

# Dunera News

**NO. 80**

**OCTOBER 2010**

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.



**Foundation Editor:**

The late Henry Lippmann OAM

**Editorial responsibility:**

The Committee of the Dunera Association



*Letters and articles for publication are welcome.*

Please remember to supply your name and contact details with your story.

**Write to:** newsletter@duneraassociation.com

**All correspondence to:**

The Secretary – Dunera Association  
PO Box 19194, Southbank, Victoria 3006, Australia

**Email:** secretary@duneraassociation.com

Dunera Association on Facebook

– **Friends of the Dunera Boys**

Dunera Association website

– **www.duneraassociation.com**

**Next material closing date:** 15 January, 2011

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**Our thanks to all the contributors.****OBITUARIES:**

**Julius Guest** (Geist) – Melbourne  
16 June, 2010. Aged 90.

**George Turner** (George Schidlof) – UK  
May 2010, Aged 90.

**Walter Pollock** – Melbourne  
16 September, 2010. Aged 89.

***Our very sincerest sympathies to their families and friends.***

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## Dunera Committee 2009–10

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**President – Mike Sondheim**

president@duneraassociation.com

**Treasurer – Ron Reichwald**

Son of the late Martin Reichwald

treasurer@duneraassociation.com

**Secretary – Rebecca Silk**

Daughter of the late Peter Huppert

secretary@duneraassociation.com

**Dunera News – Anna Wolf**

Daughter-in-law of Ernst Wolf

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**Hay 70th Convenor – Peter Felder**

Son of the late Henry Felder

events@duneraassociation.com

**Public Relations – Michelle Frenkel**

Granddaughter of the late Erwin Frenkel

info@duneraassociation.com

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## Looking for information

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**From Michael Adler**

A German Historian who has helped me very much with my family research has asked me for information about the brothers Herman and Lothar Stein from Hassfurt who arrived in Australia on the Dunera. I have only been able to find out through Ancestry.com that Lothar was born in 1905 in Thuengen, Hassfurt and Hermann in 1906 in Arnstein, Hassfurt. They left Germany in July 1939.

If anyone could assist me with further information, it would be most appreciated.

I may be contacted by  
email madler1@bigpond.com  
or by phone (03)9887 8765.

Many thanks

**Michael Adler**

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**KEN INGLIS LECTURE**

This lecture has been postponed due to Ken falling ill whilst travelling overseas. When we have further information regarding the lecture, we will publish it on the Dunera website.

## From the President

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SHANA TOVA TO ALL OUR FRIENDS

This Dunera News is dedicated to the 70th anniversary of our arrival in Australia and celebrated by special events in Hay and Sydney respectively, attended by more than 200 people, nine of whom travelled long distances. The three Stern brothers and family visited Tatura en route to Hay in one day, and two days later drove on to Sydney for the event at Darling Harbour.

Thanks to the many months of planning and preparations by our committee members:

Peter Felder, main Convenor and Master of Ceremonies, jointly with David Houston, President of the Hay Dunera Museum Committee. Ron Reichwald, Treasurer and organiser of the Melbourne coach. Rebecca Silk, Secretary and tour and coach captain. Michelle Frenkel (3rd generation) and Anna Wolf for publicity and promotion.

And the organiser of the Sydney function Peter Arnott.

Everything went well, no hitches, a great success, deserving our wholehearted THANK YOU.

Our next function, the Melbourne Annual Reunion Luncheon with preceding AGM, is booked for 12 noon on Tuesday 9 November 2010, at Kimberley Function Centre, 441 Inkerman Street, St.Kilda.

See separate announcement and bookings form in this issue – make a diary entry now. Looking forward to seeing you all there.



Mike Sondheim

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## Greetings

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**Dear Mike and everyone,**

On behalf of everyone who came to the Reunion in Hay from the National Library, I'd like to thank you very much for last weekend. We all learned so much and it was wonderful to meet you, the Dunera Boys and their families and friends.

I also wanted to let you know that our Friday 27 August was recorded, and the podcast is now available at – <http://www.nla.gov.au/podcasts/exhibitions.html>. It's the one called *The Dunera Boys Remembered*.

Thank you again.

Best regards  
**Susannah Helman**

(Susannah is the assistant curator, exhibitions, National Library of Australia)

**Dear Dunera Friends,**

I am sorry that I can't be with you for the celebrations but I am wishing everybody a most wonderful and enjoyable time.

You are adding history to history with this great gathering of the older and younger generations and here is hoping for new friendships and connections being formed with the days in Hay and elsewhere.

I'll be thinking of you on Thursday especially. With many good memories of the days in Oz and the many good people who interacted in those perilous days may the meeting be the continuation of the many benefits the Dunera brought to Australia by our arrival.

Cordially yours  
**Harold Hellmut Stern**

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Special greetings also from Israel, from **Fred Wachs**, 96. Passed on by **Mary-Claire Adam**, who attended the events at Hay and Sydney.

## 70th Dunera Anniversary

Celebrated in Hay 3–5 September 2010



**What a fantastic experience this turned out to be. The warm atmosphere and friendship extended to the 140 visitors that descended on this NSW township was marvellous.**

David Houston, President of the Hay Dunera Museum and his committee made everyone feel really at home.

The fine weather on Friday changed into heavy rain overnight and continued into Saturday when a heavy downpour greeted us at the station. It did not dampen spirits; on the contrary the weather reminded the Dunera Boys of the climatic experience they endured while in internment.

The Friday evening was devoted to an informal 'get-to-know one another' at the Jolly Jumbuck Bistro. Peter Felder and David Houston, as joint MCs, welcomed all the guests, especially the nine overseas guests,

including the three sons of Dunera Boy Adalbert Stern (and their wives) from the UK and USA, Peter and Caroline-Ann Wyant (Dunera Boy Guenter Weiss descendants) from Canada and Melbourne-born Mary-Clare Adam (Israel), daughter of Dunera Boy Leonard Adam, a distinguished Berlin judge and scientist at Melbourne University. Note: Mary-Clare had donated her father's artwork to the Tatura Museum on one of her earlier visits.

The events started early on Saturday at the beautifully restored station and the Dunera Museum, which is inside two old train carriages. There was a re-enactment of the Dunera Boys marching from the train onto the platform and the dedication of the 'Dunera Place', all in pouring rain.

The attendees walked, via the 'Dunera Road', to the camp sites and viewed the monolith which was dedicated 20 years ago



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Celebrated in Hay 3–5 September 2010



at the 50th anniversary. The camp site was too soggy to view the few remaining foundation relics.

The Deputy Mayor officially welcomed everyone to Hay at the Memorial Hall, and extended the Freedom of the Shire to the Dunera Boys; a wonderful gesture that elevated the Dunera Boys' status from 'virtual prisoners' to 'highly recognised citizens'.

Many toured some of the other sites of Hay, including the cemetery, to visit the grave of Dunera Boy Menasche Bodner, the only Dunera Boy to pass away in Hay. He was buried in the Jewish Section of the cemetery, which contains seven graves dating back to the 1870s.

A lovely barbecue luncheon was served at the Memorial Hall. Bidgee Bend was unsuitable because of the weather conditions.

In the early evening, the Hay High School students presented a re-enactment play of the

Dunera Boys arriving at Hay, which has become a traditional item performed every year by year 9 and 10 students.

The award for the 2010 essay winner was awarded to Hay High School year 10 student Dylan Bolger for his excellent composition of "Dunera: A Highway to Hell". The annual essay competition was initiated by a Dunera Boy following the 50th Dunera anniversary in 1990.

A festive atmosphere greeted the group at the Warradgery Club. Tables were decorated with special Dunera mementos.

Guest speakers included:

- Evan Williams (retired journalist) and his brother Richard, sons of a Hay Garrison member during the internment.
- Richard and Nicholas Stern.
- Walter Travers (from Sydney) and David Eckstein (son of Eric) entertained with a beautiful operatic duet. Walter also presented



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a fun German translation of *Waltzing Matilda* which got everyone singing along.

Mike Sondheim presented David Houston with two Dunera mementos for the Hay Museum, which Willy Field (London) had specially sent via Nicholas Stern, and a memento signed by the Dunera Boys and

other guests who attended the weekend.

Thanks must go to David Houston and the Hay residents for their ongoing hospitality and friendship.

Thanks also to everyone who attended, it was a wonderful weekend of commemorative events.



## 70th Dunera Anniversary

Celebrated in Hay 3–5 September 2010

There were many photographs taken at Hay and Sydney by committee members and friends. Here are just a few of them.

If you would like to contribute a photo and a few words of your experience, please email it to – [newsletter@duneraassociation.com](mailto:newsletter@duneraassociation.com) and we will publish it in the next newsletter.



# 70th Dunera Anniversary

Celebrated in Hay 3–5 September 2010



# 70th Dunera Anniversary – Sydney

Celebrated on 7 September 2010

**The function held at Jones Bay Wharf, Sydney, to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the Dunera landing in Sydney was a great success.**

More than 80 people, plus speakers, attended and Sydney put on fantastic sunny weather, with the magnificent Sydney Harbour Bridge in the background.

The function commenced in the Heritage Room, on the ground level at Jones Bay Wharf, Pyrmont, where the Dunera Museum is located. This museum includes memorabilia provided by the late Henry Lippmann.

Three speakers presented at the event:

## Sir Nicholas Stern



Sir Nicholas Stern, the son of Dunera Boy Bert Stern, spoke about his father and the treatment by the rogue garrison on the HMT Dunera.

Sir Nicholas is the IG Patel Professor of Economics and Government at the London School of Economics. He was the advisor to the UK Government on the economics of climate change and development. He was the head of the Stern Review on the Economics of Climate Change.

From 2002-03 he was the World Bank Chief Economist and Senior Vice President. He has previously been Chief Economist and Special Counsellor to the President of the European Bank for Reconstructions and Development.

He has taught economics at many universities, including Oxford and Warwick and the University of China in Beijing. He was knighted for “Services to Economics” in 2004 and became Sir Nicholas Stern.

In October of 2007, his cross-bench non-party political peerage was announced and he was “introduced” to the House of Lords in December 2007. He is also known as Baron Stern of Brentford.



## 70th Dunera Anniversary – Sydney

Celebrated on 7 September 2010



### John Ebert



John recently undertook a modern history course and wrote his thesis on the Dunera Boys.

John is a lawyer with the Australian Taxation Office.

Previously, he was a private legal practitioner in Sydney. His father was a soldier at Cowra, when the Japanese prisoners of war broke out in 1944.

He spoke about his experiences with Justice Strauss of the Family Court of Australia, who was a Dunera Boy. He also spoke about his dealings with Dunera Boys during his research.

### Mary-Elizabeth Calwell



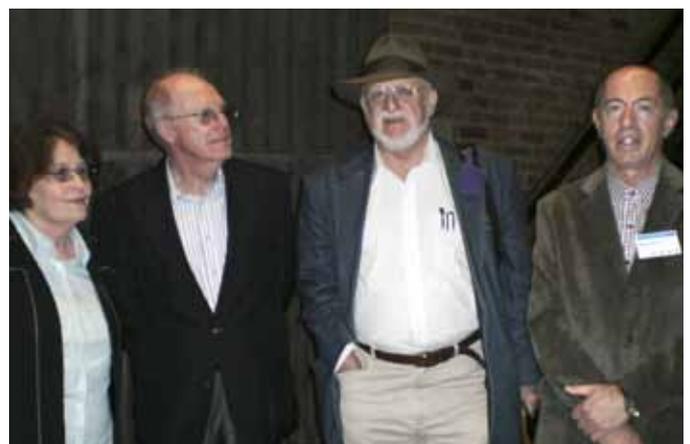
Mary-Elizabeth is the daughter of Australian politician and icon, Sir Arthur Calwell.

Sir Arthur Calwell was a member of the House of

Representatives for 32 years, from 1940–72 and Immigration Minister in the Government of Prime Minister Ben Chifley from 1945–49, and leader of the opposition on behalf of the Australian Labor Party from 1960–67. He was also Minister for Information in John Curtin's war time Labor Government, which governed Australia from 1941–45. When Evatt retired in 1960, Sir Arthur Calwell succeeded him as leader, with Gough Whitlam as his deputy.

Sir Arthur Calwell died in July 1973. He was survived by his wife Elizabeth and his daughter Mary-Elizabeth.

Mary-Elizabeth has a keen interest in her late father's involvement in Australian politics. She also has particular interest in setting the record straight in so far as verifying that her father was a promoter of the release of internees in Australia during the second World War. He was a supporter of Jewish migration to Australia during the immediate post-war period.



## 70th Dunera Anniversary – Sydney

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His support was verified by Eric Eckstein, Honorary Secretary of the Dunera Association, in a letter dated 20 July 1992, addressed to Mary-Elizabeth in which he rejects the scurrilous program screened on ABC TV on 29 March 1992, which denigrated the true position of her late father regarding his support of Jewish migration to Australia.

There were five Dunera Boys in attendance at the function, including Walter Travers and Michael Brent.

A big thank you goes out to Paul Signorelli, managing director of Daltone House, who was extremely generous in providing a beautiful function centre and catering free of charge for the event and also provided a free shuttle bus for the elderly to be collected from Star City Tram Railway Station. His staff also did a great job directing guests from Jones Bay Wharf to the function centre.



### To the Friends of the Dunera Boys

I have just received the latest copy of the Dunera News and read that you are interested in old photos.

I am not sure if you have this one but cannot remember seeing it anywhere.

Of course I do not know the other players, but assume some of your older members might recognise them, as the photo is very clear.

Best regards

**Herta Koppel**

(widow of Heinz Koppel)

*Do you recognise the people in this photo?*

Please contact us – [info@duneraassociation.com](mailto:info@duneraassociation.com)

**Tatura internment camp Dunera soccer team, 1942.  
Goalkeeper Heinz Koppel, at rear, fifth from left.**



### From Anthony Field, son of Willy Field (Willy Hirschfeld)

This is a photo of my father (centre) at his 90th Birthday Party, together with two other Dunera Boys, Peter Eden (Peter Engel) on the left and Gerry Moore (Gerhard Moses) on the right. They were all together in Hay, Camp 8.

The party was held at Sopwell House Hotel, St. Albans. Also celebrating her 90th birthday was my father's twin sister, Thea.

With very best wishes,

**Anthony Field**



### **Not Welcome**

– By Sue Everett

Lutz Eichbaum sits in a wheelchair at a nursing home, a leg missing from an amputation, his memory filled with the violence of Kristallnacht, the agony of the Kindertransport, the horrific voyage of the Dunera and wartime internment in Australia.

He leans forward and smiles. “It got better,” he says.

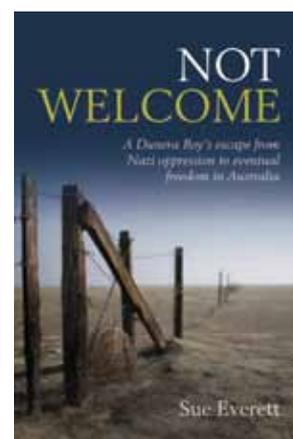
Ludwig Ernst (Lutz) Eichbaum adopts a new name, Leslie Ernest (Ernie) Everett. He marries, has two sons and barracks for the Hawthorn Football Club.

He gets on with his life, but he does not forget.

A book — his book — sits on his lap. Written by his daughter-in-law, Sue Everett, it is titled *Not Welcome (A Dunera Boy's escape from Nazi oppression to eventual freedom in Australia)*.

— *The Australian*

Launched July 2010, published by Hybrid Publishers, \$32.95.



### From Martie Lowenstein

Many thanks for an amazing and thoughtful weekend.

I was reminded of two songs from Hay Camp Revues that my father Werner Julius Lowenstein sang frequently at opportune

moments as a statement of his optimism in hard times. Here are the words and I do know the tunes.

One is especially dedicated to Hay but I have no idea if the songs are documented elsewhere.

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### SING HAY FOR HAPPY

Sing Hay for happy and you feel snappy  
And you don't want to cry  
Sing Hay for happy and you feel snappy  
And you don't want to die  
Though you'd even sell your overcoat  
For just the sight and one more bite of  
tasty "butterbrot"

Sing all your troubles away like bubbles  
And start a little game  
Without your girlie you'll get up early,  
Oh what an awful shame  
Sing "R" for Rosendorf and "B" for Blumendorf  
And "S" for snappy  
Now sing "HAY FOR HAPPY"

### YOU'LL GET USED TO IT

You get used to it, you get used to it  
The first year is the worst year then  
You'll get used to it  
You can scream and you can shout,  
But they'll never let you out  
It serves you right, you "so and so"  
Why weren't you a naturalised Eskimo?

Just tell yourself it's MARVELLOUS!  
You'll get to like it more and more and more  
And when you get used to it  
When you get used to it  
You'll feel just as lousy as you felt before!

— *I still sing them!!*

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## From the Treasurer

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Sometimes we do need to raise funds, in order to provide important services to our members at a subsidised cost.

For the recent 70th anniversary celebrations in Hay, we hired a bus to enable members to travel there who would not otherwise have been able to go. The Association heavily subsidised the costs for the bus.

Payment of membership fees will also enable us to donate to organisations like Jewish Care, which plays a vital role in looking after the needs of our Dunera Boys and their wives. This newsletter also costs money to produce.

One may ask what other benefits are available to members. The Dunera News is only sent to members. The Dunera website will not

contain the current Dunera News, but will feature past issues. Membership includes 10% discounts on any services/items we provide, including the upcoming Melbourne re-union luncheon.

We ask those who have not done so, to become a paid member and send in the membership application form on page 14 in this issue. A form is also available on our website [www.dunerassociation.com](http://www.dunerassociation.com). Such a commitment by you will be much appreciated.

Also, sponsorships of future events and special merchandise are available, with the benefits that go along with this activity.

— Ron Reichwald

## Melbourne Reunion Lunch

### **DUNERA ASSOCIATION INC. ANNUAL REUNION LUNCHEON AND AGM CELEBRATING 70 YEARS 1940-2010**

We are pleased to invite all Dunera Boys, Descendants and Friends to our annual luncheon.

VENUE: Quest Kimberley Function Centre and Hotel, 441 Inkerman St, East St.Kilda (formerly Kimberley Gardens). Parking available on the premises and on the street, no meters.

WHEN: Tuesday 9 November 2009,  
12 noon for 12.30pm lunch – 4pm  
Preceded by Annual General Meeting – 11am sharp. Financial members are invited to attend.

COST: \$55 per person. \$50 for members.  
This covers an excellent two course kosher meal with two mains and desserts served

alternately, with rolls, salads, soft drink, tea and coffee. Alcoholic drinks are available at the bar, to be paid separately.

We would be happy to discuss concessions for pensioners.

Please note that future charity donations and support for needy Dunera Boys will be met from general donations and membership fees as there will be no function surplus.

PLEASE NOTE: PRE-BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL USING THE ATTACHED APPLICATION FORM.  
All cheques to be made payable to –  
Dunera Association

Please note one cheque or credit payment for both luncheon and membership fees or donations will suffice for your convenience and ease of administration.

### **Application for Annual Membership** (Financial year 1 July 2010 – 30 June 2011)

Dunera Association Incorporated. Corporation No. A0018624W

I hereby apply for membership of the above, and in so doing agree to abide by the rules of the Association as detailed in the Associations Incorporation Act 1981.

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

Dunera Boy: Yes / No      Relation or connection to Dunera: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address for notices and newsletter: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership (\$20 per household) – Membership: \$      Donation: \$

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

Payment options for fees and donations:

Australia: Direct payment at any Westpac branch. Please make sure your sender details are shown on deposit slip or on internet banking.

BSB 033-083 Account No. 20-8851 South Yarra branch – Dunera Association Inc.

or cheque made payable to Dunera Association, mailed to – The Treasurer.

4 Callantina Court, Frankston, VIC 3199.

UK: Anthony Field. 12 Bouverie Gardens, Kenton, Harrow, Middlesex HA3 ORQ, England

USA: Steven Guttman. 359 Vernon Street, San Francisco, California 94132, USA

## Annual General Meeting

The AGM for Dunera Association Inc. will be held at Quest Kimberley Function Centre, 441 Inkerman Street, East St.Kilda on Tuesday 9 November at 11.00am.

All financial members are invited to attend and participate.

At the Annual General Meeting the minutes of the previous AGM will be confirmed; the financial reports for 2009-10 will be received; office bearers and committee members will be elected.

Any financial member living in Victoria, Australia is entitled to be nominated as an office bearer or committee member by one financial member, and seconded by another.

Nominee, nominator and seconder should fill out and sign the form and return it to the Secretary by 26 October 2010.

### 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 2010-11.

Name of Nominee \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Position proposed \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Nominator \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Seconder \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete this form, detach and post to:  
The Secretary – Dunera Association Inc  
PO Box 19194, Southbank, VIC 3006

### Melbourne Reunion Lunch Booking Form

**Please fill and return by Monday, 1 November 2010**

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

Postal address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Cost of seats (\$55 per person / \$50 for members) – Number of seats required: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Names of all attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Payment options:

1. Direct payment at any Westpac branch. Please make sure your sender details are shown on deposit slip or on internet banking.

BSB 033-083 Account No. 20-8851 South Yarra branch – Dunera Association Inc.

2. Cheque made payable to Dunera Association, mailed to  
– The Treasurer. 4 Callantina Court, Frankston, VIC 3199.

Pensioners may pay by donation.

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