

**Activity Report
of the Committee for the Protection
of Jewish Heritage in Tarnow for 2014**

**Bank PEKAO S.A. O/Tarnów 30 1240 1910 1111 0000 0898 7484
SWIFT CODE: PKO PPLPW**

The Committee for the Protection of Monuments of Jewish Culture In Tarnów was founded in 1989, with its headquarters at Regional Museum in Tarnów, Rynek 20-21. The goal of the Committee is the protection of the monuments of Jewish culture located in the former Galicia region. Moreover, the Committee engages in popularizing the knowledge about the culture of Polish Jews, strives for friendly relations between Poles/Christians and Jews, supports and organizes research and academic undertakings related to Jewish culture and monuments in the former Galicia region. The work of the members of the Committee is community service and they do not receive any remuneration for their efforts.

***Similarly to previous years, the most important event undertaken by the Committee (since 1996) is the annual Remembrance Days of Galician Jews.



*****Galicjaner Sztetl** (17th - 1st of July).

Last year's project was funded mainly by the City of Tarnów (10 000 zł). The project included the following events:

***10th of June 2014**

–**Opening of the exhibition: “We were”**. Exhibition on presence/absence of Jews in Tarnow, organized by Artistic Exhibitions Bureau; the Committee was an adviser. A beautiful album was made on the exhibition, including e. g. A. Bartosz's article *What Happened with the Jews of Tarnow?* in Polish and English version.



(fot. R. Moździerz)

***11th of June 2014**

–*Opening ceremony “Galicjaner Sztetl”*. Buczyzna Forest, Zbylitowska Góra. Common prayer in the place of execution of thousands of Tarnow Jews. Rabbi Avi Baumol tended by young people from nearby schools, also the military school.



(fot. N. Gancarz)

–*Live concert at the Bimah* – a concert by the „Chanajki Klezmer Band” from Bialystok (Chanajki – is a former Jewish quarter of Bialystok).



(fot. R. Moździerz)

***13th and 18th of June 2014**

–Presentation of a documentary movie, “In the Shadow of a Memory”, produced by students from 5th Secondary School in Tarnow (in the “Marzenie” cinema and the Tarnow Theatre).



(fot. N. Gancarz)

***26th of June 2014**

Live concert at the Bimah - a concert by cantor Avram Kirshenbaum from Israel (due to the rain the performance was held in the City Hall)

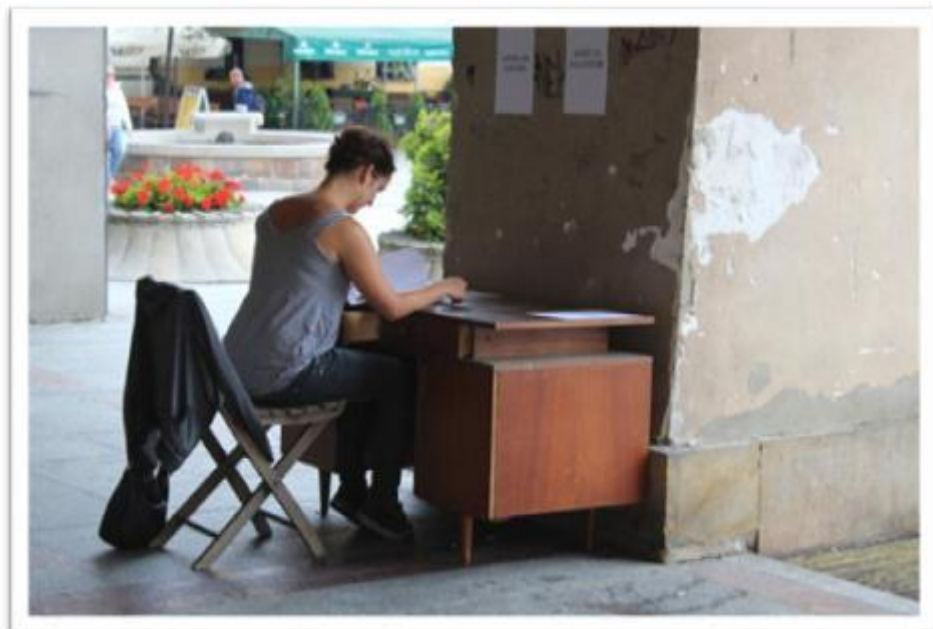


(fot. P. Topolski)

***01st of July 2014**

–*Photography exhibition* - “*Jews in Tarnow*” by Natalia Gancarz was open on an Old Synagogue Square where lies Bimah – the remaining part of the synagogue.

*During the period of June-July a special exhibition *Forgotten Archives* was organized in front of the museum building. It involved an old desk filled with copies of archived documents related to the pre-war Tarnów. The exhibition was found to be a huge success by the public and will be re-staged in 2015.



(fot. N. Gancarz)

*****Cemetery work**

*From this year onwards, the president of Krakow Jewish Community Tadeusz Jakubowicz has decided to personally supervise prisoners' work at the cemetery (our Committee made an agreement with Penitentiary and since 2005 the cemetery has been maintained by the prisoners under our supervision). Consequently the work did not start until as late as August. Due to that fact, the cemetery was quite untidy this year, which was a subject of complaints from the visitors. The Krakow Community was renovating the crumbling fencing wall this year.

*According to the agreement with the Visual Arts School, two matzevas were committed to restoration, including a symbolical tombstone for victims slaughtered in Auschwitz (Maksymilian Rozenbusz – Hebrew School director, Emil Wider – lawyer) , and an unknown woman from the 18th century.



(fot. N. Gancarz, J. Jędrzejczyk)

*Furthermore, we mediate in the matter of repairs in cemeteries in Jasienica Rosielna, Warzyce, Ryglice.

***Genealogical work

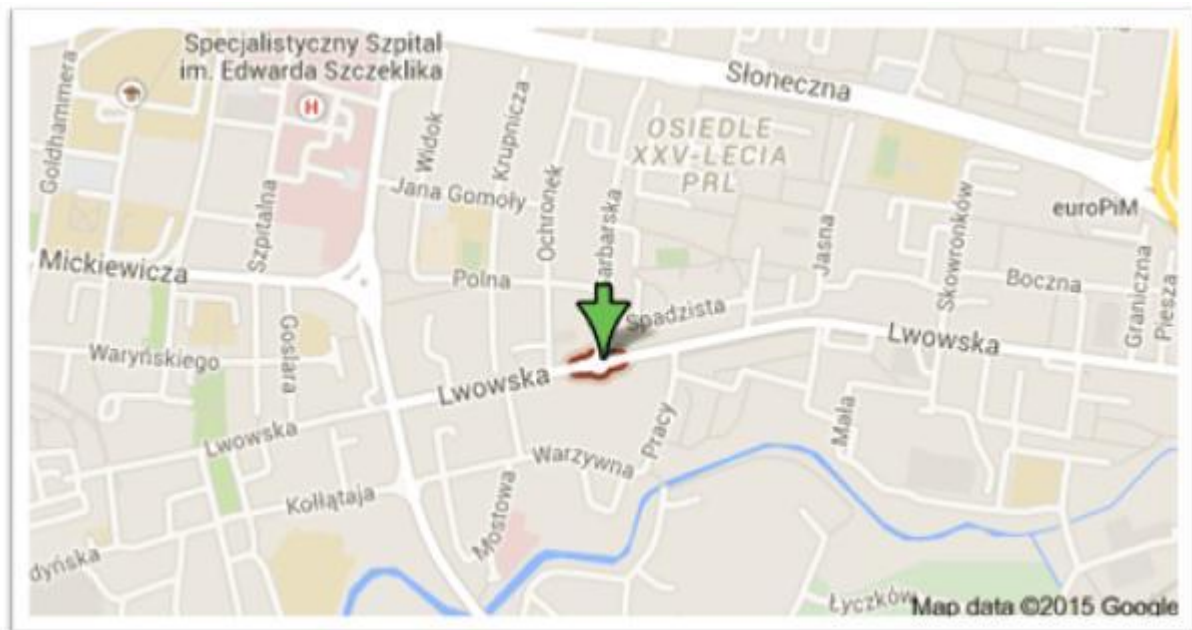
Carried out by Kamila Jasiak at the request of interested. She also prepares references for the Tarnow Jews Database, using all available documents.

***Other work

*From March until June, ongoing project: **A protest against anti-Semitism and cruelty towards Jews – workshop** realized in cooperation with students from Tarnow schools and financed by Open Society Institute Foundation.

*Several tours “A trail of Tarnow Jews” were organized for the students in June

*In October in Tarnow City Hall there was a promotion of a book written by Israel Unger (*The Unwritten Diary of Israel Unger*, Ontario 2013). Along with his family, the author was being hidden for about a year and a half on an attic in Dagnans' family mill. In spring 2014 a new roundabout, built opposite the place where the mill used to stand, was named after Dagnans family by Tarnow City Council.



***Plans for 2015

- Organisation of the next Remembrance Days of Galician Jews (June);
- Educational work with young people;
- Maintaining and renovating the cemetery in Tarnow;
- Supporting renovation work on cemeteries in Jasienica Rosielna, Warzyce near Jas³o and Gorlice;
- Publishing A. Bartosz's book *Galician Trail of the Chasids* (March)

- Publishing P. Szlezynher's book *Jews in Wiśnicz* (September)
- Further work on the Tarnow Jews Database.

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to all benefactors and we are hoping for further donations in respect of our cause.

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Chairman Adam Bartosz

V-ce Chairmans Jerry Bergman, Janusz Koziół

2015