

Dunera News



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.

No. 101 October 2017



Dunera Hay anniversary 2017

Hay Railway Station

Symbolic re-enactment – siren and sounds of four steam trains.
In 1940, there were 48 carriages. Internees were marched from the
carriages to the Camps in Hay.

Foundation Editor:

The late Henry Lippmann OAM

Editorial responsibility:

The Committee of the Dunera Association

Dunera Association on facebook

– Friends of the Dunera Boys

Letters and articles for publication are welcome.

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CONTENTS

From the President	3
Dunera Day at Hay	4
Dunera Reunion in Sydney	6
The Dunera Boys tapestry	7
Ernst Albert Meyer	8
– Tribute by grandson Darren Seidl	
Reinhold Eckfeld	10
– A Story of Luck and Not	
Dunera Boy – Henry James	14
– <i>From Die neue Woche</i>	
Driftwood – Eva de Jong-Duldig	16
– Review by Susan Gaye Anderson	
Dunera Lives – A Visual History	17
– Book launch update	
Dunera Association – Help Wanted	17
Dunera Melbourne Reunion Lunch	18
– AGM and registration	

Many thanks to all the contributors.

Seeking Information

In the late 1930s, a number of young German Jews left their homes and went to Berlin, to a Jewish trade training school in the suburb of Pankow (formerly East Berlin) called Niederschönhausen.

Many travelled from Niederschönhausen via Amsterdam and ended up in the Kitchener Camp in Sandwich, Kent UK. Some of those interned were transported to Hay while others joined the British army.

In 2014, Clare Ungerson wrote a book about Kitchener Camp called “Four Thousand Lives” but did not identify the internees who came to Australia.

It is known that Fred Lowenstein, and Eric Pearce (Peritz) were two Dunera internees previously at Niederschönhausen.

Gerry Pearce is researching the journey of his father and others from Niederschönhausen to Australia via the Kitchener Camp. If you have information please contact –

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Cover photo: Margie McClelland



Rebecca Silk
President
Dunera Association

From the President

Welcome to Dunera News number 101. It is a truism that the older one gets, the faster time seems to go by. So in Australia the Spring season is here already and we are counting down to end-of-year events.

In this edition you will find reports from our reunions in Hay and in Sydney. In Hay, we welcomed some Dunera descendants who were making their first visit to Hay and joined in their journey of discovery. Our friends from the Dunera Museum in Hay, including stalwarts David and Coleen Houston, were as gracious and hospitable as ever.

In Sydney, we missed a few regular attendees due to illness but were entertained by anecdotes from guest speaker Simon Chilvers – the actor who played Colonel Berry in the Dunera Boys mini-series. We were again grateful to the Sydney Jewish Museum for hosting us so comfortably.

The life stories of Dunera Boys are always interesting, and in this issue you will find continuation of the life story of Reinhold Eckfeld, a heartwarming piece on Henry James, and a wonderful tribute to Albert Meyer who sadly passed away in August.

This year, the Melbourne Reunion Lunch is on Tuesday, 14 November, and it would be wonderful to see you there. Please complete the booking form on page 19 to secure your place. As usual the Dunera Association’s annual general meeting will precede the Lunch and all members are welcome to attend.

You can of course keep in touch or update your details at duneraboys@gmail.com or join our Facebook group, Friends of the Dunera Boys.

I wish you happy reading!

Dunera Day at Hay

1-2 September 2017 – 77th Anniversary of the arrival in Hay



A very successful and memorable gathering was held in Hay on the first weekend of September 2017. As usual David and Coleen Houston and their helpers from the Dunera Museum were as generous as ever in looking after the group.

Present were committee members Ron Reichwald and I, Terri Sabella, Trish Best, Evelyn Flitman, Malcolm Flitman, Robyn Fuerst, Neil Jackson, Dianne Efron, Russell Efron, Harvey Stern, Ian Gabriel, Cheryl-Ann Mitchell. Also making the trip were Mark Kornitschuk, Sanae Kornitschuk and their children. Mark is a collector of coins and bank notes. In all, 18 people representing nine Dunera internees and connections were there for the weekend.

On Saturday morning, Roly Desailly led the actors for the arrival and march from the railway carriage. Many locals including Mick Beckwith and Laura Bunyan joined us at the re-enactment. Sons and daughters of Dunera Boys found it very moving, and it made for an interesting start for first time visitors to Hay.

The entire group then walked to the site of the entrance to the camps as David explained the locations and layouts of Camps 7 and 8. He then showed the group around the showgrounds, indicating the remains of building foundations as well as the reconstructed brick gateway to the camps.

This was followed by stops at the historic Hay gaol and Hay cemetery.

In the afternoon, some people watched “When Friends were Enemies”– the excellent 1991 SBS documentary about Dunera internees. David led people through the Dunera museum carriages which is always a highlight of the visit to Hay. Some went on to Rhonda’s place on the site of the internment camp farm and enjoyed seeing Rhonda’s magnificent contemporary farm house with sweeping views of the river.

The dinner on Saturday night was another opportunity for people to share stories of their Dunera person or connections, and make or renew firm friendships.

Sunday saw us back at Bishops Lodge to experience the splendour of the historic house and its beautiful gardens. Once again we were treated to Coleen Houston’s fabulous morning tea before farewelling Hay for another year.

We are grateful as always for the kindness and generosity of our Hay friends and the opportunity to learn more about the remarkable stories of internment. We look forward to returning in 2018.

Rebecca Silk



Photos © Margie McClelland

Dunera Reunion in Sydney

6 September 2017

Some 15 people attended the reunion which was held at the recently renovated Sydney Jewish Museum.

Unfortunately, Dunera Boy Henry James was in hospital, and John Ebert was unwell and could not attend the event.

Rebecca Silk welcomed everyone and gave a report of the very successful sculpture project in Tatura. The new memorial sculpture is not only a beautiful piece of art (created by Jason Huntley), but also a permanent memorial to those internees who lost their lives on the ships Arrandora Star, Aboosso, and the Waroonga. Rebecca thanked those who donated to the sculpture project appeal and expressed gratitude to the Tatura Wartime Camps museum for giving the memorial a home.

Rebecca brought greetings from the Hay Dunera committee and those who attended the reunion in Hay just a few days earlier, and encouraged people to attend the reunion lunch in Melbourne on 14 November this year.

Guest speaker Simon Chilvers was then introduced by committee member Ron Reichwald. Simon had an illustrious acting career, including on *Rafferty's Rules*, before taking the part of Colonel Berry in *The Dunera Boys* mini-series. Simon talked about how much he enjoyed working with Ben Lewin and the actors on *The Dunera Boys*. He spoke also about the strength of the story lines that related to every character in the film. Simon went on to other TV work including the acclaimed political drama *True Believers*.



The Dunera Boys tapestry

From Quaker Tapestry, UK

Back in 2015 the Australian Quaker Tapestry project invited us to create a panel about 'The Dunera Boys story'. The idea was that the panel be designed and stitched in Kendal to reciprocate the panel 'Elizabeth Fry and the Patchwork Quilts', which the Australian Quakers stitched for us.



However 'The Dunera Boys' was a not a subject familiar to us.

After reading a short synopsis on the Dunera, Roy Wilcock, Quaker Tapestry volunteer and partner of our general manager, Bridget Guest, became enthused with the idea. Tasked with encapsulating this scandalous episode in British history onto an embroidered panel, Roy embarked on detailed research of the events which enabled him to come up with the final design (drawn by Bridget).

A connection needed to be made to explain the Quaker involvement in the story. How did Quakers respond to the refugee situation? What practical help was put into place and how did they challenge the governments in the UK and in Australia?

So how can such a story be reduced down to a few key images and words? A difficult task but there were strong elements throughout which were destined to become part of the final design. The heading at the top gives a brief introduction to the story. The ship with the name Dunera was a floating prison which concealed the brutality on board administered by the British army guards to the detainees.

The panel goes on to show hope and friendship offered by the Quakers in Australia, and later when the story broke in Britain. The two people talking through a mesh screen depicts Quakers talking to internees in the camp. Along the bottom are the tools and books that Quakers gave them; such as typewriters, books and shoes to play football. Dolphins represent freedom and when it's stitched, the waves will have lots of colour to reflect the multi-faceted parts of who these Boys were.

The embroidery began in April 2017 by our group of PHDs (Projects Half Done) and it will be part of the Roadshows this year in Taunton and London where it will answer everybody's favourite question "Is the Quaker Tapestry finished?".

We would like to offer our thanks to Roy for all his hard work in unpicking the story of the Dunera Boys and showing Quaker Tapestry Museum's dedication in paying true homage to their story in our collaboration with the Australian Quaker Tapestry.

The story can be read at – quaker-tapestry.co.uk/embroidery/the-dunera-boys-story

Ernst Albert Meyer

30 January 1922 – 19 August 2017

Tribute by grandson Darren Seidl

During our childhood Albert would often say: “In life you are given three names – the one you are born with – the one you make for yourself, and the one you leave behind.”

Now after 95 and a half years, a life full of twists and turns, trials and tribulations, survival, joy and happiness ... he officially leaves his name behind, and every single person that he has ever touched and inspired along the way, will cherish his memory forever.

Albert was born on 30 January 1922, in the town of Worms, Germany. He grew up in poverty and at the age of six his father passed away from tuberculosis. On Albert's 11th birthday, Hitler came to power, and like millions of other Jews, Albert's world was turned upside down. He made his way to Berlin in 1936, where he lived with 12 boys in a hostel in a poor Jewish district. He was fortunate to join a trade school called the ORT. One weekend, he returned to Worms to visit his mother and two younger sisters. It was the last time he would ever see them.

Albert often told the story about Kristallnacht, in 1938, when he woke up one morning and suddenly saw all the shops and synagogues in his district on fire. He hid alone in a bunker for three days, and vividly recalls returning to his hostel where he was confronted by an officer and questioned about his religion. With his quick smarts, blonde hair and blue eyes, he got out of that situation, and from that day on, made a promise to himself that he would donate whatever he could afford to Jewish welfare.

In 1939, on the eve of World War II, he was among 100 ORT boys who boarded the final train out of Berlin to England. He recalls jumping through one of the train windows and flinging open the door to let extra people in.

England was where his passion for sport was truly ignited. He proudly played professional soccer for Leeds United, but his promising career was cut short after the UK Government deemed that the thousands of German and Austrian men [in the UK] were a security threat. He was arrested and interned.

At the age of 18, Albert and many other Jewish refugees were deported on the infamous Dunera ship. The destination was not known but the ship travelled for



8 weeks. As we know, the internees were treated like prisoners by the guards.

Finally, in September 1940, the Dunera arrived in Sydney, and the survivors would later be affectionately referred to as the Dunera Boys, a group that Albert was very proud to be associated with until the day he died.

After internment, Albert joined the Australian Army where he served for four years. After his release from the army, he married his first wife and they had three children.

He captained the Hakoah soccer club where he was nicknamed Snowy for his long blonde locks.

In 1979, Albert married his second wife, Franzi. He loved my grandmother with all his heart and they lived a beautiful life together for 33 years.

Growing up, my brother Jase and I were truly blessed to have such a guiding influence on our lives. Albert taught us so many important values through his warmth, sense of humour, humility and unselfishness.

Albert became well known to all our mates as he never missed a basketball, cricket, or football game. He was always the first to congratulate us on a good game, but wasn't afraid to provide constructive feedback. I recall taking six wickets in a match one day. As I was walking from the field, Albert said to me: “Darren ... well bowled today ... but your batting was shithouse.”

Albert was the ultimate humanitarian. He devoted his life to helping others and never expected anything in return. Whenever he had a spare dollar, he gave it away, stating “they need it more than I do”. For over a decade, he would visit the same five nursing homes every single day, just so the residents had someone to talk to.

One of his many great qualities was that he never, ever complained, no matter the situation. He didn't focus on his own welfare. Even in his very last hours, he didn't ask for a thing.

After Franzi passed away, he only had one wish – to live out the remainder of his life at Emmy Monash, a place he called home. He was reunited with an old friend, Asher, and the two of them were inseparable. He was the brother Albert never had. They were the best of mates right up until the very end.

“In life you are given three names, the one you are born with, the one you make for yourself, and the one you leave behind.” Albert Meyer, the name you leave behind is a truly inspirational one. We grandchildren are truly honoured to call you our grandfather.



Reinhold Eckfeld – A Story of Luck and Not

21 September 1921 – 16 April 2017

By Tonia Eckfeld

Continued from Dunera News – issue no.100

PART 2: The Wasted Years

With clear perspective, Reinhold Eckfeld said: ‘Now in my old age I look back, but the future is for the young. I only hope they’ll make better use of the 21st century.’

It was almost impossible to get the necessary paperwork to leave Vienna.

His sister Judy had earlier gone ahead to England. With the help of the Society of Friends (The Quakers), Reinhold, his mother and brother at last secured their visas. He said: ‘The Quakers helped anyone who couldn’t be helped by the Jewish Organisation ... [because] they did not belong to the Jewish religion.’ Eugenie, Waldemar and Reinhold fitted the description.

In a notebook he recorded: ‘Friday the 25th (of August 1939) at 10.40pm, I left from the Western Railway Station with my mother and my brother. At eight-thirty in the evening I learnt that I had to leave just two and a quarter hours later. War broke out on the 26th!’ They had narrowly made it out on the last train. Even that was a harrowing experience. He never went back to Vienna. His father did not manage to secure a passport and visa and died nine months later in the Rothschild Hospital in Vienna, attended by relatives.

Train to Holland, ship to England, train to London, then after a few days with the Quakers (when they could sightsee London by foot), train to Liverpool, ship to Belfast Northern Ireland, then train to Londonderry, Northern Ireland. There, he was looked after by his Viennese aunt and uncle, who had also emigrated. Reinhold worked as a baker’s boy in exchange for his food, lodgings and later a small allowance. Reinhold recalled: ‘On the day after my 18th birthday, I moved in with the bread man (who delivered bread to my uncle). The quickest way to learn a foreign language is by immersion because I only saw my family on Sunday afternoons. The other six days I fetched goods from the shop to houses. If the weather was good, I worked in the vegetable garden at the back of the house. The next few months were a relief but not for long.’

On 25 June 1940, he was arrested again, this time by the British Government as a Class C Enemy Alien and imprisoned in Belfast gaol before being moved to a Camp in Liverpool. Fearing bombing and capture should the German army invade England, he volunteered with his brother to embark as prisoners of war on the military transport ship, HMT Dunera – a fateful two month sea voyage which brought him to Australia. Reinhold: ‘Prior to entry onto the ship we were searched by the ship’s guards. Our valuables – rings, watches, money – were taken straight away

and our luggage disappeared. We could not get at it during the voyage. We thought we were going to Canada, but after some days, reckoned the destination was Australia. Me and others did not even have a hammock, so I slept under a table for eight weeks, getting trod on. The portholes were sealed and covered, and access to fresh air was by group on the upper deck for 20



Hay. Camp 8, Hut 29. 1941. By Reinhold Eckfeld

minutes per day. Barbed wire, machine guns and bayonets were used. We went via Africa. One depressed man jumped and disappeared, another died in a fight with another internee, several got wounded by guards, and Waldi (my brother) was beaten after his attempted escape at Port Melbourne. I could only recognise him by his hair.’

Reinhold, aged 18, landed in Sydney on 6 September 1940, and was moved to the Camps. ‘It was flat and remote with barbed wire everywhere. The Australians had only to look after us. The decision about our release was up to the British Government. In Australia we were treated well, though we were not free. After ten months we moved from Hay to Tatura. We did essential work – we were willing, not forced. I occupied myself partly by digging channels for rainwater in Hay (because it was flat it got muddy). In Tatura I dug rubbish ditches (3 to 4 feet deep).

The internees had the good idea to organise a camp school, available to all; I practised my favourite subject – drawing. I did it as an elective at school, then I studied architecture – the start of my later career. The letters we wrote to our families took months to receive a reply – due to the censor and slow ships. We could write to people in enemy countries. I had written to my father in January 1942. I received a reply from his sister in Czechoslovakia to whom it had been sent on. He had died of his old sickness 18 months prior.’ (Reinhold’s mother and sister Judy couldn’t get news from Europe, so Reinhold got the news first and relayed it.)

He was interned from June 1940 to March 1943. He considered these his wasted years. Although he was persecuted and oppressed, he survived. By contrast, his Aryan friend and classmate Alfred in Vienna, shook Hitler’s hand, joined the German army as a medical orderly and was killed on 30 September 1941, on the Russian front.

PART 3: Life in Australia – the happy years

Reinhold Eckfeld had left everything behind when he left Vienna, then the United Kingdom, so in a way he had everything to gain. He embraced Australia as his home as he felt Australia embraced him.

Reinhold served in the Australian Army's 8th Employment Company from 1943 to 1946 (3 years and 9 months). He said: 'The internees couldn't be released in Australia. They had to go back to England. 47 had died because their ship was torpedoed, and so we decided with others to wait for the end of the war in Australia. This was before the entry of Japan into the war. Then the British and Australians thought to use the internees for the war effort. On 5 March 1943, I therefore joined the Army Employment Company comprised mainly of men from our camps (except for the commissioned and non-commissioned officers who were Australians). So, I loaded and unloaded goods for the army, where we never heard a shot.'

Reinhold resumed his education in Australia. He undertook preliminary studies in architecture, technical drawing, engineering and interior design in the Camps, equivalent to full-time study in 1941-42. 'In 1945, we were stationed in a suburb of Melbourne and then I started a course in architectural draftsmanship at RMIT, three nights a week, (travelling from Broadmeadows to the city by train). I had a talent and got good exam results. In 1946, I was still in the army but far from Melbourne (at Mangalore). Soon after my release in 1946, I continued my studies and had luck at the age of 25 of getting a job with an architectural firm (on Latrobe Street) and could go straight to night classes from there.'

Reinhold worked in the firm of Best Overend, the President of the Royal Australian Institute of Architects, initially as an architectural draughtsman, then on completion of 13 years of part-time study at night and on weekends, as an architect. His designs included banks, hotels, factories, youth training centres such as Malmsbury, and large town planning projects including Churchill near Hazelwood.

Later Reinhold worked for the Australian Government leading the architectural design office of the Department of Housing and Construction. He said: 'In my 40s I decided to look for a new position with pension rights and got one in government working on big projects – mostly plans of military installations, for example, for the navy, air force and army. This job required travel all over Australia and contacts with relevant officers. As the beginning of my life in Australia was behind barbed wire this was ironical.' He worked as an architect until 1981, when aged 61, he retired thus avoiding a move to Canberra. Ever practical, he then set himself to the pursuit of architecture through hands-on activities.

While in the army, Reinhold met Beryl Erickson – the love of his life, a local Melbourne girl. They married on 16 February 1946, at St Cuthbert's in East

Brunswick. On their marriage certificate, Reinhold, 24, is listed as a soldier and Beryl, 21, as a clerk. Theirs was a life-long love, with loyal mutual support and lively shared interests. They settled first in West St Kilda, then to the family home in Mount Waverley.

Early on, the Eckfeld family was reunited. Reinhold was ever mindful: 'As I had my sister and Mother, who had survived the bombing in England and Ireland, I wanted to help them.' Reinhold and Beryl organised and paid for their passage and resettlement from the United Kingdom to Australia in 1949, and supported them extensively while they got on their feet. Three children arrived and were happily raised. The family was solid and stable in Melbourne, with Reinhold and Beryl married for 68 years and together for 70.

As Reinhold said: 'None of us knows our destiny. Only hindsight tells the story of luck and not. Now in my old age I look back but the future is for the young. I only hope they'll make better use in the 21st century.' Ultimately, Reinhold prevailed by surviving his oppressors – Hitler and Nazism. He pursued his own destiny living his life in authenticity, integrity, truth, love, compassion, kindness and generosity – a wonderful son, husband, brother, father and a widely respected, admired and loved man.



Reinhold Eckfeld. Celebrating his 95th birthday.



Reinhold Eckfeld. At the 75th Dunera Tatura reunion with his family. April 2016.

Dunera Boy – Henry James

A German-Jewish-Australian refugee story

By Matthias Müller

Translated from *Die Neue Woche*, no 26. 27 June 2017

Sydney – Henry James sits next to his wife on the sofa of his apartment in Manly, Sydney. His daughter Paula is there and leads me to her 95-year-old father, whose German name was Heinz Jacobius. Henry politely stands up, shakes me by the hand and, in very good German, welcomes me. Then he talks about his life.

Henry James was born on 1 May 1922, in Halbe, 50 kilometres south of Berlin. After 1933, his parents, fearing the rise of Nazism, sent him to friends in Berlin where he attended the Jewish school known as ORT. This was an international educational system focusing on trade education. His parents later became victims of the Nazi reign of terror in Treblinka, Poland.

ORT began in 1880 in St. Petersburg, Russia and relocated in 1921 to Berlin. Henry credits the ORT for saving his life as the school was connected to Britain. Foreign property, even if it lay in Jewish hands, was legally protected against Nazi takeover during Kristallnacht, and offered the students a kind of immunity.

ORT began in 1880 in St. Petersburg, Russia and relocated in 1921 to Berlin. Henry credits the ORT for saving his life as the school was connected to Britain. Foreign property, even if it lay in Jewish hands, was legally protected against Nazi takeover during Kristallnacht, and offered the students a kind of immunity. In 1939 the ORT in Great Britain gave 110 Visas to the school in Berlin. Thereupon, on 27 August 1939 the students of the ORT in Berlin were informed they would be leaving Germany and had ten minutes to pack their things, recounts Henry. He said this was his great fortune, and the beginning of a journey that took him to Australia – the country he has since called home.

Henry James was in various camps for refugees in Holland, Liverpool, and on the Isle of Man. When Winston Churchill feared that the German civilians were a danger to Great Britain, on 10 July 1940, Henry James, along with about 2000 other mainly Jewish refugees, and about 400 Italian and German prisoners and fascists, were embarked aboard HMT Dunera, whose actual destination was Canada.

As ‘enemy aliens’ they were treated badly – papers were torn, possessions thrown overboard and passengers assaulted. After stopovers in Sierra Leone, Cape Town, Fremantle and Melbourne, the Dunera, after two months at sea, on 6 September 1940 finally docked at Darling Harbour in Sydney where the inhumane conditions and the barbaric behaviour of the British crew were denounced. As a result, some members of the crew were sentenced to 12 months imprisonment.

After a 16-hour train ride, Henry and fellow internees reached an internment camp at Hay in the outback of New South Wales. The camp, Henry said, quickly became a place of culture and creativity as fellow inmates – artists, intellectuals, musicians, scientists, academics, lawyers and writers – bonded and shared their knowledge and artistic endeavours. All of them had escaped the horror of the Nazis.

From then on, Henry James served in the Australian military and, after his release,



Henry James with John Ebert at the 75th Dunera Reunion, Sydney, 2015.



Henry James with his wife Leah.

worked as a professional painter, joined the trade union and attended (labour related) events. He devoted his life to the improvement of working conditions and rights in Australia.

Henry James returned to Germany for the first time at the invitation of the German government in 1977, and the last time he returned was in 1996. On both visits he met friends and acquaintances from his early life in Germany; Ingeborg, the wife of his best friend in Halbe; Detlef, the son of his school friend Erich Wölki, in Potsdam; Eberhard Faust in Pankow, Berlin; Karin Weber in Hamburg. Bernd Ruschke, who Henry James went to primary school with, still lives in Halbe.

16 Die neue WOCHE Nr. 26 Australien 27. Juni 2017

„Dunera Boy“ Henry James – Eine deutsch-jüdisch-australische Flüchtlingsgeschichte

Sydney – Henry James sitzt neben seiner Frau auf dem Sofa seiner Wohnung in Manly, Sydney. Seine Tochter Paula hat mit mir ein Interviewtermin vereinbart und führt mich zu ihrem 95-jährigen Vater, dessen deutscher Name Heinz Jacobius laut. Als bald ich durch die Tür hereinkomme, stößt Henry höflich auf, reicht mir die Hand und heißt mich in sehr gutem Deutsch willkommen. Dann erzählt er mir aus seinem Leben.

Henry James wurde am 1. Mai 1922 in Halbe, 50 Kilometer südlich von Berlin geboren. Seine Eltern schickten ihn aufgrund der widrigen Umstände nach 1933 zu Freunden nach Berlin Tiergarten, wo er die jüdische Schule ORT besuchte. Sie selber sind später dem Schreck der Nazi-Herrschaft in Treblinka/Polen zum Opfer gefallen.

Die ORT ist eine jüdische, international tätige Bildungseinrichtung, die sich auf die handwerkliche Ausbildung konzentriert. Sie wurde 1880 in St. Petersburg/Russland gegründet und verlegte 1921 ihren Sitz nach Berlin.

Dieser Einrichtung verdankt Henry James, dass er heute noch am Leben ist. Die ORT in Berlin gehörte zum britischen Ableger Ausländisches Eingetragene, selbst wenn es in jüdischer Hand lag, war gesetzlich vor einer Übernahme der Nazis geschützt. Ihre Studenten genossen eine Tötung als Ehrengast teil.

1939 verließ die ORT in Großbritannien 110 Visa an die Schule in Berlin. Daraufhin wurden am 27. August 1939 die Schüler der ORT in Berlin informiert, dass sie Deutschland verlassen würden und zehn Minuten Zeit haben, um ihre Sachen zu packen, erzählt Henry James. Das war sein großes Glück und der Anfang einer Reise, die ihn bis nach Australien geführt hat – das Land, das er seitdem sein zu Hause nennt.

Henry James landete nach Zwischenstationen in verschiedenen Auffanglagern für Flüchtlinge in Holland und Liverpool auf der „Isle of Man“ zwischen Großbritannien und Irland. Winston Churchill hatte Angst, dass die Deutschen eine Gefahr für Großbritannien darstellen und so kam es, dass Henry James zusammen mit etwa 2000 anderen jüdischen Flüchtlingen, etwa 400 italienischen und deutschen Häftlingen und Faschisten am 10. Juli 1940 in Bord der „Dunera“ kam, deren eigentliches Ziel Kanada war.

Die meisten der Passagiere wurden als „enemy aliens“ beschimpft und nach so boshafte, Papierwunden zerrissen. Hub und Gut über Bord geworfen. Nach Zwischenstopps in Afrika (Sierra Leone, Cape Town, Perth und Melbourne), erreichte die Dunera nach mehr als zwei Monaten auf See am 6. September 1940 den Sydneyer Darling Harbour, wo Henry James von den unmenschlichen Bedingungen berichtete und das barbarische Verhal-

ten der britischen Crew anprangerte. Daraufhin wurden einige der Crew-Mitglieder zu einer Haftstrafe von 12 Monaten verurteilt. Nach einer 60-stündigen Zugfahrt erreichte Henry James das Internierungslager in Hay im Outback von New South Wales. Künstler, Intellektuelle, Musiker, Wissenschaftler, Akademiker, Juristen und Schriftsteller machten Hay zu einem Ort der Kultur und Kreativität. Alle von ihnen sind dem Genet der Nazis entkommen.

Fortan diente Henry James dem australischen Militär und arbeitete den größten Teil seines Lebens als Maler, dessen Gewerkschaft er beitrete und bis zuletzt deren Veranstaltungen bewohnte. Er hat sich Zeit seines Lebens für die Rechte und eine Verbesserung der Arbeitsbedingungen der Arbeiter in Australien eingesetzt.

Das erste Mal kehrte Henry James auf Einladung der deutschen Regierung 1977 nach Deutschland zurück und das letzte Mal kam er 1996 nach Deutschland. Bei beiden Treffen traf er Freunde und Bekannte aus seiner Anfangszeit in Deutschland wieder. Heute noch wohnt, Ingeborg, die Frau seines besten Freundes in Halbe, Detlef, der Sohn seines Schulfreundes Erich Wölki, in Potsdam, Eberhard Faust in Berlin Pankow, Karin Weber in Hamburg, Bernd Ruschke lebt ebenfalls noch in Halbe, den Henry James noch aus seiner Grundschulzeit kennt.

Foto: Henry James

Foto: Matthias Müller

Driftwood

A memoir by Eva de Jong-Duldig.

Review by Susan Gaye Anderson

Spanning three continents and three generations *Driftwood* poignantly captures both the loss that families encounter when they are dislocated by war and the challenges they face when adapting to a new way of life.

In 1938 acclaimed international sculptor Karl Duldig, his wife Slawa Horowitz-Duldig – inventor of the modern foldable umbrella – and their baby daughter Eva, were forced to flee their beloved home in Vienna for an uncertain future. They found brief refuge in Switzerland before travelling to Singapore where they re-established successful artistic careers. In September 1940 they were classified as ‘enemy aliens’, deported to Australia, and, together with 270 mostly Austrian and German Jewish refugees, were interned at Tatura – adjacent to the compound which housed the Dunera internees.

Driftwood captures the bewilderment, danger and horror of Nazi Europe, but is a story of survival and love. Love of family, of art and beauty. From the moment Karl and Slawa met on a tram in Vienna in 1921, on their way to the studio of a celebrated Austrian art professor, they shared an often unpredictable destiny.

In further proof that fact is stranger than fiction *Driftwood* chronicles the family’s narrow escape from Nazi Austria as well as the recovery of all their Viennese art and other possessions after the war. As Karl Duldig claimed “A game of tennis saved my life”. Tennis would also change the life of Eva, who was a quarter-finalist at Wimbledon and after marrying a Dutch national became Champion of the Netherlands. Following the passing of her parents she established the Duldig Studio, a public museum and art gallery, in the former family home in Malvern, Victoria.

Meticulously researched this book is largely based on original documents, letters and archives, but it is nevertheless easy to read and hard to put down.

This book will inspire a new generation to follow their dreams and personal creative passion, whatever that may be. Its pages show what can be achieved.



DRIFTWOOD Escape and survival through art

Eva de Jong-Duldig

Australian Scholarly Publishing (ARCADIA)

Paperback 417 pages

Available from:

www.duldig.org.au/store

www.scholarly.info

Leading bookshops.

Dunera Lives – A Visual History

By Ken Inglis, Seumas Spark and

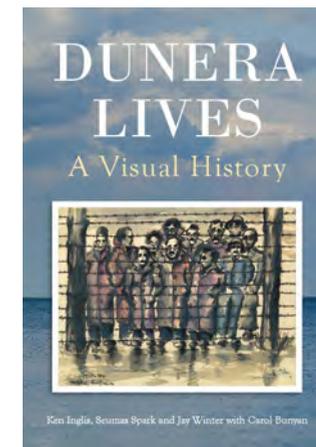
Jay Winter with Carol Bunyan

The story of the ‘Dunera Boys’ is an intrinsic part of the history of Australia in the Second World War and in its aftermath. The injustice these 2000 men suffered through British internment in camps at Hay, Tatura and Orange is well known. Less familiar is the tale of what happened to them afterwards. This book tells that story, in two volumes, one in images, and one in life stories.

To be released on 10 July 2018. There will be events organised for the launch. Details to be advised closer to the publication. Stay tuned!

Further details on Dunera Lives: A Visual History:

www.publishing.monash.edu/books



HELP WANTED

The Dunera Association is requiring assistance in two areas:

Membership and Dunera News Coordinator (volunteer position)

Job description: Maintain and update the membership Excel spread sheet.

- Handle emailing and mail-out hard copies of Dunera News and notices.
- Time required 1–6 hours per month. Melbourne location.

Website manager – Casual (paid position)

Job description: Must have excellent IT knowledge.

- Upload and update website content.
 - Monitor web traffic and performance.
 - Resolve technical issues.
 - Co-ordinate with committee and website host.
 - Install and maintain appropriate security for website.
 - Time required after initial set-up, 3–5 hours per week.
 - Location – Australian eastern standard time zone.
- Remuneration will be negotiated and commensurate with similar casual IT positions. Please email your interest to duneraboys@gmail.com

Melbourne Reunion Lunch – 14 November 2017



DUNERA ASSOCIATION INC. ANNUAL LUNCHEON AND AGM CELEBRATING 77 YEARS 1940–2017

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

VENUE: Quest Kimberley Function Centre
441 Inkerman Street, East St. Kilda.
Free parking available on the premises and on the street.

WHEN: Tuesday, 14 November 2017.
11.30am (for 12pm lunch) – 3pm

Guest speakers: Eva de Jong-Duldig and Seumas Spark.

COST: \$75 non-member / \$70 member
This covers an excellent two-course kosher meal with main and dessert options served alternately, with bread, salad, 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.
Contact Geoff Winter: 0439 796 054.

PLEASE NOTE:
PRE-BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL

Annual General Meeting 2017

The AGM for Dunera Association Inc. (A0018624W) Election of Office Bearers Committee of Management for 2017-18 will be held at:

Quest Kimberley Function Centre, 441 Inkerman Street, East St. Kilda on Tuesday, 14 November at 10am. 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 report and annual report of the committee for 2016-17 will be received; office bearers and committee members will be elected.

Any financial member in 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 10 November 2017.

Melbourne Reunion Lunch Booking Form

Please fill in the booking form and return by Monday, 6 November 2017.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Cost: \$75 non-member / \$70 member

Number of people:

Non-member _____ Member _____

Total payment: \$ _____

Names of all attending

Payment options:

1. Direct payment
Westpac North Melbourne branch
Account name: Dunera Association
BSB 033-132 Account No. 229051
Ensure your name is on the banking details.

2. Pay through –
trybooking.com/320452

3. Cheque payable to:

Dunera Association

Send to:

Dunera Association
PO Box 72, South Melbourne Delivery
Centre, VIC 3205

Pensioners may pay by donation.

Please indicate any special dietary needs:

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 2017-18.

NAME OF NOMINEE

Signature _____

Address _____

Position proposed _____

NAME OF NOMINATOR

Signature _____

Address _____

NAME OF SECONDER

Signature _____

Address _____

Date _____

Please complete this form and post to: The Secretary
Dunera Association. PO Box 72, South Melbourne Delivery Centre, VIC 3205
Or email: duneraboys@gmail.com

SAVE THE DATES 2017

Melbourne Reunion Lunch:

14 November

News and information on events will be updated on our Dunera Association facebook page.

Friends of the Dunera Boys

Dunera Museum at Hay

Carol Bunyan – Volunteer Researcher

Contact for background information on Dunera Boys lcb5@bigpond.com

(NOTE: the first letter is a lowercase “L”)

Dunera Hay tours

David Houston – davidhouston23@bigpond.com

IN MEMORY

Ernst Albert Meyer

19 August 2017, Melbourne

Vale Albert Meyer, Dunera Boy

Committee members 2016–17

Rebecca Silk – President
rebeccasilk@bigpond.com

Peter Felder – Vice President
peter@felder.com.au

Selma Seknow – Secretary
duneraboys@gmail.com

Geoff Winter – Treasurer
gjlw396@hotmail.com

Ron Reichwald – Member
reichwald1@optusnet.com.au

Michelle Frenkel – Member
michelle_frenkel@yahoo.com

Janet Arndt – Member
tonyjazzman@gmail.com

Carol Bunyan – Member
lcb5@bigpond.com

John Ebert – Member
lppac1@hotmail.com

Peter Arnott – Sydney contact
peter@arnotts.net.au

All correspondence to:

The Secretary

– Dunera Association

PO Box 72

South Melbourne Delivery Centre

VIC 3205

Email: duneraboys@gmail.com