

The Jewish Genealogical Society of Great Britain



Social Networking for Jewish Genealogy



Edition No. 1 - 01/2010

Issued for JGSGB

by

JGSGB Education & Mentoring

JGSGB 33 Seymour Place London W1H 5AP

Email <education@jgsqb.org.uk>

© JGSGB 2010

The Jewish Genealogical Society of Great Britain - 33 Seymour Place London W1H 5AP
Registered Charity No. 1022738 www.jgsqb.org.uk

The Jewish Genealogical Society of Great Britain



Social Networking for Jewish Genealogy

Introduction

In his book called "Social Networking for Genealogists", genealogist and librarian Drew Smith notes many different kinds of social networking and describes how they can be used by genealogists to share information of various kinds with other people. This document brings you a small selection of the most popular social networking sites that are used regularly by Jewish genealogists. (JGSGB's own library catalogue has now been catalogued using Library Thing at www.librarything.com/catalog/jgsqblib and we have our own JGSGB Facebook group at www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=51853921646) Smith highlights, in particular, each of the following categories, devoting a chapter to each: Blogs, collaborative editing, genealogy-specific social networks, general social networking (Facebook), message boards & mailing lists, photos & video sharing, podcasts, RSS feeds, sharing personal libraries, tags, virtual worlds and Wikis.

Privacy

One of the most important things to consider when it comes to Social Networking, and to your online presence is that of privacy. Whilst the sites are useful in that they allow people to find you, and of course they allow you to find other members of your family too, they also allow information about you to be found, depending of course on what privacy settings you are using. You will need to make sure that you have set your privacy levels sufficiently high so as to ensure you are happy with what others are able to find out about you.

Safe Social Networking

Gena Philibert Ortega of GenealogyWise offers 8 Social Networking Tips which have been adapted for Jewish genealogy use here. The full reference to Gena's posting is below:

1. **Don't reveal too much about yourself**
You don't need to fill in all the categories and revealing too much could backfire.
2. **Decide what you are comfortable with and then add privacy settings to control who can see your information**
You should always determine who sees the information you post.

© JGSGB 2010

The Jewish Genealogical Society of Great Britain



Social Networking for Jewish Genealogy

3. **Make a rule about who you will have as your "friends"**

Make sure you really do know the people, potentially you are sharing some really personal information with them.

4. **Be careful about what you write**

Be careful what you write on your friend's pages it's not private between you and them, maybe all their friends and yours will be able to see it. Maybe what you want to say would be better as a private email.

5. **Use the Private Message function to send private messages to other members**

It's best never to give your private address email address and phone number out unless you really want these details made public. Do you want all of your friends' friends to know how to find you too?

6. **You can choose any image as your profile picture**

You don't have to use your most current photo, you can use any photo, a cartoon, a baby photo, or something much more obscure.

7. **Never presume or cross post other people's help emails without asking them first**

It's best always to ask permission first. A person may have very good reason for not posting on another site or list.

8. **Remember this is your public face**

People can use this to find you and search engines e.g. Google will find you from the information that you post. Enjoy!

References

Philibert Ortega, Gena. (18 December 2009) Genealogy Wise on Social Networking Sites and Privacy.

http://www.genealogywise.com/notes/Social_Network_Privacy

Smith, Drew. (2009) Social Networking for Genealogists, Genealogical Publishing Company. www.genealogical.com

ISBN 13 - 978-0806317953

© JGSGB 2010

The Jewish Genealogical Society of Great Britain - 33 Seymour Place London W1H 5AP
Registered Charity No. 1022738 www.jgsqb.org.uk

The Jewish Genealogical Society of Great Britain



Social Networking for Jewish Genealogy

Logo	Name	URL
	Facebook	http://www.facebook.com
	Famillion	http://www.famillion.com
	Family Link	http://www.familylink.com
	Find My Past	http://www.findmypast.co.uk

© JGSGB 2010

The Jewish Genealogical Society of Great Britain



Social Networking for Jewish Genealogy

	Genealogywise	http://www.genealogywise.com/
	Genes Reunited	http://www.genesreunited.co.uk
	Library Thing	http://www.librarything.com/
	Linkedin	http://www.linkedin.com

© JGSGB 2010

The Jewish Genealogical Society of Great Britain



Social Networking for Jewish Genealogy

	My Heritage	http://www.myheritage.com/
	Second Life	http://secondlife.com/
	Twitter	http://twitter.com/

Can you help?

If you have a suggestion for a social networking website used frequently by Jewish genealogists that is not yet listed here, please send your suggestion to education@jgsqb.org.uk Thank you.

© JGSGB 2010

The Jewish Genealogical Society of Great Britain - 33 Seymour Place London W1H 5AP
Registered Charity No. 1022738 www.jgsqb.org.uk