



wendish news

WENDISH HERITAGE SOCIETY AUSTRALIA

NUMBER 60 MARCH 2018



Clockwise from top left: 1. Daryl Deutscher and Glenys Wollermann at Deutscher's Turkey Farm. 2. Wimmera scene. 3. Silo art at Brim. 4. Silo art at Sheep Hills. (PHOTO 1: CLAY KRUGER. PHOTO 2: MARY COOPER. PHOTOS 3 & 4: JOHN MODRA.)

Join our March Tour

You are warmly invited, along with family and friends, to attend our Labour Day weekend tour to Horsham, in the Wimmera district of Victoria.

You do not need to be a member of our Society to join our Tour. See itinerary and booking details on page 2.

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Calendar of upcoming events



Wimmera scenes. (PHOTOS: MARY COOPER.)

****Labour Day Weekend Tour to Horsham, 10–12 March 2018****

Save the date! Our tour leader, Betty Huf, has graciously offered to lead us on a tour based at **Horsham**, in the Wimmera district of Victoria, on 10-12 March 2018.

Please note that this is the Labour Day long weekend in Victoria. It is proposed to visit historic sites in **Rupanyup** and **Murtoa** on Saturday 10 March. One of the highlights will be a **Silo Art Bus Tour** to view the impressive paintings on disused grain silos in the Wimmera on Sunday 11 March.

Betty's proposed itinerary is as follows:

Saturday 10 March

- Meet at Rupanyup. BYO lunch.
- Visit Woods Museum and Silo Art in Rupanyup.
- Visit Murtoa: Murtoa Cemetery, the Stick Shed, Water Tower Museum and the former Concordia College.
- Dinner at the Railway Hotel, Murtoa.
- Arrange own accommodation in Horsham.

Sunday 11 March

- 9.00 am Service at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church Horsham, followed by morning tea with the congregation.
- Bus Tour of Silo Art at Patchewollock, Brim, Sheep Hills, Lascelles and Rosebery.
- Lunch at the Creekside Hotel, Warracknabeal.
- Evening meal in the Education Centre at the Horsham Lutheran Church

Monday 12 March

- Visit Green Lake near Horsham and Deutscher's Turkey Farm, Dadswell's Bridge with lunch at the 'Big Koala'.

Please make your own arrangements for accommodation, as soon as possible.

Please book by 28 Feb. with Betty Huf, P.O. Box 26, Tarrington, Vic. 3301; Tel. (03) 5572 4959; email bettyhuf@westvic.com.au as bookings are desirable for some venues, and essential for the bus tour (27 seats available). An email with specific details concerning costs and times about the tour will be sent to those who register.

****Annual General Meeting, Saturday 7 April 2018****

Our Society's AGM will be held at 1.30 pm, followed by afternoon tea. All are welcome. The venue is our meeting room at **St Aidan's Community Centre, 12 Surrey St, Box Hill South, Victoria.**

Proxies will be accepted. Please appoint a proxy if you are unable to attend, to ensure that we have a quorum for this important meeting. Please see the proxy form enclosed in this Newsletter. We need 26 members, including proxies, for a quorum. Committee members may be appointed as proxies eg. Secretary. Please post the proxy form to reach us by Friday 6 April.

Alternatively, you may email a message appointing a proxy to the address below. To appoint a proxy, please use the following wording:

"I,, being a paid member of the Wendish Heritage Society Aust. Inc., am unable to attend the AGM to be held on 7 April 2018. I appoint..... as my proxy to vote on my behalf at the meeting."

Please RSVP to *Glenys Wollermann (Secretary)*
Telephone: (03) 9891 6652;
email: wendsociety1@optusnet.com.au



Past events



Top row: 1 & 2. Guests at the Annual Luncheon.

Middle row: 1: June & Peter Winter. 2. L-R: Marie Dalziel, Sue Burger, Shirley Ashfield and Bruce Burger.

Bottom row: 1. Gladys & Ed Koch. 2. Moira Nagorcka and Mary Cooper. (PHOTOS: CLAY KRUGER)

Annual Luncheon, Saturday 21 October 2017

This event, held for the first time in Ballarat, Victoria, was a resounding success. Special thanks to Betty Huf for making this occasion such a memorable one. The following is Betty's report:

In order to make our Annual Luncheon more accessible for our Western District and Wimmera members, this event was held in Ballarat. The function was held in the Lady Barkly room at the Barkly Motorlodge, 43 Main Street. This venue proved to be extremely suitable for the occasion, which was attended by 38 people including three who were

Past events... continued



Top row: Ann and John Keller. 2. Sue Gravenall and John Modra. Middle row: Betty Huf giving her speech. 2. L-R: Audrey Burger, Pastor Geoff Burger, Colin Huf and Pauline Burger. Bottom row: 1. Shirley Ashfield and Pauline Burger. 2. Annual Luncheon group.

(PHOTOS: CLAY KRUGER)

from Adelaide. As hoped, a number of new attendees from the Wimmera and Western District took advantage of the relocation of the Luncheon.

Everyone enjoyed the meal provided by Barklys in their Special Luncheon Menu and much talking and reminiscing occurred around the tables during the meal. A speech followed the meal, presented by Betty Huf. She spoke about the Wends of the Western District, using PowerPoint to illustrate her talk. Great interest was shown in the many photos of the early Wendish settlers that she projected, with occasional pauses required to allow

some of those present to photograph slides. It was noted that Wendish people were responsible for the establishment of the Hochkirch (now Tarrington), Gnadenthal and Neukirch (Byaduk) communities, and also instrumental in the foundation of the Tabor Lutheran congregation.

All who attended the function thoroughly enjoyed themselves and agreed that the choice of venue, away from our traditional Melbourne base, was very suitable for our group. Its success will encourage us to consider using another country venue in the future.

BETTY HUF



Top row: 1. Heritage farm tools at Ziebell's Farmhouse. 2. Ziebell's Cart Shed.

Middle row: 1. Ziebell family buggy. 2. Ziebell's Farmhouse information board.

Bottom Row: Yvonne Mibus and Erica Hayden in the garden at Ziebell's.

(PHOTOS: CLAY KRUGER)

Curios from Yesteryear, Sunday 19 November 2017

A special exhibition of heritage farm tools and domestic utensils was held at the Museum at Ziebell's Farmhouse, German Lane, Lalor Victoria, on Sunday 19 November 2017.

Guides explained the use and operation of these tools and utensils for visitors. This event was presented by the Friends of Westgarthtown, with assistance from the City of Whittlesea's Cultural Heritage Program.

Ziebell's Farmhouse is open to the public on the second Sunday of each month, from 1.00 pm to 4.00 pm. For enquiries, phone (03) 9464 1805 or email enquiries@westgarthtown.org.au



Research

Kevin Zwar continues to help with research queries from all over the world. In recent months he has answered queries regarding the following families: G. & E. Schmidt, Renzow, Schwartz, Mickan, Preusker, Raguse, Schuppan, Rende, Hansen, Weiss, Oelsnik/Oelsnitz and Habner.

Rob Wuchatsch has answered queries regarding the Budarick/Wichert and Zschech families. Betty Huf has answered queries regarding the Pertzel and Kalauke families.

Johann Graff's 1849 Farewell Note in *Tydzenske Nowiny*

Weldon Mersiovsky of the Texas Wendish Heritage Society has advised that digitised copies of the Wendish newspaper *Tydzenske Nowiny* from 1847-53 will soon be available online. Digitised copies of Wendish newspapers and journals currently available can be viewed at serbske-institut.de then click on "library & archive" then "journals".

Wendish newspapers are valuable sources of information. In the issue of 4 August 1849 there is a very interesting farewell notice inserted by Jan Grofa (Johann Graff) on the eve of his emigration to Australia. It reads as follows:

Owing to all kinds of restraints and being very busy with the distant journey to Australia I was unable to say goodnight to all my brothers and sisters or to my other friends and acquaintances. So I call to you from here my hearty best wishes and thank you for all the brotherly, sisterly and otherwise Wendish friendship and love. The Lord God be with you and with us – and with that I leave the Wendish land, which even in foreign parts will always remain dear to me.

JAN GROFE, FORMERLY OF PRESKE.

Johann Graff, his wife Hanna (née Hobrack) and five children – Carl, Magdalena, Maria, Johanna and Johann – travelled to Australia aboard the *Pribislaw*. They arrived in Melbourne on 2 February 1850 and settled at Westgarthtown the following month. Hanna died in 1887 aged 83 and Johann in 1888 aged 86.

Our thanks go to Weldon Mersiovsky for advising us the *Tydzenske Nowiny* is now available online and Dr Gerald Stone of Oxford for translating Johann Graff's notice.

ROB WUCHATSCH

Gertrud Mahling

We are pleased to announce that Gertrud Mahling (Trudla Malinkowa), author of *Shores of Hope*, is visiting Australia later this year. The third edition of her book has recently been published. Kevin Zwar, Betty Huf and Rob Wuchatsch provided Gertrud with some updated information for this new edition.

New publication: Five Centuries: the Wends and the Reformation

Dr David Zersen, Managing Editor of Concordia University Press in Austin, Texas has informed us of the publication of an English version of the German publication *Fuenf Jahrhunderte: Die Sorben und die Reformation*. The original book, published in 2017, in three languages, is so important for the Wendish community that Concordia Uni. Press has published it as *Five Centuries: the Wends and the Reformation*. The English version is a 100 page hardback, in full colour. There is a chapter that includes text and pictures of the Wendish heritage in Australia. David Zersen is interested in determining if and how many books our Society might be interested in buying, for purchase by our members.

If you would be interested in purchasing a copy, please send an email to wendsociety1@optusnet.com.au or write to The Secretary, Wendish Heritage Society Aust. Inc., P.O Box 4050, Box Hill South, Vic. 3128.

Koenig 1848–1990

Limited copies of this book are still available for the cost of packaging and postage. The book contains details of Christian and Karl Koenig and their descendants in Australia. Names from the early marriages include KOENIG, LEMM, SCHMIDT, GLADIGAU, KROSCHEL, NOSKE and KROEKER. If you are interested in obtaining a copy of this book, please contact: Morrie Haeusler, Apartment 406/262-270, Pascoe Vale Road, Essendon, Vic. 3040. Phone: (03) 9372 9494.



The Lutheran Archives and FoLA (Friends of the Lutheran Archives)

A. The Lutheran Archives in Adelaide

1. General Information: The Lutheran Archives is located at 27 Fourth Street, Bowden SA 5007 and the opening hours are 9.30am to 4.30 pm on each working day, except Wednesday. The Archivist is Rachel Kuchel and the Assistant Archivist is Janette Lange. Phone: (08) 8340 4009. Email lutheran.archives@lca.org.au Website: www.lutheranarchives.org.au.

2. Preserving Past Records: A stated aim of the Lutheran Archives is to preserve the story of the Lutheran Church in Australia by preserving the relevant records which provide the information for such a story. However, the Archives advises that it cannot store and preserve all of the many items relating to the operation of a congregation or parish, including all of the receipts received and the correspondence entered into. The Archives therefore seeks to avoid being drowned under a flood of paper.

The selected records, which need to be created, kept, preserved and archived, normally include the following items: (1) the official registers of the births, marriages and deaths; (2) the Minutes of the required Meetings of the Parish, the Congregation and the elected Committees and Auxiliaries, including financial statements; (3) selected correspondence, which contributes to an understanding of the various issues dealt with by the Committees but not including matters deemed to be purely “administrative”; (4) Annual Reports of Committees; (5) the Lists and Names of Members; (6) Sunday School Records; (7) Legal documents, including constitutions and property titles; (8) Building plans; (9) regular Newsletters, excluding weekly Sunday Bulletins; (10) Publications produced, including histories or brochures; (11) Photographs and audio-visual material relevant to the Parish or Congregation; (12) special service orders and bulletins for special anniversaries, dedications and installations; and (13) records of significant purchases such as musical instruments and stained glass windows.

The Lutheran Archives accepts that the stored items under its care belong to the contributing congregations and parishes and that they need to be available for inspection and use by generations to come. As a result, it has sought to ensure that the stored archival items are secure and protected from fire, damp, dust, insects and theft.

3. Depositing Past Records: Before the selected records can be deposited at the Archives, the relevant congregational bodies need to work hard, to ensure that the following tasks are completed: (1) the records are carefully sorted in relation to the Committee or body which created them; (2) in relation to their importance as candidates for permanent preservation and (3) in relation to the careful labelling of them and the identification of the dates, the events, the locations and of all persons included on the photographs.

Digital photographs can be deposited in digital folders and sub-folders. Paper records can be deposited in “Type 1” archival boxes, which are available from Archival Survival [Website www.archivalsurvival.com.au.]

The advice is given that digital records can and have been digitally lost, so regular backing up of the stored data is essential. In addition, copying or photocopying records is still a safer way to preserve paper records.

A practical result of the preservation of records has been the steady production of articles and books relating to (1) the History of the Lutheran Church; (2) many Family Histories; (3) Aboriginal Australia; (4) Local Histories, (5) Lutheran Schooling and (6) the German-Australian interchange of language, traditions, media and cultural life, usually referred to a “Deutschtum”. A research fee applies.

B. The Friends of Lutheran Archives (FoLA)

FoLA was established as an Advocacy and Support Group for the Lutheran Archives. It arranges monthly Talks on relevant topics, produces and distributes its “FoLA NEWS” and its annual Journal and contributes willing workers and financial contributions, in order to promote and to contribute to the work of the Archives. Branches in Queensland and in Victoria host local tours, talks and events and they seek to publicise and to promote the important role of the Lutheran Archives in preserving the church’s past for its continuing use in the future.

Membership for Individual Members is \$30 and Concession Membership is \$25. Payment can be made (1) by **cheque** payable to Friends of Lutheran Archives Inc; (2) **EFT (Direct Debit)** to Friends of Lutheran Archives BSB: 704 942 A/C:100200869 or (3) **credit card**: Mastercard/Visa by going to the following website: donation.lca.org.au and follow the prompts to **Departments and Friends of Lutheran Archives**.

JOHN NOACK, SECRETARY OF FRIENDS OF
LUTHERAN ARCHIVES IN VICTORIA (FoLAV).



Commemoration of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation in Hochkirch, Saxony

We gratefully acknowledge Arnd Sobe of Hochkirch in Saxony, who sent this article to Betty Huf. Arnd Sobe, a regular writer for the Sorbian monthly journal *Pomhaj Bóh*, had the article published in the December 2017 issue. He describes what the Hochkirch parish did to commemorate the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation. The following is Betty Huf's edited version of his article.

Many events concerning the 500th Reformation Anniversary took place in Germany. The Lutheran Church in Germany decided to create in Wittenberg, the birthplace of the Reformation, a Luther Garden to mark the anniversary. Many trees were planted in the shape of a Luther Rose. Anyone was able to go and plant a tree there on the condition that a second tree was planted at home, for example in the church grounds. The Lutheran Sorbs planted a tree in Wittenberg but a suitable place in Bautzen was not found to plant the counterpart, so it was

decided to plant three linden trees, at Jänschwalde, Schleife and Hochkirch. The Hochkirch based tree was planted in 2015 with a memorial stone added in October last year.

Dedication of the Memorial Stone for the Reformation Anniversary

The Hochkirch/Bukecy congregation organized a bilingual Sorbian/German service on October 15, 2017. The lovely autumn weather on this day tempted many into the beautiful outdoors, the creation of our Lord, nevertheless the Pastor of the parish, Thomas Haenchen, welcomed more than thirty people who attended worship in the church.

The service commenced with the song 'God, ruler of the whole world'. The accompaniment by organ and trumpet encouraged hearty singing from the congregation, who were able to sing alternating verses in both the Sorbian and German languages, using specially prepared text sheets.

— 10 —

1. serb-ska, sta-tok mój!
2. ba-mi sta-tok mój! J. E. Sm.

8. Na serbsku Lužicu.

Andante. *Koos. cresc.*

1. Rja-na Lu-ži-ca, sprawnja, pře-čel-na, mo-jich
serbskich wót-cow kraj, mo-jich zbóžnych so-now
mj, swja-te su mi two-je ho-na!

2. Bitwu bijachu horeu, zeleznu něhdy serbscy wótejo, wójske spěwy spěwajo. — Štóha poj-da waše spěwy?

3. Zrudny solobik ma nětk Hromadnik, sowa suta z Prašicy, ma tam swoje skaloby. — Wjele pomnitej, wój horje!

— 11 —

4. Boha Čorneho stare kralestwo rapak nětko wo-bydli; stary moch so zeleni na skale, kiž woltař břeše.
5. K luža nadobí njejsu zhadali tamni stari budacy dostatk Serbow přichodny. — Čas nětk njeprašany wěšći.
6. Časo přichodny, budžež zakóć ty? — O zo bych z twojeho klina wuši mužojo, hódni wěčnoh' wopomnika! H. S.

9. Hoje wjesela.

Andante. *Ruski hlós.*

1. Hdžež so módrja, ze-le-nja na-se ho-ry,
haj - ni - šca, hdžež mje strowja zet-ku-
jo w zna - tym słowje kra - je-njo.

Sorbian anthem. (PHOTO: ARND SOBE)



1. Pastor Thomas Haenchen next to the memorial stone and linden tree in Hochkirch, Saxony. 2. Pastor Tom Haenchen and Julian Mogg. (PHOTOS: ARND SOBE)

The service continued on with the Gloria Patri, Kyrie and prayer in German followed by the hymn ‘Well those, who promenade’, also, as in all of the following songs, alternating in German and Sorbian languages. The Epistle and the Gospel were read by Pastor Haenchen in German and in Sorbian by a grammar school pupil, Julian Mogg from Sornssig. The Creed was spoken in both languages too and was followed by the Sorbian song ‘We believe in one God’.

The sermon based on Romans 14:17–19 was delivered by Pastor Haenchen in two parts: the first part in a well pronounced Sorbian language, the second part in German. Those in the Congregation who could not understand the Sorbian language were asked to follow the Sorbian part of the sermon in the German version provided on text sheets. The sermon was followed by the song ‘Till here my God brings me’ and during the singing of the hymn ‘Major God’ the offering was gathered. The final blessing was carried out again in both languages. The song ‘Angel of our Lord’ and a trumpet solo of the song ‘As I see the birds trekking’ (in Sorbian: *Ha widźuli ptačata čahnyć*) finalized this hour of worship.

Everyone left the church and assembled around a young linden tree in the church yard planted in 2015

on the occasion of the Sorbian Lutheran Church day held in Hochkirch. The Memorial stone near the tree was covered with a cloth. Pastor Haenchen commenced the ceremony with a short speech explaining the importance of the Reformation. He informed the people assembled about the tree planted by the Lutheran Sorbs at the Wittenberg Luther Garden and, as the counterpart, the three linden trees planted at different places in Lusatia.

The song of Jan Kilian, ‘Oh Sorbian Lutheran folk’, was sung in honour of Martin Luther with a trumpet accompanying the robust singing. The unveiling of the memorial stone was then conducted by Pastor Haenchen and the writer of this report. The inscription ‘Luther linden 2017’ in both the German and Sorbian languages with an engraved linden tree leaf was then visible.

The ceremony concluded with thanks addressed to the congregation at Schleife for making available the boulder as the basis of the memorial stone, the Lord’s prayer in the Sorbian language and the singing of the Sorbian national anthem.

For generations to come, the Sorbian inscription on the memorial stone will attest to the Sorbian history of the Hochkirch/Bukecy based parish.

ARND SOBE



Items from other Societies' Journals

The Ludeman family and Harvest Home Hotel

Several new streets in Wollert, Victoria have recently been named after early German settlers: Gunther Way, Ludeman Drive, Unmack Road and Yann Drive. In the October 2017 edition of *Elements of Westgarthtown* (formerly the *Friends of Westgarthtown News*), Robert Wuchatsch tells the story of the Ludeman family.

Heinrich and Hermine (née von Oven) Ludeman and four children arrived in Melbourne from Hamburg aboard the *Java* in 1854. Heinrich (Henry) took up farming on the Plenty River at Janefield. Three more children were born before the family moved to Wollert in the early 1860s. From 1869 until 1882 the Ludemans ran the bluestone Harvest Home Hotel at Wollert. In 1882 Henry Ludeman Sr. and Hermine moved to Waggarandall, near Dookie in northern Victoria, where three of their sons had settled. Henry Sr. died there in 1893 and Hermine in 1906. Both are buried at Devenish.

Falsely accused: Westgarthtown Germans during World War 1

The October 2017 edition of *Elements of Westgarthtown* also features an article by Robert Wuchatsch on the persecution suffered by Westgarthtown Germans in World War 1.

Westgarthtown, now part of the Melbourne suburbs of Thomastown and Lalor, was established in 1850 by German settlers. In World War 1, at least 71 soldiers with Westgarthtown ancestry enlisted in the AIF or NZ Expeditionary Forces. Instead of being commended for their contribution to the war effort, the Westgarthtown community suffered shameful aspersions. Despite fighting for Australia, they were accused of disloyalty and had to endure totally undeserved persecution. Rob Wuchatsch states: "While all Australians anguished over the welfare of their loved ones fighting and dying with the AIF overseas, many German-Australians also had to endure totally undeserved persecution at home and this was especially apparent at Westgarthtown. No wonder people such as my father, Norman Wuchatsch, who was only twelve at the outbreak of war, never forgot or forgave the injustice of it all."

Robert Wuchatsch's definitive research paper "Gumleaf Germans" is published on the website www.westgarthtown.org.au/ww1.

Internment of Walla Walla citizens in 1918

The November 2017 edition of *FoLA News* (*Newsletter of the Friends of Lutheran Archives Inc.*) includes a notice of a talk to be given by Lyall Kupke on the topic "Internment of Walla Walla citizens in 1918". The talk will be given at 7.30 pm on Monday 26 March 2018 at Bethlehem House, Sudholz Pl, Adelaide.

In March 1918, four leading citizens (H.A. PAECH, E. HEPPNER, E. WENKE, and J. WENKE) of the predominantly Lutheran town of Walla Walla in NSW were arrested without charge and interned. Although one was soon released, the other three remained at Holsworthy camp until the end of the war. Repeated efforts were made to seek justice for them. Upon their eventual release they faced problems in resuming their lives.

Lyall Kupke served as Lutheran Archivist for 19 years, retiring in 2014. He is now a valued volunteer at the Archives.

World War 2 Internments in Queensland

The November 2017 edition of *FoLA News: Newsletter of the Friends of Lutheran Archives Inc.* includes an article by Robin Kleinschmidt on the internment of Lutheran pastors and laypeople during World War 2. A meeting of FoLAQ (Friends of Lutheran Archives Queensland) on 27 August 2017 investigated this issue through a series of case studies, which were only a sample of many similar cases. The audience included some members of German mission families whose parents and grandparents had been interned at Tatura in Victoria.

Two speakers reported on the internment of Australian-born pastors Anton HILLER (Boonah) and Reinhold ROHDE (Hatton Vale) because of unwarranted suspicion about their loyalty. Dr Theo BAER spoke about the internment of his German missionary father from New Guinea. The cases of Isidore HUTH and Ferdie KLEINSCHMIDT highlighted how the personal malice of hostile individuals, community hysteria, blatant prejudice and manipulation of facts by some of the authorities combined to imprison Australian-born men who were civic leaders in their rural communities. Justice finally prevailed after appeals brought about their release, but the victims' lives were indelibly scarred.



General news



Hay bales decorated as Christmas dinner. (PHOTO: COLIN HUF)

Tarrington Decorated Hay Bale Competition

Congratulations to Colin and Betty Huf, who won the Tarrington Decorated Hay Bale Competition with their clever design of hay bales decorated as Christmas dinner. You can see photos of the competition entries by googling “Tarrington hay bales 2017”.

Congratulations to Volkhard Wehner

One of our members, Volkhard Wehner, has just completed a post-graduate course at the University of Melbourne in History, resulting in the award of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD). Volkhard’s thesis topic is “*The German-speaking community of Victoria between 1850 and 1930: origin, progress and decline.*”

The major themes of the thesis examine emigration, immigration, settlement, the consolidation of the Victorian community in the wake of German

unification in 1871, the challenges and threats to the community resulting from the German Empire’s aggressive naval and colonial politics in the South Pacific region during the 1880s and ‘90s, and its virtual destruction as a consequence of World War I. Regular comparisons are made with other areas of German settlement in South Australia and Queensland as well as with German settlements in Brazil and the US. Throughout the thesis a hypothesis is tested whether urban or rural communities are better equipped to resist challenges and threats, and the reasons why. Using the Western Victorian township of Tarrington/Hochkirch as a test case, the thesis provides clear proof that the greater cohesion and clearer community focus characterizing rural communities are vital requirements that equip them to resist challenges and to survive. On the other hand, urban communities ultimately failed for lacking such defensive mechanisms.



Ever wondered about your ancestors?

One of our Committee members, Mary Cooper, retrieved the following from old Australian newspapers on Trove:

**Mornington Standard, 16th August, 1894
(from The Fortnightly Review):**

"In outward appearance the Wends are throughout a powerful, healthy and muscular race, whose men are coveted for the conscription. The first Napoleon's famous "Bouchers Saxons", the Saxon dragoons, were nearly all Wends and in the present day it is the Wends who contribute the lion's share of recruits to the Saxon household regiments. Their

women are prized throughout Germany as nurses. They are all well-built, well-shaped, rich in muscle and nimble in motion."

The Daily News Perth, W.A. 7th July, 1945:

"Europe's 175,000 Wends (also known as Lusatian Serbs) are an ancient Slavic people who settled in Germany more than 1000 years ago. Many of them now live on islands in the Spree River and its web of channels. They are chiefly eel fishermen and cucumber growers. (A common Spreewald salutation is 'Have a cucumber!')."

Directory

Aims: The Wendish Heritage Society Australia Inc., researches and promotes the Wendish/Sorbian and Germanic heritage and family history in Australia.

Postal Address: P.O. Box 4050, Box Hill South, Victoria 3128

Meeting Room and Research Centre: St Aidan's Community Centre, 12 Surrey St, Box Hill South, Victoria. (Melway 61 C1)

Hours: By appointment. Please contact the Secretary.

Our Society Logo: The logo, an Australian gum leaf and a Lusatian linden leaf, represent the connection between the Wendish descendants in Australia and the Sorbs in Lusatia.

Membership & Newsletter Subscription: \$35 for single membership and \$40 for joint membership for one calendar year due at the start of each year. The form is included in our September Newsletter for the following year. Additional donations can also be made for the expanding work of the Society and we thank most sincerely those of you who have made such generous donations.

Publicity: We welcome any publicity which you can give about our Society and its planned events.

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