



## The AJGS (Vic) Newsletter, March 2024

Dear members

Welcome to the March newsletter of AJGS (VIC). Rene Eisner has handed over the reins of the newsletter and I am looking forward to bringing you information and news in the coming months.

### Who we are

The Australian Jewish Genealogical Society (Vic) Inc (AJGS Vic) is a non-profit society passionate about encouraging and assisting people in researching their Jewish ancestry. We welcome everyone with an interest in this research area, regardless of ethnicity or background, whether you are researching your family history for connections to Jewish heritage or studying this fascinating and important area of history.

In addition to providing access to the AJGS Vic research library and the expertise of some of our most specialised researchers, we hold regular meetings, either on Zoom or face to face, providing workshops and events to support members and provide practical assistance for their research on such topics as DNA, using JRI Poland and more.

You are most welcome to join us for these interesting talks. Find more information under upcoming events.

We aim to be a welcoming, open group to anyone interested in this rich, cultural heritage and the historical context of Jewish family trees, so if you think you may have a connection, we're here to help you in any way we can.

### My interest in genealogy

I have been a member of AJGS (VIC) for many years and a committee member since 2019.

I was born in London and emigrated to Australia with my family in 1967 on the £10 Assisted Migration Scheme. My mother's family originally came from Poland and Lithuania, whilst my father's family was originally from Russia, Romania and Latvia.

By the late 1890s, most of my great grandparents had left their respective homes and were settled in the Whitechapel area of the East End where they lived for many years.

My interest in genealogy started as a young child, as my mother told many stories of growing up with cousins and extended family members in the 1930-1940s; stories of coping with the London blitz, being evacuated and the rationing of food and goods during WW2. Sadly, shortly after the war, my maternal grandfather learnt of the deaths of two of his sisters and their families in the Shoah.

Having researched my family's past for over 25+ years, I am now in the process of disseminating information to family members.

Terry Ashton, Secretary

## Upcoming Events-please join us at these coming events:

### **Sunday, April 14<sup>th</sup> 2024, @ 7.30 p.m.**

Join AJGS (VIC) for a Zoom presentation on Sunday, April 14<sup>th</sup> 2024, @ 7.30 p.m. by Michael Tobias, on “DNA case study: Judith Auerbach – Theresienstadt Toddler”

Michael Tobias, OBE BSc MSc, is the President of JGSGB and Board Member of JRI-Poland and will speak on “DNA case study: Judith Auerbach – Theresienstadt Toddler”

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86880172678?pwd=TVY4OWNVa0lvRVA2dXRDWmFCdlBRZz09>

Meeting ID: 868 8017 2678 Passcode: 245210

Alternatively for details regarding the Zoom link, please go to our website at <https://ajgs-vic.org.au/>

### **Sunday May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2.30- 4.30 p.m, Glen Eira Town Hall**

Join AJGS (VIC) for a presentation by Bernie Kuran on May 19<sup>th</sup>, from 2.30- 4.30 p.m, @ Glen Eira Town Hall. Bernie will discuss the origins, types and etymology of Jewish surnames. For further information, please email [ajgsvictoria@gmail.com](mailto:ajgsvictoria@gmail.com)

### **Sunday June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2.30- 4.30 p.m, Glen Eira Town Hall**

Join AJGS (VIC) for a presentation by Max Wald & Allan Jankie on June 16<sup>th</sup>, from 2.30- 4.30 p.m, @ Glen Eira Town Hall. Max & Allan will discuss how to go about researching Polish records. For further information, please email [ajgsvictoria@gmail.com](mailto:ajgsvictoria@gmail.com)

## Update on Past Events

- ❖ On February the 4<sup>th</sup> librarian and archivist, Liz James, OAM, presented a highly successful talk on ‘An Introduction to Jewish Genealogy,’ explaining how easy it is to find your ancestors & trace your ancestry.
- ❖ In early March, under Liz James’ careful guidance, Grade 6 students from Sholem Aleichem started their Roots Projects at the JMA, followed soon after by Year 9 Yavneh students. There was much discussion on how students could delve deeply into archives to research their ancestors.



- ❖ An enjoyable social afternoon tea was held on Sunday March 3rd, where members had a chance to chat with other like-minded genealogical enthusiasts and committee members of the AJGS (VIC). Several people brought copies of their family trees, family memorabilia and books detailing their genealogical journey.



The Degen-Dudakov Family Book



Photos & ketubahs of the Praszkiert/Glinert and Szumowski families

## Resources and Links

There are a great many resources available for genealogical research, and the following are only a smattering of them. I will include different resources in future newsletters.

The Lamm Jewish Library of Australia has over 44,000 books and includes the collections of the Australian Jewish Genealogical Society (Vic) and the Australian Jewish Historical Society. The library is located at 304 Hawthorn Road, Caulfield South, Vic 3162. If you would like to see more information about the contents of a particular book, please visit the [Lamm Library website](#). The library is open Monday to Thursday, 10 am-5 pm; Friday, 10 am-2 pm and closed on Saturday and Sunday.

Helpful Australian resources include:

Australian Jewish Historical Society (Vic) <https://www.ajhs.com.au/victoria/>

Australian Jewish Historical Society Burial Database <https://www.ajhs.com.au/burials/>

Fawkner Cemetery <https://www.gmct.com.au/deceased/>  
Genealogical Society of Victoria <https://www.gsv.org.au/>  
Immigration Museum <https://museumsvictoria.com.au/immigrationmuseum/>  
Jewish Museum Australia <https://www.jewishmuseum.com.au/>  
Melbourne Chevra Kadisha burial search <https://www.mck.org.au/search/>  
National Australian Archives of Australia <https://www.naa.gov.au/>  
National Library of Australia – Digitized Newspapers <https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/>  
State Library of Victoria <https://www.slv.vic.gov.au/>  
Victorian Birth Deaths & Marriage Index <https://www.bdm.vic.gov.au/>  
Victorian Public Records Office – online resources including immigration index  
<https://guides.slv.vic.gov.au/victorianancestors/archives/>

Helpful Polish resources include:

Ancestry <https://www.ancestry.com.au/>  
Czestochowa -Radomska Research Area Group – Poland <https://www.crarg.org/>  
Gesher Galicia Database search <https://search.geshergalicia.org/>  
Jewish Historical Institute – Warsaw <https://www.jhi.pl/en>  
Jewish Records Indexing – Poland (JRI-Poland) <https://www.jri-poland.org/>  
JewishGen Online World Burial Registry – JOWBR  
<https://www.jewishgen.org/databases/Cemetery/>  
JewishGen Poland databases <https://www.jewishgen.org/databases/Poland/>  
Kehila links (Jewish Community Sites) <https://kehilalinks.jewishgen.org/>  
Miriam Weiner’s Roots to Roots – Poland, Lithuania, Ukraine, Belarus, Moldova  
<https://www.rtrfoundation.org/index.shtml>  
My Heritage <https://www.myheritage.com/research/>  
Polin, Museum of the History of Polish Jews <https://polin.pl/en>  
Polish Jewish Cemeteries <https://cemetery.jewish.org.pl/search/>  
Poznan Project <https://poznan-project.psnc.pl/search.php>  
Warsaw Ghetto Holocaust Research <https://new.getto.pl/en>

And please go to our website at <https://ajgs-vic.org.au/> where you will find many past presentations available to help with your research.

And finally, Pesach will be here before you know it, so on behalf the AJGS (VIC) committee, we hope you have a wonderful time with family and friends.

**Don't forget to stay in touch with us via any of the following:**

Email: [ajgsvictoria@gmail.com](mailto:ajgsvictoria@gmail.com)

Website: <http://www.ajgs-vic.org.au/>

Facebook: [Australian Jewish Genealogical Society-VIC](#)