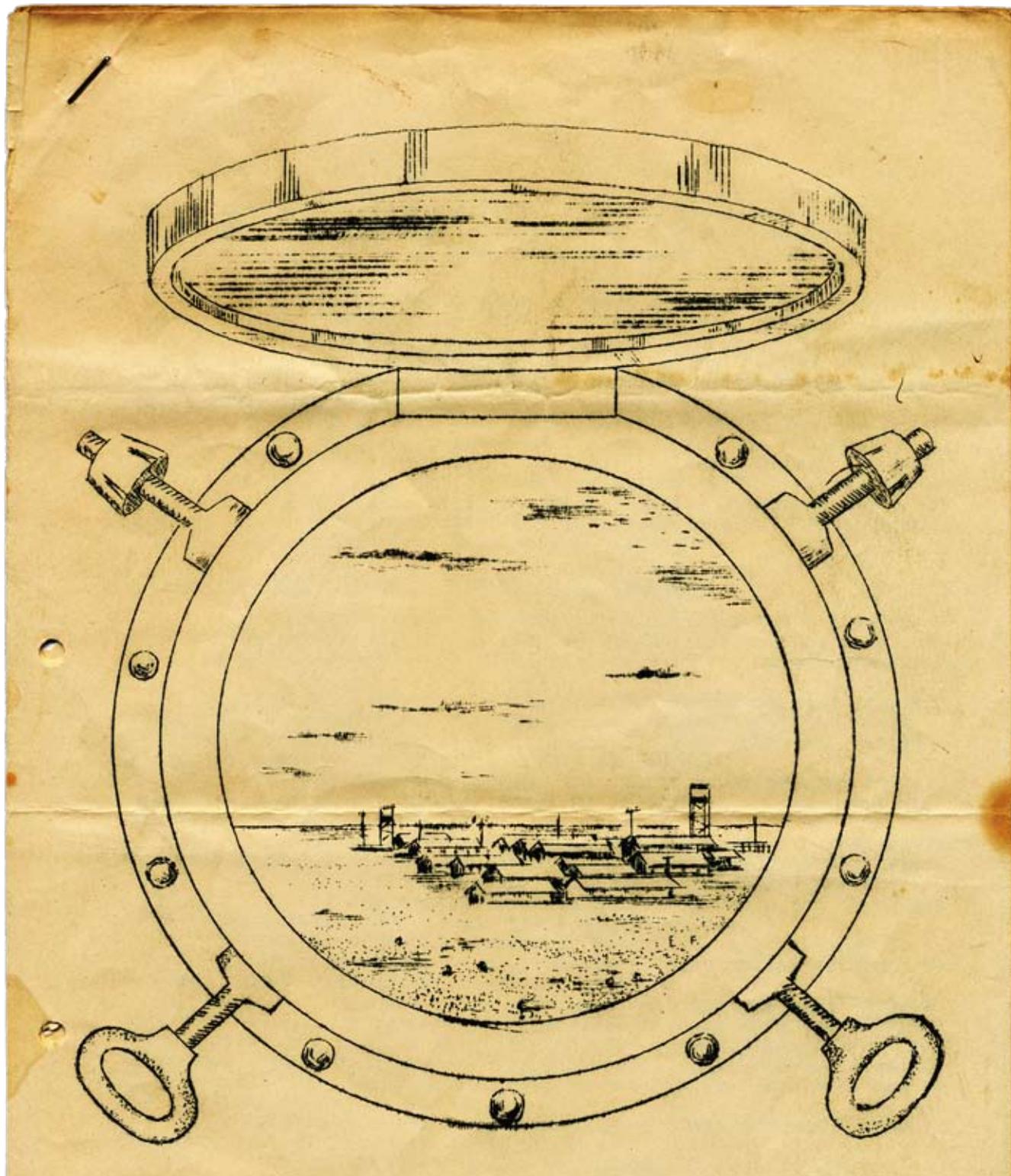


Dunera News

NO. 77

OCTOBER 2009

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 THEIR FRIENDS.



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The late Henry Lippmann OAM

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Next material closing date: 15 January, 2010

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Thanks to our contributors:

George Lederer, Walter Dunn, Walter Kaufmann, Stephen Guttman, Brian Stern, Frank Berg, Peter Arnott, Rebecca Silk, Ron Reichwald, Ernst Wolf, David Houston.

OBITUARIES:

Roger Freeman – Sydney. June 2009

Horst Jacobs – Melbourne. June 2009

Henry Seaman (Hans Schueftan) – Seattle.
March 2009

Klaus Wilczynski – Berlin 2008
(Advised by Walter Kaufmann, Berlin)

Our very sincerest sympathies to their families and friends.

INFORMATION REQUIRED

I'm the author of *House Of Exile* (published 2008 and just shortlisted for the Victorian Premier's prize for non-fiction): it's a book about exile, a collective biography of the lives of some of those 20th century intellectuals who left Germany in 1933 and lived first in France and then in America. It touches on the story of the writer Walter Benjamin, who died on 26 September, 1940, trying to escape from France, unaware that a couple of weeks earlier on 6 September, 1940, his son Stefan had arrived in Australia on the Dunera.

I'm now researching material for a book about 19th and 20th century German naturalists who came to Australia. It will include the story of Hans Lindau (Berlin 1895 — Mt Martha / Victoria 1982). He was on the Dunera, then at Hay and Tatura. Lindau was a German Quaker who had been studying at Woodbridge near Birmingham when he was interned.

His occupations in the camps at Hay and Tatura were to do with gardening, library, and teaching English. He was also a hut captain (hut 16?) and a member of the camp "parliament". He shared a hut with a Dr Sigmund Lennard and Dr Sonnenberg, also friends with Bertoldt Bamberger. He remained in Australia and lived in Mornington.

My research is in connection with his interest in gardening and botany (the NLA has recently acquired his rather eccentric manuscript — written in the camps on toilet paper — which is a compendium of Australian plants). On 21 November this year, at the Mornington historical society, I'll give the Leslie Moorhead memorial lecture about my research in general and Hans Lindau in particular.

Do you think anyone in the Dunera circle would still recall Hans Lindau?

Best regards

Dr Evelyn Juers
– juers@ozemail.com.au

From the President and Committee

Shana Tova to all.

This is the time of year of our various reunion meetings in Hay and Sydney (see separate reports pages 7 and 11).

Coming up on Tuesday, 10 November is the Melbourne reunion at our new venue the Kimberley Function Centre – booking details are in this issue. This year is the 69th anniversary and we look forward to seeing the many Dunera descendants who have been displaying a keen interest in maintaining our Association's efforts.

After the luncheon, we have the opportunity to screen a DVD: "Churchill's German Army", and/or "Life of Karl Guttman" (late of San Francisco/Vienna).

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We would like to make next year's 70th Anniversary celebrations the focal point of our efforts. The community of Hay is particularly keen to see a large gathering of Dunera Boys and families. Many attended the memorable 50th Dunera Boy reunion in 1990. The Hay community's planning efforts have commenced already, presenting a big challenge for all of us.

In fact, enquiries as well as preliminary bookings for September 2010 from overseas have been received. Two of the four sons of the late Adalbert Stern in the UK are coming with their families. Nicholas, another brother is a scientist who attended the Australian climate conferences a few years ago, may join up as well. That is a good start. We want the younger generation to match or exceed the 27 overseas members we had here in 1990.

We are available to assist in your planning. Make it an overall and interesting holiday tour of Australia offering sights not to be seen elsewhere.

One matter concerning our committee relates to the overseas fees and donations collections and transfer to us. To avoid the high exchange fee charged (\$10AUD) on any single transfer, we want to centralise the collection into one source who can consolidate the funds into one annual transfer to the Dunera Association. We are looking for a VOLUNTEER to take on this very honourable effort in the US.

We hate to resort to asking our donors to add the exchange fee or have to spend this fee at their own bank to obtain Australian dollar cheques. But we continue to need funds to sustain the Dunera Association for the benefit of our Descendants.

One point regarding our charity donations, these will of course continue within the financial capacity of our Association.

Our operations continue to function smoothly, in particular our DUNERA NEWS publication due to the professional efforts by Anna and Andrew Wolf. Following the loss of two more original committee members, Eric Eckstein and Horst Jacobs, all now belong to the "younger set" except myself.

Thanks to them all.



Mike Sondheim

■ The Dunera Lunch in Melbourne on Tuesday, 10 November 2009, will be preceded by the Dunera Association Annual General Meeting at 11am sharp.

**Mike Sondheim can now be reached on: [sondheim@cyberone.com.au](mailto:sondheim@cyberone.com.au)**

### Eulogy

For the last 20 years, Horst and I worked together as members of the Dunera Committee and we became close friends. It took an occasion like this to get to know more of Horst's life, his interests and career and his family.

Daughters Debbie and Patsy spoke of their close relationship with their versatile father introducing the practical sides of life from providing information, through to handyman's work, to stepping into adult responsibilities and bringing up their own families.

In the years of internment, army life, studies etc., we had no connection. To me Horst was a very private person until, much to my surprise, he accepted the initial Presidentship at the foundation meeting in 1988 of the Hay-Tatura Committee.

The first highlight was our 50th anniversary of arrival in Australia celebrated and organised

in September 1990 in Hay our first "Home" and the start of the township's close friendship extended to us. In his Presidential address he referred to the now famous and most valuable collectors items, the Camp 7 banknotes, saying, "Had we only known then what we know now", which remark I and many others will never forget.

Although Horst passed the Presidency over to me in 1991, he remained actively involved in the committee until early this year. In particular he assisted the younger generation members in understanding the many intricacies in administering such a worldwide and diverse population of veterans.

We are eternally grateful for his contribution and cherish his memory.

Vale Horst.

**Mike Sondheim**

#### LINKAGE.

Once again those twins of war & strife, racism & Nationalism are rearing their ugly heads in this country. We, who have been the victims of it in another time, know how helpless one feels when accused of a circumstance not of your making or of your wishes.

It is therefore no wonder that the Governor General used the 50th Anniversary of the arrival of the "Dunera" as the occasion to "remind us again of the absolute necessity to resist hysteria & propaganda even at times of national conflict, but always to judge people as individuals & not on the basis of some notion of collective national identity".

How much more anti-Hussein could you get than the Iraqi Kurds who were gassed in the recent conflict with Iran? They remind us very much of the kith & kin of many of us who suffered a similar fate 50 years ago. We of the Dunera should be prepared to stand up for their freedom here, as Margaret Holmes, Col. Wedgwood, Bishop Pilcher & many others did for us, for "there but for the grace of God go I".

There has been the impression created that all of us who came to live here and overseas via the camps of Hay & Tatura became professors, judges, academics, entered the professions or ended up millionaires. Nothing is of course further from the truth. The majority made their way through life doing the best they could for their families & their new homeland. We want to hear more from them, & are making a beginning in this issue.

One thing we can be proud of though: to the best of my knowledge, not one of us ended up in gaol. If criminality is bred by deprivations, we would have filled one whole wing of Pentridge Prison.

*Horst Jacobs*

Dunera News – no.20.  
November 1991  
Comment from the  
President of the  
Hay-Tatura Committee  
Dr Horst Jacobs.

## Dr Henry Dunn (Heinz Danziger)

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**For the late Dr Henry Dunn (Heinz Danziger), who died in December, 2008. Younger brother of Dr Walter Dunn (Rudi Danziger), both of Vancouver, Canada.**

*The story was written by a colleague of Henry's at the Vancouver General Hospital and deals with his professional achievements. Both brothers assisted the medical officers on the Dunera and in Hay Camp 7.*

Henry Dunn was born and brought up in Germany, in a Jewish family. His father, a physician, grew more and more concerned as Hitler gained power. He wanted his sons to study medicine, but this was not possible under the Nazis, so he arranged for Henry and his brother Walter to move to England in 1934.

Henry, a teenager, made rapid progress in Britain and won a scholarship to get into medical school at Cambridge. However, he was told he wasn't wanted until he was 18 years of age, so he went back to Germany for a brief period and graduated with his former class.

Completing pre-clinical courses at Cambridge, he won another scholarship to the London Hospital in 1938 for clinical training. But war broke out and in 1940, when there was imminent danger of German invasion, he was interned as an enemy alien. At first he was sent to a camp in England but then, with no warning, he was shipped off to Australia.

He was on a troopship on which thousands of internees were kept below decks, sleeping in hammocks, while the captain tried to avoid torpedo attack by U-boats — he was told that two torpedoes were actually fired at them but, fortunately, they missed!

In Australia he was sent to an isolated camp in New South Wales, where it was very hot and boring, although he found some stimulus as president of the debating society.

After a year in Australia, Henry managed to get back to Britain where he was welcomed at the London Hospital and completed his training, finally qualifying in 1942. After initial

house appointments, he was recruited into the British Army as a medical officer (a bit of a change from being an enemy internee) and once again he found himself on a boat — this time going to India, where he had an interesting time dealing with tropical diseases. He was discharged with the rank of Major RAMC.

After the army, Henry returned to London Hospital as a registrar and decided that he wanted to specialise in Pediatrics. He rose to the rank of senior registrar at the Great Ormond Street Hospital — the premier pediatric institution in Britain — but it was very difficult to get a permanent consultant position in England after the war. Henry then spent a year at the New York Babies Hospital, where he had a fellowship.

Then in 1954, he moved to Vancouver where his brother Walter had already immigrated, to be Chief Resident in pediatrics at Vancouver General Hospital. Dr Jack McCreary, pediatric head in the new medical school, wanted to keep Henry as a department member and encouraged him to get sub-specialist training. So, after a period in practice, he went to the Children's Hospital in Boston for further experience in neurology, as a research associate affiliated with Harvard.

When he came back to Vancouver in 1960, he was immediately accepted as the first subspecialist and consultant in the important field of Pediatric Neurology, and for the best part of the next fifty years he remained one of the most respected clinicians and teachers in our medical school.

Henry had a distinguished academic career and enjoyed an international reputation. A pioneer in his sub-specialty, he was the founder of the Canadian Association of Child Neurologists. He was a member of numerous professional advisory committees and chairman of several of them.

He travelled extensively to share his professional knowledge and experience. He was also the recipient of numerous fellowships and awards.

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## Dr Henry Dunn (Heinz Danziger)

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As a specialist in neurological conditions, he realized the necessity for other professionals to collaborate in diagnosis and management. He did a lot to encourage the appointment of psychologists, therapists and others as colleagues. Henry did important research too. He was the author of over 100 articles in scientific journals.

He was the director of a large, nationally-funded study of children with low birth weight that extended over nearly twenty years and was published as a book. He wrote about epilepsy and, as long ago as 1976, he proved the detrimental effect of maternal smoking on infant development.

But it is as a clinician that he is most remembered by his colleagues. Henry was a perfectionist, who elicited the most detailed histories and conducted incredibly thorough physical examinations, the conclusions from which were recorded in tiny, neat and always legible handwriting. His reports usually extended over several pages and they were absolute models of excellence, perhaps frustrating for some as they indicated a standard which seemed impossible to emulate.

He spent hours in consultations and he was a familiar figure in the hospital — often late in the evening with a briefcase containing tools of his trade, including a selection of toys which he used in assessing developmental levels.

He was a faithful attendant at educational sessions where, again, he always wrote the most detailed notes (I always wondered what happened to them).

He was articulate in clinical discussion — always with penetrating questions, expressed in precise, clipped, may I say ‘British’ tones. His broad clinical experience and seemingly encyclopedic knowledge of relevant literature were impressive. He was an excellent teacher, perhaps better in small group settings than in lectures, but it was from his example in practice that the most significant lessons were to be learned.

Henry was an absolutely charming individual. A perfectionist, yes, but he was tolerant of deficiency in others. Always polite and considerate, he was loved equally by medical colleagues, nurses and other allied professionals, students, and — perhaps most importantly — by his patients and their parents. He communicated quietly and precisely with them, achieving solid rapport and inspiring lasting trust.

He was a great man.

*Walter Dunn, 93, sent this eulogy and asked to have their original names mentioned. Their names were anglicised on enlisting in the British Army in 1941.*

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## Henry Seaman (Heinz Hans Schueftan)

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Henry Seaman and my father, Walter Seymour (born Walter Salomon, deceased in 2003), met in the camp at Hay and after their release, they both joined the British Forces. Henry changed his name from Hans Schueftan, to Henry Seaman to join the British Army. The two men were in the tank corps together.

Following their army experience, they became life-long friends. In the UK, Henry married my mother's foster sister Susi (a refugee from Vienna), just after the war.

Henry was born in Breslau, Germany (now Poland) on 30 August 1921. Henry emigrated to Seattle, Washington, USA shortly after his marriage in about 1948. He died on March 19, 2009, from complications of Parkinson's Disease. He was married to Sue (Susi), for 38 years, and then to Deborah for 21 years.

*From Angela Seymour with assistance from Deborah Seaman.*

## Dunera Day at Hay – September 2009

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A very successful if low key event, was held at Hay on 5 and 6 September.

After viewing the exhibits in the Dunera Museum carriages at the platform of the former railway station, David Houston took visitors through the sights, sounds and events of 7 September 1940 when the internees from the Dunera arrived.

Then the group was guided along the route that the internees followed to the site of Camps 7 and 8 to view the area and the memorial plaque. The tour continued after a coffee break visiting the oval where camp gardens were planted; thence to the site of the POW camp (Camp 6); and the cemetery.

Following lunch on the Murrumbidgee riverside, we visited the Hay Gaol museum, a site that also served as a camp hospital for some internees. We then attended a most interesting talk (arranged by the Hay Historical

Society) about conditions in New South Wales gaols in post convict times. The Dunera Day dinner at the Comfort Inn motel was a convivial end to a most interesting day.

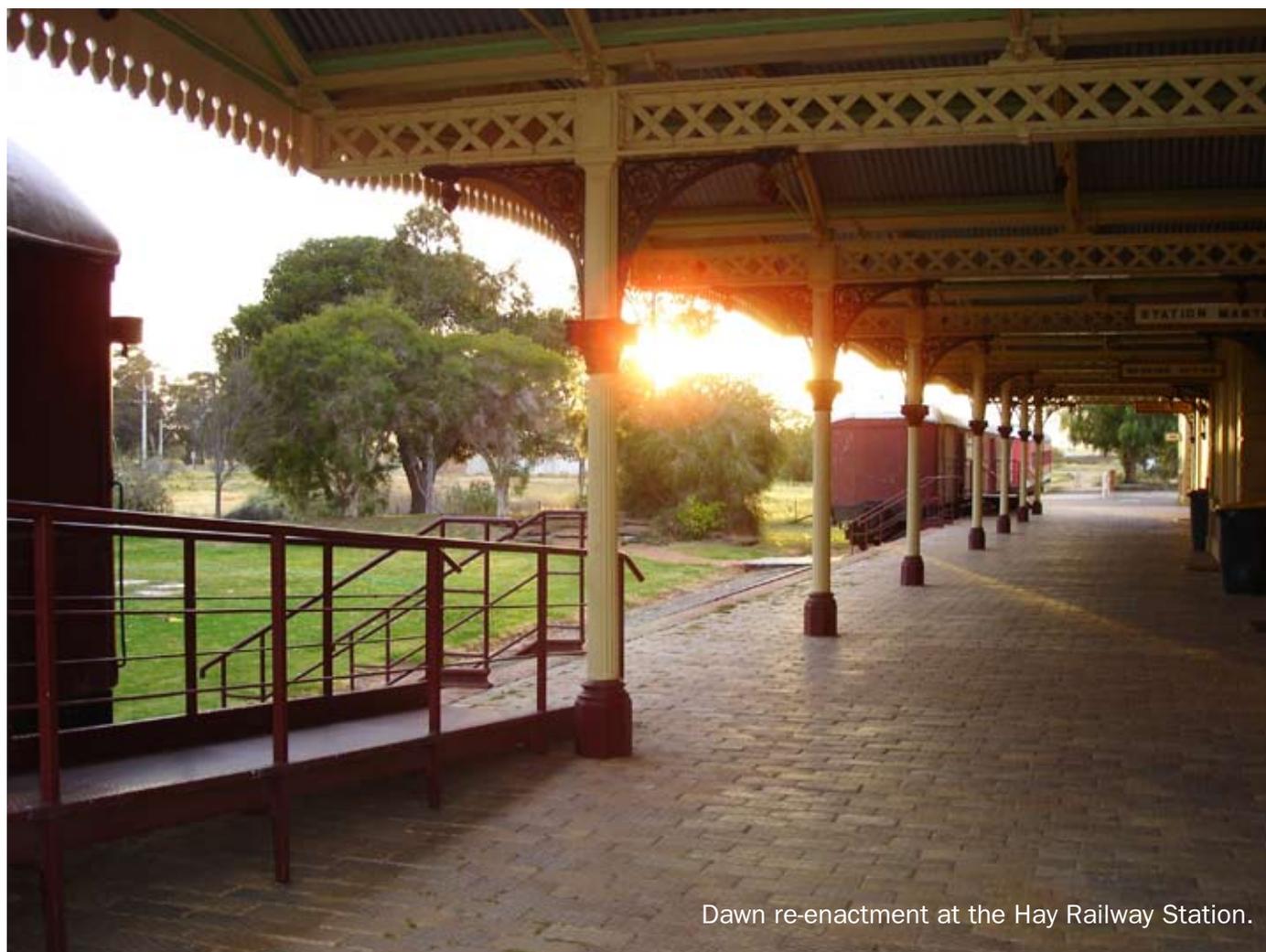
On the Sunday David and Colleen Houston kindly hosted a visit to their farm complete with a tour of the woolshed and a trip over the saltbush plains.

We are most grateful to David for his arrangements and generosity during the weekend, as well as his unstinting work as the force behind Hay Council's Dunera Museum committee.

The visit to Hay afforded us a great opportunity not only to renew old acquaintances but also to begin plans for the 70th anniversary event next year. Further details will follow in future newsletters.

**Rebecca Silk**

Hon. Secretary, Dunera Association



Dawn re-enactment at the Hay Railway Station.

# Annual Dunera Reunion – Melbourne

## **Dunera Association Inc. Annual Reunion Luncheon & AGM Celebrating 69 Years 1940–2009**

This year, we are again pleased to invite all Dunera Boys, Descendants and friends to our annual luncheon. Come join us to enjoy an afternoon at a new venue.

We hope everyone will make an effort to share a few memories and tell a few stories, especially for the benefits of the Descendants.

### **WHEN: Tuesday, 10 November 2009**

12 noon for 12.30 pm lunch, till 4pm.

**VENUE:** Quest Kimberley Function Centre and Hotel, 441 Inkerman Street, East St. Kilda (formerly Kimberley Gardens). Drive in for parking on premises. Street parking, no meters. Easy access to premises, no stairs to negotiate.

**GUEST SPEAKER:** The Member for Melbourne Ports, Mr. Michael Danby MHR.

**COST:** \$45 per person. This covers an excellent Kosher two-course meal, alternating choice of two mains, served with rolls and salad, choice of two desserts, plus soft-drinks, tea and coffee. Alcoholic drinks are available at the bar, to be paid separately.

The increase in price is due to general cost increases and change of cuisine and premises. Unfortunately, the Association can no longer subsidise the costs. However, we shall be happy to accommodate concessions for pensioners. Just send in whatever you feel fit to contribute.

**PLEASE NOTE: PRE-BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL.**

**Please use the booking form opposite.** 

■ All cheques to be made payable to “Dunera Association”.

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## **Subscriptions, Donations & Benevolent Funds**

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Last year was the first year in some time that we asked for subscriptions and donations and the response was most gratifying.

We collected \$3,177 to 30 June, and for that we thank you. The funds we now have will be utilised to assist any Dunera Boys in need either directly or through Jewish Care in Australia. If any readers are aware of any Boys needing assistance we will be happy to consider such requests. The other purposes for continuing to raise funds are to promote the 70th anniversary celebrations in Hay next year and to meet publication and other expenses.

Last year's collection of subscriptions commenced rather late and as we wish to collect funds at the beginning of the Australian financial year we now request that you forward subscriptions using the form attached. For those of you who paid after 31 December 2008 we do not expect payment again so soon.

Just a reminder of our subscription policy: Dunera Boys are exempt as are overseas members. Subscription for Australian members

is \$20, levied per household. We obviously welcome any further donations. Some recipients of Dunera News have not paid a subscription and we would ask you to consider such payment.

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

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

**North America Members.** We would appreciate a volunteer to act as a collecting agent for US and Canada members. Please contact **Mike Sondheim** – [sondheim@cyberone.com.au](mailto:sondheim@cyberone.com.au) or **Ron Reichwald** if you are interested and we can provide you with further details.

**Ron Reichwald, Treasurer**

Email: [reichwald1@optusnet.com.au](mailto:reichwald1@optusnet.com.au)

## Luncheon Booking Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone No: \_\_\_\_\_

Costs per person: \$45.00

Number of participants: \_\_\_\_\_

Names of all participants: \_\_\_\_\_

Total payment by cheque (payable to Dunera Association): \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Pensioners may pay by donation only.*

Please indicate special needs meals: \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail to:**

**The Treasurer, Dunera Association, 4 Callantina Court, Frankston Vic 3199**

**For your convenience and ease of administration, please note that one cheque for both luncheon and subscription/donation will suffice.**



## Annual Subscription & Donation form for 2009/2010

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

(Please provide relationship details – descendant of, friend, etc., for our database)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like the Dunera News by:  Email  Post

Subscription (\$20 per household)

Payment enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Donation: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total payment enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail to:**

**The Treasurer, Dunera Association, 4 Callantina Court, Frankston Vic 3199**

**For your convenience and ease of administration, please note that one cheque for both luncheon and subscription/donation will suffice.**

## From last year's Melbourne Reunion Lunch



## Sydney Dunera Reunion – 10 September

This year was the first year of arranging the **Sydney Dunera Boys Reunion** at **Jones Bay Wharf**, Pirrama Road, Pyrmont NSW. It is particularly relevant given that it was the wharf where *HMT Dunera* arrived 69 years ago. Initially everyone gathered at the Dunera museum on the ground level and was welcomed by the senior curator of the Australian National Maritime Museum, Daina Fletcher. In the museum all guests were able to read the huge comprehensive list of the names of all the Dunera Boys and also to view Dunera memorabilia left by the late Henry Lippmann.

After the welcome, everyone then headed upstairs to Doltone House where the main speakers addressed all the Dunera Boys and their guests and visitors. The speakers included Peter Arnott, son of Dunera Boy, the late Alfred Arnott. He referred to his uncles, Max and Steve Arnott, original Dunera Boys residing in Melbourne. John Ebert spoke regarding his special historical interest in Dunera and also Alan Arnott second generation



Dunera descendant who was delighted to inform everyone that a third generation Dunera descendant being his baby daughter was born in the early hours of the same day as the function. Both mother and daughter are well.

Paul Signorelli who generously provided the seating, the upstairs venue, food and drinks on behalf of Doltone House was the final speaker. He described his late father's experience as an Italian immigrant arriving at Jones Bay Wharf in the 1950's.

Nearly 50 people were in attendance at the reunion, including interstate visitors, Evan Arnott and Barbara Leiser, and the afternoon was an outstanding success.

Subsequent to the formalities many people proceeded to a tour of Jones Bay Wharf to take in the beautiful views of Sydney Harbour and the city skyline. Many crowded around the photograph of *HMT Dunera* which is found at the north western corner of Jones Bay Wharf.

Hopefully we will be able to have Jones Bay Wharf as the venue for all future Sydney functions.



### **The first refugees landing in Australia with no valid entry permits 70 years ago but vastly different from the illegal landings of recent times.**

We were Jewish Refugees from Germany and Austria with valid British permits.

There was general distrust that some 'Fifth Columnists' were amongst the 75,000 refugees. The Government instituted wholesale internment. About one third were interned, and arrangements were made with the Canadian and Australian Governments to accept some contingents.

Of four transports to Canada, one was sunk with great loss of lives. One transport to Australia on HMT Dunera carried some 2,500 prisoners of which about 2,000 were refugees, largely of Jewish background.

Including guards and crew, there were well over 3000 men on this vessel of 11,000 tons and a capacity for 1500.

Apart from a luckily unsuccessful torpedo attack, we suffered tremendous privations and hardships during the eight-week voyage around the Cape, including constant harassment, sometimes physical, by the British guards, all under the eyes of the C/O and his officers. Personal property, particularly valuables were confiscated and pocketed.

About a quarter of all baggage was wantonly ransacked and lost. The British Government years later paid compensation which however could not replace valuable personal documents. The C/O and two of the responsible NCO's were court-martialled on return. The matter was raised in Parliament that the Government had failed to inform the troops, the crew, and the Australian authorities of our refugee status.

On arrival at Fremantle army medical officers inspected the motley crowd of bedraggled men, many in torn clothes, pale from lack of fresh air and somewhat ill-nourished, ranging from 16 to 60.

We arrived in Sydney on 6 September, 1940, and entrained on the wharf, getting to Hay the following morning.

From the moment we stepped on Australian

soil, there was a different atmosphere. The guards, mostly WW1 veterans who had served in Palestine, quickly learned our background and status. In real Aussie spirit they offered us smokes and we enjoyed beautiful fresh sandwiches and fruit at various stops. In Hay, only one compound for 1000 men was ready.

We shared this for a week. The Australian officers went out of their way to meet all the shortcomings and supplied continuous streams of food. Many of us over-indulged and got sick. However they made a point of stressing "The British Government asked us to hold you on their behalf for the duration". We have no jurisdiction whatsoever regarding your status.

### **The first lot of refugees entering Australia without permits or visas.**

That is the only similarity with the many recent unauthorized landings.

From here on, the situation changed dramatically. We were behind barbed wire under military control. The Australians became acquainted with our status and what the term "Refugee from Nazi oppression" meant.

We were looked after well with good food and plenty of sun and fresh air until the real Australian summer became intolerable for us Europeans, eventually transferring us to Tatura in a more moderate climate. We developed our own internal camp administration and a camp school — most important for the younger generation, sports, entertainment, etc.

There are many articles and books that describe our unusual existence.

The British Government authorized release and return to Britain of about 1100 of the 2000. All got through except one shipment of some 40.

Many of these returnees had volunteered for the Forces and joined the Pioneer Corps, later transferring into fighting units in the invasion and subsequent tough campaigns right through Germany. Quite a number paid the ultimate sacrifice.

Many continued in the occupation forces, hunting down war criminals and other suspect

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Nazis. This often led to difficult confrontations, some Dunera Boys even got involved in the Nuremberg trials. Here again, records of personal experiences have been documented in book form.

### **Back to Australia**

Following America's entry into the war, the British and Australian Governments agreed to conditional releases in Australia. Some trade and professional specialists left the camp and about 600 volunteered for army service in an unarmed labour battalion, later named the Employment Coy. There were 13 employment companies, three of which including ourselves consisted largely of Jewish Refugees, some of whom were pre-war arrivals.

Our C/O, Captain Edward Broughton, a NZ Maori, WW1 and Boer War veteran, was a highly educated and understanding man who has become a legend for us. He grasped our special situation and re-established our self respect.

We underwent no basic training and were detailed for work from day two, consisting of labouring, handling war materials and supplies on the wharves, railyards, and storage sheds. It was very hard at first until the wharfies took pity on us and taught us some tricks of trade. In army uniforms, we presented a strange sight,

with different habits and strange accents.

Being stationed in Melbourne, we made contact with Jewish organizations and earlier arrivals, amongst them relatives. This enabled us to get settled. Free after work, we made the most of enjoying ourselves, going to dances and parties, meeting girls, often resulting in invitations to Australian homes, Jewish and non-Jewish.

We were stationed in Camp Pell close to the city, established for the Americans whom we were often mixed up with. The population found it hard to distinguish between all the foreigners. Many of the Boys got attached, engaged and married. Captain Broughton made it a point to attend every wedding. On the Jewish High Holidays, Broughton led the synagogue parade.

Many of the youngsters continued their camp studies with direct access to the university. Many a distinguished career started in those early days. There is a long list of scientists, professors, economists, lawyers and artists whose careers started in those early days.

We have played a significant part in the post war development and enrichment of Australia which we are proud of.

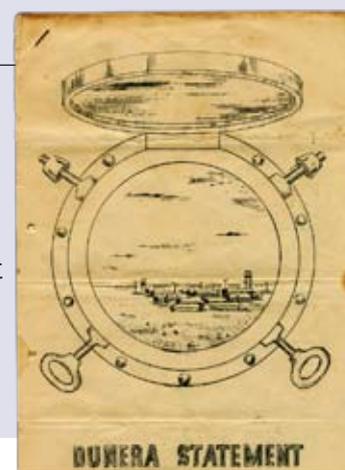
**Mike Sondheim**

This was an address to the King David School, Melbourne

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## **Q & A**

From time to time, people have contacted us to ask about the Dunera or to find more specific information about a Dunera Boy. So we would like invite you to send in your questions to – [dunera@ozemail.com.au](mailto:dunera@ozemail.com.au) – and we will see if we can help you in any way. Or perhaps you have a little story or a memento you would like to share with us. We would love to see or hear what Dunera memories you have, such as this copy of the *Dunera Statement* which was used to illustrate the cover of this newsletter. It was kindly provided by Dunera Boy, Ernst Wolf. We look forward to hearing from you!



**We are also 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 provide your name and email details to the Association for future communications.**

## ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

### A Stimulus Story

It is the month of August on the shores of the Black Sea. It is raining, and the little town looks totally deserted. Times are tough, everybody is in debt and lives on credit.

Suddenly, a rich tourist comes to town. He enters the only hotel, lays a 100 Euro note on the reception counter and goes to inspect the rooms upstairs in order to choose one.

The hotel proprietor takes the 100 Euro note and runs to pay his debt to the butcher.

The butcher takes the 100 Euro note, and runs to pay his debt to the pig farmer.

The pig farmer takes the 100 Euro note, and runs to pay his debt to the supplier of his feed and fuel.

The supplier of feed and fuel takes the 100 Euro note and runs to pay his debt to the town's prostitute who in these hard times, gave her "services" on credit.

The hooker runs to the hotel, and pays off

her debt with the 100 Euro note to the hotel proprietor to pay for the rooms that she rented when she brought her clients there.

The hotel proprietor then lays the 100 Euro note back on the counter so that the rich tourist will not suspect anything.

At that moment, the tourist comes down after inspecting the rooms, and takes his 100 Euro note, saying that he did not like any of the rooms, and leaves town.

No one earned anything. However, the whole town is now without debt and looks to the future with a lot of optimism.

And that, ladies and gentlemen, is how the United States Government is doing business today.

(Out of three hundred million people no one has had any better, proven ideas. We are all screwed regardless.)

### Different ways of looking at things

An old man goes to the Wizard to ask him if he can remove a curse he has been living with for the last 40 years.

The Wizard says, "Maybe, but you will have to tell me the exact words that were used to put the curse on you."

The old man says without hesitation, "I now pronounce you man and wife."

A blonde calls Delta Airlines and asks, "Can you tell me how long it will take to fly from San Francisco to New York City?"

The agent replies, "Just a minute."

"Thank you." the blonde says, and hangs up.

Two guys were discussing popular family trends on sex, marriage, and family values.

Bill said, "I didn't sleep with my wife before we got married, did you?"

Larry replied, "I'm not sure, what was her maiden name?"

A little boy went up to his father and asked, "Dad, where did my intelligence come from?"

The father replied. "Well, son, you must have got it from your mother, cause I still have mine."

A doctor examining a woman who had been rushed to the Emergency Room, took the husband aside, and said, "I don't like the looks of your wife at all."

"Me neither doc," said the husband.

"But she's a great cook and really good with the kids."

A man is recovering from surgery when the surgical nurse appears and asks him how he is feeling.

"I'm OK but I didn't like the four letter-word the doctor used in surgery." he answered.

"What did he say?" asked the nurse.

"Oops!"

## From George Lederer

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Just about now (depending on your longitudinal location) we are remembering yet another anniversary of our setting foot on the Dunera — 69 years ago.

How this “mistake” changed the course of our lives! Did you — or anyone else — give thought to how your life would have run, had you not suddenly been taken out of your intended path and taken to the other end of the world?

Not many are left to remember the date.

I happen to have a good memory for dates, not only my birthday. So, the Dunera date is engraved in it. And it warrants stopping for a minute to remember it, although it seems, more and more, an unlikely story ever to have happened.

In addition to the memories all we have left are a few remaining friendships, stronger or weaker, to which I find myself clinging.

Unlike in Australia, where the arrival of the Dunera and the accomplishment of some of

her passengers seemed to have become a national event, no impact like that was made anywhere else.

And to a large part this had something to do, not only with the number of internees who stayed in Australia but also with the organisation that some of you built, and the Newsletter, the Dunera News, which was founded and which you, Mike, and a few others carried on all these years. For this, a loud “thank you”.

The next anniversary? At our age it is not a certainty that we shall be there to remember it, nor is there any likelihood of a repeat of the resounding celebration of 2000 in Hay and Melbourne.

So today let’s take out the few bleached photographs that we have retained of our Dunera/Hay/Tatura experience, and try to remember what it was like.

With all good wishes **George Lederer**



## Dunera Committee

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At the AGM the Committee for the oncoming year will be elected.

Any financial member in Australia is entitled to be nominated for election by one financial member, and to be seconded by another.

Nominee, Nominator and Secunder must fill out and sign the attached form and return it to the address shown below by Tuesday, 27 October, 2009.

### **DUNERA ASSOCIATION INC. – ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS**

I am a financial member of the Association and wish to stand for election to the Committee of Management for 2009/10.

Name of Nominee ..... Signature of Nominee .....

Address .....

Name of Nominator ..... Signature of Nominator .....

Address .....

Name of Secunder ..... Signature of Secunder .....

Date .....

Please complete this form, detach and post it to:

**The Secretary, Dunera Association Inc. PO Box 19194, Southbank 3006.**

If undeliverable, return to:

**DUNERA NEWS**

Dunera Association  
PO Box 19194, Southbank  
Victoria 3006. AUSTRALIA



NEXT CLOSING DATE – 15 JANUARY, 2010

*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, Dunera Association  
PO Box 19194, Southbank, Victoria 3006, Australia  
OR email to: [sondheim@cyberone.com.au](mailto:sondheim@cyberone.com.au)