



B-J News 17:

The newsletter of the British Jewry mailing list.

Saturday 12th December 2009/ 25 Kislev 5770

Welcome to the seventeenth edition of B-J News

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B-J News 16 was brought to you by:
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FROM THE EDITOR:

A recent research experience has left me absolutely amazed. I am helping a friend trace his family and I can't believe what I've accomplished in just a few weeks by combining various research tools and resources. Ten years ago, this would *not* have been possible. I could not have been so successful without using the large number of websites I shall mention here. Invaluable too was the help of friends in obtaining certificates and letting me pick their brains, as were online databases donated by people eager to share that wealth. I urge everyone who has created a database to share it by putting it on the web; you get back what you give, and more. Finally, common sense and intuition played a huge role as well.

Among other things, my friend wanted to learn the maiden name of his paternal grandmother, Rachel SACKS. Family stories suggested that two of his father's siblings were born in England, so I started there. Given the GRO index and taking into account foreign accents, I knew I had to be creative with the spelling. I knew the approximate timeframe but not exactly when they left England for Pittsburgh and then Chicago. By using Ancestry BMD, UK BMD and Free Rootsweb BMD, and searching the 1901 and 1911 English censuses, I narrowed it down to one possibility for the girl. Sherry came up with a possibility for the boy using a very creative search technique I hadn't thought about. She substituted letters that might be mistaken for an 'S' and found a Davis JECK (his name was actually David SACK/SACKS). She ordered the two certificates for me with the proviso that the father's name was Abraham - I was certain of that - and BINGO! Both were the right ones, and gave the mother's maiden name as GOLDBERG. My friend vaguely remembered hearing that someone in his family was named GOLDBERG; also, that one of them was a rabbi. Now I needed to verify this information and look further.

A trip to Salt Lake City for a meeting offered a great opportunity to use the fantastic Family History Library resources. I had prepared by creating a spreadsheet with information obtained using Ancestry, Illinois death index and then the FHL online catalog to find the film numbers. The catalog also provides a list of all films available in your particular area/state/country. It saved me a huge amount of time. You can do the same in most cities by borrowing the film on a short term loan. Armed with my spreadsheet, I was

able to find Rachel SACKS's death certificate, and where she's buried, along with a lot of documents for other branches of my friend's family. When I got home, I called the cemetery and they emailed me the location of the grave and directions to it. Someone is going there to take a photo of the stone for further verification.

From the death certificate, I learned Rachel's parents' names - Israel and Rochel GOLDBERG - and that she was born in Shat, Russia; but the accuracy of that depends upon the informant, so it still needs proof. I remembered seeing an Israel Goldberg enumerated in the 1900 census with other relatives, so I then started tracking him. I believe I've now found the burials for both Israel and Rochel at the Jewishgen JOWBR burial project and, through the Random Acts of Genealogical Kindness (RAOGK) website, have found a volunteer to take photos of their stones. These volunteers are wonderful selfless people, some of whom take photos of entire cemeteries and put them on Jewishgen and findagrave. I've also found a 1908 ship's manifest listing passengers I think are Israel and Rochel. He must have returned to Shat to bring his wife and grandson back to the U.S.

I decided to see if I could find more GOLDBERG relatives from Shat in Pittsburgh so I started searching the naturalizations at Ancestry and Footnote. Jewishgen is more user-friendly and you get whole documents in one file, rather than each page separately as at Footnote. I found three men from Shat/Shatz/Szats, one of whom was a rabbi! I tracked these three men using Steve Morse's site and Ancestry, until I found arrival manifests for all three. I found them in censuses, WWI and WWII registrations, and elsewhere. I then tracked them in Footnote's directories, beginning in 1910. Interestingly, the rabbi was variously listed as a butcher and caterer as well as a rabbi: a Jack of all trades! I believe all three to be brothers and - from information on the documents - siblings of Rachel GOLDBERG SACKS; but that I still have to verify.

Next, I went back to JOWBR and found burials for the three brothers, and have asked the RAOGK volunteer to take photos of their graves when he takes Israel and Rochel GOLDBERG's for me at the same cemetery. I am hoping these will take me back yet another paternal generation. The next step

will be to order death certificates for the rabbi, and Israel and Rochel GOLDBERG. Who knows what I'll learn.

Needless to say, Google is also a great tool, providing a huge amount of information and connecting you to fabulous sites; it sends you to images as well, and maps. Through Google, I was connected to sites where I learned where to order certificates for Allegheny and Washington counties in PA.

Finally, the human element is *so* important. The one-on-one interaction, whether by email or other means, is essential. The people who transcribe the stones or take the photos can also point the way to other resources. I found a wonderful site for Jewish newspapers from one of the RAOGK volunteers. Carnegie Mellon has scanned all the Pittsburgh newspapers from their inception and put them online free. I found many clues there including a wonderful obituary that must have been written by a genealogist! I did some research in Salt Lake for Sherry and a RAOGK volunteer who was looking for her grandparents. This is what genealogists do for each other.

Ten years ago, it would have taken a very long time to uncover all that I did in just a few short weeks. The Internet has become an invaluable tool - but it must be used in conjunction with the "older" hands-on research methods, as well as networking with others. This is a very exciting time to be a genealogist!

Jackye Sullins
Carlsbad, CA

NEXT ISSUE - DOES B-J NEWS HAVE A FUTURE?

Normally this is where we announce the date of publication of the next issue of B-J News, with the submission deadline and a contact address. However, this edition may well be the last edition!

From its inception the idea behind B-J News was to give you a voice, beyond the list. You could submit longer pieces, pieces about things considered off-topic from the remit of the list, or to highlight “for profit” items such as books, CDs, even researchers that Rootsweb’s Acceptable Usage policy prevents you from mentioning on the list. In the past we have mentioned books and useful websites, including those you pay for. In this edition we have another resource for purchase, as well as John’s piece on Avital. Neither of these could be posted on the list.

However, even with the support of those few list members who do offer submissions - which we greatly appreciate and value - every edition becomes a struggle, behind the scenes, to have enough material to make a newsletter that is more than just a few pages long. Much of the time, I have written articles myself. Some of the time we have nagged, bullied and cajoled members into submitting pieces. Whenever anyone mentions anything on list we look to see if there is any mileage in it for B-J News. At times it does get onerous!

We have tried to be as flexible as we can be on submissions: no length limit, no topic limit. The only thing we ask is that submissions are in *.doc format rather than email. Yet, still, this seems not enough. Even the longer-than-usual interval since the last edition, due to the unavoidable postponement of this edition from its summer date, has not increased the number of items beyond the minimum we would normally hope for. For whatever reason, we are just not getting enough submissions to make B-J News viable. It could be that people see no need for such a publication; that in the past five and a half years things have changed and people no longer want to read a newsletter.

With the advent of our new website we could mutate into some sort of news web page where items that fail to meet list specifications could be posted. Basically, the future of B-J News is in your hands. Do you still want it?



Jackye, Mike and I (plus the team of proof readers) are happy to continue, but ONLY IF we have your assurance that you are going to give it your active support; in other words, you are going to submit items for it!

In order for there to be a B-J News 18 we need at least six firm promises of articles or other “items”. We need those promises by 15 January 2010. Your promise needs to be made by email - just a note saying you will submit something, and the topic - to british-jewry-admin@rootsweb.com

Subject to the above, the next issue, B-J News 18, will be available to download from the website on or before Sunday 28 February 2010. The submission deadline is therefore Sunday 7 February 2010.

GRAVE MATTERS (OR GRAVES MATTER) - PART 2

In *B-J News* Issue 15, published 19 December 2008, I reported on my visit to the graves of some of my ancestors on the opposite side of the world to where I live. This was only made possible because these graves also matter to people like Gaby Laws and Angela Shire, creators of the GenPals website www.GenPals.com *. This wonderful resource features photos of many tombstones, details of grave locations, proven family connections and, in some cases, translations of the Hebrew inscriptions.

At the time of my visit from Australia last year, I managed to amass quite a bit of valuable genealogical data, including locating all but one of the family graves I’d found through the GenPals website. The grave in question was that of my 5 x great-grandfather, Nathan Raphael (1726-1808). As he was buried at Brady Street Jewish Cemetery in Whitechapel, the absence of any row or plot numbers at this particular cemetery had proved too great an obstacle. Any chance of fulfilling my most fervent hope and a planned lead article for the next edition of my family newsletter thus evaporated.

On my return home, Gaby Laws sought to assuage my disappointment by sending me a lovely high quality photograph of Nathan’s tombstone. Gaby also provided what information she could remember about the general location of Nathan’s grave, just in case I could manage another visit some time in the future.

Whilst I still nurtured the hope that I might someday succeed in realising my cherished goal, it seemed a very distant possibility. So, putting my disappointment aside, I chose a new lead article for the family newsletter - about another family history find - and resumed my usual routine. Those words - usual routine - for a family historian, I've discovered, not only mean occasional disappointments and frustrations, but also lots of wonderful surprises and adventures - almost always from places you least expect.

At the very time a completely unexpected opportunity arose for a return trip to England, out of the blue came an email from a distant cousin who'd gotten my contact details from another distant cousin with whom I'd engaged in some family history discussion several months before. When my new correspondent (a retired Swedish surgeon who lives half of each year in Western Australia and the other half in Sweden) learned that I was soon going to England, he put me in touch with a number of other distant cousins living in and near London.

I was now not only determined to find Nathan's elusive grave, but also to share the pilgrimage with my new found English cousins. This would certainly erase last year's disappointment in spectacular style; and provide a pretty good lead article for the next family newsletter.

A plethora of excited emails and phone calls later, the morning of Sunday, 19th April 2009, was set for a reunion of some distant cousins at the grave of their common ancestor - just over 200 years after his death! I suddenly became very nervous, what if I still couldn't find the grave? I anxiously re-checked Gaby's instructions and downloaded pictures of the tombstones she said were positioned either side of Nathan's. Both these tombstones were quite distinctive, with relatively clear inscriptions. I felt reassured; surely I had enough information to ensure success this time round. At the very least, there were several other graves of family members to visit I told myself while trying not to hyper-ventilate.

The appointed day finally arrived, the sky was blue and the sun was shining as we - my husband Kim and I - set off for Whitechapel. As arranged with the ever obliging Jess from the United Synagogue Burial Society, Phil Frewer was waiting to open the cemetery gates for us. Also as arranged, there to greet us



Babs, John, Julia & Nathan's grave 19 Apr 2009

with eager, smiling faces were two distant cousins and one cousin-in-law, Julia, John and Mandy.

Not quite the full contingent of new-found English cousins, but nonetheless, we made a very merry little group as we optimistically set off on our common quest.

Carefully dodging the treacherous foxholes, we were still searching for Nathan's grave when several other B-J list members and their associates arrived. The ancient tombstones of the long since deceased now became the focus of several little groups, all happily - and hopefully - engaged in similar quests.

With time ticking away, our group decided it might be quicker to split up and search separately. It was not long thereafter that my eagle-eyed husband triumphantly announced "I've found it!" As one, my newly-met cousins and I rushed to the scene. The tombstones on either side, we all agreed, clearly matched those identified by Gaby Laws as Nathan's "neighbours". However, the inscription on the centre tombstone was quite faded and difficult to read, especially the English text in the lower section. Following some careful study at very close quarters, the name RAPHAEL slowly and miraculously materialised.

At last! Almost breathless with excitement, I reached into my bag to retrieve the polished stones I'd brought from Australia. The stones came from the Orange region of NSW. This is where Nathan's grandson, my 3 x great-grandfather and patriarch of the Australian branch of the family, is buried. We three descendants then each respectfully placed a stone on the headstone of

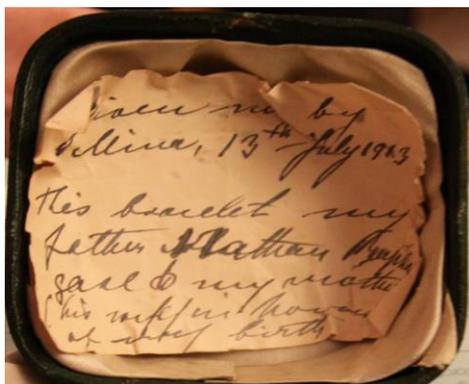
our ancestor and happily posed for some family snaps.

As it happened, Gaby Laws was one of the B-J list members at the cemetery that day. This was a double blessing, allowing me to extend my heartfelt thanks in person.

Feeling quite elated at having accomplished our mission, we contentedly spent the rest of the day as grateful recipients of Julia's generous hospitality. In between the plentiful refreshments, the socialising and the exchange of family stories, Julia produced some unique family heirlooms - an incredible collection of old family newsletters and photos. Here was a treasure trove of family history information, all now at my eager fingertips. What bliss!

That wasn't the end of the adventure, or the surprises. Before we left England, we also managed to catch up with several more English cousins who hadn't been able to make it to the cemetery. Once again we were treated to warm hospitality, lively conversation and a sharing of valuable family information - this time including an heirloom bracelet that had been presented to a female ancestor on the 1844 birth of one of Nathan's great-granddaughters.

The bejewelled gold bracelet was housed in its original, fairly nondescript and slightly shabby box. The bracelet wasn't the only treasure housed in the box. Stuffed into the lid was a note detailing the bracelet's history - hand written by the great-granddaughter in question, Emma Jane Raphael:



*Given me by Mina¹, 13th July 1913
This bracelet my father Nathan Raphael²
gave to my mother (his wife) in honour of my
birth.*



Raphael heirloom bracelet

Another major focus of excited attention that night included the photos of Nathan's tombstone, with all and sundry hoping for a future opportunity to see it in person.

Who could possibly have imagined that a visit to the cemetery could elicit such unbounded joy - and lead to the unearthing of some family treasures into the bargain; or that a single tombstone could be the vehicle for reuniting distant relatives from opposite sides of the world? Hmmmm, maybe next time a like reunion might include descendants from Sweden, perhaps even America and South Africa.

¹ *Mina was Emma Jane's maternal aunt, Wilhelmina Raphael.*

² *Nathan's namesake grandson (22 Apr 1807- 4 Mar 1848)*

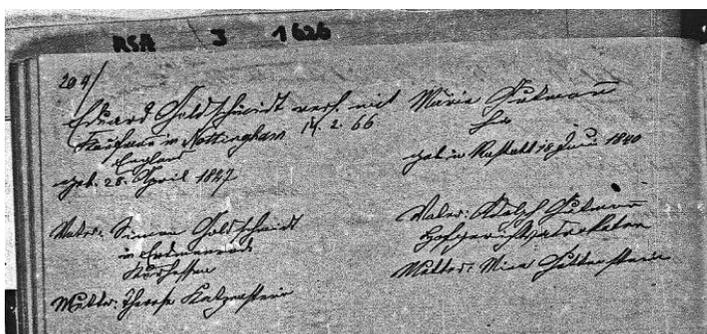
Babs O'Connor
Penrith, NSW, Australia

*Please note GenPals is now Cemetery Scribes (see "New to the Net" on page 13).

FINDING A STRAY...

It is sometimes in the most unlikely places that we find things. In early May, I was on the Stuttgart Archives website (<https://www2.landesarchiv-bw.de>) looking at their records for Karlsruhe. Sometimes the page numbers of the record books don't match with the film page numbers so I was scrolling through to find the page I wanted when in the midst of the handwritten Old German the words "Nottingham England" leapt out at me. I was intrigued.

From what I could make out, not reading German - old or new - Edward GOLDSCHMIDT married Maria GUTMAN in Nottingham on 14.2.66 (1866). He was born 28 April 1827 and she on 18 June 1840.



I couldn't read any more, although I know the column on the left records Edward's father's name and occupation, and his mother's name, while the column on the right is the

same information for Maria's parents. I saved this image, and posted to the list to say I had found it and if it was of interest I'd email it to people.

With the subsequent help of Dorothy Alexander (wife of list member David), I discovered that Maria was born in Raastadt, the daughter of a government official, and that Edward's father was called Simon. I looked on Free BMD and JCR-UK for the marriage of Edward and Maria, but couldn't find it.

However, I was able to find them in some of the UK censuses. So, this is the collection of records for the GOLDSCHMIDT family that I found in a few hours from my own office:

1861 Census: Circus, Nottingham: RG9/2468/f.25/page 6
Edward GOLDSCHMIDT, boarder, unmarried, 33, wholesale stationer employing 60 hands, Hessey Germany, NBS (boarding with Louis SIMON from Prussia)

1871 Census: The Park, Nottingham: RG10/3489/f.60/page 38
Edward GOLDSCHMIDT, head, married, 43, silk merchant, Electoral Hessian (Nat Btsh Subject)
Marie GOLDSCHMIDT, wife, married, 30, Grand Duchy of Baden (Nat Btsh Subject)
Theresa C GOLDSCHMIDT, daughter, 4, Nottingham
Julia A GOLDSCHMIDT, daughter, 1, Nottingham

1881 Census: 13 Pelham Cres., Nottingham: RG11/3367/f.64/pages 23 & 24
Edward GOLDSCHMIDT, head, married, 53, Alderman merchant, British Subject, Germany
Maria GOLDSCHMIDT, wife, married, 40, Germany
Thersa C W GOLDSCHMIDT, daughter, unmarried, 14, scholar, Nottingham
Julia A GOLDSCHMIDT, daughter, scholar, 11, Nottingham
Anna W GOLDSCHMIDT, daughter, scholar, 8, Nottingham
Alice A GOLDSCHMIDT, daughter, 3, Nottingham

1891 Census: 13 Pelham Cres., Nottingham: RG12/2682/f.103 /page 4 and f.104 /page 5
Edward GOLDSCHMIDT, head, married, 63, merchant & magistrate, Germany
Maria GOLDSCHMIDT, wife, married, 48, Germany
Julia Augusta GOLDSCHMIDT, daughter, single, 21, Nottingham
Anna Marguerite GOLDSCHMIDT, daughter, single, 18, Nottingham
Alice A GOLDSCHMIDT, daughter, single, 13, Nottingham

1901 Census: 13 Pelham Cres., Nottingham RG13/3165/f.158/page 35
Edward GOLDSCHMIDT, head, married, 73, silk merchant, employer, Germany Brit. Subj.
Maria GOLDSCHMIDT, wife, married, 60, Germany Brit. Subj.
Anna GOLDSCHMIDT, daughter, single, 28, Nottingham

Naturalisation Record: GOLDSCHMIDT, Edward, from Hesse Cassel
HO1/91/3004 issued 12 August 1859.

Partnership agreement DD/BW/215/7 22 Feb 1899 Otto Homberger, John
Tom McCraith, Edward Goldschmidt and Frederick James Perry, all of
Nottingham, lace manufacturers, in a company to be called F J Perry and Co,
Nottingham

I failed to find death registrations for Edward and Maria, although there is a
Marie GOLDSCHMIDT, Sept 1904, age 64, Marylebone 1a 373 who could be
her.

Then I went on to try to research their children. The birth registrations were
easy enough to find:

Theresa Lily M GOLDSCHMIDT, March 1867, Nottingham 7b 272
Henry Edward GOLDSCHMIDT, Sept 1868, Nottingham 7b 238 (Death
Registered June 1869, age 0, Basford 7b 91)
Julia Augusta GOLDSCHMIDT, March 1870, Basford 7b 139
Anna Marguerite GOLDSCHMIDT, March 1873, Basford 7b 157
Alice Adolphine GOLDSCHMIDT, Sept 1877, Basford 7b 182

The marriages were pretty easy to find as well and, from there, I was able to
look at censuses and other records to gain more information on their families.

Marriage Registration: Theresa Lily M GOLDSCHMIDT to Victor Wilhelm O
HENKEL June 1890, Nottingham 7b 557

1881 Census: Anerley Park, Penge RG11/822/f.142/page 57
Victor O HENKEL, boarder, unmarried, 28, clerk to grain merchant,
Germany F (boarding with William WEBSTER, a retired publisher)

1891 Census: 1 Honor Oak Rd., Sydenham RG12/526/f.25 /page 14
Victor HENKEL, head, married, 38, corn merchant, Prussia Nat Brit Subject
Lily HENKEL, wife, married, 24, Nottingham

1901 Census: 68 Honor Oak Rd., Sydenham, RG13/560/f.59/page 7

Victor HENKEL, head, married, 48, grain merchant, employed, Germany Nat
British Subject

Lily HENKEL, wife, married, 34, Nottingham
Wilfred HENKEL, son, 9, Forest Hill London
Hilda HENKEL, daughter, 6, Forest Hill London
Vera HENKEL, daughter, 1, Forest Hill London

1911 Census: 72 Hamilton Terrace NW. (St Marylebone)
RG14 PN587 RG78 PN21 RD7 SD4 ED10 SN156

Victor HENKEL, head, 58, married, Grain merchant, worker, Germany, Nat
Brit subject 1890

Lily HENKEL, wife, 44, married, 20, 4, 4, Nottingham
Wilfred HENKEL, son, 19, single, Science student, London Forest Hill
Hilda HENKEL, daughter, 16, single, School, London Forest Hill
Vera HENKEL, daughter, 11, single, School, London Forest Hill
Noel HENKEL, son, 2, London St. John's Wood
The household also included 3 servants: a cook, a housemaid and a nurse.

Naturalisation Record: HENKEL, Victor, from Germany HO144/318/B8079
issued 16 April 1890

HENKEL births:

Wilfred Edward G HENKEL June 1891, Lewisham 1d 1208
Hilda Marie HENKEL Sept 1894, Lewisham 1d 1137
Vera Lily HENKEL June 1900, Lewisham 1d 1199
Noel Francis HENKEL Dec 1908, Marylebone 1a 530

Marriages:

Wilfred E G HENKEL to Kathleen J ROBINSON Sept 1917, Marylebone 1a
1397
Hilda M HENKEL to William L DUTHIE Mar 1922 Marylebone 1a 944
Vera L HENKEL to Frederick C ROBINSON Sept 1929, Marylebone 1a
1652
Noel F HENKEL to Hilda C KEATS June 1933, Marylebone 1a 1455

Births:

Wilfred S HENKEL (mother nee ROBINSON) June 1918 Marylebone 1a 732

John B DUTHIE (mother nee HENKEL) Sept 1925 Paddington 1a 40
 Elliot M DUTHIE (mother nee HENKEL) June 1931 Nottingham 7b 478

Marriage:

Julia Augusta GOLDSCHMIDT to either James BLAGDEN or Karl Friedrich VON BOSE Sept 1897, Nottingham 7b 587 (Neither couple could be found in 1901 and 1911 census search engines).

Marriage:

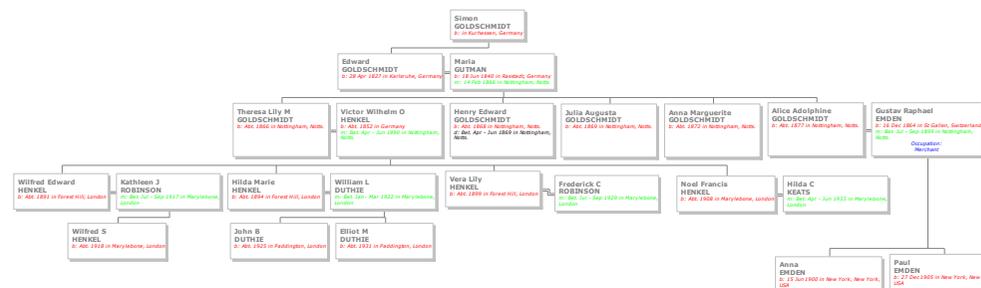
Alice Adolphina GOLDSCHMIDT to either Gustav Raphael EMDEN or Louis NEWTON Sept 1899, Nottingham 7b 655

I located Gustav EMDEN using Ancestry (www.ancestry.com), and found out a lot more. Gustav applied for three passports. The first application was in 1886, followed by a renewal application in 1899 and a further renewal in 1911. In 1911 he kindly mentions his children - whom I had already found on a 1909 passenger manifest - giving their dates and places of birth. In the 1899 application he gives his father's name and says he was a naturalised citizen, so it was easy enough to find the naturalisation reference. The family group thus far consists of:

Moritz Philip EMDEN, born Frankfurt, naturalisation application 28 June 1854: his son Gustav, born 16 Dec 1864, St Gallen, Switzerland and his two children: Anna born 15 June 1900 and Paul born 27 Dec 1905, both born in New York.

The problem I then encountered was finding Moritz and Gustav in any of the UK or USA censuses. Despite searching variants I could find no trace of any of these EMDENs. I also found nothing further on any of the families in the Jewish Chronicle archives (www.jc.com) If anyone knows what happened to this family perhaps they would write the "Next Chapter" for the next edition of B-J News (see page 3 for the deadlines for submissions).

Meanwhile the tree as it stands looks like this (zoom in to see the detail):



Sherry Landa, Central France



FROM THE LIST: DID YOU KNOW...

That it is illegal for a person to marry in a synagogue, once they have been widowed three times?

In October, Aubrey Jacobus posted to the list mentioning that he had failed to find a synagogue wedding for his grandfather's third marriage, but had found that he was married in a Register Office because the bride had been married three times before. Jewish law bars a three times widow from marrying in a synagogue. In this more lenient day and age cases can be decided individually, and divorced parties are exempt from this law - although, perhaps, they should do some soul-searching before marrying for a fourth time!

SOCIAL: A WELL DESERVED HONOUR

Glancing through the Queen's Birthday honours list in June, I was delighted to see that Lionel Sharpe, secretary of the Australian Jewish Genealogical Society (Victoria), had been honoured with an OAM (Medal of the Order of Australia) for his services to the community, particularly through social welfare and Jewish organisations.



Naomi Barnett
Melbourne, Australia



Above Left: Lionel Sharpe researching Nazi Holocaust files in Germany



Above Right: Lionel Sharpe with Australian journalist and media personality Ita Buttrose, researching her family history for "Who Do You Think You Are"

Right: Lionel Sharpe (2nd from right), in company with Israeli ambassador Yuzul Rotem (left), at the Australian Jewish Genealogical Conference.



A SEARCH FOR MY FAITH - INSPIRED

I am not exactly sure when my journey started; it was within the last ten years. Although looking back, I remember my father telling me as a teenager, that we were descended from a family from Germany who were originally Jewish, adding that there was also a link with South Africa. I took this information in my stride, only to find in my early twenties something missing. Trying to find my faith, I joined my old school's Masonic lodge, and Rotary, and went to prayer meetings that sometimes included national political party members: all to no avail. There was always a gap, something missing.

I am indebted to my wife Clare who has always asked so many questions, about everything. That is her way: a thirst for knowledge and discovery. It was she who raised the topic of ancestors with my father and, once again, we started to search. Looking back, searching and researching would not have been possible without Clare and others, for guidance, patience, skills, experience and expertise. Most of all, there was a willingness to share, compassion and sometimes a hand across oceans; no faces, just a knowledge that this was the path to follow now. With their permission, some of those helpers are mentioned by name in this article..

In any journey there are usually significant emotional events. In mine, probably one of the most significant was in August 2008 in London. Through suggestions from BJGenners, we met Louis and spent the day walking the streets where my ancestors lived, on arrival from Prussia/Poland and Bremen. We saw the lace houses, the signs above the portals, the soup kitchen and then the synagogue. I had no sleep that night! Even now, recalling that experience leaves me with goose bumps. The next day we met Roy Ellis, who has done so much work for me, searching and finding relatives in the UK. The DORN family came from Devon to Jersey and then to New Zealand and Australia; the MEYERS from Bremen to London, and then, by courtesy of the Old Bailey, to Hobart Town in Tasmania. Frederick MEYERS's wife Judith was sent to the Women's Factory at Parramatta in NSW. The Governor gave his permission for her to finish her sentence with her three children, in Hobart Town - where she drowned soon after her arrival.

A catalyst, a change agent and a critical genesis of my existence was probably Solomon LEWIS, sometimes known as Lewis SOLOMON. He was born circa 1800 in Prussia. With the help of Roy, *et al* and BJGenners, we have found all Solomon's family in London. Three of his sons - including Gabriel LEWIS - and a daughter (Matilda LEWIS) left for New Zealand, arriving in Auckland to start a new life.

The LEWIS family in New Zealand became a beacon for relatives seeking a better life away from the UK. Many of my breakthroughs have been made with the help of AJGenners and BJGenners. Somewhere in this process of discovery I was offered guidance by Naomi Ogin. Then I found Mary Watson in New Zealand, a direct descendant of Gabriel LEWIS, my Matilda's brother. Discovery proceeded rapidly with more guidance and research. With Roy Ellis and his work, we discovered the link between another sister of Matilda, Leah LEWIS and the BERLYN family. Lately, we found Caroline Berlyn and Andrew Blitz; related to the Leah LEWIS and Abraham BERLYN marriage. Their family trees are a testimony to hard work, careful research and good management of data.

Now the chemistry begins. Henry Solomon MEYERS, my great-grandfather from Hobart meets Matilda LEWIS in Auckland. They marry in a Jewish ceremony, produce seven children, including my grandfather Ernest Edward MEYERS), in Auckland, then come to Sydney and have two more children. Ernest meets Elizabeth DORN and they produce two sons Norman and Edward Lewis MEYERS, my father. Why am I not Jewish? What happened and why? I realise that I may never know. My father's mother fed us unleavened bread at Passover, when we were very young - my only Jewish memory.

In 2006, Clare and I visited New Zealand. During those three weeks on the North Island, we managed to find the grave of Henry Solomon Meyers. Through a wonderful man, we had previously identified HSM's death and his burial in the Jewish section of the old Auckland cemetery. We were advised that the grave site was badly run down. The Hebrew characters were in some cases almost unreadable. We arranged for the original funeral directors to restore the whole grave and head stone.



Henry Solomon MEYERS's grave

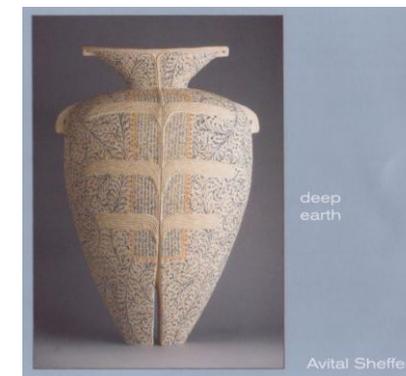
When we visited the cemetery, we experienced another significant emotional event: what an incredible feeling both Clare and I had. Henry was a real person after all. This led to so many more questions. However, we have now given back something: I have this special link to my great grandfather.

There have been several breakthroughs in my own family tree findings, and I am sure that anyone reading this has researched perhaps fifty years ahead - and then found that the original link was wrong. In all this time, no one has ever rejected my search or requests. Guidance and understanding have been unlimited as I searched for my Jewish roots.

Some years ago, I met a man who is a leading member of the Jewish and Australian business scene. I mentioned my search and he remarked. "I know that your ancestors were Jewish". I was amazed.

So I return to my mentors, Mary, Naomi and Roy: always urging me to check, review and research another lead; such diligence and perseverance. The rewards continue to flow. Even as I write, emails arrive from all three, urging me forward with advice and encouragement.

Yet another significant emotional event happened in 2009, when we attended the new Glasshouse Gallery in Port Macquarie, NSW, to witness the opening of an exhibition called "Deep Earth". The sculptor and artist Avital Sheffer was born in Israel, and migrated to Australia about eighteen years ago. With her words that morning, she held the audience in the palm of her hand. She told us she re-visited Israel



Avital's *Omphalus IV*

in 1996 and went to see the Dead Sea Scrolls. This experience changed her, and vessels such as the one shown here have evolved. Clare and I stood there in the gallery, transfixed by Avital's account of her journey. We talked to her after the opening, and immediately knew we needed to bring one of the vessels into our home. My mother was a gifted sculptor and painter, hence our understanding and our ability to reach out to Avital's message and her vessels.

So, after probably more than ten years, I now know more about from whence I came and why I felt incomplete in terms of my faith. Clare is my soul mate and together we share every day, knowing that we can experience something new if we continue to search and be available to listen and learn.

To those I have mentioned - and some I may have overlooked - I thank you from my heart. My thanks also go to Sherry, whose idea this article was when I asked for her permission to list a few details about Avital on BJGen and its effect on me.

John Meyers
Port Macquarie NSW

The image of Omphalus IV is included by kind permission of Avital Sheffer.

WHEN IS A JEW NOT A JEW?

I spent my secondary school years at a Catholic Grammar school. In the sixth form we had a trip to "the smoke" (London) to see a play entitled *Once a Catholic*. The message is that you can stop going to church, obeying the religious laws etcetera, but if you are born and brought up Catholic something in your psyche remains Catholic all your life.

Over the years, as I have made my personal journey of discovery, I have often been reminded of this assertion. I have often asked myself what causes a man, woman or child to turn their back on their heritage and upbringing to embrace something else. I have also asked myself how well does it "take"? Are they like ex-smokers, so passionate about their conversion that they bang on and on - far more than those of us who have never smoked - about the

virtues of a non-smoking lifestyle? Do they hide behind the rituals whilst secretly questioning the new life they have chosen, or comparing it with the old one they have discarded? I have never come to any conclusions because I imagine that for every individual there is a different answer. Religion is highly personal, and no-one can judge another person's spirituality or relationship with God.

Since setting up British-Jewry, every so often we receive an email from someone who didn't know their family was Jewish, or who has found their family named on our website and therefore assumed they were Jewish. Often, in the latter case, we disprove a Jewish connection. The family just happens to have got caught up in a trawl of one kind of record or another. They just happen to have been born in the Pale of Settlement, or lodged with Jews, or married a Jew or something else that made them seem "likely to be Jewish". Usually, it is quite easy to prove that they were not. Two years ago I had a lengthy correspondence with a chap researching for *Clocks* magazine about the horologist Matthew SPIEGELHALTER, who appeared in a list extracted from the 1881 census that we had on the website. After a lot of research we proved the chap wasn't Jewish.

Earlier this year I started trying to unravel three families by the name of REISS. I was, and still am, convinced that they are, or were, somehow related.

Family 1:

1. Salomon REISS (dates and places unknown) m. Nanette MOCH (b. 1766 d. 5 Sep. 1831)
2. Lazare REISS (b. 7 Mar 1802) m. Dina BLOCH (b. 25 Oct 1805)
3. Leopold REISS (b. 19 April 1833 Bischeim, Alsace d. 6 Feb 1882) m. Jeanne Edmonise BLUM (b. 8 Mar 1844)
4. Albert REISS (b. 9 Dec 1862 Paris, France d. 13 Oct 1919 Bayonne, France) m. Helena KAHN (b. 14 June 1869, Chatou, France d. 20 Jan 1944, Paris France, daughter of Julius KAHN - see below)

Family 2:

1. Jacob REISS
2. Marks REISS (b. 1844 Germany d. 1891)
3. Harris Herman REISS (b. 1881 Leeds); Morris REISS (b. 1882 Leeds); Lewis REISS (b. 1884 Leeds); Israel REISS (b. 1886 Leeds); Benjamin REISS (b. 1886 Leeds) and Fanny REISS (b. 1890 Leeds)

Family 3:

1. Israel Elias REISS (still alive in Mar 1857, merchant, resident at the time in Frankfurt-am-Main) m. Bertha HALLE (still alive and living in Frankfurt in 1857)
2. Leopold REISS (see below) (b. 11 Sept 1803, Frankfurt-am-Main d. 6 Mar 1857, Hyeres, France, normally resident in Manchester) m. Caroline GERSHON (b. 30 Oct 1813 Frankfurt-am-Main d. 10 Jan 1893, Henley-on-Thames, Oxon.
3. Helena REISS (b. 9 June 1833, Manchester) m. Michael SICHEL (b. 1819 Frankfurt-am-Main and included in REISS Bros. list below); Emily Evelyn REISS (b. 22 Oct 1834, Manchester); James Edward REISS (b. 4 April 1836, Manchester, assumed to be the one listed under REISS Bros.); Frances Matilda REISS (b. 31 Aug 1837 Manchester d. 1901 Henley-on-Thames, Oxon.) m. George Emil Adolphus REISS (listed below under REISS Bros, also see below); George Paul REISS (b. 8 Jan 1842, Manchester, died 1842 Salford); Frederick Augustus REISS (b. 4 Nov 1843, Salford); Henry Leopold REISS (b. 12 Aug 1845, Salford); Charles Arthur REISS (b. 23 Sept 1851, Salford, died 21 April 1907, Kensington)

The interesting fact for me was that the children (3) in this family married in churches. It led me to look at why and I found that they had all been baptised into the Unitarian church in Manchester in infancy. In fact, Leopold and Caroline had also been baptised there in April 1849. A note in the baptismal register margin says they were both born of Jewish parentage and one assumes they married in a synagogue prior to starting their family. Additionally, I found that Fanny had married into another REISS family (see Family 4 below).

Family 4:

1. Jacques REISS (unknown)
2. George Emil Adolphus REISS (b. 1835 Germany d. 1913 Henley - on - Thames, Oxon.) m. Frances Matilda REISS (see above) 8 Nov 1859, St Mary's, Eccles
3. Annie REISS (b. 1862 London); Henry REISS (b. 1864 Manchester); Pauline Margaret REISS (b. 1867, Salford); James Arthur REISS (b. Dec 1870 Salford); Godfrey Emil REISS (b. 1872 Salford) and Ferdinand Edward REISS (b. 1875 Salford).

Additionally there was a company trading in the 1800s called Reiss Brothers, and from a couple of entries in the London Gazette I found the following as shareholders.

REISS Bros. (company):

Enoch REISS (resident Frankfurt-am-Main in Dec 1861 and retired Nov 1864)

Leopold REISS (recently deceased in Dec 1861 - see above, Family 3)

Isaac REISS (resident Frankfurt-am-Main in Dec 1861 and retired Nov 1864)

James REISS (resident in Manchester in Dec 1861 and naturalised in 1845)

Julius Adolphus REISS (naturalised in June 1857 and again in Dec 1871, from Frankfurt)

George Emil Adolphus REISS (see above, Family 4; in-law to Family 3)

James Edward REISS (see above, Family 3)

Freidrich REISS (possibly the Frederick REISS Naturalised in 1857 from Frankfurt)

Michael SICHEL

Emil MAINTZ

Julius KAHN (see above: in-law to Family 1)

So, the question remained as to how the people listed in REISS brothers were related. Clearly, they were not all brothers. Additionally, why had Leopold changed his religion, and had the other branches also changed or had they remained Jewish? Is the fact that Julius KAHN (father-in-law to Albert REISS son of Leopold) appears in the same list of shareholders of Reiss Brothers an indication that Family 1 and Family 3 are related, and therefore by marriage Family 1 are also related to family 4? I wondered who James REISS (resident in Manchester in 1861) was. What relation was he to Leopold? Was it purely coincidence that they were both in Manchester? Were they actually the Reiss brothers of the company name?

Enter *Family 5:*

1. James REISS (b. 1812 Frankfurt-am-Main, china merchant) m. Julie GETZ (b. 1823 Frankfurt-am-Main d. 1888 Kensington). In 1851 a Therese CAHEN is with them; is she actually a KAHN?
2. Julia Henrietta REISS (b. 1863 Manchester) m. Henry Lorenzo JEPHSON on 29 May 1884 at St Peter, Cranley Gdns, South Kensington.

As with a lot of genealogy, proof may come from the most unlikely sources. Despite constant reminders on other lists the LDS website is not normally my first port of call when looking for Jewish roots; this is often to my disadvantage. The IGI gives the following:

Children of Israel Elias REISS and Bertha HALLE (patron submission):

1. Enoch Christoph REISS (b. 1802 Frankfurt-am-Main d. 1885)
2. Isaac Anton REISS (b. 1807 Frankfurt-am-Main d. 1887)
3. Jakob Israel REISS (b. 1812 Frankfurt-am-Main d. 26 Nov 1899)

I am always wary of patron submissions because of the fact that you have no sources to verify information. Certainly the information about Israel Elias and Bertha is subject to conflict. Either there are typing errors or something is not right, and it says Israel died in 1825. Obviously, information is only as good as the source, but Leopold's death registration clearly says his father is "vivant" (living) at that time. It could be that his father had died and the informant didn't know. However, he knew so much else and, if he had died in 1825, then news would surely have reached Leopold and his family by 1857. These considerations, coupled with the insertion of the word living and the fact that after Bertha's name it says "residing" in the they form, not the she form, lead me to believe he was alive in 1857.

Having checked Ancestral files in case I could find more about the submitter, and finding nothing, I have no way to verify the above. I am happy to say that it appears that Enoch, Leopold, Isaac and James were brothers. This only really helps me establish a link between the people on the Reiss Brothers board and families 3, 4 and 5. It doesn't help to tell me how Families 1 and 2 fit in, if they do. Another check of the London Gazette revealed an 1832 notice (issue 18980 page 9, published 28 Sept 1832) that the business known as J E REISS which was carried on in Manchester was being dissolved, Bertha REISS would be retiring from it, and Enoch, Leopold and Isaac would continue with it, renaming it Reiss Bros. This seems to indicate that these three were brothers, and the IGI adds James (Jakob Israel). Presumably, at twenty, the latter was too young to be involved and joined the firm later. This announcement implies that Israel Elias was no longer on the scene - either retired or in fact, deceased, as stated on the IGI.

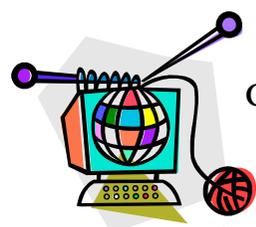
James REISS appears to have converted to Christianity too. Maybe this accounts for the change of name from Jakob Israel to James. Certainly, his daughter was married in church.

Sadly, at this point, I am stuck. I can't access Frankfurt records online, and the records for Alsace at Strasbourg are not digitised to enable a search. They

are on microfilm, but I can't make the trip and I can't find anyone who can do it for me!

If anyone finds anything relating to REISS in UK/Frankfurt/Alsace perhaps they would be kind enough to let me know.

Sherry Landa (23170 Viersat, France)



NEW TO THE 'NET (OR UPDATED)

OUR WEBSITE

www.british-jewry.org.uk has undergone some massive changes in the last few months. Sadly, our move to our new server was not without hitches, even before my illness hindered a smooth transition. The resulting domino effect caused considerable time-consuming work to return the website to order but, by the time you read this, it should be "fixed". Jackye and I both apologise for all inconvenience caused and hope that the next six months will be better than the last.

We have said we will bring you a one-stop search and we are still working on that. Meanwhile we hope to have the Leeds Database back live again, very soon, plus a couple of other databases of miscellaneous "finds". If anyone owns any material they wish to share with others please contact webmaster@british-jewry.org.uk with the details.

WELSH WILLS

The National Library of Wales is digitising its wills. Items are limited at the moment, and there are some glitches - which you can report, and get a prompt answer. I found the will of a Michael MARKS, pawnbroker of Swansea, made shortly before his death at the end of 1845 and proved in January 1846.

Unlike English wills of this period, which you have to pay to see, the images are free to view. www.llgc.org.uk

GLAMORGAN ARCHIVES MOVES

The new GLAMORGAN ARCHIVES building has been completed 8 weeks ahead of schedule. Moving the collection has begun and is expected to take at least 3 months to complete, although currently running ahead of schedule.

Search rooms in the Glamorgan Building, Cathays Park, home of the Glamorgan Record Office for the last 70 years, will finally close on Christmas Eve, 24 December 2009. GLAMORGAN ARCHIVES opens to the public on its new site in early 2010; further details will be announced and posted on the Office website, www.glamro.gov.uk as they become known.

ALL ABOUT CHESHIRE

The Cheshire Record Office has just launched a wiki: *All About Cheshire* - a place for you to share your knowledge and reminiscences of the people and places of Cheshire. For family historians, local historians or anyone interested in the county of Cheshire. <http://www.allaboutcheshire.org.uk>

CHANUKAH GIFT: UK TV PROGRAMMES

BBC and other UK TV programmes are available when you are abroad, through iplayer etc. Apparently, you just need a UK proxy server (whatever that is) and you're away. Try <http://www.ukproxyserver.co.uk/>

TWO SCRIBES

In September, Gaby Laws and Angela Shire announced that the GenPals cemetery project had moved to a new home and has a new name. The project is now called Cemetery Scribes, found at www.cemeteryscribes.com

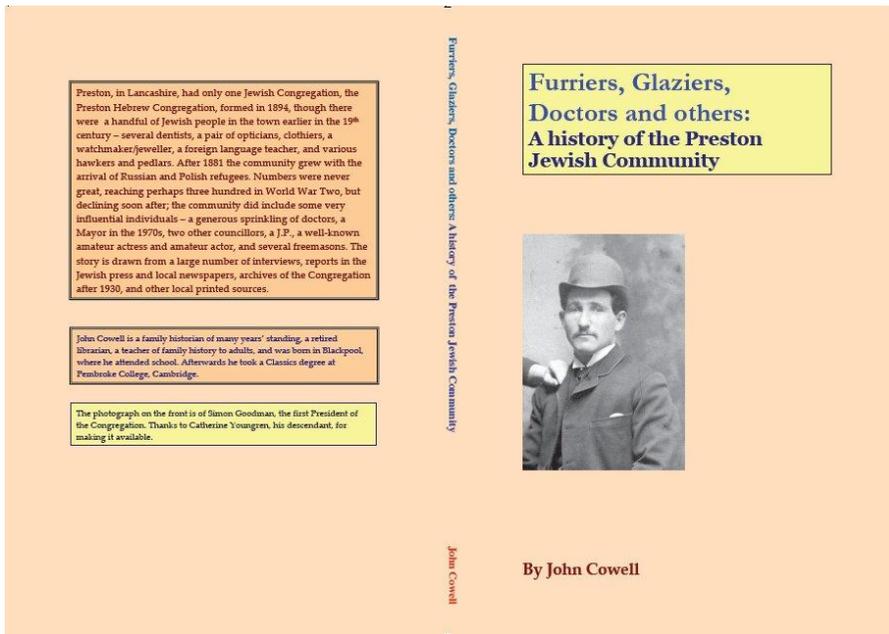
More recently they have opened a sister site: Synagogue Scribes which describes itself as "a one-stop gateway to Anglo-Jewish community records which offers a unique and fully searchable database of London Ashkenazi Synagogue and other community records". List members might like to note that all Angela's databases previously housed on British-Jewry can be found here. See www.synagoguescribes.com

BOOK: FURRIERS, GLAZIERS, DOCTORS AND OTHERS: A HISTORY OF THE PRESTON JEWISH COMMUNITY, by John Cowell, published by the author 2009.

Available in paperback at £9.99 + £1 post and packing, or as a CD, at £5.25 + £1 post and packing from the author, John Cowell, at jcowellnix@yahoo.com

The author has mined the Jewish Chronicle online archives, local and national newspapers, local directories, birth, death and marriage records, and some of the surviving archives of the Preston Hebrew Congregation, all of them after the 1930s. Many of the early Jewish residents, and regular visitors, were dentists, one of whom was in the town for over thirty years. There were also, in the 19th century, opticians, pedlars and hawkers (some of them spectacularly boastful about their wares), clothiers, and jewellers. From 1881 onwards a larger trickle of Jewish settlers arrived, many of them in the drapery and tailoring trades, but also a bicycle dealer, a glazier, and eventually, from the late 1920s, a set of doctors who made this rather an unusual small community. Further increase in numbers came in the 1930s and Second World War with the arrival of refugees from Continental Europe and from British cities, but after the War numbers declined, and with them the range of activities that could be undertaken, not to mention opportunities for work and marriage, and the availability of kosher food. The synagogue closed, and people moved away, as improved access to universities and the professions made movement in the pursuit of good jobs easy.

There is a full bibliography; appendices give a breakdown of where people came from, and where they went on to, their occupations in Preston, and the population in the 1911 census. The set of short biographies of members of the community is an outstanding feature of the book, filling out details of members of the Goodman and Goldberg families, the Lewises and Schwalbes, as well as others less well known. The author has deliberately set out to be inclusive, particularly of Jewish people who were not members of the Congregation, as well as of those who were. The book is more than 220 pages long, with illustrations and some tables.



Extracts from the book

From Chapter 1: Before the great immigration

“The first resident Jewish-born dentist in Preston appears to have been Alexander Neibaur, who was a native of Prussia, originally destined to be a Rabbi, but who converted to Christianity probably soon after he reached the age of twenty. He set up as a “Surgeon-Dentist” in Preston in August 1833, offering the usual services, including free attendance on the poor for the first hour of the morning, and selling his own tooth powder and gum tincture. He married a gentile, and converted to Mormonism in about 1837, then left for Utah in 1841, where he spent the rest of his life with the Latter Day Saints. He had a lot of competition to face, during this period, as another Jewish dentist, Grenville Jones, of Chester (later of Shrewsbury) was also a regular visitor in the mid-1830s, and there were also forays into the town by the notorious Mallans, and Monsieur Delabarre, Mr Rose (from Liverpool), Faulkner & Son (of Manchester) and Mr Leigh, from London.”

. . . *and from the biographies*

BAKER, Harris Emmanuel aka Mendel, son of H. Baker & Mrs Baker, of Grove House, St George’s Terrace, Leeds. Married Lily Jacobson, one son (Philip Norman), and for some time after the death of his father-in-law, Israel Jacobson q.v. ran the business. Probably still running Jacobsons, silk mercers, in the Miller Arcade as late as 1960. Later moved to Blackpool, and lived at 8 or 9 Seafield Rd, near Gynn Square. Died 8/7/1965, aged 65. Buried in Layton Jewish Cemetery, Blackpool, Lancs. (JC 24/8/1928, p 1; Barrett's Directory 1952; Electoral roll 1960-61; Miller Arcade; Preston area Telephone Directory, 1978; Barrett's Directory of Blackpool, 1952-53; M.I.)

See the biography of Alexander Neibaur, and Preston Chronicle 17/8/1833, 31/8/1833, 14/9/1833, 7/6/1834, 14/6/1834, 1/11/1834

THE OLD ONES ARE THE BEST!

Financial prudence, even unto the grave

It was the yahrtzeit of Herman Mendelbaum's death and his widow decided to make a pilgrimage to the cemetery to recite a prayer over his grave and place a small stone, as is the tradition, to show that the deceased is remembered. She arrived at the cemetery but, as it had been a while since her last visit, she was confused and couldn't find poor Herman's grave site.

Finally, she came upon a grounds-keeper who conducted her to a small chapel on the cemetery grounds where the records were kept. Poring over large maps and lists, he finally turned to the widow and said,

"I can find no record of a Herman Mendelbaum buried here. The closest I can find is a Sadie Mendelbaum."

"That's him!" she exclaimed. "He always put everything in my name."



Worse than death?

At the conclusion of the physical examination the doctor faced his patient gravely. "I hate to have to break it to you, Fred," he said, "but I'm afraid you have only six months to live."

"Oh, my gosh," gasped Fred, turning white. When the news had sunk in, he said, "Listen, Doctor, you've known me a long time. Do you have any suggestions as to how I could make the most of my remaining months?"

"Have you ever married?" asked the doctor.

Fred replied that he'd been a bachelor all his life.

"You might think about taking a wife," the doctor suggested. "After all, you'll need someone to look after you during the final illness."

"That's a good point, Doctor," mused Fred. "And with only six months to live I'd better make the most of my time."

"May I make one more suggestion?" asked the doctor. When Fred nodded, he said, "Marry a Jewish girl."

"A Jewish girl? Why do you say that?"

"It'll seem longer."

Call the Priest

It was a dark and stormy night, and Mendelson, an old man, knew that the end was near. "Call the priest," he said to his wife, "and tell him to come right away."

"The priest? Max, you're delirious. You mean the rabbi!"

"No," said Mendelson, "I mean the priest. Why disturb the rabbi on a night like this?"



Thirteen children



A man was in hospital recovering from an operation when a nun walked into his room. She was there to cheer up the sick and ailing. The man and the nun started talking and she asked about his life. He talked about his wife and thirteen children.

"My, my," said the nun, "thirteen children . . . You're a good, proper Catholic family. God is very proud of you!"

"I'm sorry, Sister," he said, "I'm not Catholic. I'm Jewish."

"Jewish!?" she replied and immediately got up to leave.

"Sister, why are you leaving?"

"I didn't realise I was talking to a sex maniac!"

Time to trust

A man asked a passerby, "Do you speak Yiddish?"
The man shook his head.
He asked a second man, but got no answer.
He stopped a third man. "Do you speak Yiddish?"
"Of course." "Please, vat time is it?"



Brisket Just Like Bubbe Made It

A young Jewish mother was preparing a brisket one Friday for Shabbat dinner. Her daughter watched with interest as she sliced off the ends of the brisket before placing it in the roasting pan. The young girl asked her mother why she did this.



The mother paused for a moment and then said, "You know, I'm not sure. This is the way I always saw my mother cook a brisket. Let's call Grandma and ask her."

So, she phoned her mother and asked why they always sliced the ends off the brisket before roasting.

The Grandmother thought for a moment and then said, "You know, I'm not sure why, this is the way I always saw MY mother cook a brisket."

Now the two women were very curious, so they paid a visit to the great-grandmother in the nursing home.

"You know when we cook a brisket," they began, "we always slice off the ends before roasting. Why is that?"

"I don't know why YOU do it," said the old woman, "but I never had a pan that was large enough!"

Italian and Jewish Mothers

What is the difference between an Italian mother whose son won't eat her cooking and a Jewish mother whose son won't eat her cooking?

The Italian mother kills her son. The Jewish mother kills herself.



DIARY DATES

Taken from GENEVA website
<http://geneva.weald.org.uk/>
1st December 2009 to 28th February 2010 inc.

- December 1- Nottingham, 31 NTT [Talk & Tours @ Galleries of Justice - Skeletons in Closets: Tracing Criminal Ancestors](#)
- December 2 SoG, LND [My Ancestor Came from Birmingham](#)
- December 5 SoG, LND [Death in London](#)
- December 5 Northallerton, YKS [Ancestry in the Archives: beginners' session](#)
- December 9 SoG, LND [Tracing Living Relatives](#)
- December 09 South Shields, TWR [Victorian Poverty on Tyneside](#)
- December 12 SoG, LND [1911 Census Online & Pre-1841 Censuses Explained](#)
- December 12 SoG, LND [Researching the Armies in British India](#)
- December 16 SoG, LND [Chartists & the Labour Movement to 1835](#)
- December 19 Sherborne, DOR *This lecture has been cancelled*
[Winter lecture: Religion](#)

January	12	Canterbury, KEN	Tracing Your Roots, weekly morning course
January	16	Sherborne, DOR	Winter Lecture: Twentieth Century Research
January	16	Northallerton, YKS	Family History Beginners' Day
January	23	Barking, ESS	EoLFHS Family History Fair
January	23	York, NRY	Family History Day
January	31	Bracknell, BRK	The Bracknell Family History Fair
February	6	Northallerton, YKS	Ancestry in the Archives: beginners' session
February	13	Stafford, STS	Local and Family History Fair, Ancient High House
February	20	Cheltenham, GLS	Guild - DNA Seminar: National Star College, Ullenwood
February	20	Sherborne, DOR	Winter Lecture: What else is out there? The nature & range of local record repositories.
February	20	Canterbury, KEN	The Professional Approach Day School
February	20	Northwich, CHS	FHS of Cheshire - Annual Fair
February	21	Kidlington, OXF	The Oxfordshire & Bucks Family History Fair
February	26- 28	London, LND	Who Do You Think You Are? LIVE 2010