

Jewish Genealogy Downunder

Quarterly
newsletter
of the
Australian
Jewish
Genealogical
Society
(Vic) Inc.

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More than 180 people attended the Second Australian National Conference on Jewish Genealogy in Melbourne in March 2010. See pages 5 to 11 for news and highlights of the conference.

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JUNE MEETING

The AJGS (Vic) invites you to hear well-known historian and teacher

Itiel Bereson

The Changing Borders of Eastern Europe

Wednesday 23 June at 7.30 pm

Itiel Bereson has a passion for history and has been a teacher, researcher and writer all his life.

This fascinating lecture will trace the changing borders of Eastern Europe over the past few centuries. There is a possibility that your own ancestral family may have been subject to the rule of various countries over the period of time they lived there.

Therefore, it is a challenge for genealogists to recognise which government was in control at various times over the same piece of territory. This will provide us with an understanding of which events encouraged our family's migration, the languages in which official records were kept and, most importantly, the likely locations where they might be found today. The various partitionings of Poland and their impact on Jewish communities is such an example. The talk will be illustrated with maps.

Beth Weizmann Jewish Community Centre, 306 Hawthorn Road, Caulfield South.

All welcome: members \$4; non-members \$6. Enquiries: admin@ajgs-vic.org.au.

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Editorial policy

We welcome contributions from members which will help others further their research. This might include sharing recent findings or the discovery of interesting resources. The editor has the right to accept or reject any material submitted or edit as might be appropriate. Material appearing in this newsletter may be reprinted by other newsletters as long as proper attribution is given.

Jewish Genealogy Downunder is free to all members of AJGS (Vic) Inc.

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	Liz James
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	Kaye Quittner
	Ian Samuel OAM
	Bubbles Segall

Makor Library Liaison

Leonie Fleiszig

Australian Jewish Genealogy Internet Discussion Group

Website: www.ajgs.org.au (online forum)

AJGS (Vic) Inc. membership fees

Individual	\$30
Family	\$35
Concession	\$15

EDITORIAL

A few months have now passed since the Second Australian National Conference on Jewish Genealogy was held in Melbourne. Those of us involved in the planning have now recovered from the euphoria of the event, which attracted genealogical enthusiasts from our other capital cities, Sydney, Adelaide and Perth. An estimated 180 people attended all or part of the three-day event, and the feedback has been very positive. For those who missed out, we are happy to email a copy of the Conference Planner, which includes biographies of the speakers and synopses of the presentations.

Dr Sallyann Amdur Sack-Pikus, the keynote speaker, challenged us at the conclusion of her lecture to undertake to host a future international conference which would aim to attract family researchers from all over the world, in particular, the United States. Every year the International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies seeks a sponsor to host such a conference. Last year it was held in Philadelphia, and in July this year a number of Australians, including three Victorian committee members, will be attending the event in Los Angeles.

This issue has been raised over the years. Such questions as: What month in the year would be most suitable for the majority of visitors? Which capital city should host it? Do we have the financial resources to attract and pay for outstanding speakers with diverse expertise? Do we have the human resources and experience to deal with the complexities of managing such an event? Critically, what do we have to offer in the way of archival resources that would attract interested genealogists prepared to undertake the long and costly trip to Australia?

In the past, we have put these questions in the too-hard basket, and it is likely that this is where they will remain. Of immediate concern is finding a host for our third Australian National Conference. Canberra, our federal capital, hosted our very first conference, with strong administrative support from our Sydney colleagues. It was an ideal location, giving us access to national archival collections. Melbourne was ideal for the second conference, having an enthusiastic committee and a suitable conference venue.

All eyes are pointing to Sydney, and we are awaiting a response for, say, 2012.

Lionel Sharpe Editor

The AJGS (Vic) extends a warm welcome to new members:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| • Frank Atkinson | • Elaine Ptasznik |
| • John Hopper | • Rebecca Silk |
| • Helen Lewers | • Margareta Sweet |
| • Eileen Bronstein Luscombe | • Max Wald |

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

It has been an interesting few months for the AJGS (Vic) since the last issue of *Jewish Genealogy Downunder*.

You will read later in this edition much on the Second Australian National Conference on Jewish Genealogy, which took place in early March here in Melbourne. Suffice to say it was a great success, and all who attended seemed to enjoy themselves.

At the conference social function, we announced that the resource room at the Makor Jewish Community Library, where the AJGS (Vic) and the Australian Jewish Historical Society house their records, books and maps, would be named 'The Oberman Room' in memory of our late president, Les Oberman. The resource room is currently undergoing renovation, and once completed a dedication will take place and a plaque mounted to the wall at the entrance of the room.

At the recent Annual General Meeting, three committee members retired, Enid Yoffa-Elton, Russell Feldman and Phil Lipshut, and I would like to thank them for their years of effort. We also welcome new committee members Bubbles Segall and Bernie Kuran (you can read more about them on page 4 of this issue, along with a report of the AGM).

Now that the focus of running a conference has passed we can get down to the other projects we have on our agenda. All are very worthwhile and will enhance the abilities of all to research their family trees.

Our new website continues to be a work in progress. Remember to visit the site to find out about upcoming speakers and workshops as well as new resources and research. Daniela Torsh, who presented papers on Austrian and Czech genealogy at our recent conference, has kindly provided us with copies of her talks and research tips, and you can access these via the conference link on our website (or ask at the Makor Library enquiry desk for a hard copy).

Soon I will be leaving for the USA, where I, along with others from Australia, will be attending the International Conference on Jewish Genealogy in Los Angeles. A report on that conference will be published in a future edition of *JGD*.

For those who haven't yet availed themselves of the resources in The Oberman Room at Makor, I would strongly recommend that you have a look at the 'gems' contained there. Liz James and her team have done an amazing job in getting everything sorted and out on display for use. Her project on digitising the early synagogue records is well under way and the resultant copies are already in use.

I look forward to seeing you at future meetings, which promise to be both informative and entertaining.

Allan Jankie
AJGS (Vic) President

Resources update

Recent additions to The Oberman Room at the Makor Jewish Community Library include:

Books

Until the Final Solution: The Jews in Belgrade 1941-1942, by Jennie Lebel.

History of the Jewish Community of Schneidemühl. From 1641 to the Holocaust, by Peter Cullman.

To Be Continued: Memories and Musings, by Rabbi Raymond Apple.

A Field Guide to Visiting a Jewish Cemetery, by Rabbi Joshua L Segal.

Jewish Life in the South African Communities, Volumes 1, 2 and 3, researched by the South African Friends of Beth Hatefutsoth.

Periodicals

German Name-Change Gazetteer (Deutsch-fremdsprachiges Orstnamenverzeichnis) (German-Foreign Language Gazetteer), by Otto Kredel and Franz Thierfelder.

Maps

Austro-Hungarian Map Group (three maps)

Lithuania Latvia and Estonia Map Group (two maps)

Czechoslovakia Map Group (two maps)

Russia Map Group (four maps)

German Empire 1875 (two maps)

Donations

Many thanks to Michael Adler for his recent generous donation, which has enabled us to purchase more books for our collection.

Thanks also to Suzie Eisfelder for her book donation and to Bubbles Segall for her donation of memorabilia

Liz James



Sonya Oberman holding the plaque to be affixed to the newly named Oberman Room at the Makor Jewish Community Library in South Caulfield. Les Oberman was president of the AJGS (Vic) until his untimely passing on 21 January 2009, just a few days before his 82nd birthday. For more than 10 years, he gave freely of his time in assisting people to trace their ancestry, attended international genealogical conferences, researched the Oberman ancestry and created a family website. The AJGS (Vic) decided to name the resource room of the Australian Jewish Historical Society and the Australian Jewish Genealogical Society (Vic) in his memory.

Annual General Meeting

The 12th Annual General Meeting of the AJGS (Vic) was held on 12 May 2010 at the Beth Weizmann Jewish Community Centre.

Allan Jankie welcomed the members and apologised for the absence of the invited guest speaker, Jack Aghion, because of ill health.

He gave special thanks to retiring members, Enid Yoffa-Elton, who had served as vice-president over 10 years (Enid was presented with a certificate for her services at the recent national conference), committed family researcher Phil Lipshut, who had joined the committee in 2007, and Russell Feldman, who had joined the committee in 2004 and had contributed to two major projects – digitising our family tree collection and the photographic project at the MCK cemetery, Brown's Road entrance, Springvale.

Allan thanked other members of the committee for their contribution in the past 12 months. Ian Samuel proposed a vote of thanks to the honorary secretary, Lionel Sharpe, for yet another year in that important role.

The following office bearers were re-elected: Allan Jankie (president); Debbie Jurblum (vice-president); Kurt Friedlaender (treasurer); Lionel Sharpe (secretary). Two new members were welcomed to the committee, Bubbles Segall and Bernie Kuran, and ordinary members re-elected for another term were David Cohen, Rodney Eisfelder, Liz James, Kaye Quittner, Ian Samuel, and Leonie Fleiszg (Makor Library nominee).

Allan thanked all those involved in the various planning committees for the Second Australian National Conference on Jewish Genealogy, held in March this year, and congratulated all concerned, including the speakers, in making this event an outstanding success.

He paid special tribute to volunteer coordinator Sylvia Green, who joined the organising committee just prior to the conference and took over most of the practical arrangements to ensure the smooth running of the program. He also thanked Leonie Fleiszg, director of the Makor Library, and her dedicated staff for their cooperation in assisting with our resource collection and dealing with enquiries to our Society, and for their contribution to making the conference such a success. Thanks were also given to Dov and his team at Beth Weizmann in setting up rooms for our regular meetings and looking after security arrangements.

The AGM was followed by a research workshop that offered individual instruction using laptop computers and guided assistance in The Oberman Room at the Makor Library, where our resources are held.

BUBBLES SEGALL

I was born in Cape Town, South Africa, and grew up in Stellenbosch, a large country town.

My interest in genealogy started in 1967, when I was given a handwritten Segall family tree by an aged relative in Israel. The only people I had heard of were my father, my grandparents, my great grandparents and my great-great grandparents. I have always treasured this tree, which is now tattered, yellow and worn with age. Somewhere in the back of my mind I knew that I wouldn't rest until I had found all the living descendants of my ancestors mentioned in this tree. It took years, but eventually I found most of them, thanks to internet research and JewishGen.

In 1984, after I had moved to the Northern Territory in Australia, I was given a copy of Arthur Kurzweil's book *From Generation to Generation: How to Trace Your Jewish Genealogy and Family History*. His book opened up a whole new world to me, and it gave me the confidence to start researching sides of my family other than the Segall side. I decided to concentrate on my paternal grandmother, as I had already accumulated seven generations of information on her Lurie family.

In the process of gathering this information, I realised that many family members scattered all over the world had also accumulated a mass of information. How could we share this information? How could we save it in one place for future generations? I decided to start a quarterly family newsletter, and at the beginning of 2004 *Lurie Links* was born. It is distributed electronically to about 70 families worldwide and has been well received by family members, who have been very generous with their contributions and time.

Another newsletter I have been closely involved with is the *Southern African Jewish Genealogy Newsletter* (SA-SIG), which I edited for about five years, from 2003. It was through this experience that I developed a deeper knowledge and an appreciation of my birth country, including much about the South African Jewish communities.

Since my move to Melbourne from Darwin in the Northern Territory a year ago, I have joined the AJGS (Vic) and enjoy going to their meetings and workshops, something I couldn't do up north with a very small Jewish population.

An article by Bubbles Segall, 'Jewish South Africa: an outline', was published in Jewish Genealogy Downunder, October 2009.



BERNIE KURAN

My parents, Jack and Mary Kurjanski, arrived here in the 1950s, having survived the Second World War.

As the son of Holocaust survivors, and born in Australia, I had accepted the belief that I would have very little chance of discovering my family's Polish roots beyond the names of my grandparents.

The genealogy virus lay dormant in me until I met my wife's uncle, David Lesnie, a few months before our wedding. "You know, we're descended from three Jewish convicts," he told me. And in a flash, the genealogical virus spread!

David Lesnie had documented my wife's paternal family tree from Aaron Isaacs, who arrived as a convict in 1822.

On a visit to Sydney, I explored Rookwood Cemetery to photograph the graves of these convict ancestors on my wife's side of the family.

Later, I asked David if he knew that Aaron's father was 'Shlomo', and was probably known as 'Solomon'. And so began the search for Solomon Isaacs, culminating in finding his wedding record and a record of Aaron's bris!

My wife's family tree is so huge that at times it is overwhelming. This 'journey' has also taken me from the early Jewish settlers in Melbourne in the 1840s to the Sephardic community of Amsterdam in the early 1600s and to Jewish London in the 1800s.

More recently, I was able to find the connection from Amsterdam back to pre-Inquisition Spain, with branches possibly going back into the first millennium.

On my own family's Polish branch, both JewishGen and JRI have been invaluable in helping me and an overseas cousin trace my mother's Polish ancestors back to the late 1700s.

My father's line continues to be a work in progress, and this is where I want to concentrate my research efforts.

I'm driven by a desire to show my three young children the historical, geographical and cultural diversity that miraculously came together to create them.

The family tree, where they sit at the bottom, is a veritable 'Story of the Jewish People'.



Melbourne conference highlights

Jewish genealogy: past, present and future

In her keynote address to more than 170 attendees at the recent Second Australian National Conference on Jewish Genealogy, Dr Sallyann Amdur Sack-Pikus described the events that led to the beginnings of organised Jewish genealogy, and the spirit of volunteering and community that continues to nourish it, both in the US and around the world.

"What I have to say about Jewish genealogy, both for those who are new to it and those who are not, is that it has been characterised from the beginning by a tremendous spirit of volunteering," she said.

"Everybody volunteers to help everybody else. People in Washington look up things for people who are living in Jerusalem, who then look up things for people who are living in Melbourne. That's the spirit of Jewish genealogy, and in the process we build a tremendous network, a Jewish genealogy grapevine, and we make so many friends, all over the world. This set of circumstances led me to come to Australia a couple of years ago."

Sallyann also recalled the series of events that led to the birth of *Avotaynu*, the first journal of Jewish genealogy that she and colleague Gary Mokotoff started in the US in the mid-1980s, and its early connection with Australia.

"The first issue of *Avotaynu* ... gives a history of the Jews of Australia. This was the first article, and it seems very appropriate that we should start here. It was written by Rabbi Israel Porush, who was, at the time, the Chief Rabbi of the Great Synagogue in Sydney."

The formative years

"But before I speak about the birth of *Avotaynu*, I have to go back to an earlier stage, the pregnancy, so to speak," Sallyann said. "When I was a kid growing up during World War 2 in Cleveland, Ohio, I'm sure I never thought about genealogy. I heard about family trees, and I didn't know what they were. I thought they were something like Christmas trees because I knew Jews didn't have them. And the reason I knew that Jews didn't have trees was that the few times I asked my mother about my grandmother (after whom I'm named), she said: 'Hitler killed everybody, there's nothing left to find, there are no people and that's it'. That's how I grew up. Jews didn't somehow have this past. So when I first started genealogy, most of the people I met had the same experience."

However, Sallyann explained, all this changed dramatically in 1977 with the publication of Dan Rottenberg's *Finding Our Fathers* and a few years later Arthur Kurzweil's *From Generation to Generation*.

"Rottenberg's book was like a match to a pile of straw," she said. "It just ignited a blaze of activity that continues to this day and shows no sign of abating. And that's when I got into it, along with many others. I came to it because my youngest child, who was 15, came home one day and said: 'I bought a present for you'. She handed me Rottenberg's book and said: 'I want to trace our family'. I was so stunned to have this kid even talk to me, let alone want to do anything with me."

"We set about following the instructions in the book, and because it was in Washington DC, it was very easy. We



Internationally renowned genealogist Dr Sallyann Amdur Sack-Pikus says she was bitten by the genealogy bug more than 30 years ago.

went into the National Archives and nearly went blind with the microfilm readers. We hunted the Hebraic section of the Library of Congress, and we wrote letters to all known and maybe relatives. And then the inevitable happened. Cathy got a boyfriend, and she left me with the job of answering all these letters.

"And I then discovered something about myself. It was as if I had been bitten by a bug or a virus. It took over my life. Some of you have experienced this? For those just starting, you will have this experience, I'm warning you."

The 1980s

In the Spring of 1980, Sallyann's completed family history came to the attention of Rabbi Malcolm Stern, the president of the Federation of Genealogical Societies in the US. "This is a non-sectarian organisation," Sallyann explained, "and he was the first and only Jewish president".

"Rabbi Stern soon realised that even though we had these genealogy societies all over the United States and in every county, Jews couldn't get anything useful from them. I went to one meeting and they were talking about family bibles and the US Civil War pension records. However, most of the Jews in the United States weren't in the United States at the time of the Civil War."

Rabbi Stern, Sallyann said, was known as 'the father of Jewish genealogy' for a reason. He convinced her and her colleagues that they needed to establish their own society.

"The Jewish history, Jewish customs, Jewish religion and the records that we were interested in were different. In order to understand and to know where to look, to search and then to understand what we found, we needed our own genealogical societies."

"Little did I know that when I got invited to sit in the basement of a YHMA in New York on a hot summer day what was going to happen. At the end of the meeting, Rabbi Stern said: 'Now go home and organise a genealogy society'. He had the talent – he made you want to do what he wanted you to do."

Sallyann observed the growth of the Jewish genealogical societies all over the world during the 1980s, which also saw the emergence of international summer conferences, held in the US in 1981, Israel in 1984 and the UK in 1987, as well as the establishment of the International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies in 1988.

Sallyann also pointed out that "as much of our heritage was in Eastern Europe", this presented a problem for researchers. The records were "behind the Iron Curtain and only scraps of information were getting out".

The birth of Avotaynu: The International Review of Jewish Genealogy (1985)

It was at an early evening conference planning meeting of the Washington Genealogy Society in 1985, Sallyann revealed, that the topic of a genealogy publication was first mentioned.

"Gary Mokotoff, who I'd just met that week, was in the room," she said. "I knew him because he had a computer business and was doing printouts – every month he was sending them to the five or six genealogy societies we'd already formed – with the names of the genealogists, the names they were searching for, and where the family lived. He called it the Family Finder."

"And at our meetings, we'd rush in and look at these pamphlets. So we invited Gary to the meeting. He said: 'Look, I'm in the computer business, and if someone will give me camera-ready copy, I'll publish it'. Going around, going around ... and nobody is volunteering (they don't know yet you're supposed to volunteer). So I said: 'Well, for now, I'll do it'. That was 25 years ago, and my kids have long called it my fourth child, and so we're still doing it."

Out of that conference, Sallyann explained, also came the Daitch-Mokotoff Soundex, a coding system they created to help genealogists search for family names that sound alike but are not spelt alike.

"The codes that are used in Washington at the National Archives are great for names that came out of England, or out of the English language, but they are terrible for Eastern European names. And so Gary Mokotoff and Randy Daitch put together the Daitch-Mokotoff Soundex, which has been further refined recently," she said.

The 1990s

In the 1990s, Sallyann continued, the potential of Jewish genealogy research increased dramatically with the fall of the Soviet Union and the creation of the internet. The decade saw the formation of JewishGen, the Special Interest Groups and Jewish Records Indexing – Poland; the development of special 'tools' such as the Daitch-Mokotoff Soundex and Family Finder mentioned earlier, the Family Tree of the Jewish People, and the Morse One-Step indexes; and the publication of many reference books.

Sallyann also discussed at length current initiatives and new resources in Jewish genealogy, with a focus on the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, cemetery concerns and the formation of shtetl groupings.

The future for Jewish genealogy, she said, would involve an increasingly important role for the newly established International Institute for Jewish Genealogy, the emergence of Jewish genealogy as an area of academic study, and the increasing role of the internet and its negative and positive effects on genealogy research.

This article is based on part of a transcript of Sallyann's keynote address at the Second Australian National Conference on Jewish Genealogy, held in Melbourne on 7 March 2010. A special thanks to Michelle Franklin for transcribing this section of the recording. An audio recording of Sallyann's full keynote address is available on request (email admin@ajgs-vic.org.au).



The Frenkel story

*Ambassador Yuval Rotem's address to the
Second Australian National Conference
on Jewish Genealogy*

by Schelly Talalay Dardashti

It's all because of his younger son's roots project, said Israeli Ambassador to Australia Yuval Rotem, that his family discovered their history and their Australian cousins.

Speaking on the second day of the conference, held in March 2010, Ambassador Rotem described the significant and emotional journey he and his family have taken over the past few years.

Although his surname is today Rotem, the original family name is Frenkel, and he is a seventh-generation descendant of R' Levi Yitzchak of Berdichev (the Berdichever Rebbe). But the family knew none of this.

As he put it, they were a family in which there were grandparents, the older generation didn't talk much and the younger generation didn't ask. There was no priority for the past.

When his younger son was 12, he was to create a family tree for his bar mitzvah. His older son had missed doing it when Rotem was posted to Los Angeles as the Consulate General.

No one had done it in their family – they did ask everyone. They used all the new technology, Rotem related: internet, message boards, websites, Pages of Testimony at Yad Vashem – always searching for the family name and place.

His paternal grandfather was born in Pyotrekov, Poland (where Israel's Chief Rabbi Israel Meir Lau had also been born). Rotem visited Lau to obtain information on his family. From the very first stage, there were interesting discoveries. His maternal side went to Palestine in the 1920s. He learned about his connection to the Berdichever Rebbe. For a secular Jew, learning he was a descendant of a famous Hassidic family was a revelation.

On his paternal side, his grandfather was the last son of 16 siblings of a very Orthodox family; he followed two brothers to Palestine in the 1920s. Twelve remained in Poland, only one survived.

That survivor moved to Australia, and although Rotem knew the man must have died, he believed there were descendants. Again, they posted messages, but discovered nothing.

Everything changed in December 2006. Rotem was to be posted to Australia. The first article written about him was in the *Australian Jewish News* in January 2007. The reporter was Jason Frenkel.

Rotem thanked Jason for the article and told him about his own name change. At the time, Israeli diplomats-to-be were required to change their original names to Hebrew surnames. He provided some information about the family and the town, curious to learn if the reporter's family was perhaps related.

The next day, he received a call from Jason's father, Morry Frenkel, who knew of the Petrykov connection. The two long-separated branches had found each other.

Morry and his wife Mary visited Rotem back home in Israel where – for the first time – Rotem's father (Israel Frenkel, 76) met his cousin from Melbourne.

Rotem further described that when he was in Los Angeles, his responsibilities extended to Utah, and that he also



AJGS (Vic)
president
Allan Janke
with Israeli
Ambassador
to Australia
Yuval Rotem.

received help from the Mormons in Salt Lake City, who located his father's birth certificate.

Just last Saturday, announced Rotem, he received a phone call from three SLC researchers who had discovered hundreds of family names and were putting together a big book for him. The men will be coming to Australia to present the book, which covers some four-to-five generations of Frenkels.

He stressed to the audience that his son came with the idea – a small request – that resulted in this huge achievement.

Rotem's voice broke and he took a moment to compose himself, just before describing his family's Rosh Hashana celebration at Morry's home, surrounded by so many cousins.

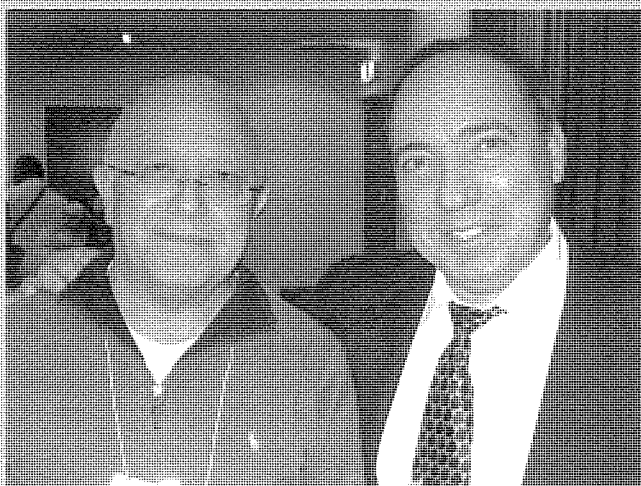
"This field of yours that you are so preoccupied with," said the ambassador, "is to be commended for helping people in Australia."

The first Jewish boy born after the war in Pyotrekov was named Avraham Frenkel. There is an annual reunion of the town's survivors and descendants, organised by Rabbi Lau's grandson. The last one included some 700 men, aged 30 to 40. Rotem described the enormous interest in these almost-forgotten stories of legacy and culture.

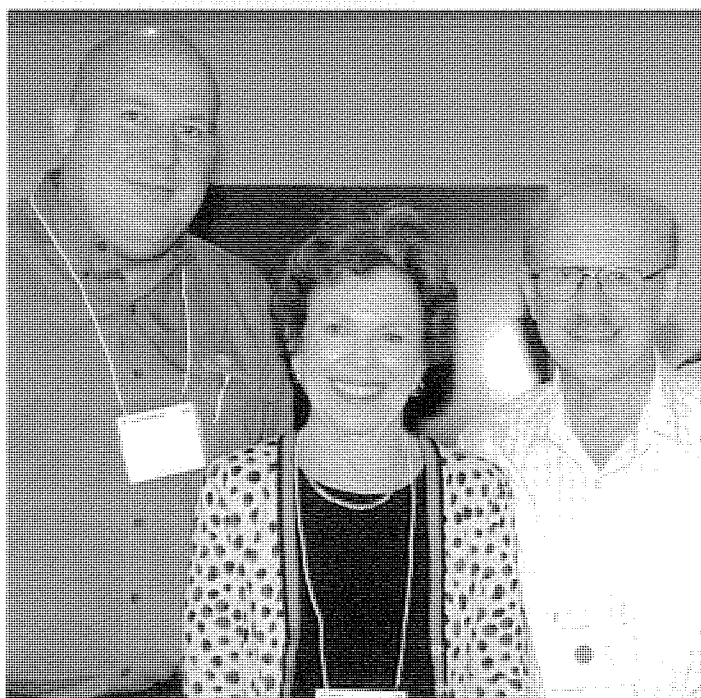
When his grandfather left Poland in 1932, he had one photograph of his mother Esther. It was found in a shoebox and is the only known photo of his great-grandmother.

Morry Frenkel (pictured, below, with Rotem) was in the audience today.

*This article was first published by Schelly Talalay Dardashti in
Tracing the Tribe: The Jewish Genealogy Blog, 8 March 2010.*



Presentation highlights



Above, from left:
Schelly Talalay
Dardashti; Ambassador
Yuval Rotem with
Sallyann Amdur Sack-
Pikus.

Far left, from left:
W. Todd Knowles,
Sallyann Amdur Sack-
Pikus, Lionel Sharpe;
Arnold Zable.

Below, from left: Expert
panel, with Schelly
Talalay Dardashti (Israel),
Sallyann Amdur Sack-
Pikus (USA), Gary Luke
(NSW), Rodney Eisfelder
(Vic), Daniela Torsh
(NSW), and (off camera)
Peter Nash (NSW).



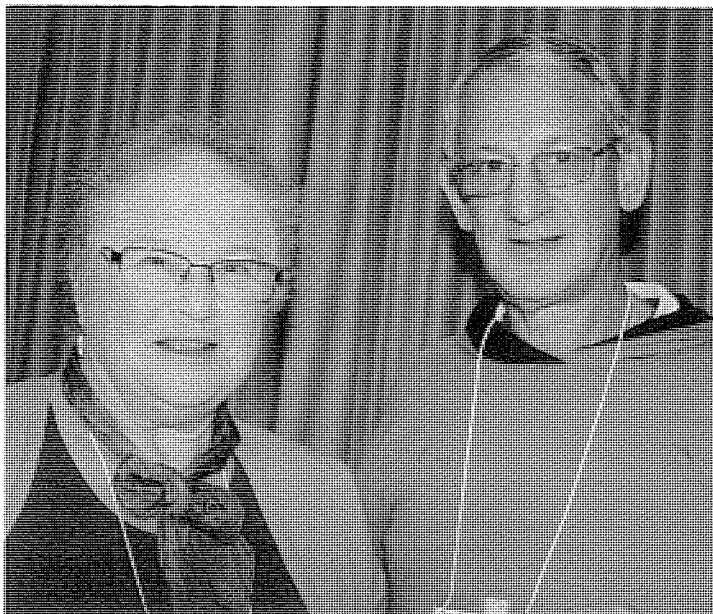
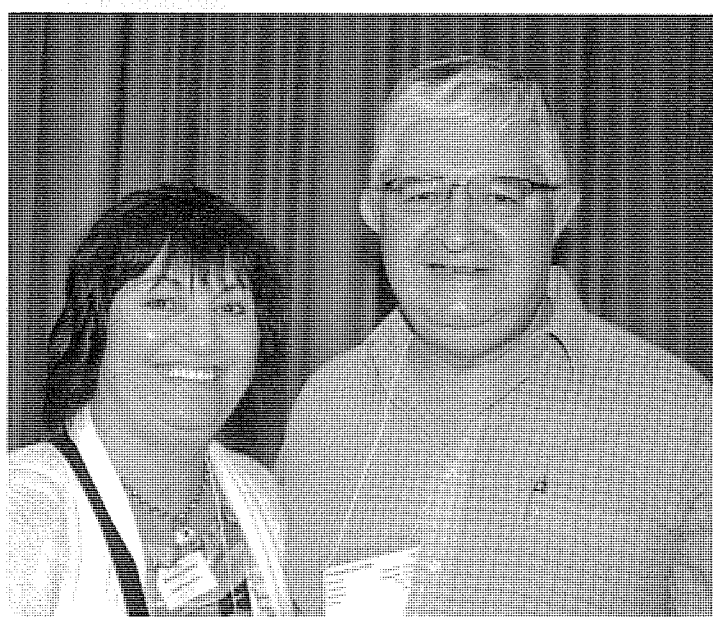
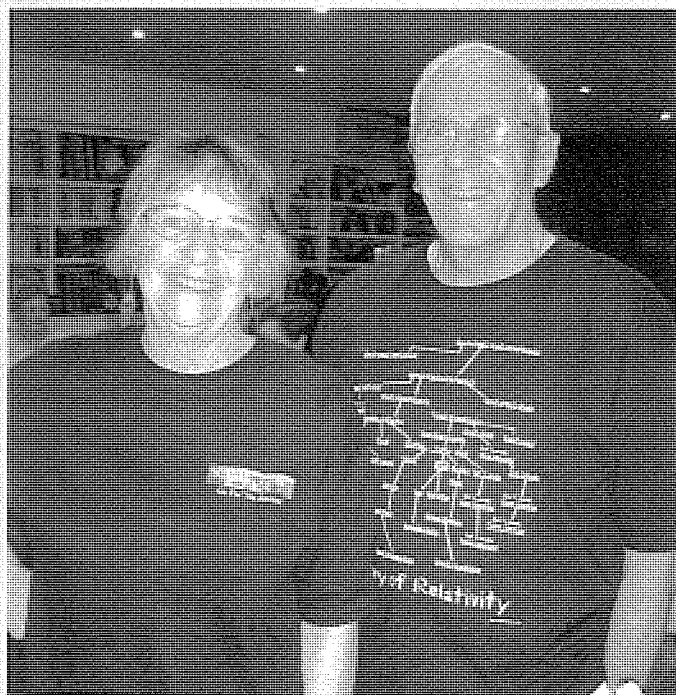
'Been and seen' at the conference



Top, from left: Debbie Jurblum (AJGS (Vic) vice-president), Helen Jankie, Allan Jankie (AJGS (Vic) president), and Ephraim Finch, director of the Melbourne Chevra Kadisha.

Middle row, from left: Reike and Peter Nash (NSW); Michelle Urban (WA genealogical society president) and Howard Elton.

Bottom row, from left: Ancestry.com.au representative Brad Argent helps John Solomon search the Ancestry databases; Claire and Peter Bruell (New Zealand).



Conference highlights



Above, from left: City of Glen Eira Mayor, Steven Tang, and his wife, Jessica, with Enid Yoffa-Elton, who was presented with a certificate from the AJGS (Vic) for her many years of service to the Society at a social event for conference attendees. The event was held at the City of Glen Eira Town Hall on 8 March.



Top right: Russell and Gilda Feldman were honoured by the AJGS (Vic) for their contribution to the Society over many years (see the report on the AGM on page 4 of this newsletter).



Middle: Daniela Torsh, from New South Wales, gave presentations on her Austrian and Czech genealogy research.

Below: Members of the conference organising committee and key speakers celebrate the conclusion to the three-day conference.



PROV and State Library visits



Above: James McKinnon (far left) led a group tour of the Public Record Office Victoria on the third day of the conference.

Far right (above): A Yiddish publication titled *Australian Jewish Almanac* was one of the many Jewish items of interest on display in the Australian manuscripts section of the State Library of Victoria. Also on display were books of Jewish historical interest.



Below: One of six group tours at the State Library of Victoria, led by genealogy librarian Anne Burrows.



EVENTS

BROKEN HILL CENTENARY

The Broken Hill Historical Society and the Australian Jewish Historical Society (AJHS) has been busy organising three days of events in Broken Hill on 27, 28 and 29 November 2010 to mark the centenary of the town's synagogue.

The following family names have been associated with Broken Hill:

Abraham, Annells, Barnett, Bear, Beebe, Beinstein, Berfer, Berman, Berliner, Bernstein, Berthure, Bier, Birrell, Boas, Boob, Boustein, Bronson, Bub, Brown, Burleigh, Cock, Cohen, Dane, Davis, Diamond, Dias, Dowling-Simpson, Dryen, Dubin, Edelman, Efron, Eikler, Eisen, Ermer, Faldeldeen, Falstein, Fromen, Feldman, Flesfader, Giescke, Griff, Goldberg, Golding, Goldman, Golletzky, Gordon, Gould, Gurewitz, Hains, Hammin, Hamery, Harris, Haynes, Hince, Hirsch, Hyam, Hyman, Inman, Jona, Jonas, Jones, Joseph, Kahle, Keen, Keener, King, Kleinberg, Kleinhammer, Krantz, Kronberg, Kronenberg, Krywood, Lake, Lakovsky, Landi, Lavers, Lazarus, Levy, Lewis, Logie, Lubur, Ludi, Mann, Mandgelsdorf, Marcus, Mannheim, Marks, Milne, Mandelbaum, Marcus, Mendalawitz, Mendelson, Marmott, Myer, Ninnis, Nurrick, Nurrock, Oberman, Olshina, Press, Podgur, Randle, Roden, Rodenovski, Ronai, Rosanove, Rosenberg, Rosenthal, Salas, Sara, Saunders, Schaffer, Seifestone, Serry, Shapiro, Shenker, Shooblico, Silberas, Silver, Simons, Shnukal, Slonim, Slonimsky, Solomon, Steinberg, Symons, Stone, Taite, Tedeschi, Tobias, Warsaw, Watchman, Wein, Wersschouski, Wolf, Zarckin, Zarkin

If you know any of the descendants of these families, we would greatly appreciate it if you could let them know about the reunion.

Accommodation

If you are interested in attending the centenary celebrations, you are advised to book your accommodation as soon as possible.

More than 70 people from Victoria have already expressed an interest in attending the event, and a Mad Max movie is being filmed in Broken Hill in November, so many accommodation facilities have already been booked out.

For suggested places to stay, visit www.visitbrokenhill.com.au/pages/broken-hill-the-silver-city-in-the-heart-of-the-new-south-wales-outback/.

Further information

For the latest information about the centenary celebrations, visit www.brokenhillsynagogue.org/the-broken-hill-synagogue.aspx.

Ruth Lew <the-lews@bigpond.com.au>

Liz James (AJHS-Vic) <lizronjames@hotmail.com>

NATIONAL FAMILY HISTORY WEEK

Past – Present – Future

Australasian Federation of Family History Organisations
30 July to 8 August 2010

Family history and genealogy are among the most popular hobbies around the world. Family history is the second biggest subject on the web, with sites receiving billions of hits per year. There are more than 250,000 Australians who are members of family history related organisations, so the week will have wide appeal across Australia.

This initiative has received broad support from some of Australia's leading government and non-government organisations.

To view the events to be held in Victoria, visit www.familyhistoryweek.org.au/EventsVIC.htm.

30TH IAJGS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON JEWISH GENEALOGY

This conference is being held at the Marriott LIVE Hotel in Los Angeles from 11 to 16 July 2010.

Conference program now online

The schedule of the annual IAJGS conference is now online at www.goeshow.com/jgsla/IAJGS/2010/Conference_Program.cfm.

In addition to lectures, there will be computer labs, film showings, research group meetings, breakfasts with experts, luncheons and midnight snack sessions. Some will start as early as 8 am and some will end at 11.30 pm. At times, there will be as many as eight concurrent sessions. Program listings preceded by '\$' are fee-based events that can be purchased when registering. These are primarily programs where food is served (Breakfast with the Experts, SIG Luncheons and Midnight with the Mavens) plus computer labs.

Further information, including details about registration, hotels, programs, speakers, films and tours, can be found on the conference website at www.jgsla2010.com. To keep up to date about conference information, subscribe to the newsletter at www.jgsla2010.com/about/sign-up-for-the-announcements-newsletter/.

Keynote speakers

Daniel Mendelsohn, author of the genealogical memoir *The Lost: A Search for Six of Six Million*, will be the keynote speaker at the opening session of the conference. The book is about his quest to learn the fates of six relatives who perished in the Holocaust. The critically acclaimed book won the National Book Critics Circle Award and the National Jewish Book Award.

New films to be screened

A special guest will be filmmaker, researcher and travel planner Michael Masterovoy, who will be flying in from Russia to speak at the Belarus SIG luncheon about his recent trip to several Belarusian towns including Movsha Shagal's (aka Marc Chagall's) Vitebsk. Masterovoy, a proud Jewish resident of Moscow, has created documentary and campaign videos for North American Jewish philanthropies and will be screening several of his films including *Brailov: A Town Without Jews*, about this former Ukrainian shtetl.

Also screening will be several films by Slawomir Grunberg – an Emmy-award-winning documentary producer, director and cameraman, born in Lublin, Poland – including his newest work, *The Peretzniks* (Perecowicze), which tells the story of a Jewish school in Lodz, Poland, that was shut down following the Communist anti-Semitic campaign of 1968. *The Peretzniks* is the first documentary that addresses the complexities of the Polish-Jewish experience. To watch the trailer of this film, visit www.youtube.com/watch?v=ioqq6Pf2ois.

Are you planning on attending the IAJGS conference in Los Angeles in July 2010?

If so, we would love to hear from you!

Several members of the AJGS (Vic) are looking forward to going to the conference and would love to hear from fellow Aussie genealogists who might also be going.

To make contact with the group, email allan@jankie.com.au.

FROM NU? WHAT'S NEW?

The E-zine of Jewish Genealogy from Avotaynu

The Unbroken Chain at 40% discount

One of the landmark works of Jewish genealogy is *The Unbroken Chain* by Neil Rosenstein. It traces the descendants of Rabbi Meir Katzenelbogen of Padua through 16 generations to the present. More than 25,000 people are identified as descendants including Karl Marx and Helena Rubenstein. Included are many members of the leading Hassidic dynasties.

First published in 1976, it was updated in 1990 with enough information that it required two volumes and 1244 pages. The retail price is US\$80. Avotaynu is now offering it at only US\$48 plus shipping and handling – a 40% discount. Place orders at www.avotaynu.com/bookrefj.htm#unbroke.

Handbook of Ashkenazic Given Names and Their Variants

One of the fascinating aspects of Ashkenazic Jewish history is its given names. According to *A Dictionary of Ashkenazic Given Names* by Alexander Beider, all the thousands of these names derive from only 735 root names. I would never have thought that my mother's Jewish name, Tserl, is a variant of Sarah.

The dictionary is a 728-page tome that is the definitive work on the subject. One reason for its large size is that the first 300 pages are a detailed description of the origin and evolution of Ashkenazic given names. It was Dr Beider's doctoral thesis when he received his second doctorate from the Department of History at the Sorbonne. (His first doctorate was in applied mathematics from the Physio-Technical Institute of Moscow.)

Last year, Avotaynu editor Sallyann Amdur Sack-Pikus was struggling with the weight of the book and realised that only a portion of the book was necessary for genealogists to evaluate given names, so she suggested to Dr Beider that a 'handbook' be created as an alternative to his major work.

This is the origin of the *Handbook of Ashkenazic Given Names and Their Variants*. It consists of the indexes to the identified 15,000 given names presented in three sections: names as they appeared in the Latin alphabet, the Cyrillic alphabet and the Hebrew alphabet. The body of the handbook provides a description of each of the 735 root names, plus a tree-like structure of all the name variants that shows exactly how they were derived from the root name.

The *Handbook of Ashkenazic Given Names and Their Variants* is only US\$29 (232 pages and softcover). It can be ordered at www.avotaynu.com/books/Handbook.htm.

You can order *A Dictionary of Ashkenazic Given Names* at www.avotaynu.com/books/dagn.htm.

Swiss refugees database

A database of more than 25,000 persons who fled to neutral Switzerland during the Second World War is available at http://etat.geneve.ch/dt/archives/a_votre_service-liste_refugies-1700.html.

The complete list is presented alphabetically. Information about each individual includes name, date of birth and nationality. The site is in French. Use Google translate to convert the descriptive information in your native language.

JewishGen info on 5600 communities

JewishGen has information on more than 5600 Jewish communities throughout the world. The information provided about each town includes location (latitude/longitude), a map, alternative names, a list of nearby Jewish communities, and a list of other resources that have additional information about the town.

A complete list of communities can be found at www.jewishgen.org/communities/trees, but it is organised by province within country. It is easier to locate the site for a particular town by using the search feature at www.jewishgen.org/Communities/Search.asp. When the result is displayed, click on the JewishGen icon in the 'Modern town and country' field to display the information about the town.

The search engine will accept any of the names for the town, eg the Polish city of Kraków, can be found by searching for Kraków (Polish), Krakau (German), Kroke (Yiddish), Cracow (English), Cracovie (French), Cracovia (Spanish/Italian), Krakov (Russian, Czech, Slovakian), Krakiv (Ukrainian), Krakkó (Hungarian), Krakova (Latvian), plus other known variants: Krako, Krakoy, Krakuv.

Jewishtraces.org adds more Holocaust-related data

Jewishtraces.org has added a new database on its search page about refugees in North Africa. The refugees were from various countries including Austria and Germany. They were inmates of French camps in Morocco and Algeria or hosted by local Jewish families. This site now has more than 25,000 Holocaust-related records at their site. It started with a list of Jews from Belgium deported to France and now includes 10 other databases. A complete list can be found at www.jewishtraces.org/rubriques/?keyRubrique=findingaid. The site is available in English, French and German.

ITS digitising correspondence files

The International Tracing Service in Bad Arolsen, Germany, has begun digitising its case correspondence, the so-called T/D files. The files comprise inquiries, letters and witness reports from survivors of Nazi persecution or from their family members. After World War 2, people turned to the ITS for information on existing documents or to search for surviving family members. In many cases, they also required certificates for compensation and pension applications. About three million cases have been accumulated over six decades. Each file holds an average of 20 pages. The 25-year rule will still apply. Inquiries less than 25 years old are only open to the victims and their next of kin – not to researchers.

Further information can be found at www.its-arolsen.org/en/press/press_releases/index.html?expand=3669&cHash=ff52ae8e99.

Online info about 10,000 European Jewish cemeteries

The Lo Tishkach Foundation has developed an online database of more than 10,000 Jewish cemeteries located throughout Europe. It also includes information about mass burial sites in Eastern Europe. Many entries include pictures of the cemetery as it exists today. The site is located at www.lo-tishkach.org/. Touch the 'Database' tab to open a pull-down menu, with the option to search the database. The 'Search' tab on the home page is used to search the website, not the database.

The initiative is joint project of the Conference of European Rabbis and the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany. It was set up in 2006 to preserve and protect Jewish cemeteries and mass graves throughout the Europe. Lo Tishkach is Hebrew for 'Do not forget'.

Gary Mokotoff

POSTINGS

ISRAEL GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY MERGER

Michael Goldstein, president of the Israel Genealogical Society (IGS), and Ingrid Rockberger, president of the Jewish Family Research Association, Israel (JFRA), are delighted to announce the merger of their two societies.

The joint organisation now has 10 branches throughout Israel and will be pooling all its resources to further genealogical services and activities in Israel and to create a large, vibrant and forward-looking society. A wide range of programs is now available in both Hebrew and English, with other language groups being planned. The annual one-day seminar is being expanded, and plans are already under way for the IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy to be held in Israel in July 2014.

The society will be pleased to welcome guests from abroad at our meetings, which are posted on our website at www.isragen.org.il. We also be inviting speakers visiting Israel to give a lecture or presentation at one of our branches. Please contact us in advance (president@isragen.org.il) so we can coordinate the date and location.

The merged organisation will be known (in English) as the Israel Genealogical Society (IGS).

Michael Goldstein and Ingrid Rockberger

STARTING YOUR FAMILY HISTORY

Genealogical Society of Victoria

This course will be held on the first Wednesday of June, July August and September 2010, from 10.30 am to 12.30 pm, at GSV, Level B1, 257 Collins Street, Melbourne, Victoria.

The series will offer an introduction to gathering, recording and confirming information; starting research; and investigating records.

Cost: GSV members \$8; non-members \$10. To book, email gsv@gsv.org.au or telephone (03) 9662 4455.

VICTORIAN REGISTRY OF BIRTHS, DEATHS AND MARRIAGES

On July 2010, some existing registry fees will change.

Standard birth, death or marriage certificate: \$27.20.

Application to register a change of name (adult or child): \$89.10.

Application to add registrable information to an entry: \$61.90.

There is no change in the cost to search the registry's historical indexes online or purchase uncertified images and historical CD-ROM and DVD products.

For more information, visit the website at <http://online.justice.vic.gov.au/ots/home> and follow the links.



Gina Marks, who is on the Programming Committee of the Jewish Genealogical Society of Great Britain, recently visited Melbourne with her sister, Elaine Jacobs. Liz James and Ian Samuel met them at the MGC Carlton, where they scoured the tombstones searching for the HART, JACOBS and MONTANJEES families. Pictured, from left, are Gina Marks, Liz James, Elaine Jacobs and Ian Samuel. If you would like the AJGS (Vic) to help locate a grave for you, contact Liz James (lizronjames@hotmail.com) or Ian Samuel (ian@samuel.net.au).

PEOPLE LOOKING FOR PEOPLE

The following notices are published as a community service to our readers. They come to us via internet discussion groups or by mail and email contact with the society.

GOLD

I am looking for a cousin who, I am told, lives somewhere in Australia. Her name is Rose nee Gold and she is married to Martin Standing. Her parents were Eva (nee Posner), who married Reuben (Ruby) Gold in London in 1933. Eva and Ruby had two children while they were still living in London – Patricia (Pat) born 1938 and Barry (known as Billy) in 1939. They then went to live in either Rhodesia (Zimbabwe) or South Africa (Johannesburg) and/or Botswana. Rose was born in one of these countries.

The most recent information I was given was that she lived in Queensland. The email address that was provided is out of date, and I've phoned the M Standings in the white pages but none is them. I can't find any Australian naturalisation information about either Rose or Martin, who might of course have been born in Australia. I've been told they have a son, Marc Adam Standing.

Myra Waddell, South Australia <myra@waddell.id.au>

Jack Lederman

I am seeking information about my grandfather, Jacob Lederman.

He was born in Chernovich, Romania, in 1915. During the Second World War, he served in the Red Army. He married Czerna Gracchi after the war. In March 1950, my mother, Sara, immigrated to Israel together with her sister Pearl (Prina) and they settled on Kibbutz Ein-Hahoresht.

In 1950, Jack Lederman immigrated to Australia (Melbourne) and promised that, once settled, he would ask his daughters to join him in Australia and that they would be able to join Hashomer Hatzair in Australia.

According to my mother, the communication lasted for a year and then ceased. National Archives of Australia records state that Jacob Lederman arrived in Melbourne on the SS *Skaubryn* on 12 November 1951.

Erez Shalev, Hong Kong <erez@conceptiohk.com>

SCHMALTZBACH

My father's nephew, the late Oscar Schmaltzbach, moved to Australia from Israel in about 1948. I believe he was very well known in the field of forensic psychiatry.

My father, Shalom (Salek) Stummer, worked his way to Israel from the Polish army and arrived there about 1946, before the State of Israel was created, to find his nephew (or cousin, I am not sure) Oscar Schmaltzbach, who then moved to Australia. My father remained in Israel (he is now 97). My father and Oscar corresponded for a while and then lost contact. They both were from Lvov, Poland (now Ukraine).

Aviva Grossman <aviva.grossman@gmail.com>

JOUGHIN

My great grandmother Elizabeth Ann Joughin is believed to be Jewish. She was married to Ernest Hauswell Bennett and my grandmother Ruby was born to them in Wykeno, New Zealand. Is there a way to confirm these Jewish roots?

Brian Pickens <bjpickens@westnet.com.au>

SEEKING OCHBERG ORPHAN DESCENDANTS FROM SOUTH AFRICA

David Solly Sandler of Australia is seeking 2000 South Africans – descendants of 60 Russian, Polish and Ukrainian war and pogrom orphans, known as Ochberg's Orphans.

In 1921, Isaac Ochberg, a representative of the South African Jewish Community, travelled to Poland and the Ukraine and brought back with him to Cape Town 167 'Russian, Ukraine and Polish war and pogrom orphans' plus 14 'attendants and nurses', mainly older siblings.

Half of the children were placed in the care of the Cape Jewish Orphanage (later Oranjia) and half went to Johannesburg, under the care of the South African Jewish Orphanage (later Arcadia). Many children were adopted by Jewish community members, who contributed generously to a fund to bring the children to South Africa and care for them.

Of the 181 children, the stories of 90 have been recorded, contact has been made with another 30, but 60 remain to be contacted. What is important in this story is that many descendants might not know of their connection to the Ochberg Orphans. Some did not often speak about this, and many tried to hide the fact from their children because of the stigma of being an orphan. Today, half of the 2000 descendants live around the world, in Israel, Australia, Canada, New Zealand, the UK and the US.

Here are the names of these orphans. If you have someone with this name in your family tree, born c1910, there's a chance you might be an Ochberg Orphan descendant, so read the list carefully and if you find a name of interest, you are invited to contact David (email below).

BARMATCH Sara, BARUCH Leya, BERNFELD Hersh, CWENGEL Saul, ELMAN Blume, ELMAN Jentil/Izzy, ELSHTEIN Abo, ENGELMAN Jakob, FREMD/FRIEND Max, GARBUS/GOLDSTEIN Shmul, GAYER Chawa, GEBENCOL/ GOLZ Rochel, GERYNSHTEIN Abram, GINSBURG Mintcha, GUBER/GEIBER/GRUBER Tchara (Charlotte ODES), H/GURWITZ Rosa, ISRAELSON Chaim, JUDES Rubin, KAHAN Channe, KAHAN Golda, KAHAN Morduch/Mordche, KAHAN Shachna, KAILER Rywka, KAUFMAN Cypora, KAUFMAN Soloman/Shlama, KAWERBERG Mayer, KAWERBERG Mees/Moshe, KIGIELMAN Jacob, KNUBOVITZ Zlata, KREINDEL Rejsel, KRUGER Rejsel, KRUGER Abram, KRUGER Jacob, LIPSHIS Moishe, LIPSHYTZ Perel, MARGOLIN Sara, MILER Braindel, MORDOCHOWITCH Gutro, MORDOCHOWITCH Estel, NUDERMAN Gdalia, OCHSTEIN Salomon, ORLIANSKY Abram, PERRCHODNIK/ PERECHODNIK Ussr, PINSKY/PINSKA Faywel, PINSKY/ PINSKA Feyga (Birdie GLASER), PINSKY/PINSKA Maisha, PINSKY/PINSKA Zlata, REICHMAN Abram, REICHMAN Chaim, REISENDER Rubin, REKLER Leya, RINSLER/ RINZLER Chaskiel/Chaykel, ROSENBAUM Leon, ROSENBLIT Gdalia, ROSENBLIT Szamay, Y/J/SAGOTKOWSKY Jacob/ Jacov, SCHTERN/SHTERN Szlema/Solomon, SCHWARZ Josef, SHTEINER/STEINER Chaskel, SHTEINER/STEINER Hersh, SHTEINER/SZTEINER/STEINER Isaac, SMITH Morduch/Mordche, SHTRASNER Feyga, STILLERMAN Hersh/ Harry, TREPPEL Jacob, WEIDMAN Sheindel.

If you recognise names of interest and want more information, or if you are a descendant and want your family's story included, email me privately and I'll forward your message to David.

Hopefully, by the end of 2010, the life stories of 130 of the children will have been collected and included in a book, with proceeds going to Arcadia and Oranjia.

Michelle Essers <essersfam@gmail.com>

A code of conduct for genealogists

The practitioner in a number of professions such as medicine, law and psychology is often presented with serious ethical dilemmas.

To give some guidance to these practitioners, relevant professional societies have developed codes of ethics and even special committees to monitor and sometimes challenge colleagues for behaviours which contravene the normative rules prescribed by their accepted code of conduct. Serious breaches can lead to deregistration or expulsion from the professional group.

Collecting and documenting family history also confronts the amateur researcher with ethical issues and dilemmas. Questions of privacy and etiquette have been addressed in recent years by genealogical societies as well as associations of professional genealogists.

Having a written document that sets out ethical principles and rules, while not binding by law, does enable a genealogical society to implement sanctions against a misbehaving member.

The AJGS (Vic) has not yet adopted a formal code of ethics, however serious issues do arise from time to time and are discussed at committee meetings. Usually some consensus is reached after lengthy discussion.

In this issue of the newsletter, we are reprinting (with permission) the Code of Ethics adopted by the International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies (IAJGS) to promote further discussion and, in time, the adoption of our own code of conduct.

CODE OF ETHICS FOR JEWISH GENEALOGISTS ADOPTED BY THE IAJGS

www.iajgs.org/ethics.html

Preamble

All human endeavors are capable of corruption, and it is therefore appropriate to institute mechanisms to safeguard against behavior that is inimical to the common good. It is felt that the IAJGS should give the lead in setting standards of behavior as applied to the world of Jewish genealogy. It is at least arguable that the study of genealogy itself, if not an 'ethical' activity as such, it is a mitzvah in accordance with the Torah principle of teaching knowledge of the people, their tribes and 'remembering the days of old'. This document is intended to set out guidelines for such standards. It is also offered as a code of 'good practice' which may inform readers. Finally, it includes an updated version (in more modern English) of the late Rabbi Malcolm Stern's 'Ten Commandments in Genealogy', which remain as relevant today as when they were penned years ago.

Code of conduct

Information acquired should be factual and where doubt exists as to the accuracy of a purported pedigree, the questionability and limitations of the data should be expressed.

All original sources should be stated to allow other enquirers the opportunity of verification of the data.

The examination of all documentation should be undertaken with sensitivity for the quality of the source used. Records in the public domain should be replaced, after examination and any annotation required, in the condition and order that they were found. They should never be retained or handled carelessly.

If data presented relies on work already previously undertaken, the credit for such work should be given to the originator, which also acts as a disclaimer in the event that it may encompass error(s).

Should there be financial implications of working in genealogy, the purveyor of services should state the likely costs involved to the client and should only charge the agreed quantum for the research undertaken.

If data is acquired that seems to contain the potential for harming the interests of other people, great caution should be applied to the treatment of any such data and wide consultation may be appropriate as to how such data is used. A confidential discussion with an ethical authority (eg a respected Rabbinic Beth Din) or reference to ethical principles already placed in the public domain (eg by a regulating body such as the [British] Association of Genealogists and Record Agents) may be helpful in such circumstances.

Regarding the 'right to privacy' versus the 'freedom of information' area of potential conflict:

- Data more than 75 years old should be regarded as sufficiently historical to be available, without restriction.
- More recent data should be evaluated in the light of sensitivities of the living versus the importance of disseminating information.
- Generally, a request from an individual that certain information about themselves or close relatives be kept private should be respected.
- If it is decided not to publish any particular piece of information, there should be a clear statement to that effect so that the reader is not misled by the omission.

*Ethics statement approved by the IAJGS Board of Directors
(2 November 2002)*

Adaptation of the late Malcolm Stern's 'Ten Commandments in Genealogy':

1. I wish only to obtain true knowledge about any family I am researching.
2. Family traditions must be interpreted with caution and only used as clues.
3. All information must be assessed and not given automatic credibility.
4. Claims to exalt a family for increased status must be verified.
5. Unverifiable data must be labelled as such (see commandment 1).
6. All records must be handled with care and replaced for the next user.
7. Attribution of sources is essential and permission obtained for use of other researchers' work.
8. If verifying data involves costs to others, these should be reimbursed.
9. The sensitivities of living people must be respected and the memory of the deceased likewise, but for the latter it is permitted to record the objective facts about them.
10. You should not claim expertise or become a genealogical teacher without appropriate training and accreditation. [In this context, 'accreditation' should not imply holding a formal qualification, although such is an asset, but simply, as it says, sufficient training and experience to confer expertise.]

OTHER CODES OF ETHICS

Ethics and Etiquette of Sharing on the Ancestry.com website: www.ancestry.com/learn/library/article.aspx?article=852&cj=1&o_xid=0001029688&o_lid=0001029688

Board for Certification of Genealogists (BCG)
www.bcgcertification.org/aboutbcg/code.html

National Genealogical Society (NGS):
www.ngsgenealogy.org/comstandards.cfm