



September 2012

AAJS NEWSLETTER NO. 54 ADDENDUM

Our sincerest apologies for the accidental omission of the following two contributions from the original newsletter.

The Editorial Team

JAN LÁNIČEK:

POSTDOCTORAL FELLOW IN JEWISH HISTORY, THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW SOUTH WALES

JAN LÁNIČEK



POSTDOCTORAL
FELLOW IN
JEWISH
HISTORY

THE UNIVERSITY OF
NEW SOUTH
WALES

I arrived in Sydney at the beginning of July to take the position of post-doctoral fellow in Jewish history at the University of New South Wales. The University has offered me a warm welcome and has provided me with all necessary means to conduct my research. During my three years at the UNSW, I will be focusing predominantly on pursuing my postdoctoral research, but I will also contribute to the teaching curriculum of the UNSW. I am now preparing a summer course that will introduce undergraduate students to Modern Jewish history in the first half of the twentieth century through the lens of the Jewish experience in East Central Europe.

I am a historian of modern Europe, with the specialization in the history of Jewish/non-Jewish relations during the 1930s and 1940s. I have published several articles on Czechoslovak-Jewish history. My refined Ph.D. dissertation is now under book contract with Palgrave Macmillan and will hopefully be published next year (*Czechs, Slovaks and the Jews, 1938-*

1948: Beyond Idealization and Condemnation). My postdoctoral research centres on the issue of the Jewish minority question in East Central Europe as it existed or rather was constructed by diverse actors during the 1930s. I hope I will soon be able to present the first outcomes of my new research to the wider audience in this vibrant community of scholars in the Sydney area.

I am originally from the Czech Republic, where I graduated at Palacky University in Olomouc and later moved to Britain where I received a Ph.D. from the University of Southampton in 2011. After conducting the first year of my postdoctoral research at the Center for Jewish History in New York, I gladly accepted the offer from the UNSW and moved (temporarily) to Australia. I am especially delighted that my wife Emine joined me on this exciting Oz experience and we are really looking forward to exploring all the aspects of the life in Australia and meeting the amazing people who live here.

Jan Lániček



UPDATE FROM THE SHALOM INSTITUTE

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MICHAEL MIZRACHI

The Shalom Institute's education program, run by Encounters@Shalom, has reached new heights this year with its exciting and diverse offering. Encounters has hosted an outstanding line-up of international scholars, including Hagai M. Segal (New York University in London), Prof. Bethamie Horowitz (New York University), Prof. David Shneer (University of Colorado), Dr Daniel Gordis (Shalem Centre, Israel), Dr Itzik Peleg (Beit Berl Academic College, Israel), Prof Fania Oz-Salzberger (University of Haifa) and Dr Dan Porat (Hebrew University of Jerusalem). Israeli historian and author, Gershom Gorenberg, completes our Visiting Scholars program in November.

Yom Limmud in June was a great success, attracting almost 300 participants from across the community and the generations. Our second Limmud program, Limmud Fest, takes place in November and is a weekend retreat on the Central Coast of NSW com-

binning learning sessions with a festival atmosphere and unique Shabbat experience. Presenter registration is now open.

Encounters@Shalom also offers a strong cultural program, including events in conjunction with theatre production Address Unknown and the Jewish International Film Festival. Flagship event, the Sydney Jewish Writers' Festival, took place in August with record-breaking numbers of attendees attracted by the high calibre of speakers and lively discussions. Well over 600 people attended the four day festival which featured over 90 writers in 43 sessions, including internationals Iris Makler, Tom Segev, Peter Lantos and Anna Funder (via Skype) and Australian icons like Ita Buttrose, John Bell and Elliot Perlman. The SJWF awarded its inaugural Lifetime Achievement Award to Arnold Zable for his contribution to Australian Jewish literary life.

Michael Mizrachi



Australasian Association of Jewish Studies.
September 2012





Group Facilitator
Lecturer
Psychotherapist
Artist



Dr Hueneke is seeking employment in the Jewish community. With her flexibility, creativity and extensive professional experience she would be an asset to your organization. While she may not fit into a standard box, if you are able to make space for her innovative approach and ability to inspire others to change you will reap the rewards.

Dr Hueneke has experience and is interested in working with individuals and groups to facilitate the process of integrating trauma as well as in teaching her unique approach.

Dr Hueneke can fashion a framework that suits your organisation's needs.



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Tisha B'Av

At Tisha B'Av we read from the Eicha or Book of Lamentations. The text is a deeply emotive and evocative response to profound loss. The writers of old had great wisdom in laying down a text such as this as it provides a model for the expression and hence transformation of trauma. Following the reading of the Eicha at the Emanuel Synagogue in July Dr Hueneke spoke about this process of the transformation of trauma through symbolic and poetic expression with reference to her own and other Jewish artists work.



What followed was a serious and moving dialogue about trauma in the Jewish community.

Dr Anna Hueneke was awarded a PhD (Psychology) from the University of Western Sydney in 2009. Her thesis demonstrated that it is in the realm of the poetic - imagination, symbolic expression and narrative - where the integration of trauma occurs. Before her recent move to Sydney Anna maintained a private psychotherapy practice in Canberra for twelve years and has a Diploma of Psychotherapy from the Australia New Zealand Association of Psychotherapy. She also lectured in counselling and psychotherapy at the University of Canberra. Earlier in her career she was a visual artist, exhibiting and performing nationally and internationally (her 2002 painting *Bird from the Sea* appears above). She is currently Vice President of the Australian Association of Jewish Studies and Co-Convenor of their 2013 conference Jewish Languages Jewish Cultures: The Shaping of Jewish Civilization. She is also studying Ancient Hebrew at the University of Sydney.