

AUSTRALIAN JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.
Member of the JCA Family of Communal Organisations



NEWSLETTER

Address: 146 Darlinghurst Road,
Darlinghurst NSW 2010

Telephone: (02) 9380-5145

Issue No 109. May 2017.

ISSN-0816-714-1

Website: www.ajhs.com.au

Email address: admin@ajhs.com.au



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VALETE

Recently, two members who gave many years of service to the Society passed away and we offer our condolences to their families. **Joachim Schneeweis** supported the Society for over 50 years and served as a Committee Member for 25 years between 1961 and 1985. **Helen Rasko** was also a member for many years and served on the Committee for 15 years between 1998 and 2013.

JULIA MOSES (1822-1904)

Julia Moses arrived in Sydney with her parents (Abraham and Leah) on the *Palambam* in 1822. She married Elias Moses on 15 April 1840 and they had twelve children. She died on 27 May 1904 and is buried at Rookwood Cemetery.



Karen Mueller recently came to the Society office to research her great great grandmother Julia Moses and in appreciation of our assistance forwarded a photo of Julia's portrait which is hanging in her home.

ALAN DAVID MITCHELL (1891-1915)

‘Among the first to heed the clarion call...’

The following article written by James Rodgers, Life Member of the Sydney University Cricket Club and Alumni Ambassador for St Ignatius College, Riverview comes to the Society via Ian Bersten.

News of Private Alan David Mitchell’s death reached Australia, reported in the *Sydney Morning Herald* of 11 May 1915 and in the *Sydney Mail* of 19 May 1915 and noted in the Middle Harbour DCC’s 1914-15 Annual Report “...died fighting for his country...he took a very active part in the management of the Club’s affairs.” He had been wounded on the morning of the first landing at Anzac Cove, and was transferred on 30 April to hospital at Heliopolis where on 5 May he died of wounds suffered when he was shot in the foot by a Turkish sniper. He was one of 75 members of the Middle Harbour DCC to enlist, the first from the Manly district to be killed in World War I, one of 15 Sydney University Cricket Club players to lose his life in World War I, one of 647 old boys of The King’s School to enlist and one of the 101 who never returned. “Among the first to heed the clarion call to patriotism and to count it a worthy thing to do to lay down their life for their country were the men of The Kings School,” writes one of the School’s historians.

So, Mitchell was a cricketer with two Clubs, a cricket administrator, Secretary of the King’s Old Boys’ Union; a Law student at Sydney University and a clerk in his father’s legal practice at Manly - persistent, energetic, active and loyal to his duties. But his burial site gives a further clue to his identity.

He was laid to rest in the Old Cairo Jewish Cemetery. One version of his military enlistment form states that his religion was ‘Hebrew’ another that he was ‘Jew’. Mitchell does not seem to be a Jewish name? Another clue, however, his mother’s maiden name was Elizabeth Myers (1861-1920). His paternal grandfather, Michael David (known as David) Mitchell (1825-1892) ran a successful wine, spirits and grocery store eventually known as ‘D Mitchell and Co’ in Sydney and lived in Pymont Bridge Rd Glebe in a house named ‘Jarocin’ after his birthplace in Prussia (now part of Poland). Mitchell, however, was not his original name. He was one of many Jews who emigrated in the late 1840s, firstly to Hamburg, then to London, then in 1851 to Australia. His surname had been Minchel and in London had ‘anglicised’ to ‘Mitchell’. In Australia, he kept his new surname and his faith, marrying Julia Davis (1835-1906) in the Macquarie St Synagogue. His son, Mark (1861-1922), then married Elizabeth Myers at the Great Synagogue in 1887. David Mitchell was well established in Sydney society, even serving for a time as an alderman on the Glebe Council from 1884 to 1887.

Alan David Mitchell with his brothers, Clive Harry (1895-1985) and Karl Arthur (1897-1951), were three of a small number of Jewish boys at The King’s School from the time when Alan entered in 1903 until 1915 when Karl finished. He fitted in well when he arrived from Manly Grammar into Broughton House, student no. 2564. He was a school Monitor, served eight years in the cadets, played in the 1st XI from 1909 to 1911, and captained the 2nd XV from half back (he was about average height for the time at 5’ 5” tall). The King’s School Magazine of June 1915, reporting his death, comments: “Few of our younger old boys were better known or better liked than Mitchell.” He went up to Sydney University to study Arts and he was resident at the Presbyterian St Andrew’s College. It was while he was a student there, one of only 1500 students at the University, that he played his only season, 1911-12, without distinction, with Sydney University CC. In four innings in 2nd Grade he totalled 45

runs and his seven 3rd Grade appearances realised only another 99 runs. His return to Middle Harbour DCC for 1912-13 gives another clue to his life.

At St Andrew's College, he was almost an exact contemporary of H V Evatt, a brilliant student who was later the youngest ever appointed as a Justice of the High Court of Australia, President of the United Nations, leader of the Federal Labor Party and then Chief Justice of the NSW Supreme Court. Mitchell and Evatt had certain characteristics in common. Both were indefatigable organisers, enthusiastic participants, actively involved but moderate sportsmen. As cricketers, both were persistent but their scores lend themselves to little interpretation other than that they were the product of limited ability. They turned up consistently; they were turned out neatly; they practised diligently. They are both minor footnotes in the long history of the SUCC, remembered for what they did away from the cricket fields. In his two 1st Grade innings, Evatt made 19 runs. Mitchell batted four times in 1st Grade for Middle Harbour for 43 runs. In March 1910, the cricket correspondent in the King's School Magazine had commented with some asperity:

“A mixture of very good off-side strokes and very bad leg glances. Would do very well if he would give up the latter. Fair field but weak catch and poor thrower”. Mick Bardsley, a participant in Evatt's only 1st Grade game, was succinct in his memory of Evatt 60 years later: “He was a good organiser.”

The marked difference between Evatt and Mitchell was their academic record at University. Evatt had a series of outstanding results culminating in his University Medal in Arts and then a second Medal when he finished first in his Bachelor of Laws class. On the other hand, in Arts I in 1912, Mitchell passed only Maths I and appears to have discontinued his studies in 1913, thus losing his eligibility to play for SUCC. That's why he re-joined the Middle Harbour Club in 1912-13 while working as a clerk in his father's law firm. Had he put too much time into his other activities? Did he lose interest in his studies? Was he just not cut out for academic life?

His 2nd Grade performances with Middle Harbour in 1912-13 (158 runs from 12 innings) hardly justified a call-up to 1st Grade but in October, he made 9 and an impressive 34 on debut against Waverley, but in November was bowled for 0 against Cumberland at the SCG before returning to the 2nd Grade side that enjoyed only one solitary victory that season.

War clouds were gathering when Mitchell made his third and final appearance in 1st Grade in October 1914. By this stage, “cricket had become no more than a frivolous diversion” since Great Britain's declaration of war on 4 August. But this game against Glebe at Manly Oval was redolent with incidents that would appear significant only later. In Middle Harbour's innings on the second day, 31 October, Mitchell was bowled first ball by A B (Tibby) Cotter, the fearsome former Australian fast bowler. Mitchell enlisted in the AIF on 20 November. Cotter enlisted on 4 April the following year. A month after that, Mitchell was dead. Three years to the day that Cotter ended Mitchell's 1st Grade career, 31 October 1917, Cotter himself was killed at Beersheba, the only Australian Test cricketer killed in World War I.

Mitchell's death inspired an almost immediate and practical response from his father. Mark Mitchell was intimately involved in life at Manly; a local solicitor, trustee of the Manly Literary Institute, Director of the Manly Golf Club, resident since 1900 at the stately mansion ‘Leitelinna’ built in 1898 on the corner of James St and Fairlight St. He was a man of considerable means and in 1916 he donated 1000 pounds for the purpose of erecting an Anzac Memorial in Manly. On 14 October 1916, the Governor-General of Australia, Sir

Ronald Munro Ferguson, unveiled the polished granite column, the first Cenotaph in Australia that still stands on The Corso. It was dedicated to the ‘memory of those gallant men of Manly who so gloriously gave their lives for the sake of Humanity and Justice. This memorial was erected by the family of Alan David Mitchell the first soldier of Manly to fall’.

At The King’s School, his memory has also been preserved. Mark Mitchell donated one of the bells in the school chapel. The Old Boys’ Union founded a prize in his memory which to this day is given to the ‘best all-round boy in the school’.



Private A.D. Mitchell

Alan Mitchell is commemorated on the Great Synagogue’s Roll of Honour. His brother, Clive, is also listed. Clive served as a Sapper in Signals after he was finally accepted, having been twice rejected, possibly because of his height as he was only 5’2”. Severe bouts of malaria preceded his return to Australia in March 1919. Clive was also a cricketer with Middle Harbour in 1914-15, a solicitor who lived long, dying at 90.

The 102nd anniversary of his Alan Mitchell’s death was Friday, 5 May 2017.

PS The first Australian Opera by Isaac Nathan was *Don John of Austria*

HELPING RESEARCHERS WITH FAMILY TREES

Joe Kensell

Requests from descendants for assistance in obtaining information on an ancestor or ancestors these days mainly arrive by email, including to The Great Synagogue, and are passed on to me (as I am also the Synagogue’s volunteer archivist). In most cases enquirers are descended from someone who has married out and they are interested to learn about their Jewish heritage. A recent instance of this came from a family now resident in Newcastle.

The forebear in question Joseph Pereira was a Sephardic Jewish convict sentenced to life deportation to the Sydney penal colony arriving in 1827. He was married with a young child, and his wife was left destitute. The family had worked backwards in their research as the convict had been granted a Ticket of Leave and worked on a Balmain Wharf and as a boatman. He was drowned when his boat overturned, and this was reported in the Sydney Morning Herald of the day (my personal belief is that like most of the convicts and seafarers of that time he wouldn’t be able to swim).

From this report and other research they had managed to find out that the convict had remarried in 1837 in the St Phillip Church of England and had left a family of his widow and 6 children. Funnily enough he was given a Jewish funeral being buried in the Jewish Section of the Devonshire Street Cemetery. The family believed “We understand that it was common practice for re-marriages to take place after a certain number of years had elapsed and where there was no chance of returning to England” and were looking for a record at the Great Synagogue of his obtaining a divorce from his first wife! (Guides at The Great Synagogue often explain a rabbi from The London Beth Din had come out around 1830-31 in order to have a convict give his wife back in London a Gett). The family had made two trips to London and also to Portugal trying to find out more information.

I simply advised them that most of the information that they were seeking was available in Rabbi John Levi’s book “These Are the Names”, including the fact that the London Beth Din had arranged a small handout to sustain the convict’s first wife and child. I was also able to advise them that a number of other descendants of the convict and his Australian wife had been in contact with the Society in the 1980s seeking assistance to find the convict’s grave.

The couple were amazed at the information available in an Australian book which they had no idea existed. Nor were they aware of the Society as a contact point.

THE VORTREKKER’S LIST. Peter Philippsohn (President)

Whilst the Society focuses on the past we have a responsibility to look to the future in as much as we should consider what information people will be looking for in 50-100 years time. We should be assembling records now on the makeup and origins of today’s Jewish community. In recent years we have tended to focus on the immigration driven by the Holocaust. However, since then there has also been emigration from Hungary after 1956, from the former Soviet Union since the 1980s and today a rapidly growing number of Israelis. However, one of the most dramatic immigrations has been that from South Africa.

The 1961 Census showed raw census data of 146 South African born Jews. By 2001 this had escalated 6,200 and by 2011 to 7,531. Adjusting for “underenumeration” this approximates to 9,000 new residents primarily from Johannesburg and Cape Town or about 20% of the present community.

A conversation with one of the *vortrekkers* to Australia in the early 1960’s led to his offering the list he had diligently maintained of South Africans arrivals in Sydney to the Society. The list contained details of approximately 1,100 households. This list could form the basis for establishing the names and subsequently the stories of an estimated 3,000+ households. The list itself is very fractured. There are names, but not always of partners. There are some professions, some first employers and some first addresses, but only the suburb. This list would make a great starting point for documenting the South African immigration story.

In view of the above, here is the dilemma. Should we publish the list or not. The Society has a commitment to accuracy and published information needs to meet certain standards. So, what should the Society do with the list?

Let's assess the following four factors.

1. ***The list is incomplete.*** We can advertise the existence of the list and ask people to nominate whether they would like to be included. That has a significant cost. We can contact people who are South African or who know lots of South Africans. But then, do we accept as accurate the names of friends and acquaintances?
2. ***The list is not from an official source.*** In practical terms, anyone can go to the National Archive and search immigration records or find passenger manifests of ships from South Africa. But these don't specify religion. Can we assume that all Cohens and Goldbergs are Jewish? You could go to Google/Facebook and search for "South African" + "Australian" + "Jew". But is that 100% reliable?
3. ***The list has names of the living.*** Usually, there is no problem in publishing the names of those no longer living, but we don't know without asking whether the names listed are still with us or not. How do we find them without publishing a list or checking death notices one by one?
4. ***The list may impinge on people's privacy.*** It's unlikely that the compiler of the list has a signed release from every name mentioned authorising the future publication of their names. Will people complain?

So, the challenge is. If we decide we should record this data for posterity, how do we obtain people's consent to publish without first publishing the Vortrekker list?

I welcome any suggestions or comments. You can contact me at peter@sandpit.com.au

REMEMBERING JASCHA'S STORY

Thanks to Denise Lvoff for forwarding a copy of the following article written by Kimberly O'Sullivan, Local Studies Librarian at Cessnock City Library. It appeared in *The Cessnock Advertiser* on Wednesday 22 March 2017.

In the early years of the 20th century a Russian Jewish immigrant, Jascha Gopinko, arrived in Kurri Kurri. He was seeking work, but despite being fluent in French, Russian and German his English was poor. He eventually found work in the coal mines but struggled financially, describing himself as a "terrible miner".

Jascha may not have been a good miner, but he was an excellent musician and a gifted music teacher. His beautiful violin playing so inspired his fellow miners that when he created the Kurri Kurri Mandolin Orchestra it was composed mainly of his colliery work mates.

Jascha also went on to found the symphony orchestras in Kurri Kurri and Cessnock and became a much-loved member of the community, instructing hundreds of local children in the violin, cello and mandolin.

Despite being embraced by the local community he was viewed with suspicion by the Investigation Branch of the Attorney-General's Department, who for years refused his request for Australian citizenship. Records from the National Archives of Australia document the government's suspicions that Jascha was a communist sympathizer and noted that his presence on the coalfields was 'most worrying'. They questioned whether he was here solely to stir up trouble and politicize the miners. Jascha and his wife Rebecca moved to Sydney in 1936 and he became as a full-time teacher, but he didn't ever forget the

Hunter. For decades he returned to Maitland and Cessnock on the weekends, teaching music to his enthusiastic local students. While many of his students went on to great acclaim, including Cessnock Hall of Fame member Ernest Llewellyn, Jascha himself is barely remembered. As he got older he became increasingly deaf, but continued to teach until almost the end of his life. He died in 1980.



ABUNDANCE OF TALENT: The Kurri Kurri District Orchestra of 1919. Orchestra founder Jascha Gopinko is in the back row, fourth from left. **Picture: Coalfields Heritage Group.**

Jascha Gopinko's story has inspired an exhibition "Remembering Jascha" which will be held in the Cessnock Library foyer from March 20 to 28. It has been timed to coincide with Harmony Day, a celebration of our cultural diversity and a day of respect for everyone who calls Australia home.

Jascha Gopinko and Rebecca Snideman were married at the Central Synagogue in Woollahra, Sydney on 16 June 1929. Jascha died on 4 July 1980 and Rebecca died on 20 October 2004 and they are buried at Rookwood Jewish Cemetery in Sydney.

To read more about the difficulties experienced by Russian Jewish immigrants arriving in Australia in the early part of the 20th century see *"The Main Thing is to Shut Them Out" - The Deployment of Law and the Arrival of Russians in Australia 1913-1925: An Histoire* by Marett Leiboff, AJHS Journal Vol XXI Part 2.

THE SOCIETY'S JOURNALS – COMPLETE YOUR COLLECTION.

The Society continues to reorganise the archives. There are still surplus copies of most Journals and these are being offered to Members at no cost. Copies can be collected from the office on Tuesdays or Thursdays. We will also mail them out if the postage is paid. Please ring on (02) 9518-7596 (Tuesdays or Thursdays) or email to admin@ajhs.com.au.

Publications can be collected from the Society's office on Tuesdays and Thursdays. If you would like them mailed contact the office at admin@ajhs.com.au or the Treasurer at rhist@bigpond.net.au for postal charges.

ELIAS MOSES (1812-1874)

Elias Moses was the son of Moses and Elisabeth Moses of London, five of whose children came to Australia. Elias's siblings were Samuel, David, Catherine, who married Moses Benjamin, Rachel, who married Samuel Benjamin and Miriam, who married Jacob Frankel.

The log book, or shipboard diary kept by Elias Moses, and now held by a private collector in Sydney, begins with his embarkation on 1 May 1833 and concludes when the barque *Ann* arrived in Port Jackson. Moses finished his diary with the words "They say experience makes fools wise. Strive for the next voyage. I hope I shall be able to keep a better log. Arrived Sydney (Thank God) November 13, 1833."

Elias Moses founded the firm of Benjamin and Moses in the year he arrived in Australia. He also became the owner of Sydney House in George Street, Sydney, and the London Stores, George Street, Windsor. Elias married Julia Moses on 15 April 1840. She was the daughter of Abraham Moses of Monaro and who had travelled to New South Wales on the *Palambam*. Elias and Julia had a daughter, Rachel, in Goulburn in 1841. Deborah (1843 [born in London], Elisabeth Julia born 3 January 1845 at Goulburn, Fanny born 1850, Moses born 1852, Joseph born in Sydney in 1854, Samuel Benjamin Moses born 23 December 1855 and died in 1931, Catherine born Melbourne in 1856, Sophia 1859-1946, Amelia born 1861, Louisa 1863 and Florence in 1866.

The above is an extract from *These Are The Names, 2nd Edition*, John Levi, pp 594-5. For a more complete description of Elias Moses' diary, refer to *The Log of Elias Moses*, Cris George, AJHS Journal, Vol XX Pt 4, P 501.

Recently, the Society was fortunate enough to acquire some personal effects of Elias, and also his brother in law Samuel Benjamin, through the generosity of his great granddaughter, Edwina Wolfe, a granddaughter of Amelia. Included in the items is a leather satchel with the initials "SBM" on the outside. Inside the saddle bag was the membership certificate of Elias Moses to the United Grand Lodge of Freemasons as well as associated Lodge papers and his lodge apron.

The Society also received the High Holy Days *Machzorim* (Prayer Books) belonging to Elias Moses. These were printed in London by "H Abrahams, 91 Leman Street, Goodman's Fields" and published 5594 (1834). On the inside front cover of each book is an embossed leather nameplate reading "Elias Moses, Sydney". Pasted on to the fly leaf of the New Year book is the Special Prayer for the Royal Family on the occasion of the birth of a son to Queen Victoria, the future King Edward VII, which is shown on the next page.

A FORM OF
SONG & THANKSGIVING

ON THE
Accouchment of Her Majesty the Queen,

AND
HAPPY
OF
PRINCE



THE
BIRTH
A
ROYAL,

Delivered at all the Synagogues
THROUGHOUT GREAT BRITAIN,

On Sabbath the 29th Day of Heshvan, A. M. 5602.
NOVEMBER 14th, 1841.

O LORD GOD! King of kings, and Lord of lords! whose dominions is everlasting, in thy great goodness dost thou bestow thy kindness on all the inhabitants of the universe: through thee, kings reign, and princes administer justice; on them hast thou placed the kingly diadem: with song of thanksgiving do we approach thee, and with praise and blessing for thy favor shewn to us, that thou hast vouchsafed to visit our Sovereign Lady **QUEEN VICTORIA**, with mercy and salvation. Thou art He who givest to the weary strength, and to the feeble power. In her travail thy help was nigh; thou didst release her in safety from her suffering, and has granted to her a Son: O Lord, bestow on him length of days, in health and prosperity, and may his name be praised and extolled, and as thou pourest water upon the thirsty soil, and floods upon the dry grounds, so, abundantly grant to him the spirit of wisdom and understanding; the spirit of counsel and might: thou, O LORD, be with him for ever, Amen.

MOST HIGH KING! whose eyes are open upon all created beings, as thou hast in thy goodness, given the kingly crown to our Gracious **QUEEN VICTORIA**, so continue to bestow on her thy favor to strengthen her, and may her throne be established in mercy and in kindness: may her days be prolonged, and her reign continued in happiness: may the sceptre not depart from her posterity, and shield her and her offspring, and be to them a guard from all evil: may peace reign in their habitations, and tranquility in their dwellings, and may the beauty of the Lord be on them, Amen.

Let thy blessings attend His Royal Highness **PRINCE ALBERT**, the illustrious Consort of our Most Gracious **QUEEN**: may he live to behold his descendants to the third and fourth generation, flourishing and prosperous in the fulness of thy bounty,

A M E N.

L. HARTWIG, Printer, 1, Saint Mary Axe.

PROPOSED EAST PERTH JEWISH MEMORIAL CEMETERY REDEDICATION

Michelle Urban

The Jewish Historical & Genealogical Society of Western Australia is planning to hold a rededication ceremony, to be performed by Rabbi Dovid Freilich of the Perth Hebrew Congregation, and would like to invite descendants and relatives of the deceased to attend.



The names inscribed on the updated memorial burial plaque (pictured above) and the existing headstones located at the Jewish Memorial Cemetery, East Perth are listed below, followed by a description of one woman's quest which lead to the updating of the Memorial Plaque.

BURIALS 1867 – 1899

David JOSEPH, 1 May 1867, 38 years

Abraham MICHAEL, 30 July 1879, 77 years

John Jacob HARRIS, 29 July 1890, 34 years

Charles COHEN, 27 February 1892, 1 year 9 months (parents Morris & Sarah COHEN)

Moritz WERTHEIMER, 14 July 1895, 45 years

Gertrude LAZARUS, 24 January 1896, 41 years

* Herman SALOMONS, 27 October 1896, 59 years

* Charles Gustus Israel COHEN, 8 October 1896, 3 years 4 months (parents Samuel Hyman & Jessie COHEN)

* Abraham KOTT, 5 October 1896, 29 years

* Louis Hyam SEELIGSON, 1 September 1896, 5 months (son of Louis & Lily SEELIGSON)

Woolf ZUKERMAN, 14 October 1896, 11 months (parents Nathan & Jane ZUKERMAN)

Gabriel COHEN, 12 January 1897, 73 years

Arthur LEVY, 24 February 1897, 34 years

Dorothy KOTT, 23 March 1897, 7 months (parents Edward & Amelia KOTT)

Miriam ZUKERMAN, 13 May 1897, 3 weeks (parents Nathan & Jane ZUKERMAN)

Louis ISRAEL, 16 June 1897, 40 years

Stillborn baby, 1897 (parents Nahum & Gertrude FERSTAT)
 Rose SHEINBERG, 07 November 1897, 5 years (parents Aron & Annie SHEINBERG)
 * Bernard Phillip KENSLER, 20 April 1897, 13 months (parents Solomon & Rachel KENSLER)
 Eva FINGLESTEIN, 07 December 1897, 14 months (parents Morris & Elizabeth FINGLESTEIN)
 Evelyn Muriel FEIN, 04 April 1898, 9 weeks (parents Barnett & Ethel Maud Jessie FEIN)
 Louis DE STERKE, 2 May 1898, 56 years
 * Barnett FEIN, 14 June 1898, 34 years
 Moses SCHWARTZ, 20 August 1898, 14 months (parents Manakim & Rachel Leah SCHWARTZ)
 * Lipman KAUFMAN, 13 November 1898, 39 years
 * Eric Abraham JOSEPH, 28 November 1898, 1 month (parents Horace Belmore & Florence Beena JOSEPH)
 Unnamed female, 19 December 1898, 1 day (parents Emmanuel & Leah MENDELSSOHN)
 Lina MANDELSTAM, 12 April 1899, 58 years
 Solomon ZUCKERMAN, 20 May 1899, 5 weeks (parents Nathan & Jane ZUKERMAN)
 Joseph LEVY, 10 September 1899, 84 years
 Louis GERWIN, 21 September 1899, 40 years
 Unnamed male, 23 September 1899, 2 days (parents Marcus & Sarah LOBASCHER)
 * Original headstones restored and incorporated in the Memorial.

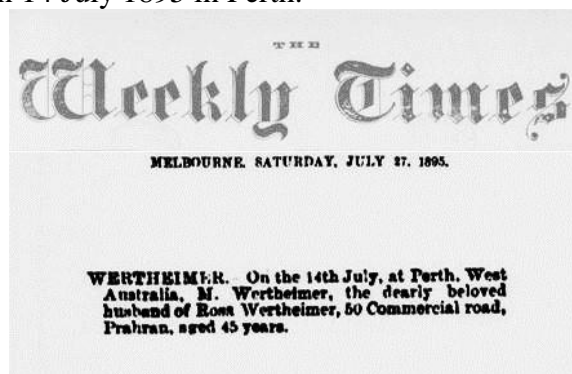
If you are a descendant, or know someone who may be related to the deceased, please contact Michelle Urban on 0418 910 258 or email jhgs@iinet.net.au

THE SEARCH FOR MORITZ WERTHEIMER

Rose Raymen

In June 2016, the Jewish Historical and Genealogical Society of WA received an enquiry from Karen Wertheimer, requesting the Society's help in locating her paternal great-grandfather, Moritz Wertheimer's death certificate. Karen mentioned that her sister Judy Earnshaw had done a substantial amount of research on the family but was unable to locate the document.

Moritz Wertheimer was born in 1850 in Pezinok, Bratislava, in the former Kingdom of Hungary (now Slovakia), to Bernhard Wertheimer and Therese Weinberger. Judy and Karen had located a death notice placed by Moritz's widow Rosa, in Melbourne's *The Weekly Times*, stating he died on 14 July 1895 in Perth.



They also discovered their great-grandfather was memorialized at the East Perth Jewish cemetery. However, the inscription on the plaque only read, “WERTHEIMER, July 1895.” Judy and Karen hoped this would eventually be rectified, but in order to do that they required Moritz’s death certificate.

I checked the WA BDM Registry Index for Moritz’s death entry to no avail. I conducted a search on Ancestry’s Australia Death Index 1787-1985, for the name but was unable to locate an entry for a Moritz Wertheimer. I then tried various combinations of the name “Wertheimer” without success so entered the given name “Moritz” minus the last name. As a last resort, I typed in the initial “M” but included the year of birth and death. One name in particular jumped out at me and that was “M Horthemier, born 1850, age 45, died 1895 in Western Australia.”

I contacted Karen and told her I was confident that the death entry for “M Horthemier” was that of her great-grandfather. An elated Karen then ordered the death certificate which read, “M Horthemier, Place of Death: Hay Street, Perth, Date of Death: 14 July 1895, Occupation: Florist, Age: 45 years.” Karen and Judy had known for some time that Moritz Wertheimer was a florist, during the time he lived in Melbourne.

Michelle Urban, Vice-President of the Society, contacted The National Trust of WA, who maintain the East Perth Jewish cemetery. In November 2016, Michelle, Karen, her sister Vicki Sheppard, brother-in-law John Earnshaw and I met with Sarah Murphy from the Trust at the cemetery to discuss the possibility of replacing the existing burial plaque.

I proofread the burial list sent by Sarah and noticed the existing 19th century plaque appeared to be incomplete and contained a number of discrepancies. I researched all the names of the deceased and updated the list. On 11 January 2017, Michelle and I received a message from the Trust advising us that the signage company had been contacted and the replacement plaque was expected to be completed in the next few weeks.

The Jewish Historical and Genealogical Society of Western Australia dedicates this story to the late Judy Earnshaw who never stopped searching.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

The following publications, published by the Society are available for purchase.

- *Hans Kimmel Competition Essays 1979-2007.*
Edited by Russell Stern and Dr Sophie Gelski.....\$20.00.
- *The Road to the Menzies Enquiry – Suspected War Criminals in Australia,*
By Leslie Caplan.....\$25.00.
- *To My Brave Wife – Dunera Notes from an ‘enemy alien’,* by Dr. Kurt Epstein
Edited by Yoram Epstein, Konrad Kwiet, Helen Bersten, Lee Kersten.... \$25.00
- *Jews of the Outback – The centenary of the Broken Hill Synagogue 1910-2010*
Edited by Suzanne Rutland, Leon Mann and Margaret Price..... \$20.00.

Philip Moses. Newsletter Editor.

Contributions to the Newsletter are most welcome. They can be mailed to AJHS Newsletter Editor, 146 Darlinghurst Road, Darlinghurst, NSW 2010, or emailed to admin@ajhs.com.au.