

# Dunera News

No.74

October 2008

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A publication for former refugees from Nazi and Fascist persecution (mistakenly shipped to and interned in Australia at Hay and Tatura, many later serving with the Allied Forces), their relatives and friends.



**Hay Camp Money**  
What it's worth

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**Foundation Editor:**

The late Henry Lippmann OAM

**Editorial responsibility:**

The Committee of the Hay-Tatura Association

**All correspondence to:**

Dunera News, Hay-Tatura Association  
c/- 87 Clow Street, Dandenong  
Victoria 3175, Australia

**Email:** [dunera@sondheim.id.au](mailto:dunera@sondheim.id.au)



NEXT MATERIAL CLOSING DATE –  
15 JANUARY, 2009

*Letters and articles for  
publication are welcome.*

*We would love to hear from you.*

Please supply name, address,  
phone number, and send to:

**Dunera News**

c/- 87 Clow Street, Dandenong  
Victoria 3175 AUSTRALIA

OR email to:

[dunera@sondheim.id.au](mailto:dunera@sondheim.id.au)

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**OBITUARY:**

Paul Braun (Melbourne)  
Ernst Froelich (Canberra)

**Our sincerest sympathies to their dear ones**

**Thanks to our continuing contributors:**

Frank Berg, Bern Brent, Keith Hooper, Erwin Lamm,  
Tatura Historical Society.

### **SHANA TOVA to all our friends.**

#### **Apologies to our readers for this publication being late.**

We report on the following three major items of developments over the preceding 12 months.

#### **NAME CHANGE**

We are known as the DUNERA BOYS and for well founded reasons, we adopted the formal name "Hay-Tatura Association" which incorporated the Singapore Internees contingent. It served the situation well. With the many new members of Descendants having joined us, we propose to simplify our identity to "DUNERA ASSOCIATION" subject to sanctioning this change formally at the forthcoming AGM. We fully recognize and appreciate the contributions by the Hay and Tatura people, no discredit to their roles, on the contrary a great thank you.

#### **FINANCE**

Our Treasurer Ron Reichwald in the following article has outlined the Scheme of Fees and Donations respectively together with the explanations why this has become necessary. We ask for your understanding and co-operation. Special attention is drawn to the somewhat complex overseas payment methods necessitated by Bank rules worldwide.

#### **DESCENDANTS**

Our Committee are these direct Dunera Descendants:

**Ron Reichwald**, Treasurer,  
**Peter Felder**, Descendants Convenor  
**Rebecca Silk**, Computerised Records,  
**Anna Wolf**, Co-Editor Dunera News  
**Peter Arnott**, Sydney Chairman

and: **Mike Sondheim**, President,  
**Eric Eckstein**, Secretary,  
**Horst Jacobs**.

The great response to our membership appeal proves that there is great interest in activating the younger generations. There are many more potential sons and daughters to join in — so please advise your identities and relationships, email and postal addresses. Overseas people are just as welcome but please realize that the present activities are limited to Australia. However your interest is much appreciated, and any visit most welcome, so please advise us of your travel plans.

#### **FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

The annual MELBOURNE RE-UNION is on Tuesday, 11 November. See the separate announcement on page 9 and book your acceptance with Jimmy King.

We will have a visitor, Max Freilich, now living in USA, who will tell us about his experiences as one of the UK Internees to Canada. Hopefully other interstate visitors will join us as well.

#### **TATURA MUSEUM 20TH ANNIVERSARY**

All Dunera members and friends are specially invited by the Historical Society for this grand occasion on Saturday, 8 November at 2 pm at the Tatura Museum. Please also refer to the separate announcement and advise your participation directly to Tatura as they expect a large attendance.



**Mike Sondheim**, President

## New subscriber arrangements

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Our funds have been severely depleted due to no subscriptions having been levied for some years. The printing and posting of our *Dunera News* is our major expense. In addition your Committee will need funds for future projects briefly detailed below.

The vacancies on the Committee have been filled by the welcome participation of the next generation, i.e. Dunera Boys' Descendants.

The Committee has decided on the following subscription policy applying to those categories of existing and new subscriber memberships.

■ NO subscriptions will be levied to Dunera Boys but DONATIONS will be gladly accepted. This is out of respect for the much cherished and long-standing original group.

■ For our Australian Descendants/Friends, a basic subscription fee of \$20 per annum will apply, payable following the October *Dunera News*. Any additional DONATIONS at your discretion will be most appreciated. Any surplus donation may be used for the benefit of appropriate institutions.

**Cheques to be made out to The Hay-Tatura Association** and posted to our Treasurer at 4 Callantina Court, Frankston 3199.

■ The same applies to our overseas Dunera members who are not directly involved in our activities but are most welcome any time. We wish to maintain our close relationship and keep them fully informed. Likewise DONATIONS would be most welcome.

■ BUT please observe the small inconvenience of arranging your Bank to make out a **Draft in Australian Dollars** in favour of the **Hay-Tatura Association**. Or you could obtain a **Postal Note in Australian Dollars** and post as above.

■ UK contributors have the same facility established some years ago through Dunera Boy, FRANK BERG, at 5 Mayfields Close, Wembley Park, Middx HA9 9PP (Ph 208 904 6419).

Frank accepts personal UK currency cheques and consolidates into one Australian Dollar payment to us, thus saving the substantial individual Bank exchange fees.

■ All subscriptions are to be understood per HOUSEHOLD, i.e. all persons at the same address will be covered. Please note we shall be happy to discuss special circumstances in confidence.

**PLEASE fill in the form on page 5 and send with payment as directed above.**

## Why are subscriptions necessary?

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Without funding, we shall run out of money, unable to continue running as the prime organisation dedicated to keeping the memory of the Dunera Boys alive.

Particularly since the recent and most welcome involvement of the younger generations whose plans are more far-reaching and covering the following:

**1.** Continuation of the Dunera Newsletter involving composition, printing, posting and / or other distribution methods.

**2.** Functions organising, eg. The annual reunion in Melbourne, similar interstate events in Sydney and other Dunera sited Hay and Tatura.

**3.** Preparation for our 70th anniversary — although two years off.

**4.** Planning and administration costs, media publicity, speakers, school involvement, etc. The Committee's aim is not only to keep the legacy of the Dunera Boys and its Association going but with the descendants influx in particular, to widen the circle within our community and beyond. It is surprising how much knowledge exists of the Dunera in the general public and can be built on further.

**Ron Reichwald, Treasurer**

# PAYMENT FORM FOR DUNERA FEE/DONATION

(Please mark whichever applies)

Name: .....

Address: .....

.....

Amount A\$: ..... Date: .....



## 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF TATURA MUSEUM



The Tatura & District Historical Society is celebrating this occasion on Saturday, 8 November, 2008 at 2.00pm.

The Dunera Boys represented a vital contingent from 1941 onwards when transferred from Hay into Tatura Camp 2, together with the internees from Singapore and the earlier Dunera transport direct from Melbourne in September 1940 who were housed in various compounds. We represented quite a proportion of the several thousand "Prisoners" in the three POW and four Internment Camps in the Tatura area. Over the years we cemented a close friendship with the local people and many of the Boys and families attended various functions of special exhibitions covering notable memorabilia, e.g. Dr. Leonard Adam's artworks, the Karl Duldig collection, etc.

Many personal Dunera memorabilia have been donated and now form part of their large range of exhibits.

We have been specially invited to partake in this auspicious function which will be attended by a number of Government and local dignitaries.

There will also be the launching of the book *Marched In* written by Lurline and Arthur Knee, the stalwarts of the Tatura Museum, who collated information over 19 years of untiring effort.

Site visits may be able to be arranged. Advance notification of your visit would be advisable and appreciated.

Contact – The Secretary, Mignon Campbell  
P.O. Box 156, Tatura VIC 3616 or email  
[info@taturamuseum.org.au](mailto:info@taturamuseum.org.au)

Tatura is an easy 2 hour drive from the city limits via the Hume and Goulburn Highways, Nagambie and Murchison.

We warmly recommend the Tatura hospitality and hope that many Dunera Boys and families will honour the occasion with their presence.

See you at Tatura on 8 November.

**Mike Sondheim**, President  
**Peter Felder**, Descendants Convenor

# Hay-Tatura Association 19th Annual General Meeting

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This important meeting is open to every member, taking place at 11am preceding our Annual Melbourne Reunion on Tuesday, 11 November, 2008.

## Agenda

Chairman — Mike Sondheim

Secretary, Eric Eckstein — Apologies, Correspondence, 2007 Minutes.

President's Report

Treasurer — Ron Reichwald

Descendants — Peter Felder

Special Motion — Name change from '**Hay-Tatura Association Incorporated**' to '**Dunera Association Incorporated**'.

Election of Office Bearers

General

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## Present Committee Structure (2007/08)

President:	Mike Sondheim	dunera@sondheim.id.au
Secretary:	Erick Eckstein	eckstein@cyberspace.net.au
Treasurer:	Ron Reichwald	reichwald1@optusnet.com.au
M/ship Records:	Rebecca Silk	rebeccasilk@server101.com
Ass. Production Editor:	Anna Wolf	aawolf@ozemail.com.au
Descendants Convenor:	Peter Felder	peter@felder.com.au
Sydney Coordinator:	Peter Arnott	peter@arnotts.net.au

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## Election Of Committee Office Bearers

Any financial member of our Association wishing to stand for election, should fill out and cut off this nomination form and post or email to:

**The Secretary, Eric Eckstein, 87 Clow Street, Dandenong, Victoria 3175.**  
**Or email: eckstein@cyberspace.net.au by 4 November 2008.**



-----  
Date .....

Name of Nominee .....

Signature of Nominee .....

Name of Secunder .....

Signature of Secunder .....

Position nominated for .....

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## Hay Dunera Weekend Report, 6-7 September, 2008

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The 68th anniversary of the arrival of the Dunera boys in Hay was celebrated by a group of 14 descendants and relatives in Hay. Everyone arrived in Hay on Friday, with a few attending the filming of *The Ritchie Boys* on Friday night.

Saturday was the day when the Dunera related activities occurred, with the simulated arrival of the train at 8.30am on the magnificently restored Hay railway station. We all met David Houston, a Hay local who organised the weekend, and is a very enthusiastic supporter of the Dunera Museum and all things Dunera. He recounted being on the station, as a 5 year old, when the four steam trains with 48 carriages arrived in the morning in September 1940. There were about 500 military guards and personnel, many armed with machine guns and rifles. A very exciting event for a boy growing up in a fairly remote NSW town.

We then did a car convoy around all the relevant points of interest in Hay, with David doing the commentary at each stop, including the old gaol, hospital, the camp site, the memorial plaque, the river, and the cemetery, where one Dunera boy is buried. We then drove to a property located on the river where the camp vegetable gardens used to be, and where some Dunera boys worked. Here we had lunch which was a very substantial country meal, and we were joined by about 10 interested local people.

The afternoon was spent doing our own thing, we went to the newly opened Shearers Hall of Fame.

At 6.00pm the morning re-enactment was repeated (the train arrived again), and then the students from the Hay War Memorial High School presented the Dunera play (written by students at Hay) on the railway station, with the audience sitting where the railway tracks were. The play ran for about 20 minutes and was a wonderful re-enactment of the entire Dunera story. The actors obviously knew the story, were very enthusiastic, and provided very stimulating entertainment.

Dinner followed at a local restaurant/motel, with again some local people joining us. We gained an insight into living in dry country during drought. It was great to meet the people of Hay who were interested in our stories, and seemed pleased that we were there.

Sunday morning we were invited to the large sheep & cattle property owned by David & Colleen Houston for morning tea (hot tea-cake straight from the oven!) and a look around. We were made very welcome despite this property being very severely impacted by drought. Inspected a new shearing shed under construction, incorporating some new innovations.

The weekend was organised by David Houston, who spent most of his weekend with us. David has a deep understanding of the Dunera events, including the arrival in Hay when he was 5 years old. He manages a considerable archive in Hay and oversees the museum. David's enthusiasm and country hospitality definitely made the weekend.

We all owe David, with support from his wife Colleen, a great vote of thanks for his efforts on our behalf.

### **Peter & Helen Felder**

#### **List of attendees:**

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Peter\* & Helen Felder

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Robin & Gita\* Hickman

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Lex\* & Rosemary Korngold

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Alice\* & Frank Zydower

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Ron\* & Suzie Reichwald

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Rosemary\* & Richard? Thomas  
daughter of Wilhem Weger

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Ms. Frankie Blei, niece of Emil Wittenberg

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Mrs. Esther Falk, niece of Moishe  
Vorchheimer

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\* Descendants

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## **The Ritchie Boys**

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N.B. *The Ritchie Boys* is an American Documentary featuring the special training for Intelligence Service from the outset of the Normandy invasion right through the European campaign.

The 3000 mainly German and Austrian Refugees were similar in essence to us Dunera Boys but, of course, experienced

the real hostilities with all their consequences. My brother (not in the picture) was one of them, I am sure other Dunera Boys' relatives also served with the Ritchie Boys.

**Mike Sondheim**

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## **Australian Maritime Museum Function, 11 September, 2008**

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This year was our 68th anniversary of arrival on Jones Bay Wharf at Darling Harbour Sydney. The actual date was 6 September, 1940.

Mr Peter Rout, Assistant Director, welcomed the 40 Dunera people and guests, giving a brief account of the event and Dunera episode.

The first speaker, John Ebert, not a Dunera Descendant but an enthusiastic supporter since he stumbled onto our history when writing a thesis at the University of Wagga. John is a lawyer with the Australian Taxation Office, a family man with 3 children and a former District Rugby referee for 12 years. His connection with Australian wartime internment was his father having been a soldier at Cowra during the 1940 Japanese uprising. John has met many Dunera Boys in

Sydney, also having attended a Melbourne reunion and the Hay Dunera Day in September, 2007.

The second speaker, Scott Gregg, is a member of the TOGA Group which redeveloped the Jones Wharf into a commercial enterprise including a DUNERA MUSEUM filled with many memorabilia which Henry Lippmann bequeathed before his death in 1940, consisting of books, records, posters and other artworks.

In private discussions with our Sydney delegate, Peter Arnott, there is the possibility of making Jones Wharf and the Museum the focal point for next year's (69th anniversary) event, an excellent idea.

The Deputy Director closed the meeting, and Peter Arnott concluded by thanking all the guests.

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## **Hay Camp Money**

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Once again we not only feel it our duty but are extremely happy to report another most successful recent auction sale in Melbourne.

A SIX PENCE note in good condition, signed by Stahl and Robinow, was sold at over A\$10,000.

These notes re-appear from time to time and are fetching ever-increasing results.

While the ONE SHILLING and, even more so, the TWO SHILLINGS bank notes appear to have slightly greater value, the biggest premium of course is for a complete set of three: the SIX PENCE, the ONE SHILLING and the TWO SHILLINGS.

# 1940 – 2008

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## 68 years in Australia! Another Dunera Reunion

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**We are all a bit worn, however, please try and join us survivors to keep up the tradition!**

**Where:** Flag Inn, 47 Barkly Street, St Kilda 3182

**When:** Tuesday, 11 November, 2008

**Time:** 12 noon luncheon

**Cost:** \$33 plus donation, if possible.

We are still subsidising, but if you are unable to pay,  
we will cover any shortcomings ... please come!

**Send cheques made payable to The Dunera Club**

Any surplus may be used for donations to institutions  
and other deserving causes.

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Please note, for enquiries, questions or cheques payable, please note our telephone numbers and addresses:

**Jimmy King, 3 Vella Court, Springvale South, 3172. Phone: (03) 9546 0453.**

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**DUNERA REUNION**

**Tuesday, 11 November, 2008**

Name: .....

Address: .....

Post Code: ..... Telephone Number: .....

Please reserve ..... Seats @ \$33 + donation: .....

Please send your cheque now to avoid long delays at the door.

**WIDOWS AND PENSIONERS MAY PAY BY DONATION ONLY!**

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## **Bern Brent Recalls: Dunera Disembarkation in Melbourne, 3 September, 1940, and straight to Tatura**

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**Dear Dunera News readers,**

Mike asked me to write a brief account about the Dunera segment disembarking in Melbourne. He believes, and I concur, that the story is not well known amongst us.

As I remember it, a few guys on the Dunera came rushing to me after we had called at Fremantle: my name was among those read out over the amplifying system to be ready to disembark at Port Melbourne the following day, 3 September, the first anniversary of the beginning of the war. They were all people who, like me, had been interned in May-June.

When I descended the gangway alongside the hull to the wharf the next day, we all came to a temporary halt on the unsteady slope and I asked the young fella ahead in a burgundy-dyed British army overcoat, 'wer seit ihr?' I had seen these guys with big red crosses on khaki jackets on the rear deck but they had been separated from us on the foreship. Back came the answer with a chuckle: 'U Boot Mannschaft'. He was obviously pulling my leg but I still didn't know why he wore the clobber he did.

It was Rainer Radok, ex Arandora Star, the youngest of the three Radok brothers. He was to become my Leaving Maths 2 and Maths 4 tutor nine months later, but at that time he was just one of many Dunerites unsteadily making his way down the swaying gangway. I was not then aware that all the Arandora Star survivors were disembarked at Melbourne also and that they had been given the British uniforms after they had been fished out of the Atlantic. Indeed, at the time I had probably not heard about the Arandora Star.

We boarded a train to Rushworth or Tatura and were then taken to Tatura Camp 2 by truck, a few kilometres away. There would have been perhaps 560 internees on the

train. About 210 Italians and 250 Germans from the Arandora Star. The latter were either one-time crew members of the German freighter Adolf Woermann or A-cases interned at the beginning of the war. In addition there were about a hundred of us non-Arandora Star guys. The Italians, of whom nearly two thirds had been lost at sea, were put into one compound and the Germans and Austrians into the other compound. There we formed two distinct groups: the 'Nazis' and the 'anti-Nazis'.

We, the 'anti-Nazis', occupied our own dormitories and our own mess and elected our spokesman, a Dr. Franz Eichenberg, an Arandora Star survivor. He was not slow in letting it known to us non-Arandora Star guys that, as a young volunteer in World War One, he had been 'ein Offizier, im Felde befoerdert' – commissioned in the field. This is a rare honour in any western army. During the Second World War General Montgomery insisted on personally sanctioning recommendations for such commissions which take effect without any further formal training and exams.

Sixty years after the event, it seems to me that us calling all the people in the other group 'Nazis' as we did at the time could not have been correct. True, their future was not dependant on an Allied victory as ours was. But the Baltic ports from which many of the seamen originated were hardly bastions of the Nazi movement. And unless one was a refugee there was no real reason to join us at a time when Hitler tumbled from one victory to another.

Anyhow, a good proportion among our 'anti-Nazi' group in Tatura 2 were Arandora Star survivors.

I did not begin my Tatura diaries until early the following year but one of my surviving

letters from Tatura 2 to Britain of 18 September 1940 reports that I was attending classes in French, English, mathematics and drawing. So in double quick time my elders and betters – I was seventeen at the time – had already organised the precursor of what was later jokingly referred to as “Collegium Taturense.”

Throughout my time in Tatura 2, the two self-contained groups of ‘Nazis’ and ‘anti-Nazis’ had one wish in common: they wanted a separate existence: ‘they’ wanted to get rid of ‘us’ and ‘we’ wanted to get rid of ‘them’. I don’t recall any personal unpleasanties between us. We all exercised by walking along the perimeter of the compound along the barbed wire fence. There was of course no cross-socialising that I am aware of except that Pfarrer Gierke, who wanted to show that he was above politics, ate with ‘them’ and slept with ‘us’ – or vice versa, I don’t remember which. As a result he was regarded by some of us as ‘their’ spy and, no doubt, was similarly mistrusted by ‘them’.

There were very serious misgivings about being cooped up together with the ‘Nazis’, particularly by our ‘politicals’. Their files were gathering dust in some Gestapo office and they were concerned that once the Swiss Consul had paid his official visit to the camp on behalf of the German Government, their names would be passed on to Berlin, and their long-forgotten files would become active again. Many still had wives and children in Germany.

There was another major problem. The ‘Nazis’ had a spokesman just as we had, a man called Roehrs, and there were more of ‘them’ than of ‘us’. My estimate is that we had about 70 Arandora Star men in our ‘Anti-Nazi’ group. And the Australian camp commander was not having any nonsense

about two spokesmen in one compound of prisoners. These were the very early days when the Australian military were not yet aware of the true composition of the Dunera shipload. Six months later it was a different story.

Typed appeals in triplicate to the authorities asking for separation had been useless. I remember seeing Roehrs and Eichenberg pacing up and down the barbed wire fence for hours, deep in discussion as to how to get rid of each other. It was obvious that they got on well at the personal level. Roehrs had been the First Mate of the ‘Adolf Woermann’, he was a Hamburger like Eichenberg, and they spoke the same language literally and figuratively. He was perhaps a little older than Eichenberg and it is very likely that he had seen service in the Great War just as Eichenberg had.

I don’t know details of what transpired between those two men. I was just a teenager minding my own business and while I got to know Eichenberg and most other camp mates during the following fifteen months in camp 3 and camp 4, I had not really made contact with the Arandora Star people. They had of course known each other before arrival in Australia and shared a common fate by having been torpedoed and having lost friends. But I do recall my first experience of effective ‘direct action’.

It must have been at the end of September that one of our huts went up in flames (after all belongings had been removed), one of ‘us’ and one of ‘them’ got into a fight (a sham fight), and both Roehrs and Eichenberg rushed to the sentry at the gate and told him to report to his C.O. that they, the two spokesmen, could not guarantee anybody’s safety. Soon a platoon of guards entered the compound and the next morning ‘we’ boarded a convoy of three-ton flat tops which took us to camp 3.

Within a very short time we were joined in camp 3 by our 'Malayans'. They had been living in Malaya and Singapore, some of them for years, but many of them originally bound for Shanghai but offered residence by the Brits when their ship berthed in Singapore because of useful skills short in the colonies (e.g. musicians, engineers, accountants, skilled tradesmen). Unlike us, the married men had their wives and children with them. They had all arrived in style on the Queen Mary. The single men joined us, the families and single women were taken to the adjoining compound which was separated from ours by two chicken wire fences with space between for a horse and buggy to pass through.

By the way, we heard later that Roehrs was eventually toppled and a real Nazi, a Dr. Erler, took his place. The story had it that he kept them all up half the night singing party songs.

We remained in camp 3 for nine months. Camp 3 had dormitories partitioned into two-bed rooms. In mid-'41 we were transferred to camp 4 and Volkmann, our camp poet, penned his memorable 'Abschied vom Lager 3'.

Our transfer took place after Hitler invaded the Soviet Union and in compound D of camp 4 we were soon joined by Romanians, Hungarians and some Finnish sailors who happened to be in port. We also received a group of bods from another camp. I think it might have been camp 1. They were Germans and Austrians who had been interned in Australia but were pro-Allied. They turned out to be guys like us, mostly refugees who, for some reason or another, had finished behind barbed wire. At one time we had one or two Aussies who, allegedly members of 'Ausrralia First', had been picked up by Australian authorities. There was also another resident, a Dutch safe

cracker. The police had taken the opportunity to put him away. He was conspicuous sleeping in the open overnight. One day, just before Christmas, he was gone. He had watched the guards and timed his exit through the barbed wire with a pair of self-made wire cutters. After the holidays he turned up again. He said all he wanted to do was to be with his family at Christmas.

Emery Barcs, a Hungarian journalist who was interned in Camp 4 with us for a while, has interesting stories about his experiences in our camp 4 'D' compound in his book *Backyard of Mars: Memoirs of the 'Reffo' Period in Australia*, Sydney, 1980. *Collar the Lot!* by Peter and Leni Gillman has much information about the Arandora Star episode. We had at least one anti-fascist Arandora Star Italian in the 8th. There was also a second Italian, Emilio, but I don't know where he sprang from.

Lastly there is the mystery of the hundred men disembarking in Melbourne with the Arandora Star people. I don't know the answer. Nobody does. There was obviously extra capacity in camp 2. And how were the people chosen? I don't know that either, but my bet is that they chose B-cases.

I was given a 'B' at the outbreak of war, presumably because of my 'yes' when asked by the tribunal chairman was I German? The 'politically correct' reply – so I was told afterwards by my refugee hostel mates in Sutton, Surrey – should have been 'no, I am Jewish'. But, again, I don't really know. Do I care? Sixty-eight years later, not a hoot!

**Bern Brent**

## Another item from Bern Brent's collection

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### Abschied vom Lager drei.

Uns're Wut ist unbeschreiblich  
Denn wir gehn nach Lager vier,  
Uns're Nachbarinnen, weiblich,  
Bleiben leider alle hier.

War'n sie doch nicht uns're Frauen  
Sondern anderer Maenner Glueck,  
Konnten wir doch rueberschauen  
Und die Frauen sahn zurueck!

Mancher sagte zwar ironisch:  
Sowas hat doch keinen Sinn.  
Ist die Liebe nur platonisch  
Guck ich lieber garnicht hin.

Doch die Menschen sind verschieden  
Und man konnte viele sehn  
Harmlos gluecklich und zufrieden  
Stundenlang am Gitter stehn.

Neulich hoerte ich zwar munkeln  
Dass ein ganz verliebtes Paar  
Durch die Draehte schlich im Dunkeln.  
Aber das ist garnicht wahr.

Denn die starke Drahtumhuellung  
Und der Lampen greller Schein  
Hindert Liebe an Erfuellung.  
Ehemann, kannst ruhig sein.

Und so muessen wir denn scheiden  
Ungekuesst von dannen gehn,  
Und wir werden Frauenmuender  
Nur noch in der Zeitung sehn.

### Oswald Volkmann

*PS. Re: verses 5 and 6 ... Volkmann erred.  
Love found a way through the wire. After  
release from internment the young lady  
obtained a divorce from her then husband,  
married her admirer, and they lived happily in  
Melbourne ever after. **B.B.***

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## General News

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Search for three non-Dunera Boys —  
An American relative of Eric Eckstein's  
asks about 3 members of a Jazz Band who  
arrived in Australia about the same time as  
we. Their names were Steven Weintraub,  
Kurt Keiser and Sigmund? They were said  
also to be comedians.

(The name of Weintraub and a Jazz  
ensemble rings a bell. Can anyone  
remember any more? The Editors)

Germany refers to Jewish Refugees in the  
British Army.

The prominent Berlin Journal *Der Spiegel*  
recently printed a long report about their  
participation as British Army soldiers  
in the entire European campaigns, even  
mentioning some names of Dunera Boys.  
The German article is too long to  
reproduce but we thought it significant to  
mention even now 60 odd years after.

**Frank Berg**, London

Contact Frank for more details.  
phone 208 904 6419  
fsberg@tiscali.co.uk

HANS LINDAU, Dunera Boy.

Through our Tatura friends, Lurline and Arthur Knee, we received the following which originated in Britain:

Hans LINDAU was born in Berlin in 1895 and migrated to Britain in 1931. He experienced the Dunera, Internment in Hay, and in Tatura Camp 2 he was a hut captain, gardener, and did camp fatigues.

After release in 1943 he spent one year with a farmer in Sale, Victoria, reporting weekly to the police, then a year at a Sale nursery, following which he became a waiter at Xavier Prep School, Kew.

He researched and wrote extensive notes on the whole Botany of Australia, thousands of finely handwritten pages.

Hans' diaries and notes were handed over in London to a representative of the National Library of Australia in Canberra, to which they have been donated.

ERWIN LAMM's Interview was printed in *THE AGE INSIGHT* of 9 August, 2008, with a prominent picture of our Melbourne Dunera Boy. He recalls in detail his youth and family life in Vienna, the Nazi occupation of Austria and their enthusiastic welcome in 1938.

He has visited Vienna many times and earlier this year was there with many Holocaust survivors to mark the 70th anniversary of the shameful events of the Nazi tyranny. On that occasion he was invited to address school children to keep alive the Holocaust memory, although too young to remember but old enough to understand. Also he received a letter by the Austrian Chancellor stating that it was an honour to have him visiting despite the past.

The almost full page article by Sushi Das also recalls many of Erwin's early internment experiences, and his post war successful life as an Australian citizen and family man.

Keeping the Dunera history alive — a Tribute to the Author and *THE AGE INSIGHT*.

### ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

Three old guys are out walking.  
First one says, "Windy, isn't it?"  
Second one says, "No, it's Thursday!"  
Third one says, "So am I. Let's go get a beer!"

## Another Dunera Boy's Interesting Life Story

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ERNST FROEHLICH, born in Vienna 26 February 1917, died in Canberra 25 May 2008, at the Brindabella Nursing Home.

ERNST was one of the very few early releases in Australia, from Tatura in August 1941, the circumstances of which were described in *Dunera News No 43* of October 1998.

Dr. WOOLLEY, Director of the Commonwealth Solar Observatory at Mount Stromlo, got to know of his basic Lensmaking knowledge, and was instrumental in getting him released together with another Dunera Boy HANS MEYER to put their special knowledge to better use than wasting more time behind barbed wire.

The *Canberra Times* of 10 July, 2008 (the actual Dunera sailing date from Liverpool 68 years ago) enlarged on Ernst's further career. His ambitions went into other directions after leaving Mount Stromlo.

He first took up teaching Physics at Canberra Grammar School but was more intent on commercial enterprise. With a Sydney friend, he formed an importing partnership covering Swedish prefabricated houses, having to overcome many difficulties in getting the Swedes to comply with local building regulations. The tremendous housing shortage at the time, especially in Canberra, led to the first Prefab going up in the suburb of O'Connor, ACT. Naturally, other building materials and equipment items in dire need were added to the new enterprise "ERNST FROHLICH & CO.

Ernst was still striving further, and remembering his father's legal career, he enrolled at the age of 45 at the Australian National University and obtained his law degree, completed the Articled Clerkship and became Canberra's first Barrister of non British descent. He practiced law until close to the end of his life but less involved in advocacy then becoming a reporter of law cases for the legal publication service Butterworths.

In 2000 he featured in an ABC documentary on Canberra pioneers, he spoke of his love for the place, the scenery, space and openness, unhurried life style, all so different from his early youth in a European capital, in confined spaces and smallish apartments. He had enjoyed watching Canberra developing from the 1950's into a thriving capital.

Ernst met his New Zealand wife Catherine Strauss at the Forrest Tennis Club. She was a qualified pharmacist, became a volunteer guide at the National Gallery. They were married for 45 years.

Ernst was a prominent Dunera member, partaking in many re-unions, we remember his presence at the 50th anniversary in Hay in September 1990.

His very detailed diary records have been donated to the National Gallery.

The article in the *Canberra Times* was brought to our attention by the ardent Dunera friend Keith Hooper who was instrumental in getting the RSL to arrange for the headstone to be erected on Captain Broughton's grave in September 2006.

Thanks again Keith.

**We are trying to collect contact information from those interested in the Dunera Association.  
Please contact Rebecca Silk — [rebeccasilk@server101.com](mailto:rebeccasilk@server101.com) — if you would like to add  
your name and email details to the list.**