

From Schwartzbrunn, Bohemia to Buccleuch, South Australia - my maternal ancestral line

Presented by Philip Mann to the Germanic & Continental European Group (GCE) of the South Australian Genealogy & Heraldry Society Inc (SAGHS) on 9 October 2024.

Introduction

In this paper, I cover my maternal line which, over a century, moved from Schwartzbrunn in Bohemia to Buccleuch in South Australia. I will give a brief history and geography lesson before discussing the lives of the women in this line and some anomalies that can arise in the genealogical search from what one would assume are reliable sources.

Growing up, I was aware that one of my ancestors had come from Austria. Because the history we learned at school was English history, I knew nothing more other than that Austria was a smaller country to the south of Germany.

Bohemia

Since beginning serious family history research 6 years ago, I know that the Austria referred to was actually Bohemia, which, in 1877, when Anna Wolf and her two children left with family for South Australia, was part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, which covered a large part of central Europe from Romania to Switzerland and from Montenegro to Germany (map courtesy of Encyclopaedia Britannica)¹. Today, Bohemia is part of Czechia (formally known as the Czech Republic²).

¹ <https://www.britannica.com/place/Austria-Hungary#/media/1/44386/121069>, accessed 12 July 2024.

² https://mzv.gov.cz/jnp/en/foreign_relations/public_diplomacy/czechia_vs_czech_republic/index.html.



Becoming a kingdom in 1212, the medieval state of Bohemia reached the height of its power and importance in the 1340s during the reign of Charles IV. During his reign, Prague was the capital of the Holy Roman Empire. Charles IV also founded the New Town of Prague, improved the Old Town and Prague Castle, had a stone bridge built over the Vltava River in Prague, which bears his name (Charles Bridge), and built Karlštejn Castle near Prague. In his time, Prague was the centre of the Holy Roman Empire. With its forty thousand inhabitants, at that time, Prague was one of the largest cities in Europe.

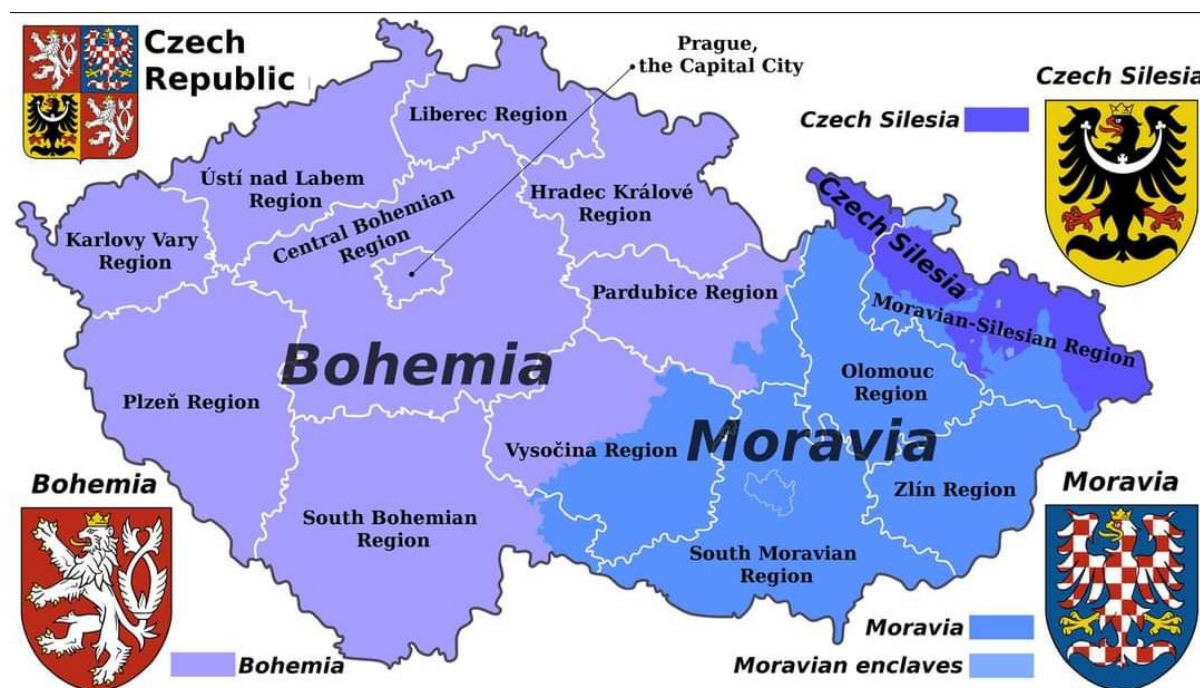
The end of this period, however, brought economic and political strife to the area. Bohemia became the first European nation where Protestantism flourished, following the teachings of Jan Hus, who was martyred by being burnt at the stake in 1415. His followers, Protestant Hussites battled and defeated five waves of crusaders sent by the Catholic Church from 1420 to 1437.

Through intermarriage, the Austrian Habsburgs captured the Bohemian throne in the 1500s. The efforts of the Habsburgs to re-Catholicize the region began the Thirty-Years War in 1618. The Bohemian armies were utterly defeated at the battle of White Mountain in 1620 and the nobility lost the power to elect their own rulers. The Bohemian crown was made hereditary for both male and female Habsburg rulers. Protestant nobles were banished and the people were forcefully turned back to Catholicism. Habsburg rule of the Bohemian lands was

mostly repressive and harsh; language and culture were suppressed, and the country went into deep economic decline. Not until 1781 was religious toleration extended to non-Catholics.

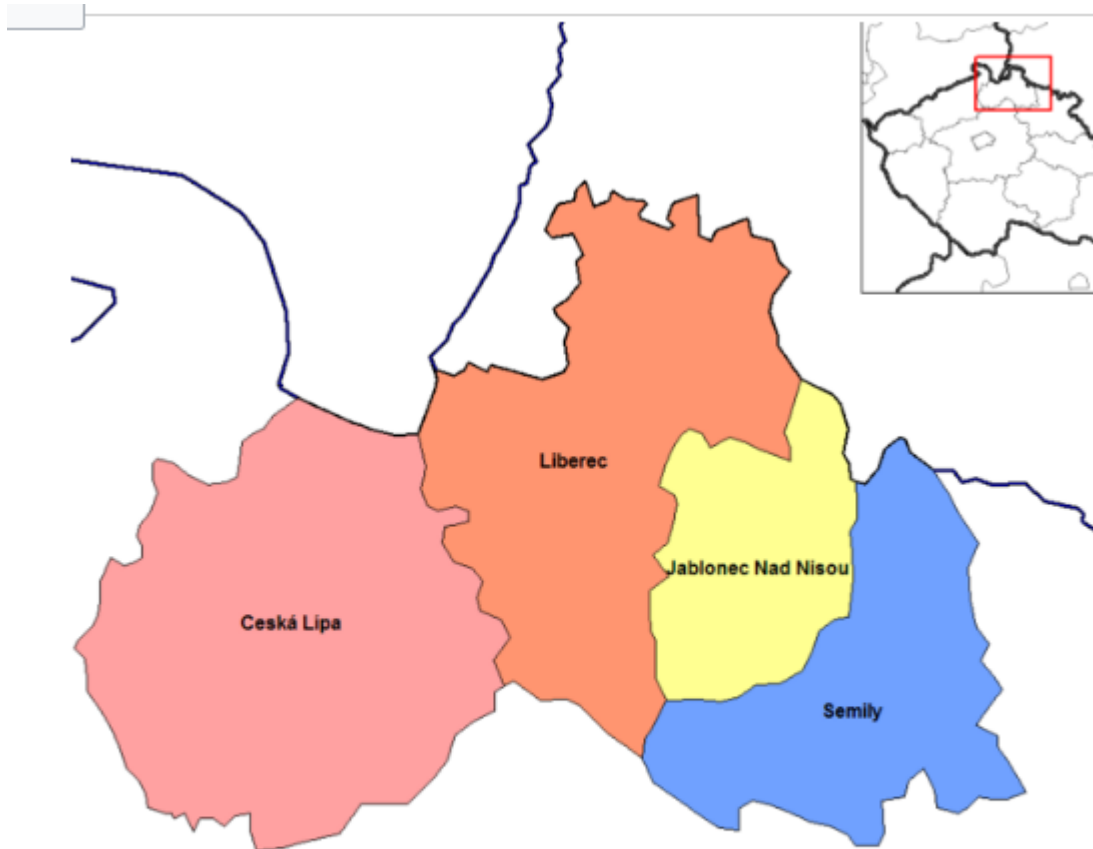
Liberec

The area that my earliest identified ancestors came from was the Liberec region.



The Liberec Region is an administrative unit of Czechia, located in the northernmost part of Bohemia. It is named after its capital Liberec³. The region shares international borders with Germany and Poland. The Liberec Region is divided into 4 districts, as per the map, Česká Lípa, Liberec, Jablonec Nad Nisou and Semilly. The region's landscape includes the Jizera Mountains, part of the Krkonoše Mountains and part of the Lusatian Mountains. The Liberec Region has manufacturing, glassmaking, mechanical engineering and jewellery production industries among others. The region is part of the so-called Black Triangle, an area of heavy industrialisation and environmental damage on the common border of Poland, Germany, and Czechia. Since the region was for a long time in the Holy Roman Empire, and later (in 1938–1945) a part of Germany as Sudetenland, the local buildings and the culture in general have been influenced by Germans. Also, parts of the region were populated by a majority of Sudeten Germans, prior to their expulsion after World War II.

³ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Liberec_Region, accessed 29 July 2024.



Districts of Liberec Region

■ Česká Lípa	■ Liberec
■ Jablonec nad Nisou	■ Semily

Gablonz

According to Wikipedia⁴, Gablonz an der Neiße (Czech Jablonec nad Nisou) is a city in the Liberec Region of the Czech Republic. It has about 46,000 inhabitants and is the second-largest city in the region. The name Jablonec is of Czech origin and means "little apple tree", for the village was founded on a place where an apple tree grew. German-speaking settlers who came to the village during the 16th century adjusted the name to Gablonz. Gablonz is located about 7 km southeast of Liberec and 83 km northeast of Prague. It is surrounded by the Jizera Mountains in the north, east and south.

The first written mention of Jablonec was in a Latin document from 1356. In August 1469, the village was burned to the ground by troops of

⁴ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jablonec_nad_Nisou, accessed 30 July 2024.

rebellious Lusatians. The village was then resettled in the 1530s and 1540s by mostly German-speaking colonists.

In the first half of the 17th century, Jablonec was owned by Albrecht von Wallenstein, best known for leading the Emperor's armies for a significant part of the Thirty Years' War before his assassination in 1634. His family sold it to the Desfours family⁵. In 1643, during the Thirty Years' War, Jablonec was burned down for the second time. Glass production began to flourish in the second half of the 17th century and Jablonec began to develop rapidly.

The Franco-Prussian War of 1870–1871 damaged competitors in the production of glass and jewelry, and the Jablonec traders seized the foreign markets. A steady supply of a wide range of glass and artificial jewellery products flowed out of the town. This industrial advancement also improved the quality of life, and Jablonec's appearance changed dramatically.

In October 1938, 86% of the population of Gablonz was German. Between 1945 and 1949, most of the Germans were expelled under the terms of Beneš decrees. After the war, the expelled German-speaking citizens of Jablonec founded a new settlement in Bavaria and called it Neugablonz in remembrance of their hometown.

Morchenstern

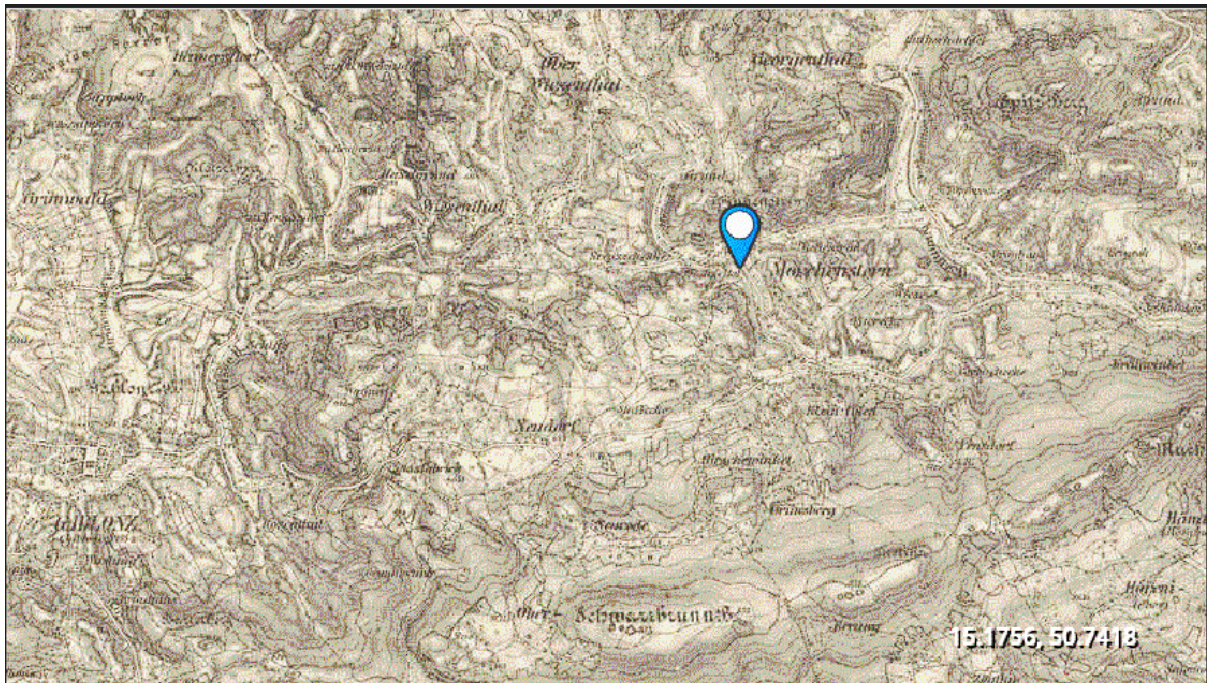
The map⁶ shows Morchenstern and surrounds from the Habsburg Empire (1869-1887) - Third Military Survey (1:25000).

⁵ Desfours family is an old Austrian noble family of French descent that originated in the Duchy of Lorraine, but became prominent in Bohemia during the 16th century. In the mid-17th Century, the counts of Desfours were owners of the estates Groß Rohosetz and Morchenstern. Count Albrecht Maximilian limited the inheritance of these holding to them and their lineal descendants, in 1678. From this family the county branch of Desfours-Walderode derived. Other properties of the family included Potštát (1797), Malá Skála (1628), Semily (1634), Tanvald and Velhartice (1743).

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Desfours_family, accessed 23 September 2024.

⁶

<https://maps.arcanum.com/en/map/thirdsurvey25000/?layers=129&bbox=1686586.849748989%2C6569807.585623304%2C1712365.237538165%2C6578502.297590743>, accessed 23 May 2024.



Morchenstern (Czech Smržovka) is in northern Bohemia. Morchenstern was first settled in the first half of the 16th century and, from the very beginning, Czech and German ethnic groups lived together. In 1878, Morchenstern's population was 4,551 and glassworks, grinding shops and weaving were the main industries.

An image of Morchenstern in the mid 1800s is shown below⁷. At that time there were 87 farmers in Morchenstern. However, the value of the soil was described as the worst, due to impassable terrain, unsuitable soil composition and the rugged mountain climate. The Desfours family in Morchenstern owned a large number of the surrounding villages, including Tanvald and Semilly.

⁷ https://www.smrzovka.cz/en/vismo/dokumenty2.asp?id_org=100709&id=1002&p1=1010, accessed 12 September 2024.



The women in my maternal line

The women in my maternal line are listed below.

[Theresia Swarowsky](#)

B: about 1770

D:

[Maria Anna Rößler](#)

B: about 1799

D:

[Maria Anna Fleischmann](#)

B:23 May 1834 Schwartzbrunn, Bohemia, Austria

D:5 December 1915 Buccleuch, South Australia

[Anna Wolf](#)

B:15 January 1867, Morchenstern, Bohemia, Austria

D:8 October 1950 Murray Bridge, South Australia

[Anna Maria Nicksch](#)

B:19 February 1887, Bower, South Australia

D:18 July 1973, Victor Harbor, South Australia

[Louise Elsa 'Elsie' Kuchel](#)

B:15 December 1909, Murray Bridge, South Australia

D:12 October 1981, Murray Bridge, South Australia

Theresia Swarowsky

Swarowsky. There's a name to conjure with. From her daughter's marriage in 1827 and her granddaughter's baptism in 1834, we know Theresia Swarowsky was from Brand near Tanvald House No. 26 and was married to Joseph Rössler.

Swarovski is an Austrian producer of glass based in Wattens in the Tyrol. It was founded in 1895 by Daniel Swarovski. Daniel Swarovski was born in Georgenthal,

Bohemia, Austrian Empire, only a few miles from Morchenstern and 20 km from the border with Silesia. Like many in the Jizera Mountains area, his father was a glass cutter, and Swarovski first learned the art of glass-cutting in his father's small factory. It was there that Daniel served an apprenticeship, becoming skilled in the art of glass-cutting. In 1892 he patented an electric cutting machine that facilitated the production of crystal glass.

Also, as his paternal grandmother was a Rößler born in Morchenstern, it is more likely that Daniel Swarovski is related to my Swarowskys so I am probably distantly related to the founder of Swarovski Crystal.

Maria Anna Rößler

My 3x great grandmother, Maria Anna Fleischmann (nee Rössler), was the daughter of Joseph Rössler⁸ cottager in Ober Schwartzbrunn House No. 47 and her mother was Theresia, born Swarowsky from Brande.

On 30 April 1827⁹, at the age of 27, she married Augustin, son of Joseph Fleischmann, cottager in Schwartzbrunn House No. 47, who was 46 and had been previously married. They were both Catholic. It would seem that Augustin was very poor, variously described in church records as a "hausler" (cottager), an "Inmann" (farm-help) or a day labourer.

Maria Anna Fleischmann

My 2x great grandmother Maria Anna Wolf (nee Fleischmann) was born the daughter of Augustin Fleischmann and Maria Anna Rößler of Schwartzbrunn in Gablonz county, Bohemia, Austria on 23 May 1834^{10 11}.

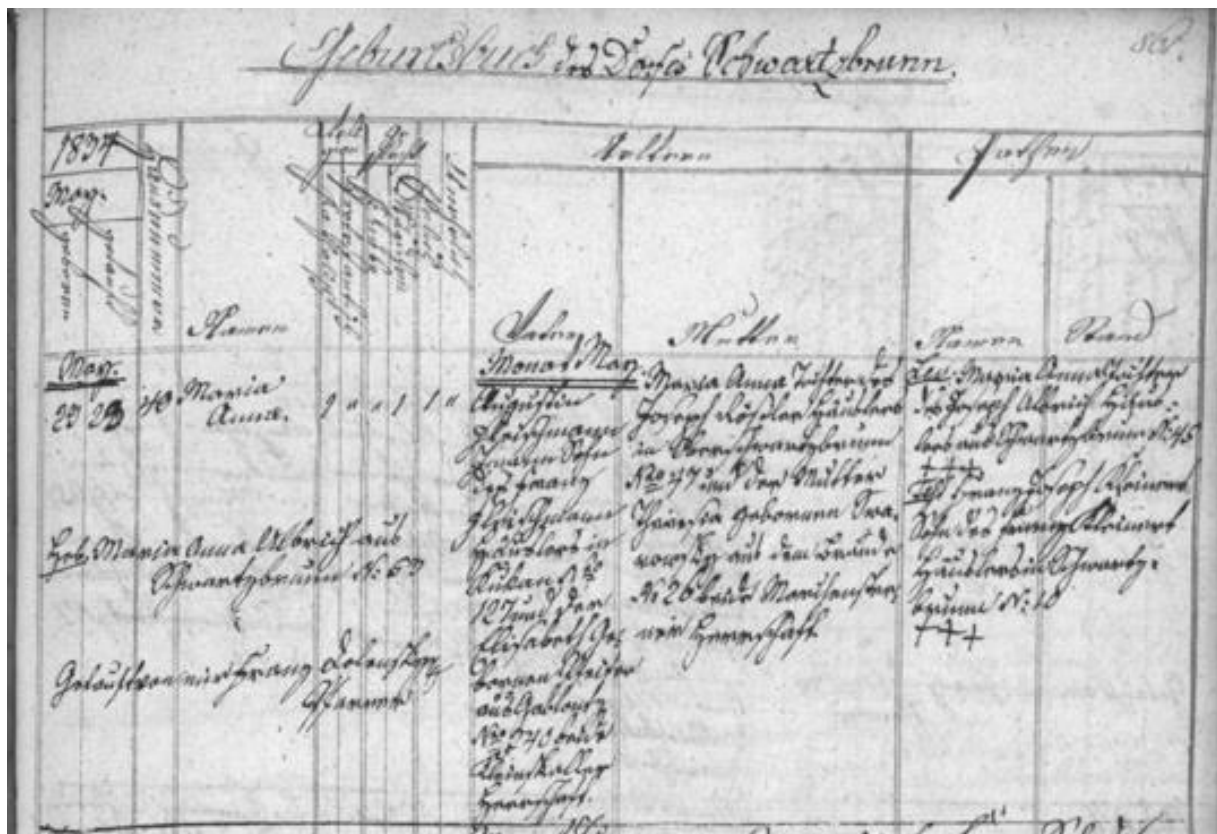
⁸ Baptismal records, of Maria Anna Fleischmann,
<http://vademeum.soalitomerice.cz/vademeum/permalink?xid=09ddd7cea03b9b8d:4e496e4e:12216bae987:-6fa4&scan=135#scan135>.

⁹ Wedding book of Schwartzbrunn church,
<https://vademeum.soalitomerice.cz/vademeum/permalink?xid=09ddd7cea03b9b8d:4e496e4e:12216bae987:-75f1&scan=28b8d83dd15e416798e874d5dc551352>

¹⁰ Baptismal records,
<http://vademeum.soalitomerice.cz/vademeum/permalink?xid=09ddd7cea03b9b8d:4e496e4e:12216bae987:-6fa4&scan=135#scan135>.

¹¹ "Czech Republic, Church Books, 1552-1981", database with images, FamilySearch (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:6VLV-JCK2> : 25 December 2022), Maria Anna Fleischmann, 1834.

Maria Anna Fleischmann's baptismal record is shown.



You will notice it is in German and in the old German script. I do not speak or read German and I had no familiarity with Kurrentschrift before commencing my recent family history research. I was pleased to see Katherine Schober's recent Legacy Family Trees webinar circulated to group members. Katherine Schober's free webinars have been the most significant tool in my learning to transcribe German writing. I would highly recommend looking at her webpage, <https://germanologyunlocked.com/>, attending some of her free courses and getting on her mailing list.

The birth book of the village of Schwartzbrunn shows that Maria Anna Fleischmann was born on 23 May 1834 and baptised by Franz Dolensky, a Catholic priest on 25 May 1834. She was born in House No. 40. The midwife was Maria Anna Ulbrich from Schwartzbrunn House No. 53. Maria Anna Fleischmann's father was Augustin Fleischmann, son of Franz Fleischmann, a cottager in Kukan House No. 12, and Elisabeth née Pfeifer from Gablonz House No. 240. Maria Anna's mother was Maria Anna Fleischmann, daughter of Joseph Rössler, cottager in Ober Schwartzbrunn House No. 47 and her mother was Theresia born Swarowsky from Brande near Tanvald, House No. 26. One of the

sponsors was the midwife Maria Anna, daughter of Joseph Ulbrich, who incidentally shared a surname with Augustin Fleischmann's previous late wife and therefore is probably a relation. Her father was a cottager of Schwartzbrunn House No. 45. Franz Joseph Kleinert, the other sponsor, was the son of Franz Kleinert, hausler (cottager) in Schwartzbrunn House No. 10.

In her application for naturalisation in Australia, Anna Wolf declared that she was born on 22 May 1834 in Schwartzbrunn, Austria.

Maria Anna Wolf left Hamburg on 9 September 1876 in the Cesar Godeffroy with two children, one of whom died enroute; their residence was shown as Morchenstern.

Why were people leaving Bohemia? According to the Encyclopedia of Cleveland History¹², migration at this time was prompted primarily by economic conditions; employment opportunities were meagre, incomes low, and taxes intolerable. Poor living conditions of the lowest strata and working conditions in factories led in 1872, 1873 and 1876 to emigration¹³. In preparing this paper, I stumbled across a document in Portuguese listing Bohemian immigrants to Brazil between 1862 and 1890¹⁴; many of these had the same surnames and came from the same villages as my Bohemian ancestors. Governments' demands that young men serve three years in the army contributed another reason for migration; it is doubtful that people felt German or Austrian or Czech at that time even though nationalism was growing in the late 1800s. Eventually nations in the sense that we know now were formed; earlier just the autocratic ruler mattered. The people we are talking about in Gablonz county lived a long way from Vienna, Berlin and even Prague.

The Bohemian immigrants as a group had an extraordinarily low illiteracy rate, as they had enjoyed one of the best education systems in the Austro-Hungarian Empire.

¹² <https://case.edu/ech/articles/c/czechs>, Case Western Reserve University, accessed 19 July 2024.

¹³ https://www.smrzovka.cz/en/vismo/dokumenty2.asp?id_org=100709&id=1002&p1=1010, accessed 12 September 2024.

¹⁴ Henrique Fendrich, "Lista de imigrantes boêmios – List of Bohemian immigrants", 13 January 2016, Genealogia Boêmia, <https://genealogiaboemia.wordpress.com/2016/01/13/lista-de-imigrantes-boemios-list-of-bohemian-immigrants-2/>, accessed 17 September 2024.

The Cesar Godeffroy arrived at Port Adelaide on 7 January 1877. The ship's register¹⁵ indicates Maria Anna Wolf was travelling with her brother-in-law, the butcher, Kajetan Posselt (aged 39), his wife and 7 children, and that the group of passengers to which they belonged travelled under an agreement with Francis S Dutton, dated 18 October 1875. Dutton, at that stage was Agent-General for South Australia in London, having previously been Premier and being active with commercial interests.

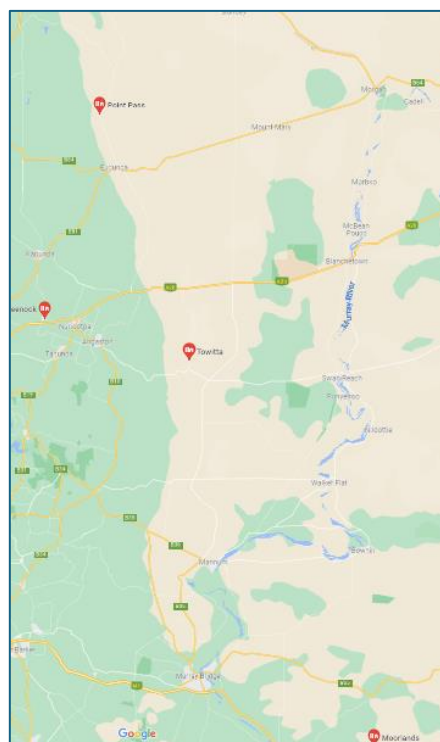
Her application for naturalisation lodged in 1909 shows that she was a citizen of Austria, that she had come to Australia via Hamburg, that she was the widow of Joseph Wolf who had died in Austria and that she was living with her daughter and her husband Gustav Nicksch at Sherlock. She had completed the application in Adelaide, 140kms away, maybe travelling to Adelaide by train, a long trip for a 75-year-old (in my day, Murray Bridge to Adelaide by train took 2 ½ hours and Sherlock was a further 60 kms away) and signed it using German cursive (note the "W" which looks like a Latin "M").

¹⁵ Information on the passenger list can be found at Ship Cesar Godeffroy (7Jan1877) – Adelaide Hills – LocalWiki and at GRG35_48_1_77-2_Caesar Godeffroy.pdf (archives.sa.gov.au).

On her naturalisation application, Anna Wolf listed her places of residence in Australia as follows:

Location	No. of years (about)
Tanunda	1
Stockwell	2
Greenock	2
Hundred of English	1
Hundred of Bunday	1
Geranium Plain	7
Towitta	14
Moorlands	4
Sherlock	¼

The map shows how separated these places are from each other, with Greenock in the Barossa Valley and the others progressively further from the more favourable climates.



In summary, she spent about 5 years in the Barossa Valley, about 9 years in the Mid-North of South Australia, and about 24 years in the Murray Mallee. In 1903, she was described as a blocker, living at Towitta, near Cambrai. Her time in South Australia was mainly spent in hot, dry, remote areas, in far different conditions than in the first half of her life in northern Bohemia.

Anna Wolf is recorded as dying at Buccleuch on 5 December 1915 at 81 years of age and is buried in the Sherlock cemetery. Buccleuch and Sherlock are localities in South Australia situated along the Pinnaroo railway line and Mallee Highway (B12), approximately 140 km east of Adelaide. There is an active Lutheran Church in Buccleuch¹⁶.

Anna Wolf

Her daughter, my great grandmother, Anna Wolf was born in Morchenstern, Austria, on 15 January 1867. Anna Wolf's baptism records show that Joseph Wolf was a glass cutter in the district of Gablonz in Bohemia.

Anna was baptised on 17 January 1867 by Ignaz Knobloch. The midwife was Theresia Feix from Morchenstern. Sponsors were Amalia Dressler, daughter of Ignaz Dressler, carpenter, and Anna Pilz, wife of Josef Pilz.

Jahr, Monat und Tag	Ort und Haus-Nr.	Namen des Kindes	Religion				Christliche		Taufgeborenen	
			lutherisch	reformirte	evangelisch	andere	evangelisch	andere	evangelisch	andere
1867 Jan. 17.		Anna								
Geborene bei Ignaz Knobloch, Pfarrer in Morchenstern, Böhmen.		Vater: Joseph Wolf, Glaschneid- er in Gablonz, Böhmen.		Mutter: Maria Anna Wolf, geb. Feix, in Morchenstern, Böhmen.		Taufpaten: Amalia Dressler, Tochter von Ignaz Dressler, Zimmermann, in Morchenstern, Böhmen. Anna Pilz, Frau von Josef Pilz, in Morchenstern, Böhmen.		Taufamt: Ignaz Knobloch, Pfarrer, in Morchenstern, Böhmen.		

¹⁶ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Buccleuch,_South_Australia.

In 1877, the passenger list¹⁷ of the Cesar Godeffroy shows Anna Wolf aged 9 and her brother Josef and their mother Maria Anna Wolf, a widow aged 41.

Sep. 9 1876.
 Cesar Godeffroy
 Copy
 77/2
 List of Passengers, nominated in the telegram forwarded
 to Ship Cesar Godeffroy, Captain A. Decker, from Hamburg
 with assisted passage tickets from Messrs. O. Amberg & Co. Adelaide

4. Name	Sex		Age years	Occupation	Adult	77/2 14 Children under 12 years	
	Male	Female					

Maria Anna Wolf		1	41		1		MSW
Anna		1	9			1	9G 9
Josef			4				18 1/4

7 years later, in 1883, in South Australia, Anna Wolf was married to Carl Gustav Nicksch¹⁸.

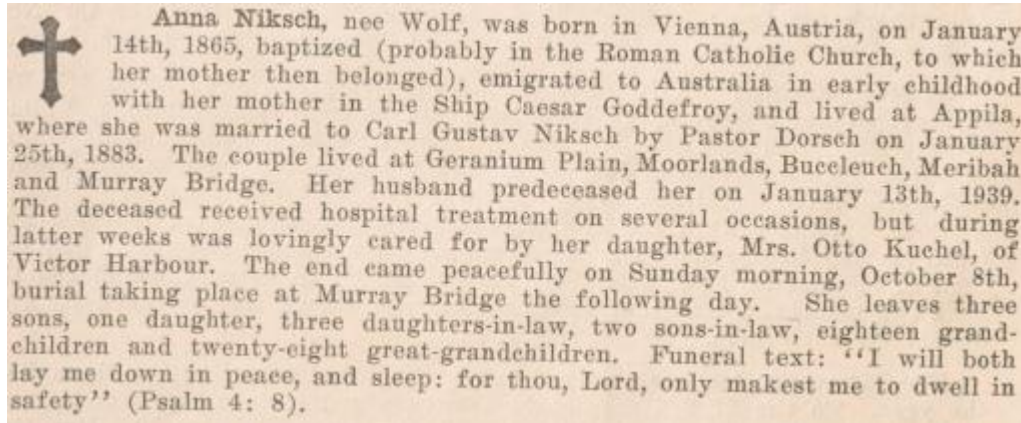
Groom Surname:	NICKSCH
Groom Given Names:	Carl Gustav
Bride Surname:	WOLF
Bride Given Names:	Anna
Marriage Date:	25-Jan-1883
Marriage Place:	Lutheran Church Appila
Groom Age:	27
Groom Marital Status:	S
Groom Father:	Carl NICKSCH
Bride Age:	18
Bride Marital Status:	S
Bride Father:	Joseph POSSELT
District:	Frome
Book/Page:	134/404

¹⁷https://www.archives.sa.gov.au/sites/default/files/documentstore/passengerlists/1877/GRG35_48_1_77-2_Cesar%20Godeffroy.pdf.

¹⁸ <https://www.genealogysa.org.au>, marriage registrations database, accessed 22 July 2024

The Lutheran Archives only holds Appila church records from 1893. Notice her father is shown as Joseph Posselt who came to Australia on the same ship. It is likely he was a relation by marriage.

The next slide is her obituary published in her local Church paper¹⁹.



Notice the following anomalies:

- Spelling of the surname "Niksch" instead of "Nicksch";
- Place of birth is "Vienna" not "Morchenstern";
- Date of birth is "14 January 1865" not "15 January 1867" (probably because she was very young - first child born on 16 August 1883); and
- Her baptism was in a Roman Catholic Church.

3 points from this:

- Always best to rely on earliest and original documents;
- Names will not always be shown the same; and
- Spelling of some of these names is not fixed

Her husband's obituary noted that life was often a struggle for existence²⁰.

Within one and a half years of marriage, at 17 years of age and with one small child and another on the way, Carl Gustav Nicksch was sentenced to six weeks hard labour for unlawful possession of mutton and sheepskins at the Hundred of Bunday²¹. To me, that indicates they were starving.

¹⁹ *Lutheran Messenger*, November 1950, published by Pastor J Doehler, obtained from Lutheran Archives, 11 June 2024.

²⁰ Burial, Page 3, *Lutheran Messenger*, February 1939, published by Pastor J Doehler, and *Lutheran Herald*, 13 February 1939, Organ of the United Evangelical Lutheran Church of Australia. Both obtained from Lutheran Archives, 11 June 2024.

²¹ The Hundred of Bunday covers an area of 310 square kilometres and includes the locality of Bunday and the north-eastern corner of the locality of Geranium Plain. It was first settled 1879 – 1883.

Anna Maria Nicksch

My grandmother, Anna Maria Nicksch, was born on 19 February 1887 at Bower²², South Australia, halfway between Eudunda and Morgan, the third child of Gustav Nicksch and his wife, Anna (nee Wolf).

As an aside, following up on an issue raised several GCE meetings ago, one of my sisters was thought to be named Hilda Marie. When her children obtained her birth certificate after her death, it read "Hilda Maria"; their response was that it was wrong. Somehow, I don't think so. From what I have said, "Maria" is a name that runs in my maternal line. Hilda was the second daughter, so maybe naming conventions that the second daughter have her maternal grandmother's name came into play; Ruth, the first daughter has her mother's name; Elsa. In each case, the name was used as the second name. The same occurs with the first and third sons of my parents' marriage; Neil has his father's name Arthur as his second name, Dean has his grandfather's name Edward as his second name.

At age 22, Anna Maria Nicksch married Otto Kuchel on 22 February 1909 in Christ Church Lutheran, Murray Bridge. The extract from the marriage register²³ is shown below. Notice the mix of English and German in the church record. We were advised²⁴ at this GCE meeting that the German settlers adopted the English word "farmer" early in their new country as there was no word in German that adequately covered what a farmer did in this new country. It should also be noted that Christ Church Lutheran at Murray Bridge did not begin to have English-language services until 1921²⁵.

Prosperity and Failure: A brief History of the Murray Flats & surrounding area 1836-1900 by Reg Munchenberg and https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/County_of_Burra#Hundred_of_Bundey.

²² Bower is a town in South Australia, approximately halfway between Eudunda and Morgan. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bower,_South_Australia.

²³ Copy from Lutheran Archives.

²⁴ Thank you, Lois Zweck.

²⁵ *Christ Church Lutheran Murray Bridge 1882 – 1982*, Lutheran Publishing House, ISBN 0 9593150 0 4.

No.	Hov. u. Zünamm der		Haud der		Beruf	Tag der Heiratung.		Ort der fl. Ehebindung
	Läutig.	n. d. Braut.	Läutig.	Braut.		Tag	Monat	

2	Friedrich Otto Kuchel	Anna Maria Nicksch	25	22	Jüngg.	Jüngg.	Farmer	22	Februar	Murray Bridge
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Aufsicht zur Zeit der Heiratung.		Hov. Zünamm der Heiratung		Name der Zünamm		Name der Heiratung	
Läutig.	Braut.	der Heiratung.		Zünamm		Heiratung	

Murray Bridge	Moorelands.	Johann Anton Kuchel Lukas Carl Nicksch	J. C. Kuchel A. N. Nicksch	L. E. Kufs.
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The newspaper report²⁶ includes yet another spelling of Nicksch and its repetitive use of the adjective “pretty” can probably be explained by the writer likely to have English as a second language, even though their family may have been in Australia for 70 years.

SOCIAL ITEMS.

A PRETTY WEDDING.

A pretty wedding took place at the Lutheran Christ Church on Monday afternoon, when Mr. Frederick Otto Kuchel, the eldest son of Mr. J. C. Kuchel, of Murray Bridge, was united in the bonds of matrimony to Miss Anna Marie Nisch, the eldest daughter of Mr. S. H. Nisch, of Moorelands. The ceremony was performed by Pastor Kuss, and the church was artistically draped with greenery and flowers. An especially pretty feature was an archway of green in front of the altar. Miss E. Nisch, sister of the bride, was bridesmaid, and Mr. J. H. Kuchel acted as best man. At the conclusion of the ceremony an adjournment was made to the residence of Mr. J. C. Kuchel, where a large number sat down to the wedding breakfast. Mr. Kuchel, jun., is taking over his father's farm, and the latter is removing to Tailem Bend.

²⁶ A Pretty Wedding, The Mount Barker Courier and Onkaparinga and Gumeracha Advertiser, 26 February 1909, <https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/147872747>, accessed 22 July 2024.

Louise Elsa Kuchel

My mother, Louise Elsa Kuchel (known as "Elsie") was born on 15 December 1909 in Murray Bridge. She was the oldest of 4 children of Friedrich Otto Kuchel and his wife, Anna Maria (nee Nicksch).



A magnificent photo showing my mother Louise Elsa Kuchel as a small girl, her mother Marie Kuchel (nee Nicksch), my great grandmother Nicksch (nee Wolf) and my 2xgreat grandmother Wolf (nee Fleischmann). Thank you, Diana Mann.

Philip R Mann

9 October 2024.

Acknowledgements and Sources

Stephan Pomp of Uppsala, Sweden, for contacting me to work out how we were DNA matches through FamilyTreeDNA, providing the links to the Bohemian church records, translations from German to English, providing European historical knowledge and reviewing an early draft.

Lois Zweck and other participants at the meeting of the Germanic & Continental European Group (GCE) of the South Australian Genealogy & Heraldry Society Inc (SAGHS) on 9 October 2024.

Janette Lange of German Research & Translation Services, for assistance with transcription and translation.

My niece, Diana Mann, for the photo of the 4 generations, and for review of an early draft.

History of Smržovka,
https://www.smrzovka.cz/en/vismo/dokumenty2.asp?id_org=100709&id=1002&p1=1010, accessed 12 September 2024.

Henrique Fendrich, "Lista de imigrantes boêmios – List of Bohemian immigrants", 13 January 2016, Genealogia Boêmia,
<https://genealogiaboemia.wordpress.com/2016/01/13/lista-de-imigrantes-boemios-list-of-bohemian-immigrants-2/>, accessed 17 September 2024.

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<https://www.howtopronounce.com/>

<https://germanologyunlocked.com/>

<http://vademecum.soalitomerice.cz>

<https://www.familysearch.org>

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Further information

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Feel free to access my blog at <https://www.philipmann.com.au>.