

BPW's Family

<https://bpw.family>

August 8, 2026

Contents

1	Introduction	5
2	Family	7
3	Education in Austria	13
4	Emigration to the UK	19
5	Research and career	23
6	Personal life	31
7	Further memories	35
	Bibliography	43

Chapter 1

Introduction

This is an account of the life and work of Bertold Paul Wiesner, collated by some of his descendants.

A great deal of the following content includes conversations and emails between BPW's son Jonathan Wiesner and various half siblings, and is an attempt to record a narrative of BPW's life and work. Much of the information comes from family records, many of which are available along with this document on the BPW family website. Our gratitude to Jonathan is immense: he has been endlessly generous with his time and his willingness to share his father with so many others, later in his life.

Wikipedia sums up BPW as follows:[57] “Bertold Paul Wiesner (1901–1972) was an Austrian physiologist noted firstly for coining the term ‘Psi’ to denote parapsychological phenomena; secondly for his contribution to research into human fertility and the diagnosis of pregnancy; and thirdly for being biological father to upwards of 600 offspring by anonymously donating sperm used by his wife, the obstetrician Mary Barton, to perform artificial insemination on women at her private practice in the Harley Street area of London.”

Eva Ibbotson, BPW's first child, reflected on her father in a letter written in 2005:[56] “He was violently generous but could be financially unreliable... he was funny but not malicious, and curious about the world almost to his dying day. You couldn't have picked a better father. I remember once when I was asking him about life — as one does — and he said: “There's usually a flash of colour at the beginning but it always ends badly”. He was already very ill when he said this — but I think he had more than his fair share of colour at the start.”

Who exactly was Bertold Paul Wiesner? Well, he was the son of Paula Kohorn and Heinrich Wiesner, who were both from Czech, Jewish, families. He was married firstly to Anna Gmeyer, and in 1925 they had one daughter, Eva, before divorcing in 1934. He married Mary Barton in 1943 and they had a son, Jonathan, in 1944. And later, he was also the biological father to an unknown number of people who were, and are, real people, with real lives and families, occupations, hopes and fears. He met none of them, and he knew nothing about them. Did he think about his numerous offspring? What did it feel

like, knowing he was responsible for so many new lives, scattered around the country, and the world? Many of his descendants wonder whether he thought about the consequences of his decision to “help” so many women conceive. The sheer number of babies estimated to have resulted from their fertility treatment at the Barton/Wiesner practice is breathtaking.

As far as we know, he started donating as early as 1942, as at least one baby boy born in 1943, and in 1944 another boy was born: the same year as Jonathan who was BPW’s “actual” and known growing up son. From then on, we know of at least two or three people born in each year who are his offspring: the last ones were born in 1967. And this does not take into account of all the unknown babies, born between 1943 and 1967, who have either not found out about their parentage (usually via direct to consumer DNA testing) or have chosen to keep the knowledge private.

Starting with his family origins we will begin to illuminate the person he became, although it doesn’t appear that his Jewish background informed his decision to become — to be blunt — a prolific sperm donor. There will always be so many unanswered questions: for example, did he know what was happening to Jewish people during the war? It seems as if he was a secular Jew as he did not attend synagogue, and the family did not keep to Jewish customs at home although his sister Kitty and husband Oscar were observant.

Throughout the following pages, we will refer to Berthold as BPW, which is how his descendants now speak of him.

Chapter 2

Family

Bertold Paul Wiesner was born in Marchegg in Austria, east of Vienna and on the Slovakian border. His birth certificate^[6] reads:

The undersigned hereby confirms that according to the Birth Registration Procedure of the Jewish Community in Vienna (Floridsdorf), registration no. 74 fol. 108 Berthold Paul Wiesner On 24th July 1901 — twenty-fourth day of July in the year nineteen hundred and one — was born as firstborn son to Heinrich Wiesner and to Paula nee Kohorn. In Vienna (crossed out) Marchegg. Vienna, this 26th day of July 1924. Register Office of the Jewish Community in Vienna. Signed, Registrar and Commissioner for Oaths. Tax: Fl. 20.000 Stamp: Fl. 2000 Total: Fl. 22.000

Carole M. translated the certificate and comments: “The ‘pidyon haben’ or redemption of the first-born son is a mitzvah in Judaism whereby a Jewish firstborn son is “redeemed” by use of silver coins from his birth-state of sanctity, i.e. from being predestined by his firstborn status to serve as a priest. Judging from the birth certificate I would say that BPW’s parents (Heinrich Wiesner and Paula Kohorn) were indeed observant Jews. They were part of a Jewish community which had established itself in a country which was, after all, not deemed to be ‘theirs’. The diaspora had rendered them landless, nationless. So their religion was their unifying bond, their identity.”

His parents were both of Czech origin. His father, Heinrich Wiesner, was born on June 3, 1867 in Damborice, south east of Brno, and there is a large Jewish cemetery above the town with a number of Wiesner graves. Later they moved to Bučovice, an hour’s train ride to the east of Brno, which was a little bigger than Damborice but still very rural. Heinrich’s parents, Samuel Leopold Wiesner and Katerina Morawetz, (who are buried in the peaceful and overgrown cemetery in Bučovice had 8 other children, all of whom apart from Heinrich and Siegmund were born in Bučovice. We don’t know much about the daily life of the family, although Samuel was an active leader of the Bučovice Jewish population. There was a large synagogue which was only demolished in the early 1960’s and

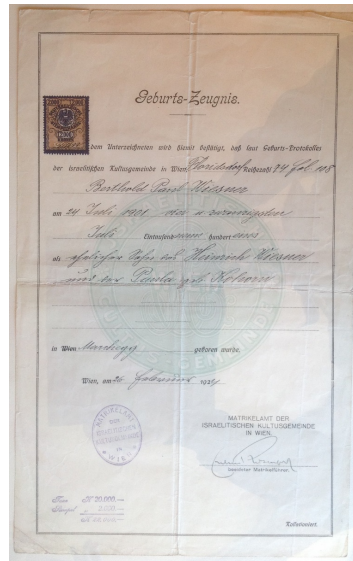


Figure 2.1: BPW's birth certificate.[6]

the name of Wiesner occurs in some documentation which can be seen in the entrance lobby of the cemetery.

There were eight siblings in the family; Heinrich was the oldest son. After him came Sigmund, born on 30 November 1868. He married Henriette Jindriska ('Jetty') and they had one daughter, Katerine. He was murdered in Terezin (the Theresienstadt Ghetto) on 25 October 1942. Jetty was murdered in Auschwitz in 1943. Katerine was murdered in Terezin in 1942 at the age of 38.

His brother Julius Wiesner was born on 4 August 1870, and married Olga Tausikova on 1 September 1901. They had two children and lived in Prague at Waldhauserova 10. He was transported to Terezin and then murdered in Auschwitz in 1942 (Ref: Transport AA 138 Prague- Terezin, 06/07/1942; Transport 789 Terezin-Auschwitz 26/10/1942). Olgo died in Terezin in 1942. His sister, Ernestinn was born in 1872 but we don't know where or when she died. His next brother Benjamin Johann was born on 29 January 1874 and he was murdered in Treblinka on 19 September 1942.

Next came Matilde Machle, born in 1877. We know nothing about her life (as yet). His sister, Bertha Breindel, was born in 1879. She married a Mr. S. Palek, and died in 1916 in Vienna.

Next came Ella Lea Wiesner who was born on 4 December 1882. She married a Mr. Arnstein; they had two sons (Gerhult, b. 1906, d.1976, and Stefan, b. 1908, d.1988 who had a son called Gustavo). Ella was murdered at the Jungfernhof death camp, in Riga, Latvia in January 1942 at the age of 59.

Jekla Lea Wiesner was born in 1882 but we have no other details about her life. In 1887, Heinrich married Paula Kohorn in Stedra, West Bohemia, Czechoslovakia (south west of Karlovy Vary and Mariánské Lázně), which is now a small



Figure 2.2: Samuel Leopold Wiesner and Katerina Morawetz's graves in the Jewish cemetery in Bučovice.

village but was then a thriving town with a number of rural based industries.

Paula's father, Karl Kohorn, came from a family of 9 children: he was born in 1844. Her mother, Anna Goldman Kohorn, was born in 1855 in Brlozec, a small hamlet a few kilometres to the east of Stedra. Karl was the Imperial Postmaster in Stedra, and they lived at House number 47, which was and still is attached to the north end of Stedra Castle. They had four children, all of whom were born in Stedra.

Paula was the oldest in the Kohorn family; the second child, Adele was born in 1877, and she married Dr. Emmanuel Deutsch. They had two daughters, Lili (b. 1905, she married Michael Rabinovitch and they had one daughter Ruth who was born in 1940) and then Amelie (b. 1909, d. 1975 in Israel). Adele died in 1918, possibly of the so-called 'Spanish flu'.

Hugo was Paula's only brother. He was born in 1878 and became a lawyer, living in Vienna until just before the war when BPW helped him escape to Britain. He lived the last years of his life mostly on Skye at the Wiesner/Barton family home, Corrie Lodge just outside Broadford on Skye, and Jonathan remembers Uncle Hugo with great affection. He did not marry. Ida was the youngest of the family. She was born in 1881 and was murdered in Terezin in 1944. She had one daughter, Marianne Koller.

Paula and Heinrich had two children, Bertold and Katerina ("Kitty") who was born on June 28, 1902. We don't know what led them to move to Austria from Czechoslovakia, and we have no information about their lives before the First World War, but they must have moved to Marchegg before 1901, as BPW was born there. During the war it appears that Heinrich was a nurse or hospital orderly, as a postcard from him (showing him on the front row, second from left) says: "Here are the sick from my room. Reserve hospital. Abt VII Bezirk II Zim(m)er St Pölten" (Abt. = Abteilung = Department, Bezirk is the district),



Figure 2.3: Heinrich and Paula's wedding, c.1897.



Figure 2.4: The Kohorn house in Stedra.



Figure 2.5: Hauptstrasse 47, Marchegg.

in which he is wearing a white coat like the other Nursing Staff. It's written in the old Kurrentschrift, the handwriting which was used till World War Two.

In 1919 they were living in a large house at the edge of Marchegg but although at that time he was described as an 'Agent' working in Vienna 111 (as shown on the enrolment card for BPW's enrolment card for the second semester of the University of Vienna). It is likely that he was a merchant (or Agent) trading in grains and possibly also livestock and horses.

Sadly, Paula died on February 22, 1920 when BPW was 19 years old, and his sister Kitty was 18. They were then looked after by their maternal Uncle Hugo. Heinrich re-married and died in Vienna on July 26, 1924; he is buried at the old cemetery but in the Christian section. Paula is buried in the Jewish section of the same cemetery and the grave headstone shows the names of both her parents, Karl and Anna Kohorn.



Figure 2.6: The Jewish cemetery in Dambořice.

Chapter 3

Education in Austria

This next section includes BPW's education in Austria, his move to Britain in 1928, and details of his travels during the period 1928-1933. It also includes the letters that his department head in Edinburgh, Professor Crew, wrote to the Home Office in support on his ongoing residency in Scotland and also includes a document referring to Anna Wiesner and her activities in Scotland during that period, which is relevant to his application for permanent residency. Also included is a record of BPW's work in his field of reproductive and hormone therapy (as much as we know). (NOTE: The documents shown in this section pertaining to BPW's academic career and life in Austria were all translated professionally by Carole M. and some of her comments are also included)

In 1919, BPW matriculated from the Imperial and Royal Maximilian High School of Vienna. This is a translation of his Certificate of Qualification for University Entrance:

“Berthold Paul Wiesner Born 24 July 1901 in Marchegg, of the Mosaic Religion. In the Imperial and Royal Maximilian High School of Vienna he began his studies, progressed and completed them.

In compliance with the Ministerial Regulation of 29 February 1908 Z.10051 (M-V-BI no.18) he sat the qualifying examination for university entrance. His examination results are evidence that he has attained the standard required. Vienna, 8 July 1919. Signed..... Chairman of the Board of Examiners Headmaster Form Teacher ([From Carole M.:“Across the certificate is half-heartedly stamped the word ‘Deutschoesterreich’ (part of the word is very faint because the stamp hasn’t been adequately inked, I’m not surprised). I daresay whoever applied it did so with a heavy heart though not a heavy hand. From Austro- Hungarian Empire to German-Austria! What pain that would have caused. I notice the school is still referred to as ‘k.k. Maximilian gymnasium’ – kaiserlich und koeniglich – imperial and royal - even though the empire is no more. All the accoutrements of empire were now lost, even the elevating terminology would have to go in due course. It had no meaning now. All that suffering on the Eastern Front, all for nothing. Particularly hard to endure for those who had fought, or who had family or friends who’d fought. I remember Heinrich’s messages to Paula when he assures

her he's having an easy time of it, and 'all's quiet'. 'Keep cheerful', he said. I think he wrote one of those messages just before the Brusilov Offensive.]

(PHOTO ref: Higher Certificate BPW 1919 Vienna)

In 1920 he attended the University of Vienna, and lived on Am Hof (a city square) in central Vienna.[4]

In 1921 BPW became a full citizen of Austria, possibly in order to expedite his studies at the University. The citizenship document reads:

Federal Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications 16-777-1921 Department of the Interior In accordance with S.8 of the ratified implementations of the State Government of 20 August 1920, ST.G.B. Nr. 397, it is hereby acknowledged that: Mr Berthold Wiesner Born 24th July 1901 Birthplace: Vienna (Lower Austria)

Profession: Student Place of Origin of Nationality: Damboritz, Moravia, has in line with Article 90 of the State Treaty of St Germain-en-Laye of 10th September 1919 (ST.G.B. N.....anno 1920: rightful entitlement to Austrian nationality and thereby full Austrian citizenship. Vienna, 22nd April 1921. Signature (but no designation given) To Mr Berthold Wiesner 22 Lanner St. Vienna Student. 1921:

(PHOTO: Ref 1921 Austrian citizenship)

He then began studying at the University of Vienna as shown by enrolment documents from the period.[5] For example, on 8 August 1922 his course of study included Experimental Zoology, Use of Instruments and Practicals.

(PHOTO: Ref 1922 National Enrolment card).

In 1923 his enrolment document reads as follows: Students Present in the 6th Semester. NB. Work which is not legible will be returned to students. Enrolment Details of Students in the Faculty of Philosophical Studies: Name: Berthold Paul Wiesner. Nationality: Austrian Place of Residence: Vienna Place of Birth: Marchegg, Lower Austria Age: 21 Religion: Left blank Address during studies: Vienna XIX, Linzerstrasse 22 Name, Position and Place of Residence of Father: Heinrich. Vienna III, Hetzgasse 24. Place of Study During Previous Semester: Here Reason for Undertaking Course of Study: Worthwhile career Signature of Student: BPW

(It is perhaps worth noting that in his enrolment document for the 5th semester he stated his religion as "mosaisch") .

(PHOTO ref BPW 6th semester enrolment)

In April 1923, he writes to the University regarding his dissertation as follows:

To the Highly Esteemed Professors of the University of Vienna. The presenting student requests permission to undertake rigorous examination for his doctorate in the eighth semester of his Philosophical Studies in Zoology combined with Botany. He submits herewith the following documents: Report book; matriculation certificate; certificate of citizenship; birth certificate; curriculum vitae; two examples of dissertation work. BPW Wipplingerstrasse, Vienna.

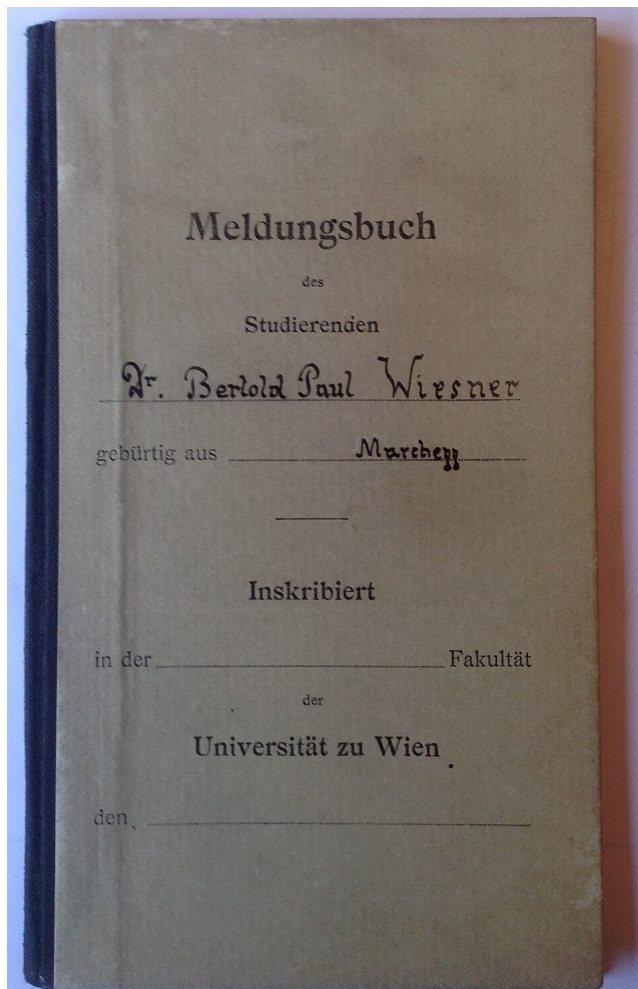


Figure 3.1: BPW's university registration book, c.1923.

Papers attached hereto. BPW

(Notes about the above from Carole M.:

Wipplingerstrasse was the address where Paula received her messages from Heinrich when he was away on the Eastern Front - those messages where he was determined to sound so upbeat while witnessing such horrors. I remember how he exhorted her to 'stay cheerful'. I seem to remember that one postcard was written about the time of the Russian offensive against the thinly-stretched Austro-Hungarian troops in the summer of 1916. Wipplingerstrasse was also the address of Dr Hugo Kohorn, Paula's brother — is it possible they were staying with him?" (PHOTO ref Examination for Doctorate of Bertold Wiesner (letter) In April 1923, the appraisal of his dissertation reads as follows: "Statement by Hans Przibram dated 23 April, 1923. Appraisal of Dissertation submitted by Phil. Candidate Berthold P. Wiesner In the work he has submitted: 'Ovarian Transplantation in the Brown Rat', Herr Berthold Wiesner has demonstrated that the ovaries of a brown rat can be removed and placed in a young female of the same species who has had her ovaries taken out. Ovarian function can subsequently resume in the transplanted organ. The technique applied in this procedure is one which the candidate has himself selected, and which might be termed autophoric in that there is no exertion of pressure or any injury beyond a clean incision. The uterus is cut open and the replacement ovary is introduced. This will be subjected to upwards pressure by uterine peristalsis, but can be prevented from displacement by suture. Surgical transplant methods present many diverse problems to which solutions must be found which can ultimately enable full function of the retained ovary. A method of experiment involved the implantation of ovaries of heterozygous dark brown rats into albino rats which were then covered by albino males, thereby begetting a 'medium dark' animal. An obstacle to the transplant research was the difficulty in obtaining freshly extracted ovaries and transplanting them without delay into the newly-spayed female. This piece of work demonstrates a sound understanding of anatomical structure, how to identify problems and develop appropriate means of overcoming them. There is an abundance of research literature quoted, but it would have been an improvement had the dates of publication been included." (PHOTO ref Appraisal of Dissertation submitted by Phil. Candidate Berthold P. Wiesner.docx.pdf) On May 1923 he was awarded his doctorate, a very impressive document which reads, again in translation: We Rectors of the University of Vienna Carl Diener Doctor of Philosophy, Professor of Palaentology Herman Junker Doctor of Philosophy, Professor of Egyptology Head of the Department of Philosophy Alfons Dopsch Doctor of Philosophy and Professor of History Duly Appointed Examiners of Higher Candidates Berthold Paul Wiesner Of Marchegg, situated in Austria The dissertation entitled 'On the Autophoric Transplantation of Ovaries in the Rat', whereby with legitimate examination he proves his praiseworthy learning in Zoology. We take care to sanctify these Letters with the Seal of the University in accordance with the name and honours of Doctor of Philosophy, and the rights and privileges accorded to that office. Vienna, the 19th day of May 1923. Followed by the signatures of the examiners. (PHOTO ref Certificate of Doctorate of Bertold Wiesner) In August 1923, BPW enrolled in the Faculty of Medicine, in Vienna and the enrolment details he gave are : For the.....semester (no date given) National Enrolment Card Details for

the Faculty of Medicine (It is a requirement that these details be completed in clear legible hand writing. As an academic organisation we are empowered to return unread any submissions which are poorly written). Forename and Surname of Student: Berthold Paul Wiesner Country of Birth: Austria Present Country of Residence: Austria Place of Birth: Marchegg, Lower Austria Mother tongue: German Age: 23 Nationality: Austrian Religion – which type, creed: Mosaisch Address during period of study: IV Neugasse Name, Position and Place of Residence of Father Name, Position and Place of Residence of Legal Guardian Name of Institute of Education where you studied in the Preceding Semester Income which you receive. Give amount, and in which currency, which you will receive from.....to.....1923. Reason for undertaking this course of study and why consequent qualification is required: To obtain licence to practise. Usual signature: This is signed by BPW. (PHOTO ref National Enrolment Card Details for the Faculty of Medicine) [From C.M.:As you can see, some questions have not been answered. The query about legal guardian would only apply to a minor. But other required information is absent.I wasn't sure how to translate 'mosaisch' – the religion based on the Laws of Moses. Is it the Creed of Moses? I think it was an archaic term by the 20th century, so I don't know why BPW used it. Maybe with the rise of anti-Semitism at that time he felt understandably uneasy, so sought to avoid use of the word 'Jewish'. He appears to have been closest to Professors Przibram and Hatschek, who were both Jewish. The former died in a concentration camp. No, let's be more direct, he was slaughtered in one. Professor Hatschek was an inspirational figure – there is information about him online. He was ejected from his position by the Nazis, and his property was stolen. Maybe BPW preferred the term 'mosaisch' because he could always argue that Christianity includes the Ten Commandments.] This is his I.D. in 1923 (PHOTO ref University of Vienna I.D. card) and the following year his enrolment card is shown : (PHOTO ref BPW University of Vienna enrolment certificate 1924) Once BPW had graduated, his curriculum vitae read: Curriculum Vitae I, the undersigned, was born 24th July 1901, in Marchegg in Lower Austria. I was born in that very place as the son of Heinrich Wiesner, agriculturist. I became by right a citizen of the State of Austria.† Between 1911 and 1919 I completed my studies at the Classical Grammar School (Grammar School of the Union, Vienna IX). I then pursued studies in the philosophy of science‡ for a period of eight semesters at Vienna University. I had the honour of studying under Herr Dozenten, Professors Hatschak, Przibram, Joseph, Grobben, Werner, Wettstein, Molisch – they were all my tutors. Since the year 1921 I have carried out research in the Biology Department of the Faculty of Science, in the disciplines of both Zoology and Physiology. [Notes from Carole M.: There is no name on the sheet of paper, and no signature. † State of Austria — I take it that BPW is referring to the fact that he became an Austrian citizen following the collapse of the Austro-Hungarian empire in 1918 and the subsequent establishment of the Republic of Austria.] ‡ Philosophy of Science — in this context, philosophy means 'learning, acquiring knowledge'. • (PHOTO ref: BPW's Curriculum Vitæ, c.1925)

Chapter 4

Emigration to the UK

On March 26, 1928, BPW arrived in Britain to take up his position at Edinburgh University.[8] Anna and Eva (aged three) came two months later, to join him.[7]

At the end of 1928 we can see a copy of a minute from the Board of Agriculture of Scotland, which refers to their request to the Under Secretary of State asking to extend BPW's residency (due to the value of his work there). The memo also refers to Anna's involvement with the miners Unions in the Central Belt of Scotland:

The Under Secretary of State: The Board approached the University confidentially on this matter and they had a call today from Mr. Miles (President of the Royal College of Surgeons) who is Chairman of the Committee of the University Court which looks after the Animal Breeding Department, and Mr. Fleming, the Secretary of the University.

Mr. Miles explained that Dr. Wiesner was doing unique work of first class importance. He had made in Germany an independent chemical discovery the results of which he had applied to animals in Edinburgh with success. This success was now being confirmed by preliminary observations on the human subject and most important results may be obtained if success is fully established. In Mr. Miles' opinion, Dr. Wiesner cannot be replaced. The chemical knowledge required for the work now proceeding is his alone. If he were withdrawn from this work the results of nine months' valuable and expensive work would be lost. Mr. Miles is satisfied that the University representation would definitely be in favour of his services being retained. It was further suggested that if it would help matters at all, the Principal, Mr. Miles, Secretary, or some influential representative of the University would be prepared to see Mrs. Wiesner with a view to inducing her to cease the association which she has formed. (Id.) C.V. Secretary Board of Agriculture for Scotland EDINBURGH. 28th December, 1928 (PHOTO ref: Board of Agriculture minute re BPW and Anna Gmeyner) We also have a report referring to Anna's involvement in more detail, and is included here as it also mentions BPW's previous and highly regarded work in Austria : "Anna Wilmenia Wiesner Austrian, born Vienna 16th March, 1908. Holder of Austrian passport No. 342593, issued at Vienna 4.4.28. Wife of Dr. Bertold Paul WIESNER, Austrian, born at Marchegg, Austria on 24th

July, 1901. This woman, who was formerly resident at 24, Eschenalle, Berlin, landed at Leith on 24.5.28. Her husband, who had landed at Harwich on the 26th March, 1928, is in charge of the Animal Research Department of Edinburgh University. In September, 1928, it was ascertained that Mrs. Wiesner had been in the company of Communists in the mining district of Lochgelly. Ostensibly she was writing a book on mining conditions in this country, based on personal observation. She did in fact visit the Jenny Gray Pit, Lochgelly, and the Lochore Colliery. She gave out that she was interested in mining and would like to see the underground workings. She was taken down a pit and asked about the main roads. She asked about the coal cutting machines and also if they had any other machines. She wished to see the coal face, but as no miners were there she was not taken and she enquired as to the number of shafts or outlets there were at the pit. When asked whether she had been down any other pits she said she had been down several in the Lothians - Lady Victoria, Newton Grange, Rosslyn Colliery and one near Cramond Bridge. On the occasion of her visits to the Jenny Gray Pit, Lochgelly, and the Lochore Colliery she was accompanied by two individuals well known as associates of Communists.

In October, 1928, it was definitely ascertained that Mrs. Wiesner was in direct touch with David Ramsay, the District Organiser of the Communist Party in Glasgow, and with F. Douglas, a Communist, of Edinburgh, regarding the setting up of Miners' Relief Committees under the auspices of the Workers' International Relief. Confirmed proof of her participation in this work can be produced if necessary. Other enquiries that have been made can be produced if necessary. Other enquiries that have been made have established that Dr Wiesner is a well known chemist, who for some time worked as assistant to the well known professor, Dr. Steinach. He has frequently lectured in Vienna on rejuvenation and heredity and bears a good name in scientific circles. He is considered to be a hard working and clever chemist and there is a rumour abroad that he intends to emigrate to Australia. He is a Social Democrat who takes little or no interest in politics, having devoted his whole time to chemical research. Mrs. Wiesner, on the other hand, is known in her native country to be politically very Left. It has not, however, been established whether she is actually a member of the Austrian or German Communist Parties." (PHOTO ref: Report about Anna Wiesner and communist sympathies) After taking up his position in Edinburgh, BPW travelled in and out of the UK a number of times: the following photos/scans show some of his entries and exits: 9 January 1929 (PHOTO ref: BPW landing at Harwich, 9 January 1929), 6 April, 1929: (PHOTO ref: Aliens Branch file for BPW and Anna Gmeyer) Next we see a list of his travels from 1929 to 1934, as shown by the stamps in his passport. It is possible that he was in Canada and the United States to liaise with laboratories there but we have no actual record of why he went there and who he visited. for Breclav in South Moravia 1929 6 January 1929 Czechoslovakia 7 January 1929 (with receipt of visa payment) 9 January 1929 Visa to remain in UK until 26th March 1929 Stamped by Immigration Officer Edinburgh City Police Aliens' Department (16 March 1929) Stamped by Chief Inspector Aliens Branch Home Office 22 April 1929 Extension of Visa to remain until 26 March 1930 Stamped by Immigration Officer Edinburgh City Police Aliens' Department 26 April 1929 August 8th 1929 Stamp of American Consulate Visa in London for travel to America Visa stamp 28 September 1929 can land in Glasgow and remain in UK until 26 March

1930 Stamp of Edinburgh City Police Aliens Department (30 September 1929) Extension of UK Visa 20 December 1929 to stay until 26 March 1931 Stamped 14 April 1930 Aliens Branch Home Office 3 September 1930 Buchs in Switzerland 11 September 1930 France Transit Visa 3 November 1930 permitted to land in UK (Harwich) but not to stay after 24 March 1931 UK Visa dated 1 April 1931 to leave no later than 26 March 1932 Also Stamped June 1931 entry to Quebec Canada. 9 June 1931 American Visa Stamped by America Consulate in Scotland. UK Visa 29 June 1931 to land in UK but not to remain in the UK after 26 March 1932 31 July 1931 Transit Visa for France 13 August 1932 stamped in France and also a stamp 20 August 1933 for Basel in Switzerland Entry to Italy 28 August 1932 , Entry to Italy 3 September 1932 16 August 1932, Visa to travel from Bergen in Norway to Edinburgh. Permission to remain until 16 April 1933 Stamp for Newhaven UK 3rd September 1933 Stamp for Harwich UK 22 Sept 1933 Stamp for Southampton 13 March 1934 Stamp from Brenner (border between Austria and Italy) 3 September 1932 Stamp from Buchs Switzerland 21 June 1933 France- Transit Visa Dunkirk 19 August 1933 Commissariat Special St Louis 1933 Commissariat Special Paris 28 October 1933 accompanied by daughter Eva Wiesner 31 October 1933 admission of child only by Immigration Officer in Newhaven Stamp from Commissariat Special USA Temporary Visitor Visa 5 Feb 1934 valid for 2 months (PHOTO ref: BPW passport 1929) (PHOTO ref: BPW's arrival in Harwich, 20 December 1929) (PHOTO ref: Home Office form about arrival in Glasgow from Canada) He did not have permanent residency in Britain for the first three years after he arrived in Edinburgh, and the Department of Genetics wrote to the Home Office a number of times in order to request extensions to his visa as shown in the following letters: March 27th 1930. University of Edinburgh King's Buildings, West Mains Road. Sir, It is required of me formally to state that I wish to obtain permission from the Under Secretary of State for Dr. B. P. Wiesner, an assistant in this Department, to remain in this country for a further period of time. He is in charge of a section in this Department, and I could not possibly replace him at the present time. His work has been the means of attracting a very considerable amount of attention, and also endowment, to this Department, and his conduct during the past year has been entirely satisfactory. I have the honour to be, Sir, Your obedient Servant, Signed F.A.E. Crew To: The Under Secretary of State, Home Office, Whitehall, London, S.W.1. (PHOTO ref: Dept of Genetics to Under Sec of State 1930) The following year, Dr Crew writes to the Home Office again: Department of Animal Genetics, King's Buildings West Main Road ,Edinburgh. March 24th 1931. Sir, I beg to enclose herewith the passport of Dr. B.P. Wiesner. Dr. Wiesner is a senior member of the staff of this Department, and his services to the Department, and to the University, with which we are closely associated, have become indispensable. His work is of such high standing that it would seriously embarrass our activities were he obliged to leave, and I therefore beg leave to request that his period of residence in this country be prolonged indefinitely. I have the honour to be, Sir, Your obedient servant, (signed) F.A.E. Crew The Under Secretary of State, Home Office, Whitehall, London, S.W.1. (PHOTO ref: Dept of Genetics to Under Sec of State 1931) In 1932, Dr Crew writes again, this time requesting an indefinite stay for BPW: Institute of Animal Genetics, King's Buildings, West Mains Road, Edinburgh. 3rd February 1932 The Under Secretary of State, Home Office, London, S.W.1. Sir, I wish to apply on behalf of Dr. B.P. Wiesner for an extension of his sojourn

in this country. It can be said of Dr. Wiesner that he attracted to this institute the endowment from which his own salary is derived. Furthermore out of this endowment the salaries and wages of over a dozen people of British nationality are provided. Mr. T.B. Macaulay who gave this endowment to the University of Edinburgh is particularly interested in the work that Dr. Wiesner himself is doing and there is no doubt that if Dr. Wiesner were to leave Macaulay's interests in this institute would diminish if not cease. I am, Sir, Your obedient Servant

(signed) F.A.E. Crew

(PHOTO ref: Dept of Genetics to Under Sec of State 1932)

On September 14 1933, BPW applied for naturalisation and placed a notice in The Scotsman. (PHOTO ref: BPW naturalisation application, PHOTO ref: Naturalisation notice in The Scotsman) His naturalisation was granted on 30 August 1934 . We don't have a copy of the actual certificate but the reference is as follows: Reference: HO 334/226/367 , Description: Naturalisation Certificate: Bertold Paul Wiesner. From Austria. Resident in Edinburgh. Wife's name Unspecified [Wiesner]. Children: Eva Maria Charlotte Michele Wiesner. Home Office Reference: W 351. Certificate BZ367 issued 30 August 1934. In that year, 1934, he was still having to apply to the Home Office for permission to stay in the UK for his daughter Eva, and the transcription reads: Name of Alien in full: WIESNER Berthold Paul . Aliens Naturalization. Fee W351/2. MINUTES: Police Report, See minutes on 530601/9. Austrian aged 33 yrs. 6 yrs residence in the U.K. Austrian born wife from whom he is separated. 1 foreign born daughter residing with him whom he desires to be included in the cert. He is a lecturer at Edinburgh Univ. but is seeking another appointment. The Proc Fisc and the local police do not like his political opinions but otherwise have nothing to say against him. The application is well supported . Grant £9 , Include daughter Eva etc , Omit reference to the wife. Amendment: Address: 1, Lennox Street, Edinburgh initialized] 18/7/1934 .

(Carole M. comments: The position of divorce in Austria is peculiar. Prior to the present regime it was the case, according to the information given us by the Austrian legislature, that where the divorce is not final and is a separation, its parties unless there were faults were urged to remarry. In response it would not be just to refuse naturalisation in this case. Gibberish – appalling grammar and scant knowledge of the then legal position concerning divorce in Austria. This was in July 1934. In fact, in 1783 Joseph II, who was a reforming Emperor, had made it legal for couples to divorce by mutual agreement provided they were not Catholic and had not married in Church. This was effectively separating Church marriages from State civil marriages. Joseph II was known as a monarch of the Enlightenment – his many reforms included permitting schools for the children of Jewish families, and other schools for those of minority groups. The legislation regarding marriage did not change till 1938 and the Anschluss, when German law prevailed.

(PHOTO ref: Police Report on BPW's application to remain in UK with Eva Wiesner, 18 July 1934)

Chapter 5

Research and career

Most of the following research and information about BPW's work in the field of female reproduction was compiled by David Hall (Emeritus Professor of community paediatrics at the Institute of General Practice and Primary Care, University of Sheffield) in 2023. The original document is also available as File:Wiesner pathway as pioneer v2.pdf. His comments are included. David wanted to find out exactly how BPW's research on sex hormones may have laid the foundations and consequently contributed to the development of oral contraception and HRT. He writes: "It has not been an easy investigation. I have now been able to obtain most of the key papers except for one (or possibly two) dating from what were presumably Wiesner's "postgraduate" student projects, as so far the journal abbreviations do not match any available journal. Assuming that the dates I have found are correct, there was a remarkably rapid progression from his work in Vienna (reported in 1925 so probably done in 1923 or 1924) to being recruited to Edinburgh in 1928. There would not have been any slick abstracting systems like those we have now, but of course there were far fewer scientific journals circulating at the time, so perhaps it was not too difficult to keep up with research results from other academic centres like Vienna." The first paper that is referenced is in 1928, from work probably done while he was still in Vienna: In Nature March 31 1928: 121:3048, 498-9. Wiesner states that he was "the first to demonstrate that pregnancy could be interrupted by injection of the "oestrous" hormone." (Biol Ges zu Wien, December 7th 1925 ref. Is still elusive), and he refers to work by Steinach, Heinlein and Wiesner (Pflugers Arch 1925, ccx 598), using material derived from that work. This work is referenced by Allen and Doisy (Ovarian and placental hormones: Physiol Reviews October 1, 1927.).

In 1928, BPW was appointed to the position of head of Sex Physiology by animal geneticist Francis Crew, Professor of Animal Genetics at the newly established Institute of Animal Genetics (IAG) within the University of Edinburgh. (In 1920 Sharpey-Schafer had approached Francis Crew, asking him to run the newly created animal breeding research station in Edinburgh, and in 1928 Crew was created the first Professor of Animal Genetics at the University of Edinburgh: known as the Buchanan chair, it was indirectly funded by the Rockefeller Foundation). A new building on the Kings Buildings site was then set up, open-

ing in 1930, and this is where BPW worked. At the same time, the Department became an integral part of the University with a new Animal Breeding Committee advising on the management of the Department. Under Crew's leadership, research in the fields of reproductive physiology and genetics was encouraged to develop side by side as a facet of scientific animal breeding. It is worth noting that a number of notable scientists conducted research at the IAG, including physiologist John Scott Haldane, zoologist Lancelot Hogben and evolutionary biologist Julian Huxley. It was there that BPW built upon the work of Zondek and Ascheim by examining the production and role of hormones during fertilization and pregnancy. Zondek and Aschheim had thought that the hormone chorionic gonadotrophin was produced by the pituitary gland, but the research conducted at the IAG proved that it is secreted by the placenta. In 1929 Crew and BPW created a Pregnancy Diagnosis Laboratory, which by 1939 was conducting ten thousand pregnancy tests per year, testing samples sent by medical practitioners or private individuals from all over the UK. This Laboratory was the first of its kind in Britain and was set up under Crew as a tangential area of public benefit, linked to their research at the Institute. Crew reported on the first year of the service in the *BMJ* (1930, April 5, 662-3), writing: "... a year ago my colleague Dr. B. P. Wiesner convinced me that for several reasons it was desirable to examine on a large scale the pregnancy diagnosis tool of Zondek and Aschheim. It was out of this suggestion that the Pregnancy Diagnosis Station/Laboratory emerged, the conduct of which has very largely been in hands of Dr. E. M. Robertson, working under the supervision of Dr. Wiesner." (*Lancet* 1928 ii 834 'Diagnosis of early pregnancy' by RW Johnstone (Gynaecology Dept, Edinburgh University))

What was known about female hormones around the time BPW started his lab career? The earliest report appears in Fosbery W.H.: (Severe climacteric flushings successfully treated with ovarian extract. *BMJ*. 1897;1:1039). In 1903 Ludwig Fraenkel (*Archiv für Gynäkologie*, 1903) had become the first person to describe the human corpus luteum, a glandular mass found in the ovaries of a female during menstruation that has important endocrine functions. Fraenkel also named the hormone progesterone (which the corpus luteum secretes in addition to oestrogen): "The function of the corpus luteum: From the year 1901 I reported on experiments which revealed the previously unknown function of the corpus luteum. The late Breslau embryologist Gustav Born proposed... that the corpus luteum verum graviditatis mass, according to its structure and development, is a gland with internal secretion, equipped with the function of causing the settlement and development of the fertilized egg in the uterus." In 1923, Edgar Allen, a reproductive physiologist, was studying the role of follicular fluids obtained from the ovary of sows on uterine weight, vaginal maturation, and sexual receptivity. Allen provided follicular fluid from sows and Doisy purified the estrogenic activity. The biologic endpoint, uterine weight, was later called the Allen-Doisy test. (Purification of oestrogen, involving three key investigators, Edgar Allen, Edward Doisy, and Adolph Butenandt.) Meanwhile, Selmar Aschheim and Bernard Zondek, working in Germany, demonstrated large amounts of estrogenic activity in the urine of pregnant women. With this biological material as a source, Doisy crystallized estrone : "the potency of these crystals is so great that one gram could restore the sex cycle in more than nine million rats" (1929). In *Nature* March 23 1929: page 449: the "alpha- hormone" labelled

Oestrin was described. BPW then developed the role of the “beta -hormone” and set out the experimental basis for a second hormone (this is probably the same as that which Fraenkel had categorised as progesterone). In 1930, in the *Edinburgh Medical Journal*, 37:2, 73, he presented a paper on the separation of the “kyogenic” hormone from human placenta (? = progesterone). He had a paper in *The Eugenics Review* (1930 22: 19-26) regarding hormones and control of the reproductive system. This clarified the current state of knowledge, and also emphasised differences between experimental animals such as mice and primates including humans. “...There are at least two such hormones and they are, in mouse and rat, liberated in succession. During the first phase of ovarian secretion, which precedes ovulation, oestrin is produced. Its injection into ovariectomized mice, in which no sex cycle occurs in the absence of any ovarian hormone, causes the complete series of the oestrous changes. The animals mate under its influence and also display the anatomical conditions of oestrus. During the second phase of ovarian secretion which follows ovulation there is produced another ovarian hormone, kythin or progestin, which is responsible for the changes in the uterus permissive of pregnancy development”.

Crew and Wiesner jointly published in the *BMJ*, 777, in 1930, regarding the existence of a pituitary hormone that regulates thyroid production of thyroxine; now known as TSH – thyroid stimulating hormone. In 1931 they elegantly discussed previous experiments and their own, regarding the question of whether the pituitary produces one or two hormones that regulate the sex hormones oestrogen and progesterone, correctly concluding that there are two (these pituitary hormones are now known to be FSH – follicle stimulating hormone; LH – luteinizing hormone: *Proc Roy Soc Edin* 50: 79-103).

Zondek and Aschheim had thought that the hormone chorionic gonadotrophin was produced by the pituitary gland. But the research conducted at the IAG proved that it is secreted by the placenta. Some notes taken from an email from Jesse Olszynko-Gryn include comments from Francis Crew regarding his association with BPW: “I introduced a section of endocrinology, and I got a man called Bertold Wiesner from Vienna to come and help me – a very bright young man, Viennese, more artist than scientist, if you can distinguish between the two, I don’t think there’s much difference between the two – and he did some really first-class work. Amongst other things, he helped me – or I helped him, I suppose I should say – to organise a Pregnancy Diagnosis Station, the first in this country. Yes, there was quite a lot of rat work done. Wiesner was the rat man really, rat and mouse, I worked on the fowl, ageing and things like that. Wiesner wasn’t really interested in either animal genetics or animal breeding, he was interested in pure physiology, endocrinology, I mean he was purely...and his interests were not aligned in any way with ours. So that I wasn’t particularly happy to see the development take that particular line and I wasn’t very unhappy when it came to an end, because I couldn’t see where it was going at all. It was more, far more appropriate to a department of obstetrics or physiology. Although I wanted reproductive physiology, I did want it to have some, not direct, but some bearing upon problems of the animal breeders, I mean, twinning in sheep or cattle or something of that sort.” The following references in the *British Medical Journal* relate to BPW’s work during those years in Edinburgh: Wiesner: *BMJ* 1931, 860 (2nd year, including a discussion of false positive and false negative results and communications with Dr As-

chheim); Wiesner: BMJ 1932, 759 (3rd year; more data, other test options, also a reference to possibility of preventing spontaneous abortion in Lancet 3rd Sept p.509 1932); Wiesner: BMJ 1933, 296 (4th year) – More data, with improved accuracy. “This year’s “ errors “ again contain several cases in which a “negative” diagnosis with definite clinical signs of pregnancy was followed by spontaneous abortion. The data are now sufficiently numerous to justify more detailed investigation; this is now in progress, and the results will be published shortly.” (Aschheim and Zondek had developed the A-Z test; a substance present only in the urine of pregnant women could elicit a measurable response; injection of a woman’s urine into an immature female mouse makes a young mouse will go into heat. The substance was actually HCG, Human chorionic gonadotrophin. Ettinger, G. H., G. L. M. Smith, and E. W. McHenry. “The Diagnosis of Pregnancy with the Aschheim-Zondek Test.” Canadian Medical Association Journal 24 (1931): 491–2. Evans, Herbert, and Miriam Simpson. “Aschheim-Zondek Test for Pregnancy—Its Present Status.” California and Western Medicine 32 (1930): 145.) In 1929, BPW visited Montreal, where he discussed with some scientists the possibility of using medicine derived from female hormones to delay menopause. Subsequently, the scientists helped form the company Ayerst, McKenna and Harrison, Ltd (later, Wyeth) who marketed Premarin, a controversial hormone replacement therapy (HRT) drug based on pregnant mare’s urine. (The following comment is from David Hall with some unanswered questions regarding this visit: “I have not yet found any documentary evidence of this/these visits – maybe via company records? Did he see the full commercial potential for HRT and Oral contraception? Did he invest in the company / companies?”)

BPW’s post in Edinburgh was apparently funded or part-funded by an anonymous donor in Canada. This funding ceased in 1934 and the University was unable or unwilling to maintain his post. Crew wrote a long paper in 1939 on pregnancy tests but BPW is not a co-author nor is there any reference to him. It seems as if he did not produce much in the way of ground-breaking research during the period 1933-1939, possibly due to personal/family reasons. His name re-appears in papers co-authored with Mary Barton, from the early 1940’s and it is possible that he also co-authored several published papers with John Yudkin and other colleagues. David Hall writes that BPW “was obviously not by any means the only scientist working in this field, but his lab work and his clear analysis of his own and others’ data confirms his status as an important contributor on the distinction and relationships between the various hormones. So far, it has been impossible to work out just how many of his insights were entirely original. His work with the pregnancy testing station was also valuable both as a practical service to women and in setting baseline standards for future pregnancy diagnostic services; his analysis of false positive and false negative results was vital in developing and sustaining the service – for which a charge was of course made and no doubt supported the other work of the organisation”.

While he was still working at the Institute of Animal Genetics, BPW resumed his earlier research into the prevention of pregnancy which probably contributed to the formulation of a reliable oral contraceptive for women. In addition, he collaborated with Kenneth Walker, a urological surgeon at the Royal Northern Hospital, where they had some success in artificially inseminating women with sperm from anonymous donors in cases where the patient’s husband was either

impotent or infertile. At the same time, Mary Barton (an obstetrician working at the Royal Free Hospital in London) had also had success with using artificial insemination with a few patients. In 1945, BPW collaborated with Kenneth Walker and Mary Barton on a paper for the British Medical Journal, describing their technique of human artificial insemination. This publication led to a very public condemnation from the Archbishop of Canterbury, who wanted to make artificial insemination illegal, calling it ‘the work of the devil’. In fact, the law was ambiguous and consequently the work of Barton and Wiesner continued in secrecy, and their patients were counselled to tell nobody about their treatment (quite possibly a number of women did not fully understand the procedure. BPW and Mary Barton had married in 1943 and they ran her fertility clinic in London together for the next 20 years until he retired. It is estimated that she (or they) successfully inseminated at least 1500 women. Ostensibly, the sperm donations were anonymous or at least unidentified, and the patients were only told that the donor would be a professional man who had already had at least one child, but in fact DNA evidence shows that the majority of the sperm was provided by BPW himself, and perhaps about 200 donations came from the neuroscientist Derek Richter. Jonathan, his son, underwent DNA testing in 2007 which provided a basis for identification. As of 2025, more than 50 confirmed offspring of BPW have been definitely identified. We do not know exactly how many donor conceived children were born as all the clinic records were destroyed. In their 1945 paper in the British Medical Journal, Barton and fellow authors Walker and Wiesner explained that they used a “small panel of donors” that they considered of “intelligent stock”. It is unclear whether Barton knew (at that time at least) that much of the sperm used came from her husband. She kept records of donors identified only with code names. Documentary filmmaker Barry Stevens, (who was responsible, with David Gollanz, for finding out about the large number of sperm donations made by BPW) has stated: “it’s possible he didn’t tell his wife and she believed the donations were coming from a lot of different men”, as it seems that BPW was the person mainly responsible for recruiting donors for the clinic. At that time, they would have assumed that after the destruction of the clinic’s records, the parentage of the children conceived at the clinic would be untraceable. They could not have foreseen the implications of the discovery of DNA, let alone the impact of direct to consumer DNA testing. Regardless, as a scientist specialising in fertility (among other areas), BPW should certainly have been aware that there were genetic risks created by his fathering so many children.

The following table shows some (if not all) the papers that Mary Barton and BPW published from 1923 to 1961:

- 1923 – *Die Funktionsfähigkeit autophor transplantierter Ovarien bei Ratten*, Archiv für Mikroskopische Anatomie und Entwicklungsmechanik, 10.1007/BF02108514
- 1928 – *The Ovarian Hormone*, Nature, 10.1038/121498A0
- 1929 – *Pseudopregnancy and Its Mechanism*, Transactions. Edinburgh Obstetrical Society,
- 1929 – *The Beta-Hormone*, Nature, 10.1038/123449A0
- 1930 – *On the Separation of the Kyogenic Hormone from Human Placenta*, Scottish Medical Journal,

- 1930 – *On the Reactivation of the Senile Testis of the Rat by Means of Injections of Gonadotrope Hormones*, Scottish Medical Journal,
- 1930 – *The hormones controlling reproduction*, The Eugenics Review,
- 1930 – *ON THE EXISTENCE OF A FOURTH HORMONE, THYREOTROPIC IN NATURE, OF THE ANTERIOR PITUITARY*, The BMJ, 10.1136/BMJ.1.3616.777
- 1931 – VI.—*The Gonadotrope Actions of the Anterior Lobe of the Pituitary*, Proceedings of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, 10.1017/S0370164600044771
- 1931 – *Extraction of Insulin*, Nature, 10.1038/127630C0
- 1931 – *PREGNANCY DIAGNOSIS STATION: REPORT ON SECOND YEAR'S WORKING*, The BMJ, 10.1136/BMJ.1.3671.860
- 1931 – *On the Relation between the Hormones of the Anterior Lobe of the Pituitary and Clinical Syndromes*, Scottish Medical Journal,
- 1932 – *THE EXPERIMENTAL STUDY OF SENESCENCE*, The BMJ, 10.1136/BMJ.2.3742.585
- 1932 – *PREGNANCY DIAGNOSIS STATION: REPORT ON THIRD YEAR'S WORKING*, The BMJ, 10.1136/BMJ.2.3746.759
- 1933 – *Gonadotropic Hormones and Cancer*, Nature, 10.1038/132097A0
- 1933 – *PREGNANCY DIAGNOSIS STATION: REPORT OF FOURTH YEAR'S WORKING*, The BMJ, 10.1136/BMJ.2.3788.296
- 1937 – *Methoden zur Isolierung und Bestimmung der Hormone*, Fresenius Zeitschrift für Analytische Chemie, 10.1007/BF01364876
- 1937 – *Restropic Effects of Anterior Pituitary Extracts*, Nature, 10.1038/140892B0
- 1937 – *Effect upon Sex Behaviour of a Diet Deficient in Vitamin E*, Nature, 10.1038/140972B0
- 1938 – *Restropic Activity of Blood*, Nature, 10.1038/1411100B0
- 1938 – *The "Restropic" Activity of Blood*, The BMJ, 10.1136/BMJ.2.4051.444
- 1942 – *Bactericidal Effects of Aspergillus clavatus*, Nature, 10.1038/149356B0
- 1943 – *Sterility and Impaired Fertility*, The BMJ,
- 1944 – *The Sims Test*, The Lancet, 10.1016/S0140-6736(00)58629-2
- 1945 – *Artificial Insemination*, The BMJ, 10.1136/BMJ.1.4384.40
- 1945 – *Artificial Insemination*, The BMJ,
- 1945 – *[The Sims Test]*, Revista medico-quirurgica de patologia femenina,
- 1945 – *Waking temperature in relation to female fecundity*, The Lancet, 10.1016/S0140-6736(45)91384-5
- 1945 – *Thermogenic effect of progesterone*, The Lancet, 10.1016/S0140-6736(45)91388-2
- 1946 – *Biological dangers from atomic fission*, The Lancet, 10.1016/S0140-6736(46)91208-1
- 1946 – *On the nature of psi phenomena*, Journal of Parapsychology,

- 1946 – *Receptivity of Cervical Mucus to Spermatozoa*, The BMJ,
- 1946 – *The receptivity of cervical mucus to spermatozoa*, The BMJ,
- 1947 – *The psi processes in normal and "paranormal" psychology.*, Proceedings of the Society for Psychical Research,
- 1948 – *The psi processes in normal and paranormal psychology*, Journal of Parapsychology,
- 1948 – *The role of special diets in the treatment of female infecundity*, The BMJ, 10.1136/BMJ.2.4584.847
- 1948 – *Reducing substances in cervical mucus*, The Lancet, 10.1016/S0140-6736(48)91432-9
- 1951 – *Nutritional factors in reproductive failure*, Nature, 10.1038/167979A0
- 1951 – *Contraception—recent developments in technique and their evaluation*, The Medical press,
- 1952 – *Inhibition of oestrus by cultivated gromwell*, Nature, 10.1038/170274B0
- 1952 – *Significance of testicular exfoliation in male infecundity*, The BMJ, 10.1136/BMJ.2.4791.958
- 1955 – *Control of fertility by antimetotic agents*, Nature, 10.1038/176249B0
- 1957 – *The effects of some antimetotic compounds on pregnancy in the mouse*, Proceedings. Society for the Study of Fertility,
- 1958 – *An unidentified factor in liver required for reproduction in rats*, British Journal of Nutrition, 10.1079/BJN19580021
- 1961 – *Control of fertility by 6-azauridine*, Nature, 10.1038/1891015A0
- 1961 – *Patients with Trophoblast Tumours Wanted*, The BMJ,
- 1961 – *Patients with Trophoblast Tumours Wanted*, The BMJ,

Chapter 6

Personal life

The bare bones. Married Anna in Vienna, had Eva, came to Britain in 1928. They separated and she went back to Berlin with Eva. He worked in Edinburgh, as shown in the chapter on career. Rented the farmhouse on the island of Ensay, fished, was very social in Edinburgh. Met Mary Barton but don't know when. Lived in London, started being a 'donor' in at least 1943. During war, home office interested in what he was doing on Ensay. BBC work, briefly. Lab work with Rabinovitch. Married Mary B., had Jonathan 1944. House on Skye, Corry Lodge outside Broadford.

Parkinsons. Like boats, kayaking, dogs, never went back to Austria. Not observant Jewish. Sister Kitty very devoted. She and Oscar visited Jonathan at school and supported BPW.

He donated funds £1 1/- to the Spanish Workers' Fund in 1936. Quite probably many of his friends and colleagues were active, as documented in eg:

(PHOTO ref: BPW's contribution to Spanish Workers Fund)

The following excerpts are from emails to a couple of half siblings, generously shared by Jonathan, and giving us more information about BPW:

“BPW and the Goya sketches: they were given to him, so my Mother told me, by the Spanish Republicans. BPW had been involved in, or had organised aid during the civil war. I am not very clear as to exactly what aid was involved. I do remember my Mother talking about the delivery of lorries; no doubt they would have been carrying cargo as well. In the documents concerning BPW's application for British citizenship, there is a reference somewhere as to hearsay that BPW may have been gun-running! Presumably no proof existed, otherwise I guess his application might have been rejected.

16th January 2018:

“I met BPW's first wife, Anna Gmeyer, only once, when she was an old lady. When I was a small kid I went with BPW to see her in

a charming old cottage somewhere in the home counties,. Frankly, I don't remember her at all, although I do recall getting some nice cake for tea! I really don't know much about her except for what I found in the National Archives about BPW's application for British citizenship. The authorities (Home office, police etc) were like to grant him citizenship, but were equivocal about his wife as she had been involved in supporting? working with? the communist Scottish Miners Union. Presumably her general record as a communist activist didn't help either. Eva Ibbotson, her daughter, hardly ever talked about her except to say she was a 'difficult woman'. I don't think there was much love lost between them. Her great granddaughter, who calls herself Irya Gmeyer recently house sat for us for two weeks here in Sicily. Irya is the daughter of Eva Ibbotson's oldest child, Toby, who lives in Sweden. Toby was a classics scholar at Cambridge, but after leaving, married a Swedish girl, and started a Steiner school 3 hrs drive north of Stockholm, a school which he still runs part time now. So Irya is really an Ibbotson, but admired her feminist Gr. Grandmother so much as to change her surname.

You are right about the apparent broad brush of BPW's 'dislike of Austrians'. I guess he really meant that he disliked the disturbing political and social situation at the time, just as a very longstanding French friend told me recently that she 'can't stand the Brits' because of Brexit. In fact, she and her husband lived in London for many years and loved it, and still have numerous close English friends they see regularly. See what I mean.

BPW if not an atheist, was certainly an agnostic, and he didn't appear to have any interest in Judaism. I don't think he ever went to a synagogue, and we never celebrated any Jewish festival, nor, until I was an adult, did I even know of their existence! The whole Jewish 'thing' was a rare starter in our household,. As a child it meant nothing to me. As I grew up and became aware that BPW's parents had been Jewish, it still meant nothing more to me than the fact that my Mother's family were protestants. As a child and later on I saw a lot of Kitty and Otto, who were observant Jews, but again it meant little to me. I suppose that being brought up in a family where both my parents had friends and acquaintances from very diverse racial or religious backgrounds, neither of these counted for much. I never heard comments from my parents that he/she is a Catholic, a Jew, or Moslem or even pointing out that a colleague of theirs was a refugee, that he/she was an Austrian, Hungarian or Russian (like Rabinovich). In respect of Jewishness, what may have been the case is that BPW, Kitty and Otto deliberately avoided much talk of it, perhaps because they wanted me to grow up without Angst, so in their minds sparing me the connection to the relatively recent horror of all horrors suffered by Jews. Who knows. It was only when I reached my thirties and forties, that I began to be interested in BPW's and his family's history. It was clear to me by then that I had some Jewish and/or middle European characteristics. But was it clear to my friends? I had no idea, so I asked for their take: 'you may sound like an Englishman' they said, 'but you are certainly



Figure 6.1: BPW's grave in East Finchley Cemetery, in 2024.

far from typical' And then one ore two added 'were your parents Jewish?' Knowledge of my Jewish blood didn't figure much in my life, but then in late middle age I found myself deeply interested in books by Jewish authors such as Philip Roth, Bashevis Singer, Primo Levi, and so on, It is a cultural interest, in no way a religious one.

When we had a holiday home in Suffolk, my mother sometimes went to Church, and once or twice BPW and I came too. Trouble was, on one of the rare occasions we were at a service he got the giggles about something or other and infected me too. The embarrassment!, So, although a good giggle as an adult is thoroughly enjoyable, I didn't dare to go with him again for some time. This must have been after his baptism by his friend Stefan Hopkinson that I told you about - 'hedging his bets' BPW said - before his dangerous operation on the brain. In spite of the flippant remark, I think he was probably happy to oblige Stefan since to BPW one belief was as good as another. I never saw him take any particular interest in Jewish culture and certainly he had no involvement in the religion."

Chapter 7

Further memories

The following is an email that Jonathan wrote to David Hall in December 2021, in response to David's questions soon after finding out that he was donor conceived (and our thanks to David for allowing this to be shared):

BPW was around 5' 7" / 5'8" and of average build. He was neither a sportsman, nor an athlete, and neither am I. I only know of two hobbies he enjoyed when he was a young man, kayaking along Austria's faster rivers when he was a student in Vienna, and riding. Sometime in the thirties when he was living in Edinburgh, he had a bad fall. My mother said he suffered a bad concussion. Later on BPW told me that damage caused by the fall may have been a contributory factor to his subsequent Parkinsons. I can't remember that he had any particular hobbies during my lifetime, although by the early fifties, by which time I would have been more aware of his activities, his illness would have denied him the ability to ride or go kayaking. Unlike our dad, I positively dislike horses. I can stomach them (forgive the pun) on a dinner plate if some friend insists, but not otherwise. He didn't have any definitive musical interest, and certainly I never heard him play any instrument. And I don't ever remember him singing any time, any place. Like BPW, I have no musical talent either, cannot play an instrument, and can only sing flat. I can't tell you whether he was good or bad at recognising faces, but I can tell you that I am shamefully hopeless. If the recognition problem can be genetic, the genes must have come through BPW, as my Mother was very proficient in recalling who was who. In the not infrequent situations when I have met a female acquaintance who I don't recognise, I take a forlorn punt with 'that's because you have a new hairdo'. Brownie points if I'm right, scowls at a stupid excuse if I'm wrong.

BPW was a social democrat, and I assume he usually voted Labour, but his politics were not partisan. I am not sure how much you know about his early life. You are probably aware that when he was at Vienna University he witnessed street battles, frequently in-

volving violence between Communists, Fascists, Socialists and other factions. I think that having experienced such bloody disturbances, he wanted no part in extremist politics. His first wife, the writer Anna Gmeyner was a communist, and an early feminist. When BPW applied for British nationality, and was still married and living and working in Edinburgh, the powers that be were positive about his application, but distinctly wary about Anna, who had been involved with the Scottish miners through their then communist union. I don't remember much about BPW until I was about 7 or 8. I had a happy childhood, spending all holidays at our house in the Isle of Skye, an earthly paradise for kids. Before that I have no recollection of missing his presence either there or in London. My mother was nearly always with us in Skye, she adored the place. BPW loved it too, for the walking, the mountains, and island going in our converted fishing boat, but I guess he was too involved in his research work to spend much time with us. Hugo Kohorn, BPW's uncle, was virtually a full time resident. My sister Ruth and I were very fond of him, a small bald figure who told us captivating bedtime stories. I became closer to BPW. When I was in my late teens/early twenties I looked after him when I could as he became more and more debilitated from Parkinsons, He needed assistance in bathing, dressing etc etc. He could grumble about none too serious ailments much like the rest of us, yet I never heard him once complain about the cruel progressive disease that had done him down. When he felt like sallying forth, I enjoyed taking him to meet his friends, or to toddle over to the pub for a beer, just the two of us. He was informative, stimulating and amusing, but never patronising. I was very fond of him and his company. He adored his sister Kitty, and she in turn loved him deeply. My mother and Kitty were not close to say the least. When BPW got into trouble with the IR over tax, Kitty and Otto rescued him and secured a settlement. BPW was easy going about money, and not always reliable in keeping track of his finances. Before I was born, my mother told me she had found that his secretary had been siphoning off quite large sums. She insisted that he take the woman to court, but BPW ignored her. He wasn't particularly upset about the theft, and didn't look for any retribution.

You probably know more than I do about his scientific work. We have a copy of the letter from the head of Edinburgh University's Obstetrics Dept asking the Home Office to grant him British nationality as he was absolutely essential to their research. His Brother-in-Law Otto Koblitz said that, had he continued to focus solely on the research, the fruition of his pioneering work (AI, early HRT etc) would have been recognised as being of immense importance, and he would have been honoured accordingly. I once read a biography of Isiah Berlin, who described himself as an 'intellectual taxi', that is, when he was hailed by colleagues to look at some new idea, off he would go. BPW was something of the same ilk. The appeal of hailing a 'taxi' to take him to another new and interesting scientific destination, was probably irresistible. I recall my irritation when,

entirely ignoring their hero (that's me), the more brainy of my girlfriends would sit talking to him, enchanted by his genuine interest in their work, whatever that might have been. He was attractive to women of all ages, they clearly found him charismatic. At his funeral, an old lady came up to me and introduced herself. She had been BPW's lab assistant at the University, and they had become lovers. She said she had fallen in love with BPW and added "Do you know why? I'll tell you. Not only was he clever and amusing, he was also the only man who talked to me, not only before he made love, but afterwards as well!" But not everyone took to him initially. My Mother had two brothers. I asked one of them who farmed in Suffolk, what he thought of BPW when they first met. He said, "Along came this small dark man, very lively and talkative, and with me, curious about farming. My brother and I took him for a sail on the river Orwell. We had both been sailing since we were kids, but your father promptly started telling us how we might sail the boat more efficiently. The really annoying thing was that he was right about much of what he proposed. We wanted to throw the bugger overboard!"

When it became clear that BPW had been one of the main sperm donors, and the halfie offspring group was growing, some of them naturally asked me what BPW was like. One of the sisters had clearly decided in advance, and had in mind a Jewish intellectual, a brilliant scientist from mittel-Europa, boot-faced with concern over the issues of his day, and indifferent to the lure of capitalist luxuries. Not quite! He enjoyed good clothes and employed a first rate tailor in Oxford to make him well cut suits. He liked elegant English eateries. As a kid I remember dining with my parents at Scotts, the fish restaurant in Mayfair, Bentleys oyster bar in Sackville street, and the Cafe Royal. He undoubtedly enjoyed the fruits that money could buy, but was not interested in the pursuit of making it for its own sake. He was very sociable, and given the eclectic background of his friends and colleagues, without any social prejudices. I recall him saying 'the sooner we are all coffee coloured the better'. I think I can say truthfully that socially I am from the same mould; but I have been told that I am more of a libertine than a liberal! That BPW was Jewish meant little to us, and he himself didn't seem to have any interest in his ethnicity either. But that is not to say it was a subject to be avoided, it simply meant no more to us than being aware that so and so was a catholic or a protestant. I regret that he never talked about rescuing his sister Kitty, bro-in-law Otto, and his uncle Hugo from Austria in 1939. I think he was an atheist. Me too. For some time he worked with the Cambridge psychologist Robert Thouless, who was then President of the Society for Psychical research. I don't know much about their work, but I do recall him saying that they never found any evidence of life after death. Sometimes we would go to a religious Service in Suffolk, but I suspect he just liked the tradition and the musty ambience of the ancient church. As far as I am aware he never attended Synagogue.

I can't think of any unappealing characteristics he had that af-

fectured me personally. In his field, I heard that professionally he could sometimes sail close to the wind. A close friend of my parents, another fertility specialist called Margaret Moore White rang me up when I was in my early twenties to say that she never wanted to speak to BPW again. I asked why. She wouldn't tell me, so I asked what was the point of her call. She merely responded that she wished to tell me as a family friend of long standing. I never found out her reason for calling. I suspect it might have concerned abortion at a time when I think it was semi illegal. I once happened to be with BPW when he called in to a clinic run by a Dr Bierer. BPW's sister later told me it was an abortion clinic. Some other comparisons .Firstly, and sadly for me, I didn't inherit his brain, and have little understanding of science. Like BPW, I am sociable, inquisitive and my friends are eclectic. According to my wife Judith, I never stop talking (a common trait in Halfies, I think).I too liked having enough money to indulge in my pleasures, but extraordinary though it seems for an old commercial property man, I disliked owning property of any sort. My fantasy was always to have a million in the bank and own nothing. I have succeeded in the latter case, but unfortunately not in the former! The only property my parents ever owned was their house in Skye. All the homes we had in London were rented. I have a similar sense of humour as BPW, but perhaps with an additional slant, one that I am not particularly proud of, in that I am a tease, good at keeping the required po face while telling an outlandish story that is pure nonsense. I have always loved the sea, whether I am beside it or on it. My passion was for traditional wooden working boats, beautiful but often impractical. BPW wasn't exactly a boating man but sometimes he liked to accompany me on trips around the Suffolk estuaries. Once, when sitting in the stern of my small fishing launch, with the weight of us aft and the bow consequently raised, I failed to see a large naval buoy, and rammed it full on as I approached my mooring. BPW fell out. I managed to drag him out of the water before he sank, plonked him down, and told him only a bloody fool falls out of a boat! He just laughed and said the water was cold. A mensch!

When he became seriously ill with advanced Parkinsons, my family, that is my mother and his sister Kitty arranged for him to be looked after in a Home run by Catholic monks in West London. Although he was in a very poor state physically, he still possessed full mental capacity, and I was against the move. I proposed that he live with me in my London flat, and that we all contributed to nursing help. I was persuaded against it because 'You are a young man and have your own life to lead'.True,enough but I didn't want him to end his days in an Institution, however compassionate the monks and nurses were. He died from a heart attack, a year or so after arriving at the Home .I shall forever rregret that he wasn't with me in his final years.

I am quite happy to answer any further questions you have about BPW, and I look forward to seeing you again

all the best , JW

This is a letter from Eva, regarding BPW, sent to a half sister and again, our thanks for permission to share it:

I'm afraid my reply will disappoint you because I too would like to know more about my father. There's a short story by Chekhov in which a woman wanders about her empty house after her husband has just died, and says "Missed him".

I feel like that about my father's life in many ways - that I missed him. He was a witty, complex and incredibly intelligent man but I saw too little of him. I was held back because my parent's divorce was far from amicable and my mother discouraged me from seeing him. Then there was the travelling to and fro all over Europe - from Vienna to Berlin to Paris to Edinburgh and London and back again - and he was too young and too preoccupied to be particularly paternal. Both my parents were entirely absorbed in their careers.

The person who knows most about my father's life is Jonathan who made my father's life tolerable in the last years of his illness. I think that Jonathan was the person who my father loved most - along with his (BPW's) sister Kitty and his mother who died young and thus was enshrined in legend. She was very beautiful. I remember Jonathan charging into restaurants with BPW's wheelchair when he was already very ill, and giving hell to anyone who made a fuss (being disabled in those days was not like it is now as I needn't tell you). Jonathan said he never minded doing anything for his father because he was such good company, and it's interesting as although according to my mother BPW was a hypochondriac when he was younger, he behaved through all those Parkinson years with incredible fortitude.

I know very little about the years during which you and your other siblings were conceived - and of course had no idea that his great breakthrough in pioneering AID involved his personal intervention! Those rather grand houses with laboratories on the lower floor were always a mystery to me, and once he married Mary Barton, who I found cold and hard (although now I am aware of her good qualities) I was with him only really when he was on holiday in Scotland - a place he loved far more deeply than his native Vienna of which he spoke with a certain detached cynicism. (My mother too... both of them got away as soon as they could.)

He was a good looking man with very dark, very expressive eyes, springy black curls, but none of the traditional Jewish features - hooked nose, huge ears etc. Yet there seems little doubt that the family was Jewish - the kind of Jews, mostly atheistic, and indifferent to their religion who didn't realise what they were until Hitler made it very clear.

He was born in a small village on the borders of Austria and Czechoslovakia - Marchegg. One of those villages you saw everywhere on the great plain stretching east from Vienna... a street of whitewashed ? winter and there were hares sitting up in the snow). No-one remembered much about the family - his father (your grandfather) was supposed to have been a small farmer but perhaps a ped-

lar and disappeared quite early. The heroine was BPW's mother, Paula, very beautiful and greatly loved by him and sister Kitty. Paula's brother, Hugo Kohorn, took the two children, Bertold and Kitty to Vienna after the mother's death and brought them up. A marvellous old man, bandy legged, a mountaineer; I remember him feeding hundreds of pigeons on his window sill of his office opposite the Stefansdom.

BPW studied biology in Vienna - a brilliant student. When my mother wanted to marry him, her father asked BPW's professor whether he would make a good husband and the professor said he had a great future as a scientist but as a husband was not to be recommended. However he married aged 24 - my mother said she fell in love with him when she found him crying because he had just eaten the last pot of jam made by his mother before she died.

The marriage went badly almost at once - I was born a year later, the wrong sex etc. Soon afterwards my father went to Edinburgh, not because of Hitler but because he was offered a job in the University which of course saved his life and the lives of his family. In Edinburgh he did the most prestigious part of his scientific research, publishing a classic monograph on *The Maternal Behaviour of Rats*. I remember bicycling up and down on my red tricycle between rows and rows of caged experimental rats but remember very little about him. My mother returned soon afterwards to Europe and took me with her and I think (but have no proof) that those years in Edinburgh, unattached and at the height of his powers as a scientist were probably the best of his life. He was inundated by interesting and attractive women - I think that the discovery of an attractive man who would talk to them even after the sexual act had been consummated blew the minds of the intelligentsia and aristocratic ladies of the north. Some of the women he had affairs with are household names even now.

He never returned to Vienna to live and when Hitler came to power I joined him in Edinburgh - my mother, remarried to a Russian, followed soon afterwards. What I remember about my time with him in Scotland is mostly his passion for the Scottish countryside and the islands (which Jonathan has inherited). There is an island called Ensay which he used to rent every summer and where he lived like a pasha with a wonderful bull terrier and a posse of women who squabbled over him. It was due to him that I was sent to boarding school at Dartington Hall, where I spent eight years of relative safety and tranquillity.

He moved to London to start the work which led to AID - and managed to save his sister Kitty and her husband Otto, and Onkel Hugo, whom he got out via Czechoslovakia more or less with minutes to spare. Kitty adored him and carried on a vendetta with both his first and his second wife till her dying day - no-one was good enough for him. After he married Mary Barton, whom it was said, doubtless by the women he had disappointed, he had married because he himself was not medically qualified, only a physiologist, and needed someone to enable him to practice on women. This is the period I

know little about - Jonathan knows more but he was small at the beginning. Certainly this period gave BPW considerable financial success and status, and both AIH and AID in people as distinct from farm animals was a terrific breakthrough. My own attitude to the process was a mixture of curiosity, pride and amusement - it all seemed so strange. Mary Barton was utterly discreet, a woman of great integrity - by my father always kept a light touch.

During this time he also experimented as I'm sure you know on extra sensory perception and published papers with Robert Thouless, a Cambridge psychologist. In fact there were very few things he was not interested in, and in his youth being a friend of Freud, Wittgenstein and Schonberg he must have seen so many avenues which could be explored.

I think, as I probably said that his abiding and enduring passion (except perhaps for Jonathan) was his work. I remember meeting him when he was already very crippled and could hardly lift his head and as I wheeled him across the foyer of whatever hotel it was he opened one eye and said he was hoping to go to ????

It was because of him that I became, for a short time, a physiologist. I wanted to be like him, but I didn't make it. He was violently generous but could be financially unreliable... he was funny but not malicious, and curious about the world almost to his dying day. You couldn't have picked a better father. I remember once when I was asking him about life - as one does - and he said: "There's usually a flash of colour at the beginning but it always ends badly". He was already very ill when he said this - but I think he had more than his fair share of colour at the start.

If I can help anymore let me know - but I'm eighty and not well, and can't do meetings I'm afraid.

Best wishes

Eva

BPW died in London in 1972. His health had declined and for the last period of his life he was looked after in a nursing home. His funeral was at the All Souls Church in Langham Place, London and he is buried in the East Finchley Cemetery in London.

(PHOTO ref: Death certificate of Bertold Paul Wiesner)



Figure 7.1: BPW's grave in East Finchley Cemetery, London.

Bibliography

- [1] *UK BMD index, Marriages Jun 1904*, 1904 June
<https://bpw.family/archives/1904WorthingtonMarriage.html>
- [2] *Artificial Impregnation*, 1909 April
https://bpw.family/archives/1909_artificial-impregnation.html
- [3] *Postcard from Robert to Adolf Kohorn, 1916*, 1916 May 30 Tuesday
https://bpw.family/archives/1916_robert-to-adolf-hohorn.html
- [4] *1st seminar enrolment card for the Faculty of Philosophical Sciences*, c.1919
https://bpw.family/archives/1919_first-semester-enrollment.html
- [5] *BPW's student registration book, University of Vienna*, c.1923
https://bpw.family/archives/1923_vienna-uni-registration.html
- [6] *Birth certificate of Bertold Paul Wiesner*, 1924 July 26 Saturday
<https://bpw.family/archives/1924BPWbirthCert.html>
- [7] *Anna and Eva's immigration form, arrival at Edinburgh*, 1928 May 24 Thursday
https://bpw.family/archives/1928_immigration-form-anna.html
- [8] *BPW's immigration form, arrival at Harwich, Essex*, 1928 March 26 Monday
https://bpw.family/archives/1928_immigration-form-bpw.html
- [9] *The Ovarian Hormone*
https://bpw.family/archives/1928_the-ovarian-hormone.html
- [10] *Pseudopregnancy and its Mechanism*
https://bpw.family/archives/1929_pseudopregnancy-and-its-mechanism.html
- [11] *The Beta-Hormone*
https://bpw.family/archives/1929_the-beta-hormone.html
- [12] *ON THE EXISTENCE OF A FOURTH HORMONE, THYREOTROPIC IN NATURE, OF THE ANTERIOR PITUITARY*
https://bpw.family/archives/1930_on-the-existence-of-a-fourth-hormone.html

- [13] *On the Reactivation of the Senile Testis of the Rat by Means of Injections of Gonadotrope Hormones*
https://bpw.family/archives/1930_on-the-reactivation-of-the-senile-testis.html
- [14] *On the Separation of the Kyogenic Hormone from Human Placenta*
https://bpw.family/archives/1930_on-the-separation-of-the-kyogenic-hormone.html
- [15] *The hormones controlling reproduction*
https://bpw.family/archives/1930_the-hormones-controlling-reproduction.html
- [16] *Extraction of Insulin*
https://bpw.family/archives/1931_extraction-of-insulin.html
- [17] *On the Relation between the Hormones of the Anterior Lobe of the Pituitary and Clinical Syndromes*
https://bpw.family/archives/1931_on-the-relation-between-the-hormones.html
- [18] *Pregnancy Diagnosis Station: Report on Second Year's Working*
https://bpw.family/archives/1931_pregnancy-diagnosis-station-2nd-year.html
- [19] *The Experimental Study of Senescence*
https://bpw.family/archives/1932_experimental-study-of-senescence.html
- [20] *PREGNANCY DIAGNOSIS STATION: REPORT ON THIRD YEAR'S WORKING*
https://bpw.family/archives/1932_pregnancy-diagnosis-station-3rd-year.html
- [21] *Gonadotropic Hormones and Cancer*
https://bpw.family/archives/1933_gonadotropic-hormones-and-cancer.html
- [22] *Pregnancy Diagnosis Station: Report of Fourth Year's Working*
https://bpw.family/archives/1933_pregnancy-diagnosis-station-4th-year.html
- [23] *Effect upon Sex Behaviour of a Diet Deficient in Vitamin E*
https://bpw.family/archives/1937_effect-upon-sex-behaviour.html
- [24] *Methoden zur Isolierung und Bestimmung der Hormone*
https://bpw.family/archives/1937_methoden-zur-isolierung-und-bestimmung.html
- [25] *Restropic Effects of Anterior Pituitary Extracts*
https://bpw.family/archives/1937_restropic-effects-of-anterior-pituitary-extracts.html

- [26] *Restropic Activity of Blood*
https://bpw.family/archives/1938_restropic-activity-of-blood.html
- [27] *The "Restropic" Activity of Blood*
https://bpw.family/archives/1938_the-restropic-activity-of-blood.html
- [28] *Bactericidal Effects of Aspergillus clavatus*
https://bpw.family/archives/1942_bactericidal-effects-of-aspergillus-clavatus.html
- [29] *Sterility and Impaired Fertility*
https://bpw.family/archives/1943_sterility-and-impaired-fertility.html
- [30] *Artificial Insemination*
https://bpw.family/archives/1945_artificial-insemination.html
- [31] *[The Sims Test]*
https://bpw.family/archives/1945_the-sims-test.html
- [32] *Thermogenic effect of progesterone*
https://bpw.family/archives/1945_thermogenic-effect-of-progesterone.html
- [33] *Waking temperature in relation to female fecundity*
https://bpw.family/archives/1945_waking-temperature.html
- [34] *Biological dangers from atomic fission*
https://bpw.family/archives/1946_biological-dangers-from-atomic-fission.html
- [35] *On the nature of psi phenomena*
https://bpw.family/archives/1946_on-the-nature-of-psi-phenomena.html
- [36] *The receptivity of cervical mucus to spermatozoa*
https://bpw.family/archives/1946_the-receptivity-of-cervical-mucus.html
- [37] *British Argue on Test Tube Babies*, 1947 April 3 Thursday
<https://bpw.family/archives/1947EllensburgDailyRecord.html>
- [38] *The psi processes in normal and "paranormal" psychology*
https://bpw.family/archives/1947_psi-processes-in-psychology.html
- [39] *The psi processes in normal and paranormal psychology*
https://bpw.family/archives/1948_psi-processes-psychology.html
- [40] *Reducing substances in cervical mucus*
https://bpw.family/archives/1948_reducing-substances-in-cervical-mucus.html

- [41] *The role of special diets in the treatment of female infecundity*
https://bpw.family/archives/1948_role-of-special-diets-in-female-infecundity.html
- [42] *Foreword to "In My Mind's Eye" by Frederick Marion, 1949*
<https://bpw.family/archives/1949Marion.html>
- [43] *Contraception—recent developments in technique and their evaluation*
https://bpw.family/archives/1951_contraception-recent-developments.html
- [44] *Nutritional Factors in Reproductive Failure*
https://bpw.family/archives/1951_nutritional-factors-in-reproductive-failure.html
- [45] *Inhibition of Oestrus by Cultivated Gromwell*
https://bpw.family/archives/1952_inhibition-of-oestrus-by-cultivated-gromwell.html
- [46] *Significance of testicular exfoliation in male infecundity*
https://bpw.family/archives/1952_significance-of-testicular-exfoliation.html
- [47] *Control of Fertility by Antimitotic Agents*
https://bpw.family/archives/1955_control-of-fertility-by-antimitotic-agents.html
- [48] *Fertility in Women, by Mary Barton, 1955*
https://bpw.family/archives/1955_fertility-in-women.html
- [49] *Mary Barton, c.1955, holding a bag, c.1955*
https://bpw.family/archives/1955_mary-barton.html
- [50] *The effects of some antimitotic compounds on pregnancy in the mouse*
https://bpw.family/archives/1957_effects-of-some-antimitotic-compounds.html
- [51] *An unidentified factor in liver required for reproduction in rats*
https://bpw.family/archives/1958_unidentified-factor-in-liver-required-for-reproduction.html
- [52] *Control of Fertility by 6-Azauridine*
https://bpw.family/archives/1961_control-of-fertility-by-6-azauridine.html
- [53] *Patients with Trophoblast Tumours Wanted*
https://bpw.family/archives/1961a_patients-with-trophoblast-tumours-wanted.html
- [54] *Patients with Trophoblast Tumours Wanted*
https://bpw.family/archives/1961b_patients-wanted.html
- [55] *Death certificate of Bertold Paul Wiesner, 1972 January 11 Tuesday*
<https://bpw.family/archives/1972BPWdeathCert.html>

- [56] *Letter from Eva Ibbotson to Becky Gardiner*, 1005
<https://bpw.family/archives/2005-ibbotson-letter.html>
- [57] *Wikipedia article 'Bertold Wiesner'*, 2015 May 28 Thursday
<https://bpw.family/archives/2015-wikipedia.html>
- [58] *Co-designing genomics research with a large group of donor-conceived siblings*
<https://bpw.family/archives/2021-co-designing.html>
- [59] *The Brainwave of Beelzebub (from 'Answer Me This' podcast, episode 411)*,
2025 October 30 Thursday
<https://bpw.family/archives/2025-answer-me-this.html>