

Dear members

Welcome to the December newsletter of AJGS (VIC). I hope you enjoyed the September newsletter. Don't forget that if you have any suggestions as to items you would like to see included in future newsletters, please contact Terry Ashton at ajgsvictoria@gmail.com

Please note that AJGS-(Vic) is keeping the membership fees as before and with the help of our donors, fees have not changed for 10 years. Fee renewal notices will be emailed to you soon.

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.

We provide access to the AJGS (Vic) research library and the expertise of our specialised researchers; we hold regular meetings; provide workshops and events to support members and provide practical assistance for research on such topics as DNA, using JRI Poland and more.

Welcome to new members

AJGS (VIC) extends a warm welcome to the following new members:

Brian	Ward
Dijana	Kovacic
Martin	Artenstein

My interest in genealogy

RENE EISNER, AJGS (VIC), TREASURER

Rene Eisner nee Degen, is a grandmother of six who is married to John.

Rene's professional career has been as a bookkeeper and computer operator starting in 1966. A visit to an aunt in the USA in 1993, sparked a lifelong interest in genealogy, tracing and documenting her family's history in Poland, Russia, Latvia and Germany.

Rene has been a member of AJGS (Vic) since 2000 and joined the committee as honorary treasurer in 2012.

When her grandchildren started their Root projects, she realised that the AJGS (Vic) committee could help, and in February 2016 the first talk was given at Bialik college. AJGS (Vic) now assists many Jewish schools in Melbourne educating and encouraging students as they explore their own family history for their Root's projects.



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PO Box 1467, Carindale Qld 4152
www.connections2025.org.au
convenor@connections2025.org.au

Brisbane | 21 – 24 March 2025

Speaker Program

An exciting line-up of 48 local, national and international speakers addressing a wide range of history and genealogy topics has been secured for our conference, Connections 2025, to be held in Brisbane next March. The program is now online, [Conference Program | Connections 2025](#) under the Conference / Conference program tab. Select each day to see your speakers.

Featured speakers include:

Judy G. Russell, The Legal Genealogist®, a genealogist and lawyer, will provide expert guidance through the murky territory where law and family history intersect. An internationally known lecturer and award-winning writer, Judy holds credentials as a Certified Genealogist® and Certified Genealogical LecturerSM from the Board for Certification of Genealogists®.

Dr Nick Barratt, best known for his work on the TV show ‘Who Do You Think You Are,’ has written various history books and is a fellow of the Royal Historical Society, a teaching fellow at the University of Dundee and visiting academic at the Open University.

Hamish Maxwell-Stewart is a professor of heritage and digital humanities at the University of New England and the CEO of Digital History Tasmania. He has authored many books and articles exploring the ways in which digital techniques can be used to shed fresh light on Australia’s convict past.

Emeritus Professor Roland Sussex (OAM, FQA, Chevalier des Palmes Académiques) is a specialist in language, communication and culture, and health communication. Since “retiring” as Professor of Applied Language Studies at the University of Queensland in 2010 he has become a public intellectual, especially through weekly ABC radio broadcasts for over 26 years.

Joining the featured speakers will be six speakers representing our Connections 2025 conference sponsors and are as follows:

Ian Chambers from FamilySearch.com will share his learnings from his involvement in FamilySearch's use of Artificial Intelligence and the development of the 'Get Involved' volunteer experience and mobile application.

Max Petts from Imaging Australia & New Zealand will share his passion for innovation and preserving history through cutting-edge digitisation.

Jason Reeve and Jody Taylor from Ancestry.com will share insights into identifying collections to digitise, developing partnerships with National and State-level archives, and digitising associated collections for publication on Ancestry.com.

Cara Downes of the National Archives of Australia, an archivist of some 20 years, will impart her passion for making the archival collection available and discoverable by the public.

Alex Daw and Charlotte Sale of Queensland Family History Society will share their personal and professional family history journeys. Alex loves helping others discover their roots while Charlotte, a seasoned genealogist with more than three decades' experience and training, has a talent for solving complex family puzzles.

Rosemary Koppitke of Gould Genealogy & History will share learnings gained from tracing her family history since 1985.

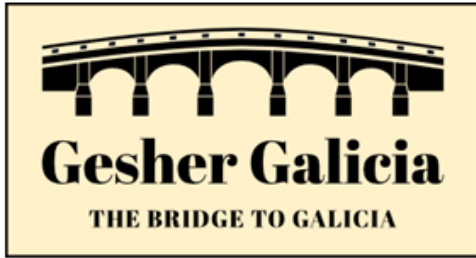
Conference speakers

Supporting our featured and sponsor speakers will be 36 conference speakers including three who will travel to Brisbane from the Netherlands, Ireland and England to present. They include professional and amateur genealogists, family historians, story tellers with a focus on special interest areas, librarians, cultural heritage presenters, founders and caretakers of history societies and groups, researchers, authors, academics, archivists and a town planner. Topics covered will address general, personal, academic and specialist areas of family history and genealogy and appeal to a range of attendees at all points in their family history journey.

View the program to find out when to hear the conference speakers, view the topic synopsis and speaker profile under the Speakers tab. If you plan to print the program it is recommended that you use the Chrome Browser

Accommodation update

With Connections 2025 now less than six months away and accommodation demand high, we have expanded accommodation options—offering special rates for bookings within a specific time period [For full details on where to stay, visit our accommodation page.](#) David Barnes, Conference Convenor, gsgconferenceconvenor@gsg.org.au



Gesher Galicia and JRI-Poland announce 128 vital record registers for Galician towns

Gesher Galicia and JRI-Poland are pleased to announce that 128 vital record registers for Galician towns now in Ukraine have been transferred from the Warszawa Urząd stanu cywilnego (USC), the civil records office in Warsaw, to the AGAD Archive.

These registers are now being processed by the AGAD Archive. As soon as these registers are catalogued and digitized, they will be available for indexing and extraction of data.

The 75 towns on the Warsaw USC specification list are as follows:

Bohorodczany, Bolechów, Bołszowce, Borszczów, Borysław, Bóbrka, Brody, Brzeżany, Buczacz, Budzanów, Bukaczowce, Bursztyn, Czortków, Dobromil, Drohobycz, Gliniany, Golegóry, Gródek Jagielloński, Gwoździec, Horodenka, Jagielnica, Janów Lwowski (Ivano-Frankove), Janów Trembowelski (Dolyna), Jaryczów Nowy, Jaworów, Jezierna, Kamionka Strumiłowa, Kołomyja, Komarno, Kozłów, Kozowa, Krakowiec, Lwów, Mielnica, Mikołajów, Mikulińce, Monasterzyska, Mosty Wielkie, Mościska, Nadwórna, Narajów, Nawaria, Obertyn, Olesko, Podkamień, Podwołoczyska, Pomorzany, Probużna, Przemyślany, Rohatyn, Rozdół, Rudki, Sambor, Sasów, Sądowa Wisznia, Skala, Skole, Sokal, Sołotwina, Stanisławów, Stary Sambor, Stojanów, Strusów, Stryj, Strzeliska Nowe, Szczercz, Śniatyn, Świrz, Tarnopol, Tartaków, Trembowla, Załóżce, Żółkiew, Żydaczów

The type of records included are births, marriages, marriage banns (announcements) and deaths. These records cover years up to 1922 for births, 1942 for marriages/deaths, and 1939 for marriage banns. This list has not been verified in detail by the AGAD Archive & the information shared is preliminary and subject to change.

Once Gesher Galicia and JRI-Poland have the verified list of registers and the number of records in each, we will communicate that information and ask you to support the extraction projects. Any questions should be directed to Mark Jacobson, Gesher Galicia Research Coordinator, mark@geshergalicia.org or Mark Halpern, JRI-Poland, Eastern Galicia Coordinator, mark@halpern.com

2025 IAJGS Conference-please diarise the following date

Join the International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies (IAJGS) and the [Northeast Indiana Jewish Genealogy Society](#) August 10th -14th, 2025 in Fort Wayne, Indiana, for an exceptional and unique Conference experience!

The conference Theme, "And We Settled Here... The Jewish Journey," will be reflected in the program. The Call for Papers will not be open for another few weeks but meanwhile, here are the themes to give prospective speakers ideas for their IAJGS 2025 Conference presentations. For details about the selected themes, download the full list [here](#).

- Journeys to the Midwest and Beyond
- Wide World of Experience
- Citizenship
- Cultural Heritage
- Methodology and Archives
- Tools and Technology
- Starters

The 2025 International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies **Film Festival** will feature over thirty rare and historically significant Jewish-themed films, shorts, and television programs spanning the very first films of the early 20th century to the modern era. Fiction, documentary, and experimental selections represent the breadth and diversity of the Jewish experience cutting across major themes of immigration, the Holocaust, and North American westward expansion. A highlight of the festival will feature a screening of the 4K restoration of Joan Micklin Silver's 1975 [Hester Street](#), celebrating the 50th anniversary of this landmark in feminist and American independent filmmaking. You can watch a [trailer](#) for the movie [here](#). The Festival is being curated by [Steve Carr](#), Director of the Institute for Holocaust and Genocide Studies at Purdue University Fort Wayne.

We also plan to highlight the renowned [Lincoln Collection](#) at the Allen County Public Library with experts and special programming.

Want more information? There are several options to ask questions and to find out more.

- [Register here](#) for a **Virtual Information Session on Sunday, February 2, 2025 at 2:00 p.m. Eastern time.**
- View a [video](#) of our 2025 IAJGS Conference Information Session (31:23)
- Check out the [IAJGS 2025 Conference Discussion Facebook Group](#)
- [Join our mailing list](#) to receive more information.
- Contact info@iajgs2025.org with questions

For questions about this 2025 Conference website, contact webmaster@iajgs2025.org.



Dunera: Stories of Internment

A free exhibition at the State Library of NSW is on **until the May 2025**. Please check their website (see below) for their opening hours.

The State Library of NSW is staging the world's largest exhibition dedicated to a forgotten chapter in Australia's history, with 200 extraordinary artworks, sketchbooks and diaries from inside Australian internment camps now on show for the first time. The State Library has spent years collecting artwork and other material related to what is commonly referred to as the '*Dunera*', named for the ship that brought more than 2500 boys and men to Australian shores during the Second World War. These men who had fled Nazi persecution to Britain were suddenly classified as enemy aliens, and sent to camps in Hay, Orange and Tatura. Go to the [SLNSW website](#) for more information.

FamilySearch: Discover RootsTech 2025: First 4 Keynote Speakers Announced

RootsTech by FamilySearch has announced 4 of its keynote speakers for the world's largest family discovery celebration taking place on March the 6th–8th, 2025. Author Ndaba Mandela (grandson of Nelson Mandela), prominent artist Dana Tanamachi, and Olympic and Paralympic Gold-medallists Tara Davis-Woodhall and Hunter Woodhall, are the first keynote speakers to be announced. They will share their unique and inspiring personal, family, and historical experiences with the global RootsTech 2025 audience. Register to attend the 3-day event online or in person at RootsTech.org.

In One Voice Festival: March 16th, 2025

The Australian Jewish Genealogical Society (VIC) will be taking part in the 'In One Voice Festival', the largest Jewish communal event in the Southern Hemisphere. Further details will be provided early in the new year.

Upcoming Events, 2025

Please note our change of venue for some talks which will be at the Lamm library. Check the website www.ljla.org.au for details, as our presentations will be in conjunction with the Lamm Library.

Tuesday February 11th, 2025, 6.30 p.m, Lamm Library

Leon Mann and Danny Mann-Segal will speak about the long voyage of discovering how their relatives Moritz and Henny, were saved during the Holocaust and meeting the descendants who saved them.

Sunday March 23rd, 2025, @ 2.30-4.00 p.m., Glen Eira Town Hall

Come and meet other AJGS-VIC members and the committee. Bring a copy of your family tree or family memorabilia to share. This event will be free for members and children under 16.

Tuesday May 20th, 2025, 6.30 p.m, Lamm Library

David Marlow will speak on 'Uncovering Their Names and Stories: 300+ Years of a German-Jewish Family 1697-2024'

Update on Past Events

Sunday, August 25th 2024, 2.30-4.30 p.m, Glen Eira Town Hall

AJGS held an afternoon to help members with genealogical research, offering suggestions in overcoming 'brick walls,' that as researchers, we often come upon.

September 8th, Zoom event, 7.30 p.m. AEST

David Mendoza, a genealogist living in London & president of the Sephardic Genealogical Society spoke via Zoom from London on how to research Sephardi ancestors. David's talk is now available to hear under 'Events' > 'Past Presentations' on our website, <http://www.ajgs-vic.org.au/>

October 27th @ 2.30-4.30 p.m, Glen Eira Town Hall - AJGS' annual AGM

The society's annual AGM was held on October the 27th and all committee positions were vacated. As there were no other nominations, the following individuals were elected to the following positions:

- President: Rodney Eisfelder
- Vice President: Bernie Kuran
- Secretary: Terry Ashton
- Treasurer: Rene Eisner
- 2025 Committee members are: Allan Jankie, Liz James, Heshy Adelist, Aaron Blicblau, Helen Gardner, Viv Bayer, Max Wald. Ian Samuels did not stand for re-election to the 2024-2025 committee, so a vacancy exists.

A vote of thanks and acknowledgement letter will be sent to Ian for his work and years of service. He has been on our committee since 2009 and we thank him for his considerable contribution to AJGS-VIC over the past 15 years.

If any member would like to join our committee, please contact AJGS-VIC at ajgsvictoria@gmail.com

After the AGM, the Lionel Sharpe Memorial Presentation was given by Erica Cervini, who discussed the research that went into her latest book, "Yizkor for Rose: A Life Lost and Found: a memorial to a working-class Australian-Jewish woman." A vote of thanks was then given by Liz James on behalf of AJGS (VIC). Erica's talk is now available to hear under 'Events' > 'Past Presentations' on our website, <http://www.ajgs-vic.org.au/>

November 24th @ 2.30-4.30 p.m, Glen Eira Town Hall

Terry Ashton spoke about her recent trip to Poland, in search of her Polish ancestors. Using a PPP, Terry recounted the organisation that went into preparing for the trip. Slides illustrated past family sites, including visits to the former home of her maternal grandfather, Maurice Praszkiel in Kalisz; former family bookshops in Kalisz and Lodz and locating the headstones of great, great grandparents, Chaskiel David and Henda Praszkiel. Other communities visited included, Strykow, Blaszkki, Lomza, Chelmno, Zdunska Wola and Krakow.



Headstone of Terry's great, great grandmother, Henda Praszkiel in the Jewish cemetery at Zdunska Wola, Poland.

Sunday, December 8th, 2024, 2.30- 4.30 p.m, Glen Eira Town Hall

About 20 attendees gathered to hear Bubbles Segall give a very interesting talk on how to establish and organise a free family website using Tribal Pages (<https://www.tribalpages.com/>). Bubbles' talk is now available to hear under 'Events' > 'Past Presentations' on our website, <http://www.ajgs-vic.org.au/>



Resources and Links: To help with your genealogical research, here are some genealogical sites, relevant to those with **German ancestry**.

“Compact Memory”: German Jewish Newspapers and Periodicals

<https://sammlungen.ub.uni-frankfurt.de/>

1939 Census

<https://www.mappingthelives.org/>

Ancestry – Berlin Births

<https://www.ancestry.com.au/search/collections/5753/>

Ancestry – Berlin Deaths

<https://www.ancestry.com.au/search/collections/2958/>

Ancestry – Berlin Marriages

<https://www.ancestry.com.au/search/collections/2957/>

Aufbau Indexing Project

<http://calzareth.com/aufau/index.html/>

Aufbau Newspaper

<http://archive.org/details/aufbau/>

Berlin Adress books 1799-1970

<https://digital.zlb.de/viewer/cms/141/>

Berlin Birth, Death & Marriage Indexes

<http://www.content.landesarchiv-berlin.de/labsa/show/index.php/>

Central Archives for the History of the Jewish People: Germany

<http://cahjp.nli.org.il/content/germany/>

Danzig Address Books

http://genwiki.genealogy.net/Kategorie:Adressbuch_fc3BCr_Danzig/

DanzigSIG

<https://www.jewishgen.org/danzig/>

Family Databank of Jews from the Germany Empire

https://www.online-ofb.de/juden_nw/

FamilySearch Catalogue

<https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/>

Finding Places. The German Ortsbuch by Michael Rademacher

<https://web.archive.org/web/20180509191952/http://www.verwaltungsgeschichte.de/>

Gemeindeblatt der Jüdischen Gemeinde zu Berlin

<https://archive.org/details/gemeindeblattderjued/>

Genealogy of Jewish Families in North Hesse

<https://jinh.lima-city.de/index-gene.htm/>

German Gedenkbuch

<http://www.bundesarchiv.de/gedenkbuch/>

GerSIG Jewish Gen Special interest group Germany

<https://www.jewishgen.org/GerSIG/>

Hamburg Births, Deaths and Marriages

<https://www.hamburg.de/bkm/benutzung/4330728/benutzung-von-personenstandsunterlagen/>

IAJGS Cemetery Project

<https://iajgscemetery.org/germany/>

Jewish Address book for Berlin (1929-1932)

<https://digital.zlb.de/viewer/cms/142/>

Jewish communities & cemeteries in southern Germany & Switzerland

<http://www.alemannia-judaica.de/>

Jewish Fallen Soldiers in WW1

http://www.denkmalprojekt.org/verlustlisten/rjf_wk1.htm/

JewishGen All Germany Database

<https://www.jewishgen.org/databases/Germany/>

Name Adoption Lists: (See also JewishGen All Germany Database)

<https://www.a-h-b.de/de/projekte/familienforschung/name-adoption-lists/>

Name Adoptions from Posen – alphabetical

<https://archive.org/stream/jacobjacobsoncolb8f32#page/n72/mode/1up/>

Name Adoptions from Posen 1835

<https://archive.org/stream/jacobjacobsoncolb8f32#page/n5/mode/1up/>

Steinheim Institute epigraphic database of Cemetery inscriptions

<http://www.steinheim-institut.de/cgi-bin/epigraphic/>

The Book of Jewish Citizens of Berlin

<https://books.google.com.au/books?id=wQNJDbrCn4gC/>

World War 1 Casualties

<http://des.genealogy.net/eingabeverlustlisten/search/index/>

Over the summer break, please visit our website at <https://ajgs-vic.org.au/> where past presentations will help with your research.

And A Final Note

- ❖ Chanukah will be here very soon, so on behalf of the AJGS (VIC) committee, we wish you and your families, a joyful time over Chanukah, sharing games with dreidels and eating the occasional donut!
- ❖ We wish committee members Allan Jankie and Liz James a swift return to full health.

Stay in touch with us via any of the following:

Email: ajgsvictoria@gmail.com

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

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

Ms Terry Ashton

Honorary Secretary

Australian Jewish Genealogical Society (VIC)