

# Jewish Genealogy Downunder

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

Vol 15, No 2  
June 2013

Melbourne, Australia

[www.ajgs-vic.org.au](http://www.ajgs-vic.org.au)



## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

### Editorial

by Lionel Sharpe 2

### News

The descendants of Simon Levy 3

### Articles

Research tips – Poland: Valuable research lessons learned, by Allan Jankie 4–5

Help in the Piotrkow Archives, by Allan Jankie 5

Memorial for Rosetta Isaacs, 1863–1864, by Liz James 6–7

Share your photographs with us:  
Celebrating Australian Federation in North Melbourne 8

A New York story, by Rodney Eisfelder 9

### Columns

Postings 10

E-news 11

New books and news 12

## AJGS (Vic) resources

The AJGS (Vic) and AJHS (Vic) collections in the Lamm Jewish Library of Australia will be open in 2013 on

**Sundays from 2 pm to 5 pm**

**306 Hawthorn Road, Caulfield South, 3162**

AJGS (Vic) committee members will be available to assist members of the public with their genealogical research.

**All welcome**

For access on Mondays to Thursdays, please make an appointment with one of the following:

AJGS (Vic) President Allan Jankie: [allanjankie@gmail.com](mailto:allanjankie@gmail.com)

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## Jewish Genealogy Downunder

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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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**Discussion Group:** www.ajgs.org.au (online forum)

### AJGS (Vic) Inc. membership fees

Individual	\$35
Family	\$40
Concession	\$15

## EDITORIAL

The question often arises as to how a genealogical society can best serve its members. We might begin to answer this question by first asking why people choose to join a genealogical group in the first place and what are their expectations.

For raw beginners there is always the question – where do I start to put together what I already know about my family background and how do I organise all the facts I have already gathered, such as names (including Hebrew and Yiddish names), and birth, marriage and death records that are stored in family albums or in stuffed envelopes in some bottom drawer.

This question is best answered by meeting with others who are facing a similar task. In other words, join a genealogical society.

An excellent example of this quest for assistance has been reported in this issue of the newsletter. A small group of descendants of Simon Levy, an early settler to Victoria, met in the Lamm Library in June to share what they knew about their own branch of the Levy family. Out came family tree charts, original documents and anecdotal stories, and after three hours of sharing and exchanging addresses they resolved to meet again with the ultimate aim of having a family reunion. This mutual support is invaluable.

Often a major task of the AJGS (Vic) is to facilitate the bringing together of members who wish to meet with others with a particular interest in a single country. This can best be done in three ways.

First, there is the lecture format where an expert speaker or panel focuses on a particular country or region. We recently had a full house on researching ancestry in Poland. A second strategy is the research workshop format where participants break into small groups and use their laptops along with our large collection of hard cover dictionaries of surnames to find answers to their road blocks. This face-to-face interaction is the beginning stage in encouraging members to meet each other again or share information by phone or email.

A further initiative was introduced with the opening of the Lamm Jewish Library of Australia last year. Committee members have volunteered to attend Sunday afternoons (2–5 pm) to assist members who require one-on-one assistance in tracking down records, especially early Australian synagogue marriage records and other available documents. In special circumstances, appointments can be made to meet with a committee member during opening hours of the Lamm Library.

But genealogical research has moved beyond local meetings of members. There is the opportunity to dialogue with fellow researchers through the internet. The most well-known Jewish genealogical website, JewishGen.org, grew out of the motivation to share resources on a world-wide scale, and groups such as Special Interest Groups (SIGs) have opened up great opportunities to learn about resources specific to a particular topic or area. The AJGS (Vic) offers talks from time to time on how best to use this valuable website.

Finally, there is the role played by the AJGS (Vic) in encouraging members to attend genealogy conferences. In a few months, the 33rd IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy will be held in Boston, from 4 to 9 August 2013 (www.iajgs2013.org). Australia will be well represented at this gathering, and we look forward to receiving reports in due course.

Many struggle with their research for years. Learning from others through the opportunities the AJGS (Vic) has to offer can shortcircuit the journey.

**Lionel Sharpe**  
**Editor**

## The descendants of Simon Levy



A small group of the descendants of an early settler, Simon Levy, met at the Lamm Jewish Library of Australia on Sunday 16 June to share their family history research. Pictured, from left to right, are Pam Lockett, Clive Lipshut, Norman Morris, Megan Smith, Alwyn Abraham, Phil Lipshut, Maurice (Modge) Smith, Eric Friedman and Maureen O'Neill.

The meeting, organised by AJGS (Vic) member Phil Lipshut, coincided with a visit to Melbourne by Adelaide-based Pam Lockett. The group also took this opportunity to get acquainted with the resources of the Australian Jewish Genealogical Society (Vic) and the Australian Jewish Historical Society (Vic), which are housed in the Oberman Resource Room at the Lamm Library.

Simon Levy was born about 1829 in Germany. He married Rebecca Wronke in The New Synagogue, London, in 1851, and they had six children. Following the death of Rebecca in 1861, Simon married Mina Obadasky at the Great Synagogue, London. Simon and Mina had two children, born in England, before Simon sailed for Australia in 1864 on the *White Star*.

Mina followed Simon to Australia in 1865 with Simon's four surviving children from his marriage to Rebecca, and her two children. They sailed on the *Champion of the Seas*.

The family settled in Ballarat, where Simon worked as a slipper maker. The family later moved to Melbourne in 1875. In Victoria, Simon and Mina had a further 10 children, born in Ballarat or Melbourne, nine of whom survived to adulthood.

Simon died in Parkville in 1904, aged about 75. Mina died in St Kilda in 1925, aged 85. Simon was survived by 15 of his children: Joseph, Elizabeth, Harris and Hannah (Annie) from his marriage to Rebecca; and Jacob, Matilda, Rachel, Sarah, Abraham (Bert), Isaac (Alf), Reuben, Rebecca, Phoebe, Evelyn (Lena) and Esther (Ettie) from his marriage to Mina.

At the meeting, the group shared their research, family stories and old family photographs. They agreed to meet from time to time, and took the tentative first steps towards holding a grand family gathering of the descendants of Simon Levy in Melbourne on the Labour Day weekend in March 2015. There are several hundred descendants of Simon spread around Australia and overseas.

## Valuable research lessons learned

by Allan Jankie

Recently I decided to go back over 'old ground' in my research and visit some sources I hadn't checked for a while – specifically, the Yad Vashem searchable database of victims of the Holocaust.

For those who are unaware of this database ([www.yadvashem.org](http://www.yadvashem.org)), it is a collection of information obtained from Pages of Testimony (POT) submitted by people from all over the world on their relatives, friends or acquaintances who perished during the Holocaust. There are millions of these POTs, and therefore there are tens of millions of facts contained within them.

However, as these POTs are based on memories of the submitters, all dates should be noted with caution.

Anyway, I decided to have another look at the database with my paternal JANKIELWICZ surname in mind. The last time I looked I 'knew' that the family came from Lodz and therefore discarded anybody who came from somewhere else. In the 18 months that have passed since last looking, I've discovered that the family actually came from the city of Piotrkow, so my search parameters this time were different.

I came across a record stating that a 'Symcha JANKLEWICZ' was transported to Auschwitz from France. I have a Symcha on my 'tree' who would have been around the correct age so I looked deeper.

Sure enough I found a POT for this Symcha, born in Piotrkow in 1904 to Jakub and Chaia Gitla. My Symcha was born in Piotrkow to Jakub and Chaia Gitla, so there could be no doubt that this was the same person.

The submitter for this POT was a Henri JANKLEWICZ, living in Paris. He described himself as '*fils*' of the deceased, which in my mind meant 'son'. I looked at the date of this POT and was surprised to find that it was submitted in 2002.

I decided I would try and contact this Henri JANKLEWICZ.

I figured that Henri was the son of Symcha and had to have been born somewhere between 1925 and 1930, making him 85–90 years old if he was still alive today.

My first step was to 'Google' his name. A result from the French White Pages came up showing the same address as the one listed on the POT. It also had a telephone number. I decided to call the telephone number and introduce myself.

After one day of trying and getting nothing but an 'engaged' signal, I decided I needed help. I emailed the French Jewish Genealogical Society (Cercle de Genealogie Juive) and asked them if they could check if the telephone number was valid and if they had any other contact information for Henri JANKLEWICZ.

They replied within a very short time that the number I had was valid but that I had been incorrectly dialling the

country/area code! With this new information at hand I dialled the number again.

This time, it was answered by a woman who responded to my question of '*parlez vous anglaise?*' with a direct response – '*non*'.

Since my command of French is limited (almost exclusively to the above phrase), I spent the next 15 minutes trying to converse with her and not getting anywhere. I worked out that she was telling me her son would be home at 7 ('*sept heures*') and that he speaks English. Given it was midnight when I spoke with her (her time 3 pm), I organised to wake up at 4 am (my time) and call back.

And when I did, her son Michel JANKLEWICZ answered the phone. His English was only marginally better than his mother's! So another 10-minute conversation ensued where I tried to give him my email address so that we could exchange information. That proved to be unsuccessful.

This was very frustrating at 4.30 in the morning, knowing that I had found a whole new branch of my family but couldn't tell them because of language issues.

I decided, again, to ask for help from the Cercle de Genealogie Juive. This time, I asked them to telephone the family and give them my email address.

I also decided to post a request for help on the JewishGen Discussion Group detailing what had transpired and what assistance I needed.

Between my posting the 'request for help' on JewishGen and the actually publishing of the request, I received an email from Cercle de Genealogie Juive advising me that they had telephoned the family and given my email address.

I was elated and thought it will only be a short while before I heard from these newfound cousins.

All of a sudden I started getting emails from members of JewishGen Discussion Group offering assistance. They came from countries around the globe (including here in Australia!) and all offered similar help – to telephone the Paris number and give them my contact information. I also received an email from the coordinator of the JewishGen French SIG reminding me that I could have received assistance from them had I remembered to contact them.

I was, and still am, completely blown away by the response.

In hindsight, I shouldn't be. I know how quickly our own AJGS (Vic) committee members respond to requests for assistance from people looking for their relatives.

At about 4 pm (some 12 hours after my last telephone call), I received an email from a 'Serge ZOTO', who started with: 'You recently sent an email to my first cousin Michel JANKLEWICZ – his father and my mother are brother and sister. He went on to say that Michel's English was not so good and that he, Serge, had been asked to contact me.'

Since that email, we have corresponded a number of times and we have confirmed that he, like Michel, is my third cousin (we share a g-g-g-grandfather). Furthermore, he is currently living in Singapore after spending time living in San Francisco and Sydney!

From one previously overlooked Page of Testimony at Yad Vashem, I've been able to find living cousins in France and Singapore.

So that is one powerful lesson I've learned from this exercise.

Just because you've looked at something before doesn't mean you should ignore it as a source later on. In fact, many of the databases are continually adding new records, and these are always worth rechecking.

In my particular case, it was purely a matter of rechecking an old resource with new parameters.

The other powerful lesson that's been driven home to me is the power of JewishGen. Like many of us, I tend to use the resources I'm most comfortable with and those which have provided me with the best results.

I had never before bothered to ask another Jewish genealogical society for assistance. Nor had I ever posted a request on the JewishGen Discussion Group.

The results from these two emails I sent will ensure I never neglect those two resources again.

**Feuille de Témoignage**  
**DAF-ED דף עדות**

**Comité Français pour YAD VASHEM**  
64, avenue MARCEAU  
75008 PARIS

**יד ושם**  
יזכורנו ויהי זכרנו  
3477 ת.ד.

**LA LOI SUR LA COMMÉMORATION DES MARTYRS ET DES HÉROS. 5713-1953 stipule dans l'Article 2 :**

**Il incombe à YAD VASHEM de recueillir, sur le sol de la patrie, le souvenir de tous ceux, parmi le peuple juif, qui ont péri dans la Shoah ou dans la lutte contre l'ennemi nazi et ses complices, et de perpétuer leur nom ainsi que celui des communautés, organisations et institutions antérieures pour la seule raison qu'elles étaient juives.**

1. Nom \* JANKLEWICZ

2. Prénom (idé) (שם לפני השואה) SYMCHA

3. תאריך הלידה (Date de naissance) 16.10.1904  
מקום הלידה (Lieu de naissance) PIOTRKOW POLOGNE

4. שם האם (Prénom de la mère) CHAJA-GITLA  
5. שם האב (Prénom du père) JACOB

6. מקום מגורים לפני השואה (Lieu de résidence avant la guerre) 112 RUE D'AUBERVILLIERS PARIS 19

7. מקום הלידה (Lieu de naissance) MASZA née ROZEN

8. מקום מגורים במלחמה (Lieux de résidence pendant la guerre) DEPORTEE DE BEAUNE-VA-ROLANDE

9. תאריך המות (Date de décès) 2.07.1942  
מקום המות (Lieu de décès) AUSCHWITZ POLOGNE

10. אני החיים (Je soussigné) JANKLEWICZ HENRI  
תנאי מגורים (adresse complète) 75 RUE DE GRAVILLIERS PARIS 3

11. שם הוריה (Nom des parents) FILS DE DEFUNT

12. מקום ומתאריך (Lieu et date) PARIS 18.03.2002

13. "ונתתי להם בתי ובחמותי יד ושם... אשר לא יכרת" (Je leur donnerai dans ma maison et dans mes murs une place et un nom... qui ne périra pas! - Esau, LVI, 5)

\* Prière d'inscrire le nom de chaque victime de la Shoah sur un formulaire différent.

## HELP IN THE PIOTRKOW ARCHIVES

During April/May 2012, my wife, sister, brother-in-law and I spent eight days traipsing across Poland. All of our parents had been born in Poland, and it was a journey of 'discovery' for us.

One of the towns we visited was Piotrkow Trybulanski, the birth place of my grandfather Aaron Isaac JANKIELEWICZ.

I had previously been in correspondence with the Polish State Archives (PSA) office in Piotrkow and had had some success in obtaining information from them, so our visit to the town included a short stopover at the archives. We spent about 90 minutes there poring over various records in books that went back 150 years.

While there, a gentleman named Jacek introduced himself to me and offered his services to do research at the archives for me. I took note of his name and email address and promptly forgot about him a few minutes after we left the archives for our next destination.

A couple of months later, I received an email from Jacek reminding me of his offer and asking if he could be of any assistance. Wary of finding myself in an 'expensive situation' of employing a researcher in a foreign land, I responded that I did recall him and that I was interested in any information about my JANKELEWICZ family from Piotrkow. Within a week, he sent another email containing photographs of records.

Over the next 10 months, I periodically received more information from Jacek that has ultimately led me to discover branches of my family that I never knew existed. I also have in my possession, sent by him, copies of birth/death/marriage records up until the 1930s.

Jacek lives in Piotrkow and is well versed in research at the Archives there, as well as at Lodz and Czestochowa.

The Piotrkow office of the PSA contain the Metrical Books (registered vital records – Births, Deaths, Marriages) for the following towns: BELCHATOW, KAMIENSK, OPOCZNO, PIOTRKOW, PRZEDBORZ, RADOMSKO, ROZPRZA, SULEJOW, SULMIERZYCE, SZCZERCOW, TOMASZOW, MAZOWIECKI, WOLBORZ, ZARNOW.

It also contains other records such as Books of Residents, mortgage documents and Jewish community lists.

For a full listing of which records are held by various offices of the PSA, go to their website at [www.archiwa.gov.pl](http://www.archiwa.gov.pl) (make sure you click on the English version).

Obviously there is a cost involved in having Jacek do research for you, and it is a fee you would need to negotiate with him.

His email address is [bednajac@hotmail.com](mailto:bednajac@hotmail.com), and I am most happy to recommend him given my experience in utilising his services.

**Allan Jankie**

# Memorial for Rosetta Isaacs, 1863–1864 (5623–5625) Beechworth General Cemetery, Jewish section

On Sunday 28 April 2013, on the 150th anniversary of the birth of Rosetta Isaacs in Yackandandah (April 1863), a headstone was dedicated on her grave in the Jewish section of the Beechworth Cemetery.

Rosetta Isaacs was the youngest sister of Australia's first Australian-born governor general, Sir Isaac Isaacs. The Isaacs family spent their formative years in Yackandandah and Beechworth. Rosetta's unmarked grave was discovered as part of research for the 2012 George Briscoe Kerferd Oration, delivered in Beechworth last year by former deputy prime minister Tim Fischer and Dr Bill Wilson.

The chair of the Kerferd Oration Committee, Joan Simms OAM, said a collection to raise funds for a headstone for Rosetta, who was born in 1863 and died 18 months later, began at the end of last year's oration. Various groups and organisations added to the collection, bringing the total amount to more than \$2000. The generosity and support for a forgotten child was overwhelming.

A very large crowd had gathered on the Sunday morning at the Beechworth cemetery and were taken back to imagine a hot October day in 1864, a sad family gathered around a grave in the Jewish section of Beechworth Cemetery for the burial of 18-month-old Rosetta, a victim of bronchitis. After the burial, the



immigrant family travelled home to Yackandandah on their borrowed horse and cart, and the grave remained unmarked to this day.

Emeritus Rabbi John S Levi AM conducted a beautiful dedication service and unveiling of the headstone for the memorial. The service began with a welcome by MC Joan Simms. Then, Dr Bill Wilson APM OAM told us about the story of the unmarked grave, and this was followed by a family tribute by Tim Cohen, the great grandson of Sir Isaac Isaacs.

Rabbi Levi dedicated the headstone, and my favourite psalm, *The Lord is my Shepherd*, was included in the service.

Finally, Professor John Rosenberg, Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Vice-President (Global Relations) at La Trobe University, spoke to the gathered crowd, who had come to do a 'mitzvah' for little Rosetta and whose generosity had enabled the ceremony to take place.

After the service, guests attended a reception in





From left: Professor John Rosenberg, Dr. Bill Wilson, Tim Cohen, Rabbi John Levi, and Joan Simms.

the Beechworth Courthouse, where a new Isaac Isaacs exhibition was launched.

The AJHS (Vic) and AJGS (Vic) would like to thank the Kerferd Oration Committee and the Beechworth Cemetery Trust for the invitation to attend the memorial.

We would also like to thank AJHS (Vic) President Howard Freeman OAM (pictured on page 6) for the guided tour of Jewish sites through Beechworth, which, in the 1850s–1860s, was home to a small population of Jewish residents whose occupations included clothes dealer, tailor, hotelier, and watchmaker and jeweller.

by Liz James



## Share your photographs with us

The editors of *Jewish Genealogy Downunder* invite readers to share with us interesting photographs of their ancestors, along with a few words of explanation.



### Celebrating Australian Federation in North Melbourne

This photo, submitted by Lionel Sharpe, was taken in May 1901 at the clothing factory of Simon Davis in Villiers Street, North Melbourne. Simon Davis is seen standing in the centre of the second row (with goatee and gold chain). His wife, Yetta, is standing to the right of him.

The flags hanging from the ceiling feature those of the former British colonies before Federation. The flag in the centre was used by the members of the Federation movement to support their cause. Flags from the British colonies can also be identified: third from the right is Western Australia, introduced in 1875, and fourth from the right is New South Wales, introduced in 1876. The flags of both Britain and the United States are easily identified. The large crowd comprised the Davis's family and friends, as well as workers from the factory.

Simon Davis (formerly Lobelski) was born in Suwalki, Poland, in 1851. He migrated to Manchester, England, and married Yetta Glass in 1871. Simon and Yetta Davis migrated to Melbourne in 1883 with the first of their 10 children. They initially lived in rented premises at 595 Elizabeth Street, which was a combined shop and living quarters, and by 1885 they had moved to Queensberry Street.

At the time this photo was taken, the family had expanded to nine children, their ages ranging from 8 to 29 years – Jane (married Coleman Cohen), Abraham, Benjamin, Esther (Ettie), Annie (married Vivian Benjamin), Harry, Samuel, Israel (deceased at age four), Hyman and Zalman.

Many of the young adults and children are easily recognised in the group photo. The two oldest sons, Abe and Ben, married two sisters, Rosalie and Matilda Visbord, on 26 December 1900 at a double wedding at the Melbourne Hebrew Congregation in Bourke Street, Melbourne. The father of the two brides had passed away in 1897.

Many of their descendants played an important role in civic life. The most well known today is Victorian state politician David Southwick. The story of Abe and Rosalie Davis can be found in an article by Trevor Cohen in the *Journal of the Australian Jewish Historical Society*, Vol X, 1988, Part 4.

## A New York story

by Rodney Eisfelder

This is a tale which takes us away from the search for ancestral Jewish records and leads us along some surprising pathways, through intermarriage into numerous religious denominations until the present day.

My great-grandmother's brother Louis Wittkower went to New York in the 1880s and married non-Jewish partners in two successive marriages. His first (Irish Catholic) wife, Josephine Walsh, died following the birth of his sixth child, so he very swiftly married Tessie Moran, the family maid, also an Irish-Catholic lass. Tessie had a number of children who died very young. Only the last one survived.

When Louis died just before the birth of his last child, Henry, Tessie married Louis's nephew, my great uncle Hugo Eisfelder. Henry Wittkower was brought up with the name Henry Eisfelder. Over the years, we made contact with some of Louis's descendants, who had taken a variety of religions: Catholic, Episcopalian, Southern-Baptist and more.

Josephine and Louis's children were Julie, Elsie, Lilian, Louis David, Albert and Alice.

Julie married Joe Paterno (Italian Catholic), a very successful builder in New York. Lilian married Edward Holland (Episcopalian), Albert died young under 'mysterious' circumstances and Elsie married a Mr Koons but had no children. Louis David moved to Texas and married Orelle Land (Southern Baptist), and Alice married Charles Prinz (or Prince), who was German, but I don't know of what religion.

Alice's children were Charlotte (1916–2005) and Norman (1918–1970).

When I visited New York in the 1980s, I met Charlotte. She told me that Josephine died in childbirth, on the day her mother was born, and showed me a photo of baby Alice in the arms of her (obviously pregnant) step-mother, Tessie. In correspondence with my father, Charlotte had hinted that there was a big scandal involving Joe Paterno, but "wild horses wouldn't drag it out of her". Charlotte passed away in 2005, and the knowledge of the scandal seemed to have gone forever.

There had always been a bit of a mystery around the death of Louis Wittkower. There were suggestions that he had died after being hit by a carriage on the streets of New York. We had no date of death, but knew that it was before Henry's birth in March 1898.

For me, the big breakthrough was the discovery of the Fulton History website: <http://fultonhistory.com/Fulton.html>. This site hosts more than 23 million pages of historical newspaper pages from New York State (including New York City).

First, I discovered that Louis's first wife, Josephine Walsh, did not die on Alice's birthday, but had survived a further three weeks. Then I found a death notice for Louis, giving his date of death as 29 January 1898. But there was no mention of the cause of death, and I could find no article about the supposed accident. With the knowledge of the date of death, I searched harder for the death certificate using one of Stephen Morse's search pages at <http://www.stevemorse.org/> and finally found it in the name of 'Louis Wittkover'. I ordered the relevant microfilm, which was soon delivered to our room at the Lamm Library, and I finally found the cause of his death – Louis died in Bellevue Hospital from 'General Paresis', which is a brain disorder caused by late-stage syphilis. That was one family story that

didn't get passed down. It could also explain why Tessie's first few children died young.

Another newspaper article reported on the demise of Albert in 1913. The New York *Herald* reported that Albert Wittkover (sic) was found dead of a bullet wound in his head. The police thought it was suicide, but his brother-in-law, Joseph Paterno, said it must have been an accident and that Albert had no cause for financial worry and no love affairs that he knew of.

In a letter to my father in 2006, Albert's nephew, Louis David Wittkover Jr (1919–2012) said that his father was upset about Albert's death and had implied that Albert was being pressured to marry Joe's sister, Rose Paterno.

More searching in the Fulton History website finally gave me some information of Elsie. She committed suicide in a small town in rural New York State.

"A verdict of death by suicide while temporarily insane has been issued in the death of Mrs Elsie Koons, of 12 Morse St, whose body was found in her home Tuesday by police. ... The dead woman, who came to Dansville about three months ago, leaves two sisters, Mrs E W Holland, and Mrs Joseph Patterson (sic) of New York City, and a step-son in Hornell."

Joseph Paterno, together with his brother Dr Charles Paterno, made a big mark on New York City. Many of their apartment buildings still stand, including *The Paterno* on 116th Street. It is not surprising that Joe got a lengthy obituary in the *New York Post* of 13 June 1939, starting on page one and continuing on page four. What did surprise me was the inclusion of this paragraph: "Newspaper records of Mr Paterno's career include accounts of a suit, filed in Supreme Court by his first wife's sister, Mrs Alice Prince, which accused him in 1927 of being the father of her son. She asked \$250,000."

I tried hard to find those newspaper accounts, but failed to find any other mention of the case.

What I did find was a report from 1921 in the *Lockport Union-Sun and Journal*. Under the heading 'Centre of Odd Family Tangle' is a photograph of Mrs Alice Prince and the text: "Charles Prince, New York art dealer, has filed suit against Joseph Paterno, his multi-millionaire brother-in-law, for \$100,000 for alleged alienation of the affections of Mrs Alice Prince, Paterno's sister-in-law. Paterno's wife says she has absolute faith in her husband and believes that he is totally innocent of any wrong doing with her young sister."

So, it seems both Alice Prince and her husband accused Joe Paterno of 'hanky-panky' with Alice, and even that Alice's son Norman Prince was Joe's son. Can this be true? Or was it merely an attempt by Alice and Charles to extract cash from their much richer brother-in-law? Could Alice's marriage survive the accusation and public admission of adultery, and the alleged illegitimacy of their son?

The final piece of evidence comes from the US census of 1940. In their modest rented apartment on West 83rd Street, Manhattan, less than a block from Central Park, we find Charles Prince, a sales manager, his wife Alice, and their unemployed son Norman, all living together as one happy family. So, I ask again, was the scandal an affair between Joe and Alice, or the claim that there was such an affair?

I will be in New York later this year. Charlotte and her brother are dead and left no descendants. Joe and Julie's children are dead. But some of their grand-children and great-grandchildren still live in the Big Apple. Could they have the answer, or would they prefer not to know what the question is?

# POSTINGS

## Bagnówka website

I came across this excellent website recently:  
[www.bagnowka.com](http://www.bagnowka.com)

Below is an extract from one of their website pages, describing their purpose and activities:

### Allan Jankie, AJGS (Vic) President

Bagnówka is a district of Białystok, which contains the largest Jewish cemetery in north-eastern Poland. This cemetery is located next to the Catholic cemetery, which in turn adjoins the Orthodox cemetery. These three cemeteries in Bagnówka that lie peacefully next to each other are for us a potent symbol of what we are seeking to achieve – partnership and good-neighborliness with the varied religious and ethnic groups that past and present called Poland home. Even though this region was frequently the scene of conflict and human tragedy, it gave birth to some of Europe's greatest contributions in the realm of religion and culture. The winds of history and the harsh necessities of daily life scattered many of the inhabitants of these lands all over the world, but today their descendants are searching for their family roots and discovering a new kind of pride and interest in their original national identity which they are keen to pass on to their children. We wish to help them in this.

The history of the Jews in Poland and also their Jewish cultural legacy is our specialty. Our colleagues include the authors of many books and articles on this subject; they are well-known in the United States, Poland and Israel and have been responsible for many exhibitions devoted to the Jewish legacy in Eastern Europe. Our collections are used by museums and eminent historians from all over the world. We extend our invitation to all those who wish to visit online the sites of their family tragedy, to experience what remains of the magical atmosphere of the former shtetl, to visit famous centers of Jewish culture and also those places that are indissolubly linked to the tragedy of the Holocaust. We also cover Lithuania, Belarus and the Ukraine, for without these countries it would be difficult to imagine the history of Polish and European Jews.

We offer our visitors – scholars, students, internet travelers or individuals with ancestral ties to Poland – the opportunity to join us in revisiting the past and participate in learning of the present. Our galleries on history, culture, cemeteries, houses of worship, wooden architecture, maps and more feature nearly 60,000 images (and select videos) from Poland and its neighboring countries of Lithuania, Belarus and the Ukraine as these countries share with Poland a common history, ancestry and family ties.

Ultimately, the Bagnowka Project has been set up by a group of historians, linguists, journalists, naturalists and guides, united by a common interest in the history of Poland and the eastern borderlands, and their cultural and ethnic legacy. Our members include authors, collectors of old photographs and maps, professors of diverse languages, specialists in archival work and genealogy, and people responsible for mounting exhibitions and creating internet sites dealing with these matters.

It is our sincere wish that the passion we share in preserving and disseminating the resources gathered here will inspire our audience to recognize that both the richness and harshness experienced by the varied cultures of Poland must be preserved in order to understand the present and move toward a more peaceful and tolerant future. This wish again is reflected in the symbol of our project – Bagnówka, three distinct religious cemeteries that today adjoin peacefully in northeastern Poland.

**Contacts:** [bagnowka@yahoo.pl](mailto:bagnowka@yahoo.pl)

## IAJGS Boston Conference

The 33rd IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy will be held in Boston from Sunday 4 August 2013 to Friday 9 August 2013.

More than 1000 people from all over the world are expected to attend the conference, which will be held at the historic Boston Park Plaza Hotel.

A preliminary program is now available for viewing on the conference website. It can be searched by title, keyword, speaker, date, attendees' level of expertise, presentation type, topic and geographical focus.

For more information about the conference, including special hotel rates for attendees and registration, visit [www.iajgs2013.org/program\\_schedule.cfm](http://www.iajgs2013.org/program_schedule.cfm).

## Schedule for Linking Lublin PSA Images to JRI-Poland Index

### June 2013

JRI-Poland is pleased to announce the schedule for the posting of digital images of Jewish vital records online from the holdings of the Lublin branch of the Polish State Archives.

The Lublin branch holds the registers for the most towns with Jewish records in Poland. It was the first to acquire sophisticated digitising equipment in 2005 and has been steadily scanning its holdings ever since. We are most indebted to Director Piotr Dymmel and the staff of the Lublin branch for this significant achievement.

- End of June 2013: 48 towns (Annopol to Lubartow, not including Lublin).
- October 2013: 36 towns (Lukow to Zolkiewka).
- December 2013: City of Lublin.

As JRI-Poland previously announced, over the next four to five years, the Polish State Archives will digitise all vital records (Jewish and non-Jewish) and make them available on the PSA National Digital Archives (NDA) or Regional Archive website. There will be no charge for directly accessing actual records of your ancestors and family.

When the JRI-Poland search results have been linked to the record images, it will be possible for researchers to click on the image icon associated with the record and immediately view the actual record for his/her ancestors.

But there are more than 300,000 record entries to be linked to digital images, so there is much work to be done first.

Researchers with an interest in this project are invited to join the JRI-Poland Lublin Archives 'linking team'. You do not need to be able to read Polish or Russian. The only experience needed is a familiarity with Excel along with a desire to contribute your efforts to this important task.

To volunteer, contact Robinn Magid <[RobinnM@aol.com](mailto:RobinnM@aol.com)>  
JewishGen Discussion Group <[jewishgen@lyris.jewishgen.org](mailto:jewishgen@lyris.jewishgen.org)>

**Robinn Magid**, Kensington, California  
Lublin Archives Project Coordinator  
Jewish Records Indexing – Poland

**Howard Fink** <[howgen@verizon.net](mailto:howgen@verizon.net)>  
Digital Archives Coordinator  
Jewish Records Indexing – Poland

**NU? WHAT'S NEW?****The E-zine of Jewish Genealogy From Avotaynu  
May 2013****USHMM identifies organisations who have taken oral testimonies**

The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum has a list of organisations who have taken oral testimonies.

The aim of the catalog is to provide a tool for those interested in the location of Holocaust oral history collections worldwide. There are in excess of 125 entities represented in this catalog. The collections vary from museums, universities, and other major institutions where thousands of professionally produced interviews are archived, to local community organisations that have a handful of interviews conducted by volunteers, and to individual documentary filmmakers who have produced Holocaust testimony for their films.

The catalog contains names, addresses and contact information for each organisation. Where possible, there is a narrative description about the organisation and its oral history collection, as well as information about the content of the collection. Additionally, relevant technical information is usually included, for example, number of interviews, formats used, access to the collection, finding aids etc.

The site is at [www.ushmm.org/research/collections/oralhistory/search/](http://www.ushmm.org/research/collections/oralhistory/search/).

**June 2013****1921 Canadian census to be released**

Library and Archives Canada (LAC) has announced that the 1921 census of Canada will be released "in the next few weeks".

The data was unavailable to the public for 92 years because of Canadian privacy laws. LAC indicated that the census data is being indexed so it can be mined for historical and genealogical research. It did not indicate whether the index would be available at the same time as the census data.

Taken on 1 June 1921, the census contains a wealth of information on nearly 8.8 million individuals. Information for the census was collected on the following five subjects: population; agriculture; animals, animal products, fruits not on farms; manufacturing and trading establishments; and supplemental questionnaire for persons who were blind and deaf. This represents a total of 565 questions. The population questionnaire contained only 35 questions.

Further details on the 1921 census's availability will be shared once they are available. The announcement is at <http://tinyurl.com/CaCe1921>. Prior censuses are available online at <http://tinyurl.com/AllCaCe>.

**JewishGen Memorial Plaque Project**

JewishGen wants to grow its Memorial Plaque Project. This is a database of plaques placed on a memorial board on synagogue walls. Also known as 'yahrzeit plaques', they exist to memorialise relatives, usually parents or siblings. On the anniversary of the person's death (yahrzeit), the plaque is illuminated by two small lights on each side. The

name is read to the congregation at the Sabbath service before the yahrzeit (reckoned by the Hebrew calendar). These plaques are of genealogical value because they usually include the name of the deceased, date of death reckoned by both the secular and Jewish calendars and the person's religious name, which includes the name of the person's father.

Information on how to submit data can be found at [www.jewishgen.org/databases/Memorial/Submit.htm](http://www.jewishgen.org/databases/Memorial/Submit.htm).

The database is at [www.jewishgen.org/databases/Memorial](http://www.jewishgen.org/databases/Memorial).

**Gary Mokotoff****RESEARCH IN VICTORIA**

*Ancestor*, the quarterly journal of the Genealogical Society of Victoria Inc, has been publishing a series of articles of interest to beginning researchers, titled 'Genies on the web', written by Irene Fullarton.

The current issue focuses on researching in Victoria and recommends to the reader to start with the passenger indexes of the Public Records Office Victoria (PROV) Guide 51. See <http://prov.vic.gov.au/provguide-51>.

Irene also suggests to check the wills and probate records which date back to 1841. These are indexed and available online.

Another passenger website is <http://tinyurl.com/bmwm8db>, which focuses on arrivals in New South Wales who later settled in Port Phillip, 1839–51.

Other useful websites mentioned in the article are:

- The Ryerson Index to death notices and obituaries in Australian newspapers at [www.ryersonindex.org/](http://www.ryersonindex.org/). This is regularly updated.
- Trove Digitised Newspapers, which are invaluable to all researchers, can be found at <http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/>.

The Genealogical Society of Victoria was officially formed in 1941 and currently has 5000 members throughout Australia and overseas.

*Ancestor* is a 50-page, glossy quarterly journal of interest to both beginners and the advanced researcher.

More information can be found on their website at [www.gsv.org.au](http://www.gsv.org.au).



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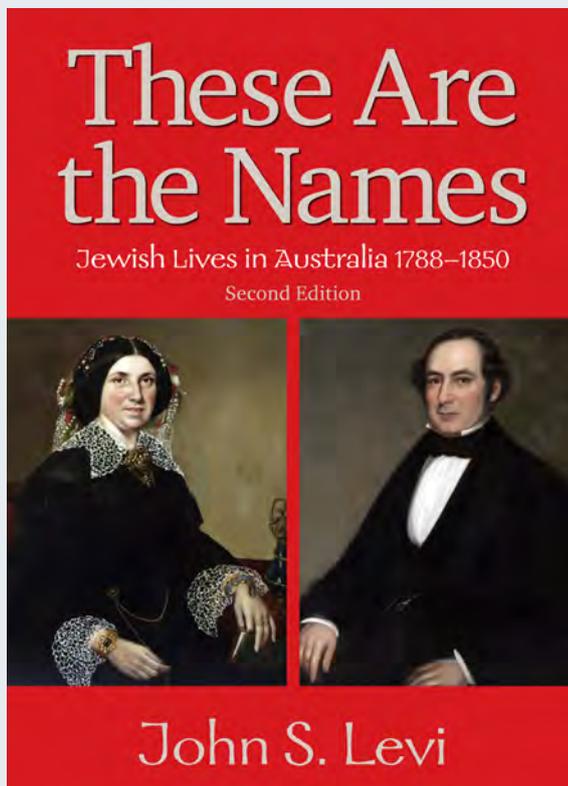
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## NEW BOOKS

### These Are the Names Second Edition



The second edition of Rabbi Dr John S Levi's popular seller *These Are the Names: Jewish Lives in Australia 1788-1850* was released last month by Melbourne University Publishing.

The first edition of this book was published in 2006 and was sold out within a few months. Due to continuing demand and feedback by researchers, Rabbi Levi was encouraged to produce this second edition.

The book contains biographical entries for more than 1600 Jews who settled in Australia between 1788 and 1850. This edition includes extensive research and names discovered since the first edition. It expands upon the history of settlement of Jewish people in Australia from 1788.

An expanded comprehensive index of surnames in this edition will be much appreciated by family historians and those curious about their own ancestry. New information in this edition includes birth names, extra names, nicknames, aliases and maiden names, together with details of marriages, children and occupations.

Other publications by Rabbi Levi include *Australian Genesis* (1976), *Australian Genesis: Jewish Convicts and Settlers 1788-1860* (2002) and *Rabbi Jacob Danglow: The Uncrowned Monarch of Australian Jewry* (1995).

*These Are the Names, Second Edition*, is available as a hardcopy and an ebook and can be ordered online at [www.mup.com.au/collections/recent](http://www.mup.com.au/collections/recent).

## NEWS

### New members

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

- Vicki Cain
- Ann Drillich
- Robyn Lichter
- Helen Mor
- Peter Guttman
- Peter Prager

### 2013 Queen's Birthday Honours

We congratulate Dr John Rogers AM, genealogy enthusiast and AJGS (Vic) member, who was awarded an AM in the General Division of the Order of Australia in this year's Queen's Birthday Honours.

He was recognised for significant service to medicine in the field of clinical genetics and paediatrics.

### What's on at the LAMM Library

HaSeret Film Club presents:

Tango: Una Historia Com Judios

(Tango: A Story With Jews)

2010 (1 hour, 10 minutes)

Documentary: Spanish with English subtitles

When Jews fled Russia and found safe haven in Buenos Aires in the late 19th century, they brought klezmer music along with them. Its lyrical, sinuous sounds worked their way into the local traditions, contributing to the emergence of tango.

This unexpected connection fuels this engaging documentary, which uses family stories, anecdotes and seductive historic recordings to tell the little-known account of cultural and artistic fusion.

When: Sunday, 14 July 2013, 3-5 pm.

Where: Lamm Jewish Library of Australia,  
304 Hawthorn Road, Caulfield South.

Cost: \$10 per person (includes refreshments).

## VALE

### Dr Malcolm Fredman, 1934-2013

We note with sadness the passing of Dr Malcolm Fredman in March this year. Malcolm had a keen interest in Australian Jewish history and family research.

His particular passion was the preservation of the Matahar House at the Brighton General Cemetery, which was featured in *Jewish Genealogy Downunder* in September 2012.