 families originating from Syria/Lebanon and who had migrated to England in the mid 1850's.* This was not the first time that I was amazed by Sophie's phenomenal memory.

I immediately consulted Lydia Collins. She sent me two skeleton family trees on the Setton and Savdie

(my mother's maiden name) families. There was no stopping me from that moment on. I have kept in contact with Lydia since then and she has always been extremely helpful, never once asking for any fees.

I started writing to all the scattered members of my family around the world: USA, Brazil, France and Sydney. It has taken years, but finally, I now have two family trees, fairly complete (that is a silly statement as no family tree is ever complete). On the Setton side, I cannot go back beyond 1700, as my ancestors originate from Syria.

I knew that there were no records to be found in that country, particularly of Jews. But I decided to ring the Consul for Syria in Sydney. He asked me how far back I wanted to go. When I replied about 300 years, he laughed saying no country keeps records that long! *Would I be allowed to visit Syria?* I asked, confiding in him that I was Jewish. When he said of course I could go, anyone could go, I taunted him with a further question. *But will they let me out, once I am in there?* I am sure he smiled when he said that there was no question they would!!

tel/fax: 9713 1193 esetton@bigpond.com
website: <http://www.arielrecorders.com>

HILDE HINES

My interest in genealogy started when I found amongst my mother's papers a Family Tree of the Guckenheimers which was produced at the request of my father. He passed away in 1935. The papers are written in the old German script and go back to the 18th-century.



My first step was to write to all relatives all over the world and to find out the up-to-date version of the family and any information they had of earlier descendants. This also meant writing to various places in Germany until I found the actual place where it all started.

I had travelled once to Burghaslach, near Würzburg, with my late husband and met with a professor in charge of the local archives and got a lot of interesting information through him. Some time later I found that there were very many people who were also interested in their roots, so we joined together and started the South Australian Jewish Genealogy Society.

Sophie Caplan's help and inspiration has been of tremendous importance to our society.

Tel: 8379 6063 / fax: 8338 2293
h_hines@bigpond.com

WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND THE STATES

NSW NEWS

By Rieke Nash

The monthly workshops continue to provide members with valuable new resources. We have two new CD's:

- The latest edition of the Family History Library (FHL) Catalogue (April, 2002). This CD contains the index to the holdings of the Family History Library in Salt Lake City and can be ordered from local Family History Centres for as little as \$A9.10. It is also online at www.familysearch.org

- Jewish Records in the Family History Library (see article in this edition). This CD must be ordered through the International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies (IAJGS) on www.jewishgen.org/iajgs. The cost is \$US20 plus \$US5.00 postage. Its online version can be found at www.jewishgen.org/databases/FHLC

Recent talks have focussed on opportunities for local research not just for Australian research but also for European records. When planning an overseas research trip, a visit to these resources can save hours of work while overseas. Most researchers would benefit from a visit to the libraries of the Sydney Jewish Museum, the Society of Australian Genealogists and the services of the Family History Centres. In 2003 we will continue to highlight other Australian resources.

The Sydney Jewish Museum is creating a Registry of Jewish Holocaust Survivors. We have included a copy of their questionnaire with this edition of Koshers Koala and invite your participation in this worthwhile project, if appropriate.

We have been sending reminders of coming events to members with email addresses and urge others to let us know when they have email. It has been a productive and cheap initiative as 80% of members are now on-line. However two members complained that they were not notified. One, without email, did not read the front page of Koshers Koala and diarise the coming events. The other had not specified society@ajgs.org.au in her spam filter so the message did not get through (even though it had not bounced). Please check your settings and note that all members with or without email are notified about scheduled events. Only those with email are sent reminders.

Enquiries: Australian Jewish Genealogical Society,
P.O. Box 42 Lane Cove NSW 1595

Tel: 9427-6075 Email: society@ajgs.org.au

Website: www.ajgs.org.au

REPORT FROM VICTORIA

By Lionel Sharpe

A meeting devoted to a report-back on the 22nd International Conference on Jewish Genealogy held in Toronto August 4th - 9th was held on 25th September. Les and Sonya Oberman, Enid Yoffa-Elton and Lauren Joffe (who presented a paper) attended the conference. While on their travels, Les and Sonya attended a large family re-union of the Obermans in Israel and both Enid and Lauren took off to New York.

Yochi Kretchmer, who was on a short visit to her daughter in Melbourne, spoke to us on 31st October about the history of and Jewish life in Zimbabwe. The Jewish community of Zimbabwe, where Yochi has lived for fifty years, numbered some 7,500 at its height in the mid-1960s. It is a small minority within the country's white minority. The Jewish community still maintains three synagogues, two in the capital city of Harare and one in Bulawayo. A more detailed report is published in the Victorian newsletter, *Jewish Genealogy Downunder*.

A beginner's workshop will be held on Sunday 1st December from 2. to 4.00 pm. Albert Braunstein, a former member of the committee, will be talking about his own family history on Wednesday 11 December at 7.30 pm. His father's ancestors who had been living in Egypt since the 1860s when the Suez Canal was being constructed, originally lived in Galicia. And his mother is descended from the Lurias, a famous rabbinic line descended from Rashi.

Les and Sonya Oberman and Lionel Sharpe manned an enquiry table at the Goulburn and Murray Association of Local and Family History Groups Family History Expo at Mulwala and District Services Club in November.

Enquiries: Lionel Sharpe (03)9523 6738

ajgs@exist.com.au

Les Oberman (03)9571 8251

oberman@mira.net

DISCOVERY 2003 – DISCOVERY, DEADENDS & DATABASES

**The 10th AUSTRALASIAN CONGRESS
on GENEALOGY and HERALDRY**

will be held at the Melbourne Convention Centre
23rd-27th April 2003.

There will be a vast array of local, national and international speakers.

Enquiries: 03 9698 7400

www.conferenceconsultants.com.au/discovery2003

REPORT FROM SOUTH AUSTRALIA

By Jeanie Susman

Our AGM was held on Tuesday August 27th. The newly elected members of the committee are:

President Marjorie Luno

Vice-president Margot Bailey

Secretary Jeanie Susman

Treasurer Ben Carr

Publicity Officer Keith Bailey

Klee Benveniste continues as the Honorary Archivist handling enquiries concerning early South Australian settlers and later residents.

The programme for 2003 was addressed and the President reported that several very interesting and most informative projects are being explored.

Further suggestions for likely speakers and appropriate meeting topics were put forward by members and will be followed up in due course.

A number of issues were raised for discussion, those not resolved are to be given further consideration and raised at a later date. The matter of subscription rates to AJGS is still to be settled.

The last meeting for the year took place on Tuesday October 29th when Hilde Hines was our speaker. Her well-presented and most informative address was entitled *Something Good Out of Darkest Tragedy*. Her talk, much appreciated by all present, covered her recent experiences in Germany at the launching of the book by Arnold Erlinger entitled *A Swabian Survives Auschwitz*. Hilda's talk will be available on-line in due course.

Roslyn Sugarman, the Curator of the Adelaide Jewish Museum, is now including all our branch talks on the official website at <http://www.adelaidejewishmuseum.org>

I strongly recommend that interested AJGS members examine the site which covers some fascinating stories and facts about South Australian Jewish life, present and past.

As is our practice, a business meeting took place before the members were joined by visitors to hear the speaker. Items on the agenda were satisfactorily dealt with, one of special interest being the President's update on further progress for plans for our meetings next year.

*The South Australian Branch contact is
Marjorie Luno, President,*

*AJGS (SA), c/- Beit Shalom Synagogue,
P.O. Box 47, Stepney. S.A. 5069*

*Email to Hon. Secretary : Jeanie Susman
chatsworth@picknowl.com.au*

TWO NEW JEWISH MUSEUMS

By Sophie Caplan

The Paris Museum of Jewish Art and History

There is a new museum to visit in Paris. It is the Museum of Jewish Art and History at the Hotel of Saint Aignan, 71 rue du Temple, 75003 Paris. *Hotel* in this context means mansion. The Hotel St Aignan is a historic mansion put at the disposal of the Museum by the City of Paris.

The Museum is based on two great collections of Jewish art previously kept in Paris, the Isaac Strauss collection donated in 1890 by the Baroness Nathaniel de Rothschild and formerly in the National Museum of the Middle Ages, and the post World War II collection of Jewish Art created in 1948 in response to the Shoah.

The Museum also is a showcase of Jewish patrimony and other objects as well as a history museum and a museum of Jewish communities throughout the world.

There is also available a series of documentary films of the lives of Jewish artists and thinkers, as well as films on contemporary Jewish history.

Tel: 01 5301 86 53 (France).

Babylonian and Iraqi Jewish Roots

An article by Harriet Kasow in *Sharsheret Hadorot*, Journal of the Israel Genealogical Society, reports on a new museum, The Babylonian Jewry Heritage Centre, situated at 83 Rechov Hagana, Or Yehuda, 60251, Israel, which reconstructs the history of Iraqi Jewry. This started with the exile and dispersion of the Jews to Babylon after the fall of the first Temple and continues right up until the return to Eretz Yisrael in 1948 - 51.

There are maps and models, including the Great Synagogue of Baghdad with its very special Torah Scroll cover, of the famed ancient learning centres of Pumbeditor and Nehardea where the Babylonian Talmud was written. Original documents and photographs complete the display but for genealogists with Iraqi roots there is documentation on Jewish families of Iraqi origin including a computerised programme based on 120,000 immigrants to Israel. Other families of Iraqi origin are asked to submit their family trees and other data to the centre by mail to:

Babylonian Jewry Heritage Centre

83 Rechov Hagana, Or Yehuda 60251, Israel,

or email: babylon@babylonjewry.org.il

website: www.babylonjewry.org.il

Sophie Caplan, OAM

Previous President and Previous Editor

THE GENEALOGY INSTITUTE at THE CENTRE FOR JEWISH HISTORY in N.Y.

The Genealogy Institute at the newly opened Centre for Jewish History in New York, helps new and experienced family history researchers access genealogical materials in the archival and library collections, and provides reference and educational services, and creates programming on family history and its connections to the broader sweep of Jewish history.

The combined holdings of the five major institutions found at The Centre for Jewish History (The American Jewish Historical Society; American Sephardi Federation; Leo Baeck Institute; Yeshiva University Museum and YIVO Institute for Jewish Research) comprise approximately 100 million archival documents, half a million books, and thousands of photographs, artifacts, paintings and textiles - the largest repository documenting the Jewish experience outside of Israel, and including copies of our Kosher Koala.

The Genealogical Institute

15 West 16th St., New York N.Y. 10011

Tel: 212 294 8324;

www.cjh.org/family

Email: gi@cjh.org

Contact for the Center for Jewish History

tel: 212 294 8301;

www.cjh.org;

Email: cjh@cjh.org

Note: The American Sephardi Federation is now developing a database of all Sephardi archives to document the history of Sephardic Jewry.

Tel: 212 294 8350

www.amsephfed.org

THE CENTRAL ARCHIVES FOR THE HISTORY OF THE JEWISH PEOPLE

The Central Archives re-opened on November 3, 2002.

The new address is:

46 Jabotinsky Street, Jerusalem

Tel: 972 2 563 5716;

fax: 972 2 566 7686

P.O.B. 1149, Jerusalem, 91010

archives@vms.huji.ac.il

BATYA UNTERSCHATZ RETIRES

The Jewish Agency's Search Bureau for missing Relatives, headed by Batya Unterschatz closed at the end of 2001.

Batya Unterschatz can still access information at the Search Bureau, so anyone needing her help and assistance can contact her by email at:

BATYAL@NETVISION.NET.IL

ANNOUNCEMENTS 2003

Sunday, January 19, 9.30 am – 12.30

Workshop, Lindfield

Sunday, February 2, 2-4 pm.

Rev Katz Library, Lindfield

Nancy Goodstein-Hilton

Researching Family in the U.S.A.

Don't miss this presentation. The Library will be open for research from 1 pm.

Monday, February 24, at 7.30 pm.

Sydney Jewish Museum

Julie Meadows

Writing Your Memoirs

Julie established the "Write Your Story" program for the Makor Library in Melbourne which has now published over 30 biographies. She has been invited by the Sydney Jewish Museum to advise on a similar program for Sydney and will outline the requirements and techniques for writing one's memoirs. The Society will also participate in this session with help in researching family history. This promises to be a very informative meeting for those who would like to start writing their Memoirs or their Family Story. For information 9427-6075.

Sunday, March 2, 9.30 am.

Workshop, Lindfield

Sunday, March 9, 7 pm.

Wilson Hall, North Shore Synagogue,
Lindfield.

11th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Our guest speaker on the night will be

Dr. Suzanne Rutland

"The Unwanted: Post-War

Jewish Migration to Australia"

Suzanne is an educator and historian and chairs the Department of Hebrew, Biblical and Jewish Studies (previously Semitic Studies) at the University of Sydney. She has authored a number of books, the best known being "Edge of the Diaspora" defining her keen interest in Australian Jewish history, and currently being the President of the Australian Jewish History Society. Her most recent project has been writing a history of Moriah College. Suzanne has also been a prominent researcher and historian of Australia's immigration policies and will speak on the discrimination experienced by post-1945 Jewish refugees and migrants because of anti-Jewish refugee hysteria immediately after the war.

DON'T FORGET YOUR DONATION TO JEWISHGEN!!

www.jewishgen.org/

jewishgen-erosity/contribute.ihtml

(See President's report page 2)

UK 1901 CENSUS

www.pro.gov.uk

The British 1901 Census is fully operational. Open up the site, click on *1901 Census* on the left side, Then fill in the details. Remember that for country of birth, someone born in Poland, was considered Russian or German or Austrian in 1901, depending on the year. You can search for names without payment, but to get the details there is a minimum charge of £5: £0.50 per person name, £0.50 for the rest of the household, and £0.75 for a copy of the original census detail. Payment is by credit card or voucher obtainable from the Society of Australian Genealogists (see page 9).

OTHER CENSUS DATA

www.familysearch.org

Search the British 1881 Census, the 1880 U.S. Census and the 1881 Canadian Census for free. Open up the site, in the left hand panel, you will see the Census Box, under the heading of Information. You can also download Pedigree Sheets, Family Group Record Sheets, Census Record Sheets to help organize your research from this site.

THE JEWISH ENCYCLOPEDIA

www.jewishencyclopedia.com

Although we have the original volumes in the Rev. Katz Library, Lindfield, you can now research these books online and discover some fascinating information.

STEPHEN MORSE'S NEW SITES

His sites provide a portal to search Ellis Island

www.jewishgen.org/databases/eidb

and U.S. Social Security Death Index

<http://home.pacbell.net/spmorse/ellis/ssdi.html>

ANOTHER UK SITE

www.movinghere.org.uk

This site has a focus on the experiences of migrants to Britain and includes the Jewish Eastern Europe story. Contributors are invited to relate their stories:

What was it like in the countries of origin
and why did people choose to move?

What was the journey like?

What were people's experiences of arriving and
settling in England?

How do people reconnect with their (or their
parents' or grandparents') country of origin?

There are also some useful links to other sites.

OFFICE BEARERS OF THE SOCIETY

President	<i>Rieke Nash</i>
Vice-President	<i>David Laufer</i>
Treasurer	<i>Gary Luke</i>
Secretary	<i>Jeannette Tsoulos</i>
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Australian Jewish Genealogical Society
P.O. Box 42,
Lane Cove NSW 1595,
Sydney, AUSTRALIA

E-mail: society@ajgs.org.au
President president@ajgs.org.au
Treasurer treasurer@ajgs.org.au

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WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

New South Wales

George Alexander

Alison Davis

Gregory Harburg

Gwenda & Josh Harris

Dianne Johnstone

Western Australia

Penny Barnett

Victoria

Alan and Sandra Cohen,

Sophie Maj

David Munro (NZ),

Tamar Urbach

Elena Semenova

SYDNEY WORKSHOPS

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

Articles and material may be submitted to the Editor
at: P.O.Box 42 Lane Cove NSW 1595,
Sydney, Australia

Editor editor@ajgs.org.au

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

Permission to reproduce articles and material from
the Kosher Koala should be sought from the editor.

INTERNATIONAL JGS CONFERENCES

Washington, DC - July 20-25, 2003

<http://www.jewishgen.org/DC2003>

Jerusalem – 2004

Las Vegas – 2005

AUSTRALIAN JEWISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY DATABASE

Names being researched by our new members

December 2002

Id	Surname	Town	Province	Country	Dates
508	AARON	BIRMINGHAM		ENGLAND	
508	ALEXANDER	LONDON		ENGLAND	Early 1800's
511	BARNETT	LONDON		ENGLAND	1855+
439	BENJAMIN			RUSSIA/POLAND	
439	BENJAMIN		MANCHESTER AREA	ENGLAND	
439	BENJAMIN	LEEDS		ENGLAND	
439	BENJAMIN	HULL		ENGLAND	
512	BLACK	HULL		ENGLAND	
507	CAPLAN	LIVERPOOL		ENGLAND	1880-1900
466	COHEN	FORDON		POLAND	
439	COHEN			POLAND	
439	COHEN	MANCHESTER		ENGLAND	
439	COHEN			SOUTH AFRICA	
512	GOLDSTEIN	HULL		ENGLAND	1877-1925
511	GUTTENTAG	LONDON		ENGLAND	1860+
511	GUTTENTAG	PARIS		FRANCE	Pre 1886
510	HAARBURGER		FRANCONIA/BAVARIA	GERMANY	Pre 1860
507	HARRIS	LIVERPOOL		ENGLAND	1880-1900
507	HARRIS	LEEDS		ENGLAND	1880-1900
511	JACOB		DEVON/CORNWALL	ENGLAND	Pre 1850
511	JACOBS	LONDON		ENGLAND	Pre 1886
511	JOSEPH		DEVON/CORNWALL	ENGLAND	Pre 1900
510	KRAILSHEIMER		FRANCONIA/BAVARIA	GERMANY	Pre 1860
512	LAZARUS	HULL		ENGLAND	
507	LURIA	SIAULIAI		LITHUANIA	1880-1900
507	LURIE	SIAULIAI		LITHUANIA	1880-1900
511	MOSES		DEVON/CORNWALL	ENGLAND	Pre 1850
466	NELSON	FORDON		POLAND	
511	ROSE	LONDON		ENGLAND	1860+
511	ROSE	PARIS		FRANCE	Pre 1886
439	SAGEL	PAKRUOJIS		LITHUANIA	
512	SCHWARTZ			EGYPT	1873-1927
439	SULTAN	HULL		ENGLAND	
439	TSALELSOHN	SIAULIAI		LITHUANIA	

AUSTRALIAN FAMILY TREES

Preparation of a Surname Index and an Invitation to Participate

The preparation of a family tree is usually the initial goal for most genealogists and, once prepared, is often forwarded and stored in our library or the library of the Australian Jewish History Society (200 trees are stored at present). Initially the trees were indexed by a few family surnames so it was not always helpful for others trying to find additional family branches and especially maiden names, married names and changes of surname. It is hoped that connections will now be easier to make and the library catalogues will be more useful.

The writer is completing a consolidated surname index of all persons on these trees born before 1925. This cut-off date has been chosen for privacy reasons.

A CD of this initial data bank will become available to members soon and updated as further family trees are donated. For this reason this invitation is issued to all members to lodge their tree in the library. Family trees are never complete so submit your existing tree to the Society and help other researchers find new branches and family connections.

Bernard Freedman

Bernie is a committee member of our Society and you can read all about him in KK Vol 9 No 2 P 9