

News, December 2014



Dear Friends of the Jewish Welcome Service,

The Jewish Welcome Service Vienna regularly organizes a wealth of activities – from the invitation program for expelled Jewish citizens to educational projects and the dissemination of information. We have prepared this newsletter to give you an overview of the final activities for 2014. We would be very pleased to receive any feedback and suggestions you may have.

We wish everyone Season's Greetings and a Happy New Year 2015!

Exhibition tip: Austrian Builder-Owner Award 2014 until 16 January 2015

Exhibition center in the Ringturm, Schottenring 30, 1010 Vienna.

Presented by the **Central Association of Austrian Architects** since 1967, the annual Austrian Builder-Owner Award is presented to constructions which stand out for their **exceptional architectural language and design**. The award-winning projects are the result of close collaboration between the builder-owners and architects involved, and also make a contribution to enhancing the respective locality. This year, **Wiener Städtische Versicherungsverein's Architektur im Ringturm** exhibition series will showcase the Austrian Builder-Owner Award for the fourth time, offering a snapshot of the country's contemporary architectural landscape.

[More on the Austrian Builder-Owner Award](#)

Visit program for expelled Jewish citizens: September 7-14, 2014



The **Jewish Welcome Service Vienna** invited a group of expelled Jewish citizens on a one-week **visit to Vienna**. The **60 guests** came from the USA, Israel, Argentina, Uruguay, France, Australia and the UK. The visit was **supported** by the **City of Vienna** and the **Wiener Städtische Versicherungsverein**.

More information

Further photos of the [reception at City Hall](#) and of the [reception with Austrian President Dr. Heinz Fischer](#)

[Restitution: Jewish Welcome Service looks after Anne](#)



The **Wiener Städtische Versicherungsverein** insurance group presents the **Austrian Builder-Owner Award at Architektur im Ringturm** for the fourth time.



Reception in Vienna City Hall as part of the visit program; from left: City councilman **Dr. Andreas Mailath-Pokorny**, **Stella Luftig** (guest of the Jewish Welcome Service), **Barbara Grötschnig** (head of sponsoring at Wiener Städtische Versicherungsverein / VIÖ) and **Susanne Trauneck** (Secretary General of the

[Starkey during the return of the Epstein painting](#)

In mid-September, at the Jewish Museum Vienna, city councilman for culture **Andreas Mailath-Pokorny** and director **Danielle Spera** returned the painting *The Coffee Hour*. *Fanny, the sister of the artist* by **Jehudo Epstein** to the painter's great-nieces, **Barbara Ball** and **Anne Starkey**, who live in England. Anne Starkey traveled to Vienna in person for the restitution and was looked after by the **Jewish Welcome Service** during her stay.

[Information](#)

[Descendants of the Ephrussi family visit Vienna](#)

In September, the **Jewish Welcome Service** looked after the **daughters and granddaughters** of **Rudolf Ephrussi**, the youngest son of Victor and Emmy Ephrussi, when they visited Vienna to **search for traces** of their family. On the program of their brief visit were a visit to Palais Ephrussi and Palais Schey as well as a **visit to the Jewish Museum Vienna**.

[Information](#)



The descendants of the **Ephrussi family** in the Jewish Museum - with director **Danielle Spera** (right), curator **Gabriele Kohlbauer-Fritz** (4th from left) and **Susanne Trauneck** (3rd from left), Jewish Welcome Service. Photo: Sonja Bachmayr

[Presentation by Gertrude Schneider at the Main Library](#)

The **Jewish Welcome Service** invited Professor **Gertrude Schneider** to Vienna in cooperation with the **Main Library**. The occasion was the opening of the exhibition "**Ex Libris - Traces of Knowledge and Memory** in the books of the historian and Shoah survivor Gertrude Schneider" in the Main Library, where Professor Schneider gave an impressive presentation on her experiences of persecution, expulsion and loss.

[Download invitation to the event](#)

[The newspaper KURIER reported on this](#)

[Daphna Amit and Dan Arnold visit Vienna](#)

The **Jewish Welcome Service** invited siblings **Dan Arnold** and **Daphna Amit** from Israel to visit Vienna in November in cooperation with the Theodor Kramer Society. Their grandmother was **Paula Arnold**, an English specialist and teacher at the Zwi Peres Chajes School in the 1920s, while their great-grandfather **Leon Kellner** was a companion of **Theodor Herzl**. Amit and Arnold spoke in the **Republican Club**, at **FrauenAG of the Austrian Society for Exile Research** (ÖGE), at the Zwi Peres Chajes School and at the Bundesrealgymnasium IX school in Albertgasse about their

Jewish Welcome Service).
Photo © Schaub-Walzer.



At the Jewish Museum Vienna, city councilman for culture **Andreas Mailath-Pokorny** and director **Danielle Spera** (middle) return the painting *The Coffee Hour* to **Anne Starkey**, the great-niece of painter Jehudo Epstein.



Director **Danielle Spera** (right) explaining a torah coat donated by the **Ephrussi family** in 1862 to the descendants of the Ephrussi family during a tour of the Jewish Museum. Photo © Sonja Bachmayr



Professor Gertrude Schneider giving her presentation on the occasion of the exhibition "Ex Libris" in Vienna's Main Library.

family, their Viennese roots and about their life in Israel. Particularly, however, about their grandmother ...

Reports on the visit to Vienna in the [Wiener Zeitung newspaper](#) and in [The Local](#)



Since 11 December, Vienna has had a new **museum: Für das Kind** is a reminder of the **children's transports** to England in **1938-1939**. Thousands of Jewish children were able to **escape persecution by the National Socialists**. Many of their parents and siblings were not ... On the occasion of the museum's opening, the **Jewish Welcome Service** invited **Inge Joseph**, who was able to flee with a children's transport, and her son Julian to Vienna.

Preview: March 15-22, 2015:
[Celebrate Jewish Life and Culture in Vienna](#)
 a cooperation with Hopkins Hillel

Herausgeber:

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The Israeli translator **Daphna Amit** giving her presentation in the FrauenAG of the ÖGE