

Editorial

Whether it comes “early” or “late” the festival of Chanukah is marked with joyous celebrations of the miracle of the Temple Oil which took place millennia ago.

From their very first years onwards Jewish children take part for eight nights in lighting the candles to commemorate this miracle. There are parties and gifts, and hopefully these do not eclipse the true meaning of Chanukah.

Here in Bournemouth there are numerous events in which the community can take part and celebrate Chanukah.

We hope this Chanukah will bring happiness to all our Congregants.

Chanukah Sameach! Enjoy!

CORINNE REIN – Editor
SUE LEE – Assistant Editor

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Bournemouth Hebrew Congregation, Synagogue Chambers, Wootton Gardens, Bournemouth BH1 1PW

Tel: 01202 557433. Fax: 01202 557 578. E-mail: office1@bhcsul.co.uk

www.info@bournejewish.org

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

CHANUKAH 5774



As an illustrious member of our community remarked recently, our festivals are always either early or late – we never refer to them as being “on time”. So it is with Chanukah, which

this year is celebrated a full month apart from the non-Jewish festival with which it is usually contemporaneous, allowing us to focus exclusively on this beautiful festival without being distracted by external factors. We can all look forward to the spiritual uplift which this festival of light brings in the darkness of winter, as well as the highlight of a wonderful communal lunch on Shabbat Chanukah, courtesy of the Ladies' Guild.

Whilst the Yomim Noraim are still relatively fresh in our minds, it is appropriate for me to wish mazal tov once again to our Chatanim and Neshei Chayil, Michael Grant, Max Lopes Dias, Celia Bradley and Vicky Cohen on their well-deserved honours, recognised as always at a Simchat Torah seudah (held this year on Shabbat Bereishit).

It is also appropriate at this point for me to thank those members of our community who have worked so hard to make the Yomim Noraim memorable for all of us, and there is no better place to start than with the Ladies' Guild, who not only catered the seudah and the first night Succoth dinner in the succah, but also the regular Shabbat kiddushim; their work is always appreciated, but not always recognised. My thanks also go to the “Coffee and Kichels” ladies, who continue to ensure that we can still enjoy a Kiddush even when the Ladies' Guild has a day off!

I must also thank those people for whom the Yomim Noraim create an extra work-load, starting of course with Rabbi Jesner and Reverend Sklan, together with Gilian Walker and the office staff, Melvyn Millin and the security team, Jane Victor and the shop volunteers, Eve Cowan and the flower ladies, our Warden Bernie Dexter and his assistants, Gerald Jackson and Adrian Levey, and Bob and Pat Nixon, not to mention my colleague, Ivor Weintroub.

The highlight of the festivals was, however, the chazanut of Anton Eriera, who led us so beautifully in the Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur services: I am delighted to confirm that Anton has agreed to join us again next year, when he will also stay for Succoth.

It is sad to report that, following the “contracting out” of the Yavneh kindergarten due to the lack of Jewish children, our cheder has now closed, the last bar - and bat-mitzvahs having taken place this year. Were we to get an influx of young families we should

gladly re-open the Cheder. At the other end of the age spectrum, the Bournemouth branch of Ajex has now closed, so they will have no formal representation on Remembrance Day, although the standard will still be present.

On the thorny subject of relocation, the Relocation Committee has not relaxed its efforts to identify new premises, but so far without success. I have previously reported the difficulties involved in a move to the East Cliff and, whilst this remains the preferred option, we are exploring the possibility of re-developing the existing site to provide a facility more in line with the needs of our congregation.

Lest I give the impression that there is only bad news to report, I am happy to state that the shul premises have never been more vibrant and extensively used, with table tennis, bridge, Ivrit classes, Israeli dancing and adult education, as well as regular Shul-aid and charity functions and meetings. We have also seen a wonderful new initiative, the brainchild of Katarina and Brian Webb, known as “Meet ‘n’ Munch at the Menorah”. Brian, Katarina and their team of volunteers provide lunch, afternoon entertainment and outings for all members of the wider Bournemouth Jewish community at a very modest cost, and the sessions have proved to be extremely successful.

Josie and I were privileged to represent the congregation at the installation of Rabbi Mirvis as Chief Rabbi recently. It was a truly momentous occasion, with memorable addresses, in their very different ways, by outgoing and incoming Chief Rabbis. I am confident that Chief Rabbi Mirvis will be a true communal leader, and I hope that the theme of his address, “Come with me”, will be a clarion call to unite all strands of Orthodox Judaism.

Whilst my final term of office still has some four months to run, this will be my last message to the congregation in Ruach, so I would like to thank my Executive Committee for the support which they have given me. The Trustees and Honorary Life Presidents have always been a source of wise counsel, as have Ivor Weintroub, who once again agreed to serve as my Vice-President, and Bernie Dexter on all matters religious. Bernie has also served on the Relocation Committee under chairman Geoffrey Feld, as has Mervyn Shaya.

Brian Lassman's Kashrut Committee has had little to concern it, Brian Bradley has had a frustrating time with Education, as my earlier comments will have indicated. With the re-organisation following Michael Grant's resignation, Leslie Goldstone and Nigel Graham have done an outstanding job on the combined portfolios of House and Health and Safety, and Josie Lipsith has worked tirelessly on Welfare, setting up a weekly drop-in clinic, in addition to her work as one of the founder members of Bournemouth Jewish Social Services. Last but not least, Corinne Rein has led an enthusiastic Shul-aid Committee, raising substantial funds for the Shul as well as fulfilling a valuable social function.

My sincere thanks are due to all of these people who have given of their time freely to enable me to serve as President of our special community.

I wish you all Chanukah Sameach.

HARVEY LIPSITH

A CHANUKAH MESSAGE FROM RABBI ADRIAN JESNER

THE STRONG AND THE WEAK

Chanuka represents a triumph, in the words of the *al hanasim* prayer recited during this holiday, of “the weak over the strong.” There is no doubt that the words “weak” and “strong” that appear in the prayer refer to physical, military strength. The Syrian-Greek army that waged war against the Hasmonean rebels was far larger and better equipped - elephants et al - than was the Jewish force. Yet even though on paper the Jews were weaker militarily they somehow persevered and triumphed against their foes.

Now we are all aware that the highest devotion to duty and greatest moral commitment are not enough in the course of natural normal events to overcome tanks and machine guns with horses and spears. Thus the physical definition of “weak” and “strong” always remains in place. Yet there is a dimension of strength and weakness that Chanukah clearly illustrates for us. And that is the power of self-confidence, faith and belief. For though it does not per se stop machine gun bullets, it does give those who possess it the ability to outwit, outfight and outlast a heavily armed enemy.

The French Army in 1940 outnumbered its German adversary in numbers and equipment in World War II. Yet it collapsed in weeks because it was demoralised, defeatist in attitude and without any belief in itself as a fighting force. The Hasmoneans triumphed after heavy losses of their own because of their belief and faith and self-confidence, their moral commitment if you will. They were fighting for their Temple and their religion, for the God of Israel and the justness of His cause. This gave them moral strength that helped overcome their physical weakness and shortcomings.

The modern Haman of Iran/Persia proclaimed last week that Prime Minister Netanyahu’s unfortunate reference to Israeli nuclear weapons is only further proof of the weakness and desperation of Israel. He is encouraged in this painfully erroneous assessment by the presence throughout the Jewish world of self-hating Jews of Leftist academia and the fanatical lunatics in their treacherous Jewish garb, who claim to be religious and who echo his calls for the dismantling of the Jewish state in Israel.

What can be better proof that this modern version of Haman is right when he is only quoting Noam Chomsky, Norman Finkelstein, Satmar and Neturei Karta? Do these disparate Jewish bed-fellows not illustrate the moral bankruptcy of the State of Israel and the Jewish people? Truly to his warped mind they show that the Jewish people are weak - physically, morally and religiously. What results is his confidence in defying everyone in the world in pursuing his mad game of terror and destruction.

He feels himself strong and has decided that his opponents are weak. Well, the strong usually triumph and conquer the weak so he apparently has the odds on his side. But he is sadly mistaken in his assessment of us and of the situation.



He has not done his homework with due diligence and has avoided learning the lessons of history. It is he that is weak for he is embarking on the road to his appalling disaster. The Talmud teaches us that anti-Semitism is a shortcut to fame but eventually it is a long road to Hell and destruction. Ask the Greeks, the Romans, the Crusaders, the Ukrainians, Poles, Lithuanians, Latvians and Germans.

Chanukah symbolises this great inner strength of the Jewish people and its firm attachment to Torah and its values. Jews as individuals may waver and weaken but the Jewish people – klal yisrael - never falters. There is a strength and resilience placed within us by our history and faith that makes the weak physically strong morally and eternally. The little lights of Chanukah still shine in the Jewish world long after the bonfires of our enemies have been extinguished by even greater conflagrations that overcame them.

We have to continue to strengthen ourselves in the justice of our cause and the faith of our traditions and observances. They are truly “the security of our lives, the length of days.” Our road is never an easy one and Chanukah marks only the beginnings of victory and not the ultimate triumph. But it points the way for us and warms us in the cold winter of our problems and discontent. Chanukah may be *sufganiyot* and *svivonim*, *latkes* and *gelt*. But it is more than that. It is the affirmation of our strength of purpose and determination to live and succeed. This is what makes it such a meaningful and joyous holiday.

On behalf of Pamela and myself may I wish Reverend Barry Sklan and his wife Angela together with the President, the entire board of management and the whole community a happy *Freilichen* and meaningful Festival of Chanukah.

RABBI ADRIAN JESNER

CHANUKAH THOUGHTS FROM REVEREND BARRY SKLAN

A flurry of spinning dreidels, the jingle of chocolate gelt bags, the plates of sufganiot (doughnuts) waiting to be eaten, tell us that Chanukah is here.

Although Chanukah is found in the Apocrypha and not in the Tanach, our annual celebration of the Hasmoneans' (Maccabees') victory over the Greeks in 161 B.C.E has become one of the most enjoyed and well-known holidays in the Jewish calendar.

The Hasmoneans' victory, ensured the freedom to practise Judaism, and the miracle of the Menorah's oil has given us many years of telling the wonders of Hashem.

Yet these important subjects often get swept under the rug in the midst of giving, receiving and buying Chanukah gifts and presents for the eight nights of the chag. However, while the desires for purchasing presents burn brighter and stronger each Chanukah and show no signs of letting up, we can actually gain an appreciation of a deeper spiritual core at the heart of Chanukah and non-festival days by taking a different look at the Chanukah tradition of making latkes!

Grandmothers, mothers, and other brave souls will take to the kitchen and prepare the traditional Jewish delicacy of Chanukah, the potato latke, for family, friends, and strangers alike.

While it takes just a minute to devour a latke, it takes an incredible amount of work to transform a simple potato into the latke masterpiece we have eaten Chanukah after Chanukah for so many years.

After washing, peeling, slicing, dicing, grating, food processing, mixing, frying, and dodging jumping fiery torrents of oil in order to transform the humble spud into a culinary masterpiece, any physical activity would seem like a leisurely stroll in the park.

However, as countless generations of Jews will tell you, all of these efforts are worth it in the end. Each element leading up to the creation of the latke adds a deeper flavour to the final product, as a latke made with love, affection, and attention is easily distinguished from others with less 'heart' and 'soul' in their batter.

Most certainly, the same can be said for the various steps and completion of any mitzvah. In a perfect world, all mitzvot and aspects of Judaism would be fun and easy to perform. Yet we know that is simply not the case.

Often, the responsibilities of donating tzedekah, the performance of gemilut chasadim (acts of lovingkindness), and Kiddush HaShem (sanctifying G-d's Presence) are placed on the backburner during the holiday season, and we tend to forget about the needs of others and of our congregation. However, the Chanukah ritual of preparing latkes reminds us to summon all of our emotional and physical reserves during all the steps

of a mitzvah. Additionally, each time we take a simple mitzvah to the next level by beautifying it (hiddur mitzvah), we add a deeper layer to our souls.

Winter is now almost with us. The weekday services in our beautiful shul, take place three times a day each day of the week.

The Bournemouth Hebrew Congregation has an international reputation of providing daily minyanim for all those who need and want one, and, whatever the weather, a warm welcome is always there for all. This Chanukah, let us all do an extra bit for the shul. Gentlemen, come to one service once a week. Support and ensure we have the three times daily minyan.

Ladies, commit to helping with setting up a kiddush or a Coffee and Kichels kiddush. And to all, I say come and assist with a Meet N' Munch once a fortnight. Serve at a table, talk to the participants, and see the pleasure that is given to others in our Congregation

We can all add new dimensions to the true meaning of Chanukah and inspire others to give the gift of their time, effort, and support to family, friends, and strangers. If we display our 'mitzvah endurance' like a badge of honour, then the most valuable, lavish gifts we can ever 'spend' on our fellow Jews are gestures and acts which benefit them in even the smallest way, and the best part about them is that one need not head to a shop to purchase them, and it costs nothing!

At this special time in the Jewish calendar, may we light up our own and others lives and may we all be illuminated by our traditions, history, and culture.

Angela joins me in wishing Rabbi and Rebbetzen Jesner and all the Congregation at BHC a Happy Chanukah and..... enjoy your latkes!

REVEREND BARRY SKLAN
(Assistant Minister)

A (true??!!) Chanukah tale

It was Chanukah, and the people in tiny village outside Budapest in Hungary were frightened that they may not have any latkes because they had run out of flour.

Rudi, the Rabbi, was called upon to help solve the problem.

He said, 'Don't worry, you can substitute matzo meal for the flour, and the latkes will be just as delicious.'

Sarah looks to her husband and says worriedly, 'Shmuel, do you think it'll work?'

'Of course,' Shmuel replies, 'Everybody knows – Rudolph the Rav knows grain, dear.'



A CHILDREN'S SERVICE MILESTONE

Uncle Bernie's Children's Service has become an institution among both the members of the Bournemouth Hebrew Congregation and the many visitors that come to Bournemouth on their holidays each year.

Twenty five years ago, Bernie was asked if he would like to take a Children's Service. He had never done so before, but he had always been a gifted storyteller. Growing up with his four younger siblings, he always kept them entertained with stories, in the good old days before computer games. Our own children also enjoyed his stories, and it was he who would sit with them before they went to sleep to tell them a goodnight story.

Every Shabbat and Chag, he takes the children out of the service during the Haftorah and entertains them with their own unique service that cannot be compared with any other children's service anywhere in the world. They have stories, davening, tehillim and goodies to eat. After the service, they come into Shul with Uncle Bernie and stand on the bima for the final part of the service, so not only do they have their own service, but they take part in the main service too.

During the era of Sophie Lassman,

Bernie was telling the story of Honi the Rainmaker. He told them how Honi had prayed for rain, and there was a torrential downpour. Before he could go on, Sophie shouted "Bernie - look!" Outside, the previously dry sunny day had suddenly turned to a torrential downpour, the rain was pounding on the windows. Bernie continued with the story and told how there was so much rain that Honi asked for the rain to stop. Sophie called out again - "Look Bernie, it's stopped!"

The Weider family from Golders Green who used to have a holiday home in Bournemouth wrote to the shul to thank Bernie for his service. They said that the Bournemouth service was better than any other service that their children had been to in London and he had reinforced the emunah of their children.

Another country member whose son had just become a Bar Mitzvah told him that he will always have fond memories of his summers in Bournemouth, and his attendances at Bernie's services played a very important part in the development of his love of Judaism.

The most special accolade that Bernie received was from Evelyn Kaye, grandmother of Anton Ereira who davened so beautifully for us during the Yomim Norayim this year. When Bernie congratulated her for having such a talented grandson, she said to him: "You were his inspiration!" That was a very



Bernie Dexter with his grandsons Jacob and Zac

proud moment.

These days, the children of 25 years ago are now parents themselves, and they bring their own children to Bernie: Ollie White, Annabel Rein, Simon Weintroub, Philip Lassman, Karen Ozdamar, Carly Harris, Tim Cole, and many others.

Eighteen years ago, Bernie was appointed as a gabbai, so these days he combines both positions. After he has called up the Allyiot, he dashes upstairs with all his story books to be with the children.

With the help of the Almighty, may he be granted the good health to continue inspiring new generations for many years to come.

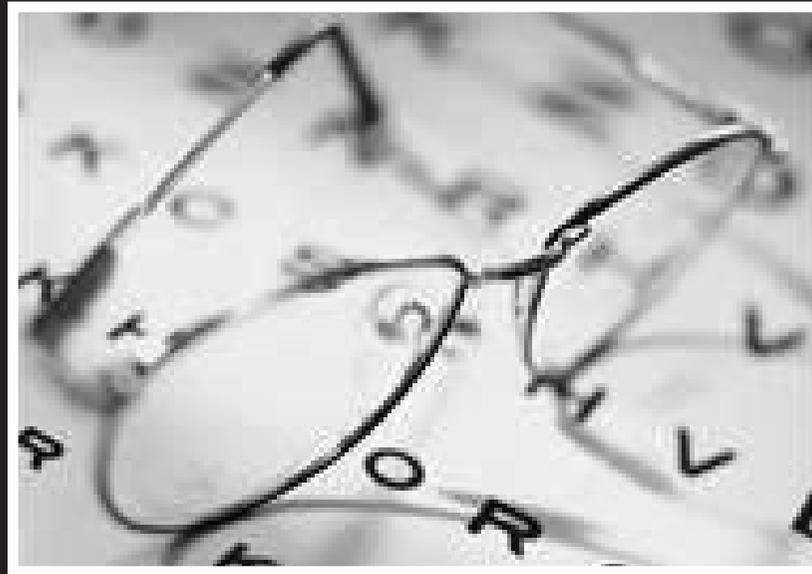
MARILYN DEXTER

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Here are some easy ways that you can support Emunah's work in Israel:-

- **Shopping on line** - If you already shop on line with Amazon, M&S and many more, you can help Emunah at no extra cost. Simply register at Easyfundraising.org.uk as a supporter of Emunah, then every time you shop use the links from the Easyfundraising site to your regular retailers. Donations (typically 2.5%) from your purchases will then be credited to Emunah automatically.
- **Ebay Vintage to Mintage** - Emunah has opened a new on line shop with the help of Geoff Munitz (brother of Elissa Rubins). See what is in store at <http://stores.ebay.co.uk/Emunah-Charity-Shop>
- **Donate your unwanted goods** - Contact any committee member and we will do the rest! Jan Keyne continues raise money for Emunah by selling items at Antiques Fairs and local Car Boot Sales.
- **Thank your hosts** - If you are invited out for a meal, why not show your appreciation by sending an Emunah Food Fund card. Available from Rosamunde Bloom or Thelma Cowan, from £5. All money raised helps feed children in Emunah's care.

Thank you for thinking of Emunah; your support will make a difference to the lives of less fortunate children in Israel, and is greatly appreciated.



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Mr A.B. DEXTER. BSc FCOptom FAIO

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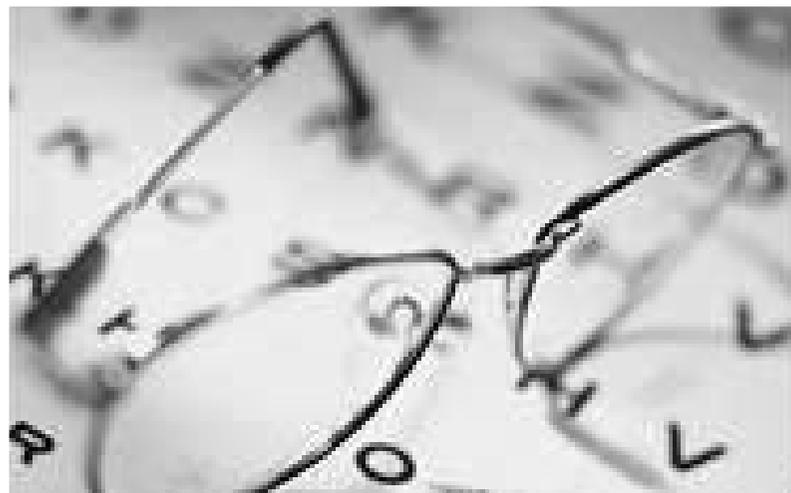
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BOURNEMOUTH'S VERY OWN TEA PARTY!

One of the greatest events to go down in history took place in the year 1776, known as The American War of Independence. It was set off by the ineptitude of the British government by imposing a stupid tax on their American colonies. This fiasco became known as "The Boston Tea Party". Another party that won world wide acclaim was 'The Mad Hatter's Tea Party', from the pen of Lewis Carroll in his epic story, 'Alice In Wonderland'.

Mankind is well renowned for its array of birthday tea parties experienced by us all. From earliest years, and so many whose memories are still very alert, never can forget the numerous tea parties that took place all over Britain at the end of the Second World War in 1945. Even today, our gracious Queen continues to hold garden tea parties at Buckingham Palace.

But there is one event that takes place in this town within the confines of Bournemouth's Jewish fraternity that in my view should also go down in history. I am talking of course about Vivienne and Mostyn Levein's "Annual Chanukah Party" held at the Menorah Suite, Wootton Gardens.

It was in 1965 when this wonderful couple first endeared themselves to the hearts of all by sponsoring this yearly Chanukah extravaganza of tea and cakes plus entertainment. This year is going to be the 48th year of its investiture which I am sure will be something special.

For in history the figure 48 has offered so much meaning to the world's, and indeed Jewish history. We can go back to biblical times to find its very first significance for there is a Midrash that quotes that it was in Year 2448 B.C.E., that we were rescued from slavery and Egyptian bondage, thus going towards our final deliverance at Matten Torah, and in medieval times it was widely expected that the Year 1648 would bring The Coming of The Mashiach.

But alas as so often happens, hopes were shattered for in 1648, not only did the false Messiah, Sabbatai Tzvi, delude the whole of European Jewry, but also brought about 'The Chmielnicki Massacres', which changed the course of

Polish and Jewish lives in dramatic fashion.

Since that time the 48th year in each succeeding century has signified so much meaning to the world's history. The year 1448 was a turning point in this history for it marked the end of "The Thirty Year's War", enabling Britain to find its feet and become a prospering pioneering nation. The Year 1848 was known as "Jewish Emancipation" for it brought about the revolt of the lower and middle classes against the monopoly of the harsh ruling class in Europe that involved Jews also standing up for equal rights.

Then in the same year, Karl Marx published his communist manifesto which changed the world completely. But it was 1948 that stands out as the pinnacle of world events for this was the miracle that ended over 2000 years of our exile by the forming of 'The State of Israel', showing G-d's mercy to the Jewish people, following in the aftermath of The Holocaust.

Incidentally 1948 was also the birth year of two prominent people of our times in this country, that of Prince Charles and our retiring Chief Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks! The figure 48 then does seem endowed with supernatural powers for some mystics declare that 'The Mashiach' will now be coming in the year 2048! (P.G. Even earlier).

This year 2013, being the 48th year of 'The Mostyn Tea Party' is certainly destined to be something special, so do come along all of you, both young and old, and once again enjoy another fab-u-lous extravaganza of tea and cakes plus "Old Tyme Music Hall" memories, and bask in the world of nostalgia; the date of course, *Chanukah, Wednesday November 27*, followed by the Lighting of the Menorah!!

N.B. When a person accomplishes something special in this world and his descendants or someone else carries on his work, it is known as immortality. May the good work of Vivienne and Mostyn Levein in doing this great Mitzvah that they have sowed with such love and devotion, be continued by their children and others, for always. Amen.

G-D BLESS THEM BOTH

DERRICK COHEN

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Thank you!

EMERGENCY EVACUATION EXERCISE

A little while ago, just before Rosh Hashanah, we held an emergency evacuation exercise on a Shabbat morning. The Shul was quite full, and the evacuation took less than three minutes, which is a credit to the Congregation.

These exercises, which need to be held at least once a year, are very important for safety reasons. They are intended to show up any weak spots, and help us to overcome them, so that should a real emergency occur, we would be able to deal with it quickly and safely.

Most of the people who took part in the exercise responded sensibly and with good humour, and we were able to learn some useful lessons for the future. Unfortunately a very small minority did not take the exercise seriously, and a few people even refused to leave the Synagogue when asked to do so. Just imagine

what would have happened if this had been a real emergency.

Although the exercise does not even approximate to a real emergency situation, it is nevertheless invaluable in assessing the needs of the community should an emergency occur. It is especially important in determining the requirements of those who may have mobility difficulties. If some people are unwilling to cooperate, it makes it much harder to conduct a realistic assessment, and could even compromise our position in relation to the authorities.

I would urge everyone to understand the importance of these evacuation exercises, and I hope that in future we can rely on the cooperation of the whole community to make any future exercise as realistic as possible.

LESLIE GOLDSTONE

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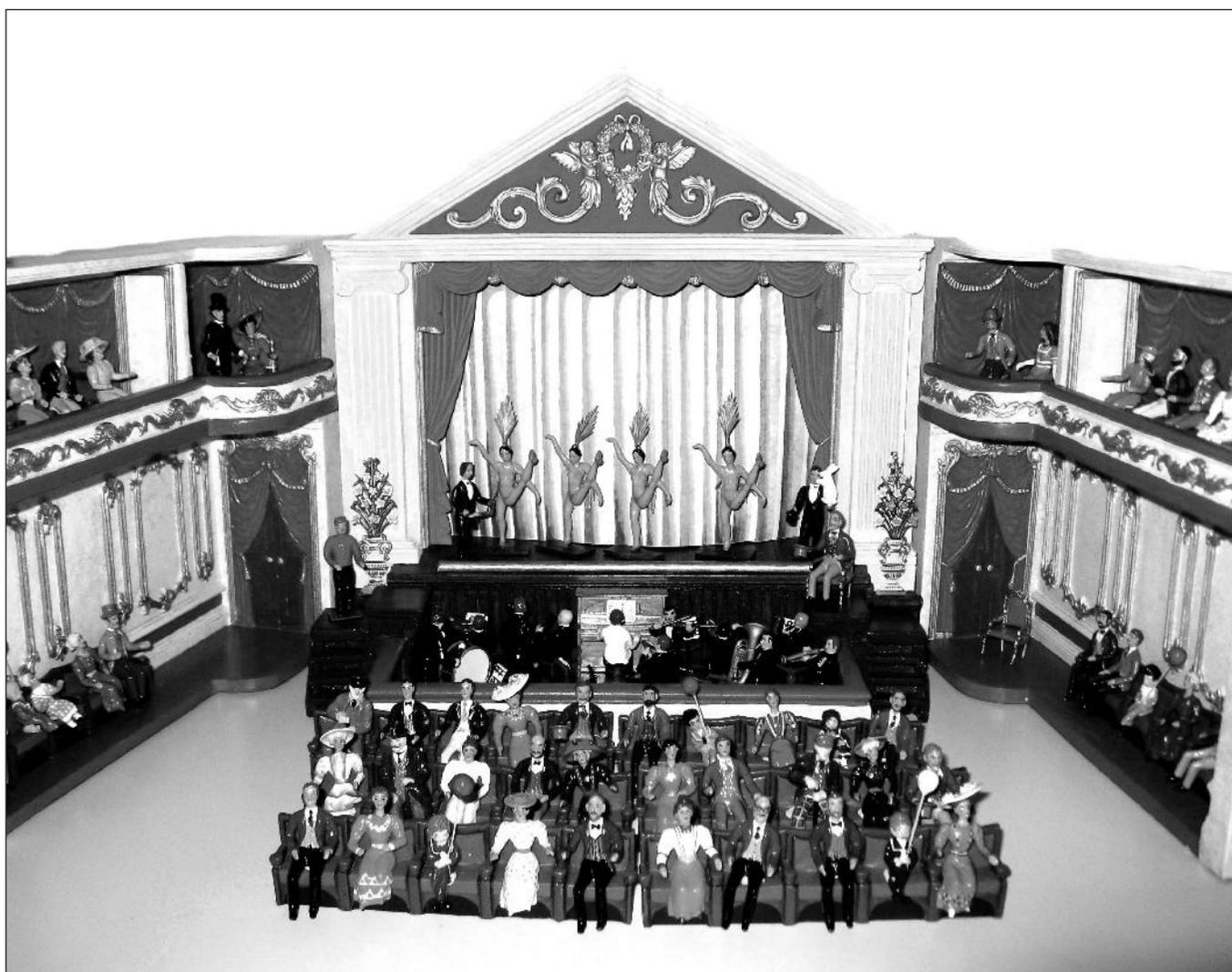
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Apart from visiting some lovely, often exotic locations, many you only vaguely dreamt about or longingly looked at in an atlas, the other wonderful thing about going on a cruise is the people you meet.

Out of the blue interesting passengers present themselves, like the man who said he worked in the lighting department at the London Palladium. On another cruise a lady told me she was one of Ada Foster's babes when as a child she appeared alongside Peter Sellers in *Mother Goose* at the same theatre in 1954. I was able to send her a duplicate programme from that show and she was thrilled.

One passenger and his travelling companion stands out from the others. Brian Hornick comes from Kenton and has been a member of the Jewish Male Choir for many years. We met a year ago July on board the "Independence of the Seas" when I was a guest lecturer. Knowing my interest, some say all absorbing passion, in all aspects of the variety theatre, virtually every week for I don't know how long, he has sent me a brand new DVD relating to the golden years of the

artists who appeared at the Palladium. The list of stars is quite incredible.

As if this wasn't enough I was asked to pick up from his home a large cardboard box. No not more DVD's, you see Brian is a collector of model soldiers. Over the years he has amassed a formidable collection possibly the largest in the UK. Not only does he have them laid out in correct battle formation but also within his collection are the Queen's Coronation Procession and many more beautifully presented tableaux.

Knowing my enthusiasm for the Palladium my large box contained would you believe a model Palladium theatre with dancing girls, all the musicians in the orchestra complete with music stands, and an audience of an appropriately costumed ladies, gentlemen and children seated in rows of seats (*see photo above*).

They have all been lovingly and accurately hand-painted by Brian together with the accompanying backdrop and scenery that brings these figures alive.

It's amazing who you meet on a cruise....

CHRIS WOODWARD
(Who lectures on the ships of many cruise lines)

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“THIS BALKAN WAR IS NOTHING TO DO WITH US!”

Various friends who had sailed along the Dalmatian coast had been overwhelmed at its beauty. As this was a part of the world we had not previously visited, my husband Jeffrey and I decided that a land tour over our Wedding Anniversary in October, when the weather would be warm but not too hot, could be enjoyable.

We spent a week primarily in Croatia but we also visited Montenegro and Bosnia Herzegovina (previously only known to us from the Eurovision Song Contest, which is interesting as we never watch it). These three countries formed part of what was previously Yugoslavia and ruled by the late Marshall Tito.

Having flown to Dubrovnik, and then driven in the dark along the coastline for 4 hours (on twisting and turning single carriageway roads), we stayed for a few days in Omis, which is a pretty resort not far from Split. We visited the Krka Valley where the river Krka flows through a series of gorges, lakes and rapids before meeting the sea. Water from a series of lakes cascade from one lake to the next in a series of dramatic waterfalls and cataracts. Due to minerals dissolved in the water the colours change from turquoise to azure-blue and vibrant green to steel-like greys. It was impossible not to be awe-struck.

We spent time discovering Split, which is principally famous for a single building, one of the great structures of the Roman Empire – the huge palace of the Emperor Diocletian. During medieval times it was fully integrated into the fabric of the town with a jumble of buildings grafted onto it – including the Split Synagogue. Today more than 3,000 people still live within its walls. The highlight of our



visit was to the Sephardi Synagogue which is built onto the walls and the Aron Ha-Kodesh is actually built into the western wall of the Diocletian’s Palace. The synagogue is the 3rd oldest Sephardi Synagogue in Europe which is still in use and was created in the 16th century Jewish ghetto. The current appearance of the interior was formed around 1728. We were shown round the Synagogue by a member who volunteers for this role. When discussing the fighting that had taken place in 1991, our guide stated that “this was not our war” and for once we were only bystanders.

Split was occupied by the Italian army in 1941. Notwithstanding the anti Jewish feelings of the Italians, Jews from other parts of the dismembered Yugoslavia – then occupied by the Germany army – found a haven in Split, aided by the local Jewish community. A group of fanatical Fascists plundered the Synagogue in 1942 and the furniture, archives and books were piled on a heap in the central city square and set on fire. Most of the sacred silver was stolen by the Fascists.

Following the collapse of Fascism and surrender of Italy in 1943, younger Jews had left Split before it was taken by the German army, joining the partisan units operating in the woods and mountains of Yugoslavia. Roughly a third of the Jewish community took part in the struggle for national liberation. Two thirds of the Jewish community lost their lives both in action and in concentration camps. The surviving third returned to Split when the country was liberated. Some members chose to emigrate to Israel, the remaining few helped with the post war reconstruction effort. However, after the 1991 war in Yugoslavia there now remain only a few Jews in Split, and rarely can they form a minyan.

We left the Split area and travelled south to Mostar which is part of Bosnia Herzegovina. The worst fighting in the Yugoslav war took place in Mostar which devastated and destroyed much of the town. Mostar



was once a provincial capital of the Ottoman Empire before being annexed by the Austro-Hungarians. There are 16th century mosques, Turkish houses and Mostar's amazing bridge linking the two halves of the old town. Constructed of stone centuries ago, it was damaged during the 1991 war but has been totally reconstructed. Whilst walking towards the bridge we noticed a wrought iron fence with large menorahs as decoration around a waste land. We then saw the notice board indicating that this was the site of the former Mostar Synagogue. Sadly it is no longer, as it was on the front line of the 1991 war and was totally destroyed. We understand that there are now no Jews left in Mostar.

Our next destination was Dubrovnik, which was an independent city-state for much of its history. This beautiful baroque city nestles behind its huge imposing ramparts in a situation of outstanding natural beauty. In 1992, the Serbs and Montenegrins attempted to completely destroy the city which was encircled for 8 months and bombarded many times. The old city of Dubrovnik has now been completely restored.

The Synagogue is situated on the 2nd floor in a three storied baroque stone building in a very narrow cobbled street called Zudiska Ulica (Jews Street) off the main avenue, which is paved with marble and lined by cafes. At one time there was an iron gate at both ends of the street, which controlled the ghetto traffic. This Synagogue too was damaged during the bombardment. The 1st floor of the building is a Jewish Museum. The Jewish population in Dubrovnik never exceeded 250 people from the 15th through to the 20th centuries.

During WWII the Torahs, the Ark and the silver were



hidden – some of the Torahs and silver sent to New York City. Many of the artifacts were given to Croatians for “safekeeping”. We understand there are probably only about a dozen Jews in Dubrovnik today. However, when we visited there was a continual stream of visitors primarily from the cruise ships which regularly visit the City.

We also visited Montenegro where once again we were in awe at the colour of the sea and the beauty of the islands, inlets and coastline.

A visit to this area is to be highly recommended, not least because of the history of the land and its inhabitants and the beauty and background of the Synagogues.

MARILYN KEEN

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THE LONDON JEWISH HOSPITAL

A century ago, just prior to the outbreak of the Great War, saw the end of the three decades of mass emigration of Jews from Europe, mainly Russia and Poland. It is estimated that 120-150 thousand settled permanently in Great Britain, the majority in the East End of London. They met substantial opposition from some factions within Parliament, the British press and the indigenous population culminating in the Aliens Act of 1905 and the Aliens Restriction Act of 1914.

But it was in 1907 that a group of Yiddish speaking immigrants met in Sidney Street, in the East End, to discuss a proposal to establish a Jewish hospital in London. One had been opened in Manchester in 1904 and London had other sectarian hospitals for their French, German and Italian immigrant populations. From the very start the supporters of the London Jewish Hospital were faced with fierce opposition from some of their co-religionists.



The Jewish Cousinhood, the elite families, led by Lord Rothschild, argued that the immigrants should integrate and learn to embrace the British way of life. There was concern that this institution could lead to anti-Semitism and to charges of a lack of gratitude particularly as some hospitals, including the London, had started to provide special facilities for their Jewish patients. Some expressed a fear that other hospitals would close their doors to Jews if they had a hospital of their own. In addition the Hospital movement received virtually no support from the Jewish clergy.

So what arguments were put forward by the advocates for the London Jewish Hospital? They argued that cultural and religious factors were of prime consideration. The majority of the immigrants had only a poor command of English and were unable to communicate with the hospital doctors.

British hospitals posed an alien environment in which they found a lack of understanding of their religious customs. Christian missionary medical clinics had increased in their activity in the East End at that time with attempts at proselytism taking place, although there is no evidence that they achieved any significant success. There is some indication, however, that the missionaries infiltrated the general hospitals where Christian religious services took place on the wards. There is also some evidence that Christian Ministers visited patients more regularly than their Jewish counterparts. Jewish doctors were finding it difficult to obtain posts in general hospitals and the existence of a Jewish hospital would offset this problem. Those who did find employment in the general hospitals had found it necessary to anglicise their names.

The supporters of the hospital were faced with a seemingly insurmountable task of raising sufficient finances to purchase land and fund the construction of the building. No help was forthcoming from the wealthy sections of the community and reliance was placed on support from the poor immigrants. It was by the collection of pennies and sixpences that a plot of land was purchased in Stepney Green and eventually, with a struggle and after twelve years, to build the Hospital.

The London Jewish Hospital opened in 1919 but was initially restricted to an out-patient department only, because of financial constraints. At the consecration ceremony the Haham, Rabbi Dr Moses Gaster issued a warning, "Beware of the rich!" but times were changing as the son of the late first Lord Rothschild attended to open the building.

Two years later, Lord Rothschild opened the in-patient department, and that the Hospital was supplying a need was reflected in the statistics given. Some 45,000 out-patients had been seen since the department had opened with many gentiles having been treated. By the following year 272 in-patients had been admitted. In 1923, at a fund raising dinner, the Presidents of the Royal College of Surgeons and the Royal College of Physicians were guests.

In common with all hospitals in England, the London Jewish struggled financially, during the 20s, 30s and 40s being dependant on subscriptions and donations, until the establishment of the National Health Service in 1948 when it lost its independent status.

By that time it had probably outlived its *raison d'être* as language barriers had gone and many Jews had moved out to the suburbs.

HOWARD REIN

Post Script: *I am currently researching for a comparative study into the London Jewish and the London German Hospital. Is there anybody in the community who has any personal experience of either hospital prior to 1948? I would be interested to hear of any recollections and can be reached at howardrein@ntlworld.com.*

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Those who have moved to Bournemouth in the last twenty years are unlikely to know many of the young people who lived in the town before that time and were members of a thriving Cheder. Most have since moved away to cities in this country and abroad, but hopefully our readers will find it of interest to learn of the lives of some of them then and in the present day.

Growing up in the Bournemouth Jewish Community in the 1970s and 80s was very different from now.

When Hale Synagogue, Cheshire, asked a number of their congregants who spent their formative years in other communities to write an article about their life during their youth, her memories of that time in Bournemouth were published in their magazine and with their permission we reproduce here:-

SHARON GRUBER (*nee Wainer*)

BOURNEMOUTH REMINISCENCES

I was born in Belfast but moved to Bournemouth when I was five years old. This was home for me until I was 20.

Now many of you may think I led the idyllic life; finishing the school day building sandcastles on the beach, swimming in the sea and skipping carefree along the promenade..... well it wasn't quite like that. I did all the normal stuff after school..... Cheder (three, yes three times a week!!), Brownies, drama and ice-skating.

At the time there were about 100 children in the Cheder, it was buzzy, lively and fun. Now sadly the Cheder has almost died. One of my childhood memories was the Cheder breakfasts run by the parents before lessons on a Sunday morning. Even though it meant getting up extra early we all loved these breakfasts and the same format went on for years.

We would sit at a huge table all together eating, chatting and singing. Now decades later when I am in the Shul hall where they took place, I can still smell the super-fresh bread rolls. I left Cheder after my Bat Mitzvah but returned a few years later to teach on a Sunday morning.

In 1948 after the war, Bournemouth was in its heyday – there were around thirty kosher establishments (not all under supervision) including six large kosher hotels.

Today, it's rare to meet someone who hasn't spent a holiday in Bournemouth at some point during their childhood. Now there is only the Normandie Hotel which is half open at certain times of the year and is aimed at the ultra orthodox..... not necessarily the place that a modern Jewish family would want to visit. Kosher meat is now delivered from London and there is a kosher shop based in the Shul classroom complex.

When we arrived in Bournemouth in 1972 there were

about 650 families belonging to the Orthodox Shul. Now there are 450-500. It is a declining, elderly community that will die out in years to come. A handful of my friends did return to Bournemouth to bring up their families and they lead a very happy life. My parents were excited to think that one of their children may be tempted to come back as well, we didn't.

Reverend Israel Cohen was a constant for me during my childhood. He was our Chazan for approximately thirty years. Rabbis would come and go, but he remained in Bournemouth until he died.

He was a larger than life character; he made every Simcha and Yom Tov special with his singing. Kol Nidrei was his speciality. He also carried out the most wonderful pastoral work and was very kind to my own grandparents at their time of need.

My parents have been in Bournemouth for forty one years and they continue to have a wonderful life there and they are still very involved with Shul. Even though their three children moved away many years ago, there is no way they would live anywhere else.

I have painted a slightly sad picture of a declining community but do not be fooled – it is one of the friendliest, warmest, down-to-earth communities you will ever visit and when I return I am treated like royalty.

The Shul itself is one of the most beautiful I have visited..... sadly it's now far too big for the community. I couldn't have imagined getting married anywhere but Bournemouth Shul and I was not disappointed.

As I sat in Bournemouth Shul this Rosh Hashanah, I couldn't help but be transported back to my childhood for a while and relive the wonderful memories I have.

HELPING TO CREATE A FAIRER SOCIETY

Another alumnus of the BHC Cheder is Rabbi Jamie Cowland who was born and brought up in Bournemouth. He went to Carmel College followed by UCL, after which he went to Aish Ha Torah Yeshiva in Jerusalem and gained Semicha from the Jerusalem Rabbinat. He returned to London, married and worked for Aish UK for ten years.

Today he and his family live in Jerusalem where he works for Aish and where he has also founded Justifi, "a social activism and leadership training programme, which takes Jewish students and professionals into communities plagued by serious social issues, but also blessed with amazing organisations and people, who serve as an example to us all. Justifi is for Jews of all denominations who want to build a better world not simply imagine one."

The following (edited) article appeared in Scope the magazine of the Great Neck Synagogue, New York, and is a good example of how his work involves Jewish youth internationally in these projects

Below JULIET GERBER of Great Neck gives an account of her experiences in taking part in a Justifi programme

It seems harder than it should be to live out a day feeling the need to make an impact on the world as we know it. Weighed down by duties, obligations, and going through the motions of just an ordinary new day, it's very easy to opt out of searching for ways to bring meaning to what is mundane. Tired of standardized test preparation and class registration, I looked for summer plans different from anything I have previously done.

I stumbled upon the Justifi organization, run by Rabbi Jamie Cowland of Aish UK and Jerusalem, which was designed with the intention to "give Jewish students life changing trips where they could experience the struggle for basic human rights, idealism, leadership, and the Jewish approach to Tikkun Olam."

Although I could have searched for a secular programme, I strongly connected to the concept of Tikkun Olam, the



importance of acting in Hashem's image to positively reflect the Jewish people and bring justice to the world Hashem created.

I went to Thailand and the trip focused on human trafficking prevention, an issue very prevalent there. An estimate published in 2003 placed the trade at 4.3 billion dollars per year and accounts for 3% of the economy.

According to the United Nations Palermo Protocol, human trafficking, otherwise known as "modern-day slavery," involves "recruiting or transporting a person by means of threat, force, other forms of coercion, the abuse of power or position of vulnerability," and for the purpose of exploitation or monetary compensation.

The existence of social and economic inequality and continuing exploitation of human rights has led to limited educational and employment resources for women. Consequently, these vulnerable conditions cause victims to feel their only choice is to obey the traffickers.

The women affected are often between the ages of 10 and 35 and are impoverished, uneducated or from marginalized ethnic minority or rural areas. As a result of their poor socio-economic status and desperation to

Continued on next page



Continued from previous page

support their families, women are lured by the fast money promised by traffickers. Bangkok houses three red light districts where an estimated 10,000 to 15,000 females work.

As part of our programme, we visited The House of New Beginnings in the red light district of Nana Plaza that provides a physical home for victims of traffickers, offers individual counselling, a safe and loving environment, and supports the attainment of formal education.

We then went on to Chang Mai and a northern Chang Rai hill tribe village that is known to be a high-risk area for children who fall into prostitution. Most parents make an average \$4 a day as farmers, and with barely enough to get by, their children are forced to drop out of school and sent to the city to work. Without proper education and no other options, they can be easily lured into the sex industry.

We volunteered with the HUG project, hug meaning 'love' in Thai, which develops workshops for volunteers, refers child abuse, neglect and other such cases to government agencies, multi-disciplinary team or non-government agencies involved.

Our time was also spent with the Tom Karen Centre, which provides after school programming teaching English, organic farming, and music education. Growing



up in the village with very little, Tom realized the risks children face and created the centre to help supplement their school studies and to bring enriching experiences to their learning.

His dedication toward building a brighter future and always with a smile is incredibly admirable. We assisted his team in installing a toilet for the centre, painting, and getting acquainted with members of his village. Our time was additionally spent with The SOLD Project, an education programme designed to keep children in school through educational scholarships, mentoring, and awareness programmes while consequently keeping them out of the infamous sex industry.

The issue of human trafficking is obviously one that

is difficult to relate to and relatively uncomfortable to discuss. Although it feels like an issue beyond what we are capable of fixing, activists around the world are launching and winning campaigns to hold governments and companies accountable for human trafficking, trying to create better laws, and do prevention work in communities.

It is difficult to briefly summarize what I've gained from my trip, as the lessons are endless. Spending time in a foreign country I could not previously have related to and pushing myself outside of my comfort zone was challenging in the best way possible. Teaching English to thirty children who only spoke Thai proved to be the hardest and most rewarding challenge of the trip. Most importantly, I learned a great deal about my capabilities as a young representative of the Jewish population and what I am able to contribute after leaving this trip.

We often find ourselves unable to connect to issues in third world countries when so many disastrous events occur so close to home and in our far away homeland of Israel. However, it takes these kinds of trips, ones that guide young Jewish leaders of today's generation, to encourage Jewish youth to take a stand against issues that impact people around the world.

To quote our leading Rabbi of our trip, Rabbi Dov Ber Cohen, "People think Tikkun Olam is about going out and building orphanages and volunteering in poor countries. I define Tikkun Olam simply as 'positively influencing the world around you.'"

"This could mean telling your mother more often how much you appreciate her, giving a beggar on the street the time of day for a smile and a quick chat, picking up and disposing of garbage as you walk through the park and so on. We all have an important role to play in bringing the world towards wholeness."

As Jewish people we are privileged to find meaning in life by connecting with our local synagogue and its community, donating to charitable organizations, and finding support from our leaders, rabbis, and active members of society who show a responsibility for one another.

We are taught that "all Israel is responsible one for the other" and see that Jews are renowned throughout the world for helping other Jews anytime, anywhere.

However, we are also taught "tzedek, tzedek tirdof" (Deuteronomy 16), "justice, justice shall you pursue." There is constantly an opportunity to intertwine both aspects of representing Jewish ideals and paving the road toward a better future. The only decision is whether you choose to act on your potential to do so.

BHC THEATRE TRIP



Earlier this year, with seats allocated, special requests catered for, nosh and drinks loaded, and a personal blessing from Rabbi Jesner, 53 fun loving oldies (including 3 zimmers) set off, on time, from Bournemouth for what was to be a superb day out.

We arrived in London with time for a wander round Covent Garden, before we gathered back at the Aldwych Theatre for the matinee performance of "TOP HAT" After some reorganising of seats (*this was a Jewish trip after all!*) we all settled down to enjoy the show.

Two and a half hours later, transported to an earlier age of elegance and grace, we left the theatre with feet tapping, humming those unforgettable Irving Berlin tunes. Undaunted by the rush hour traffic and "No Parking" signs, the coaches picked us up right outside the theatre for our transfer to Reuben's restaurant, home of kosher culinary delights! We were not disappointed; delicious hot salt beef sandwiches with all the trimmings were waiting for us when we arrived.

There was only one slight hiccup; in the packed ground floor restaurant John Wartski's absence had gone unnoticed until the end of our meal. Had we left him at the theatre? Failed to count heads accurately? Toilets checked, should we return to the theatre? We shared visions of John wandering the streets of London alone and vulnerable ... no need to worry; while mayhem took over upstairs, John was quietly enjoying a calm supper in splendid isolation, downstairs!

Thankfully our return journey was uneventful, and we arrived safely back on the East Cliff at 10o'clock.

Our thanks to John Wartski, whose idea this trip was, and for his generous sponsorship of the coach which enabled us to offer the trip at a more affordable price.

JOSIE LIPSITH

This year marked the 40th Anniversary of the Yom Kippur War. Michael S Rivlin sent this memory of that time when he was a volunteer in Israel.

KUNEITRA

*Black boulders skirt barren fields of Mount Hermon
Shuttered shops torn apart
Pockmarked walls and here and there ragged posters
Jews belittled grotesquely underfoot the Syrian War machine
At the cinema wolf whistles announce the commencement
Of, the evening's entertainment – Zahal Pictures announce –
The news is lost in a crescendo of exuberation from the Golani Brigade
After the show the square outside resembles Dizengoff
Girls and boys clad in green sit on low walls and play jokingly
A short cut through an alley – Bedazzled by light
Who's there? – Rings the challenge – Come here – the command
I stumble blinded and fall into a shell hole – Bang Bang I hear
Am I dead – No – Warning shots
Stand up the command
At the wire fellow Jews eye me suspiciously
After a cosy chat and a phone call a lift home in a jeep
Home is a villa shared with my fellow Volunteers
The Australian enquires as to my lateness
Sleep cures all
Another day Bang Bang we hear
This time an exercise
Long Black barrelled jeeps Anti tank guns
Take up positions
Well it's time for Breakfast of sweet coffee, bread and jam.*

BOURNEMOUTH HEBREW CONGREGATION

BHC Wednesday Welfare Drop-in Session

The Library (BJSS Office) will be open for any queries, help, form filling, letter writing, coffee etc.

.....
Every Wednesday 10am -12noon.

A TRIBUTE

Recently following a Stonesetting at Throop, Rabbi Jesner said that he didn't want to upset me but he had noticed that there was an error in the Hebrew date on my husband Gerald's Memorial.

I told him that my children, Simon, Rochelle and I had realised this just a few years ago, but as we didn't think this could be corrected I had arranged that in due course a double headstone should be erected.

Rabbi Jesner took me over to Gerald's

Memorial and showed me how he thought the incorrect date of Tishrei could be changed to Cheshvan. The following day he telephoned the Stonemason whom he then arranged to collect from their premises and took the Stonemason to Throop, showed him how the Hebrew lettering could be changed, and then returned this man back to his office in Boscombe. Rabbi Jesner told me the cost of this, which was surprisingly low and the work is to be put in hand.

When you lose a dearly loved one, (particularly in the tragic circumstances of Gerald's passing), you are in shock and my family and I had not noticed this error immediately. Rabbi Jesner

realised when Simon was called up for his father's Yahrzeit in Cheshvan, that when he had seen us at Gerald's grave a week or so previously he had come over to say a Prayer, and remembered that the date inscribed on the Stone was wrong. I was very impressed with this feat of memory!

Rabbi Jesner always makes a point of coming over to say a Prayer at the graves that I am visiting, be that in Boscombe at my grandparents, Kinson where my parents and other family members are, or at Throop, and I am most grateful to him.

Thank you Rabbi Jesner for all your great kindness to me.

JEAN LURIE

IN APPRECIATION

The article below appeared in the September edition of the Hampshire WI News Magazine. Written by Margaret Liddle it shows how much guided visits to our Synagogue are appreciated and their worth in fostering good relationships with other faiths.

Many thanks to Verity, Rabbi Jesner Reverend Sklan and Tony Nairn who give of their time to act as guides.

Earlier this year Verity Olswang came to Godshill W.I as our speaker entertaining us with her personal experience of the rhythms and rituals of Jewish family life. Returning our hospitality Verity invited us to visit her Synagogue. She received an enthusiastic response, prompting our outings organiser to arrange a visit. We were welcomed by Verity and her friends, who encouraged us to look around the Synagogue and ask questions. We were able to admire at close quarters the stunning embroidery denoting the Tribes of Israel on the curtains

covering the Ark of the Covenant.

We went upstairs where the women of the Congregation sit, and downstairs to the function room where celebrations are held, and finally to the kitchens, where dietary rules are scrupulously upheld.

We were generously given a copy of the book written to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the Synagogue in 2005. Had it not been for the constraints of our parking tickets we could have enjoyed so much longer in this most interesting place and in Verity's knowledgeable, relaxed company.

AN APOLOGY

The Editors of Ruach wish to apologise and express sincere regret to Mrs Enid Low for the error in the Personal column of the Rosh Hashanah edition of Ruach. The correct version of her announcement is on the right.

LOW – Enid would like to give her heartfelt thanks to Rabbi Adrian and Pamela Jesner, Rabbi Yossi and Chanie Alperowitz and all her dear family and friends who phoned and wrote after the loss of her dear husband Herbert z"l.

Personal

BRADLEY – Celia Bradley thanks all those who gave their good wishes on her recent honour of Eshet Chayil. It was lovely to receive the cards, telephone calls and greetings, and helped to make it a special occasion.

LIEN – Iris wishes to thank Rabbi and Mrs Adrian Jesner, Reverend and Mrs Barry Sklan, her colleagues in the Shul Office and all her friends in Bournemouth for their support and kindness during her recent bereavement.

LURIE – Barbara Lurie wishes to thank everyone for their kind support and condolences received on the passing of her dear mother.

REIN – Corinne and Howard thank everyone for their good wishes received on the Batmitzvah of their granddaughter Mia Singer in Melbourne, Australia.

ROYSTON – Leila Royston would like to thank Rabbi and Mrs Jesner, the Shul Executive, the Ladies Guild and all her friends for their good wishes on the occasion of her special birthday.

SONDACK – Barrie and family wish to thank Rabbi Adrian Jesner and Rebbetzen Jesner, Reverend Barry and Mrs Sklan, and all the members of the Bournemouth community for their kind thoughts and condolences, and all letters of sympathy received on the sad passing of my darling wife Jacqui. She will be sadly missed.

TALISMAN – Rosalie Talisman would like to thank Rabbi and Rebbetzen Adrian Jesner, Reverend and Mrs Barry Sklan, Bournemouth Hebrew Congregation Shul Executive, and all her family and friends for the kind letters, condolences and phone calls received on the passing of her dear father Albert Benjamin.

WAINER – Eta and Gerald would like to thank their dear family and friends for their good wishes and cards on the occasion of their Golden Wedding Anniversary.

KIDDUSHIM

BASIC KIDDUSH LIST – £200

Wine
Brunswick
Biscuits
Juices
Crisps
Egg and Onion
Chopped Herring
Crackers
Garnishes

Plus – 2 litres Whisky if desired,
which must be supplied by the
Kiddush Sponsor

KIDDUSH LIST - £300

Wine
Danish Pastries
Biscuits
Egg & Onion
Chopped Herring
Crackers, Crisps
Smoked Salmon
Fish Balls
Schmaltz Herring
Garnishes

Plus – 2 litres Whisky if desired,
which must be supplied by the
Kiddush Sponsor

Please Note:-

With the exception of the Whisky, everything must be ordered from the Shul Shop. You are responsible for buying and delivering the Whisky. Please inform **Thelma Cowan (01202 290798)** of the date, etc., of your Kiddush so that she may liaise with the Ladies Guild. Please contact her if you have any problems whatsoever.

You may wish to give a donation of £25.00 which the Shul will pass on to the Ladies Guild.

You may also sponsor a **COFFEE AND KICHELS KIDDUSH** at a cost of **£75 plus 1 litre of Whisky**

Please book any of the above via the Synagogue Office

HANNAH TAYLOR

This lovely photo of my Mum, Hannah Taylor, was taken when she presented flowers to the Chief Rebbetzen Mirvis during the recent visit of the Chief Rabbi to Andrew Cohen House in Birmingham.

Mum would like to thank all her Bournemouth friends for their cards and good wishes on her 95th birthday.

MARILYN WHITE



A SCHOOL REUNION – ADDENDUM

Readers may remember the article about the Allerton High School, Leeds, 'old girls' reunion here in Bournemouth.

At the end of August my husband, Gerald and I spent a weekend in Cardiff, a city we had heard much about but never visited. On Shabbat we went to the beautiful new, purpose built Shul.

In the Kiddush we were introduced to Doreen Jacobs who also had roots in Leeds and had attended Allerton High School during the war! Of course I told her about the reunion and she asked to

be invited if we have another. Much to Gerald's embarrassment we sang the old school song together. The minister of the Shul, Rabbi Rose, was delighted, as he told us later, when (thanks to David Weitzman's intervention we had lunch with his family), that this lady needed cheering up as she had very recently lost her last sibling.

Not only was Rabbi Rose born in Leeds but we knew his grandparents well.

These Leeds people get everywhere!

JOSEPHINE JACKSON

BOURNEMOUTH HEBREW LADIES' GUILD

A particularly busy period for the Guild commenced following Yom Kippur in the run up to Succot, when a team of ladies bagged up the fruit and vegetables needed to decorate the Succah, and they were affixed by a couple of willing gentlemen.

The next morning, Eve and Brian Cowan arrived replete with plant foliage and dried flower arrangements, which were put in place by Eve and her flower arranging group to complete the decoration of the Succah. In addition, a beautiful floral display was made by Judith Menton for the hall. On Erev Succot, the Guild was busy in the kitchen creating such culinary delights as chicken soup, roast chicken, holishkes and roast potatoes for the meal held in the Succah that evening, which everyone enjoyed.

On the first and second days of Succot, kiddushim were prepared by the Guild, as was the kiddush on Shabbat Chol Hamoed and Shemini Atzeret, all held in the Succah, subject

to the weather which by now had entered the rainy season, but no-one got wet!

This busy period was rounded up by the Guild's catering of the celebratory lunch for the Chatanim and N'shei Chayil held in the Menorah Suite on Shabbat Beresheit. Once again, Thelma and her team of ladies did us all proud, and it proved to be a memorable occasion.

AUDREY KNELLER

Dates for your Diary:

*Shabbat 30th November –
Communal Chanukah Lunch*

*Wednesday 22 January 2014 at 12.30pm –
Guild Lunch with guest speaker,
Davina Belling, an award winning
theatre, film and TV producer.*

MEET 'N' MUNCH

At The Menorah

The last Meet 'n' Munch at the Menorah was very successful. Our entertainer for the afternoon, Trisha Lewis, was well received, and many people expressed their appreciation.

We had 54 customers, and the main course for the meal was poached salmon. We always offer a vegetarian option to our main course, but if you intend coming, it is best to contact us on:- **01202 520671** at least a couple of days beforehand so that we know how much to prepare.

We would like to thank the many volunteer helpers who strive hard to provide a happy atmosphere and make it a pleasant environment. These people come from across the whole community, as do our customers.

On **Tuesday 3 December**, our meeting has a Chanukah theme. The lunch will consist of Salt Beef and Latkes. If you would like to come, it is important that you let us know in November, so that we can order the salt beef accurately. The cost of this event will still be only £6.00. As you can imagine, we always work to a very tight budget for these events, and no-one receives even a penny profit for producing them.

Finally, we would like to thank Rabbi and Mrs Jesner and the Executive of the Bournemouth Hebrew Congregation,



The Land Girls singing duo who entertained at a recent Meet N' Munch

for the considerable co-operation that we receive.

**KATRINA AND BRIAN WEBB, AND
THELMA COWAN**

Your shop needs you

For just two hours a week (more if you wish) you can enjoy the delights of helping in the Shul Shop.

Of course this does not have to be a regular commitment.

We are open on Thursdays, Friday mornings and Sunday mornings. We also need help at other times with stock, paperwork etc.

What will you do?

You can serve, stock shelves, price items (the pricing gun in great fun) or sit upstairs and man or woman the door. This is a warm and comfortable job during which you can read, sew, knit, drink coffee or do your own paperwork.

Is there tea and coffee available? Of course!

We already have a pool of volunteers who are greatly appreciated, but we do need more. So please if you have some time to spare we would love to hear from you.

Please give your email address and/or phone number to either Celia Bradley on 01202 303866 or celiabradley@talktalk.net or Asher Grunis 01202 555291 at Ashersam@aol.com

We look forward to hearing from you. Please help us to keep the shop open.

SHULAIID

Shulaid held another of their Cards and Games with Supper evening, which raised £800 for the Synagogue Funds.

Despite the threat of an impending gale we had very few cancellations, and seventy five feisty players came along to enjoy the event.

Winners of the Chicago Bridge Tournament were Judy and Tony Curtis seen here with on the left, Jeffrey Cohen, of the Shulaid Committee and the tournament co-ordinator, being presented with their trophy.

CORINNE REIN
Shulaid Chairman



THE CENTRE OF OUR COMMUNITY



Although here in Bournemouth we cannot compete with community centres in areas with a much larger Jewish population it is surprising what is on offer within the Shul complex.

Rather than remain empty through the week other than for the daily services and the Office, the Shul's premises are being used by many different groups from the community.

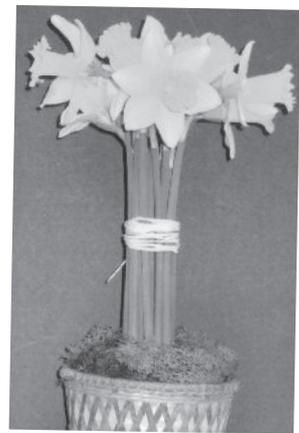
Now in its tenth year the Table Tennis session is a regular and popular fixture on a Monday morning in the Gertrude Preston Hall. Around 16 people of varying abilities enjoy the morning playing and socialising in a friendly atmosphere. New players are always welcome.

Shortly after the table tennis began several of the players asked if it would be possible for them to stay on in the Gertrude Preston Hall to play Bridge during the afternoon. This was arranged and has proved so popular that a Duplicate Bridge Afternoon has been started on Monday at 2pm in the Menorah Suite organised by Jeffrey Cohen and Adrian Levey.

Further use of the Shul's facilities is also being made with a Women's Yoga Session on Tuesday mornings.

These are all in addition to shiurim, Meet and Munch in the Menorah, the Opera Club, Flower Arranging, Adult Education and of course, the Shop at the Shul.

The membership of BHC should be proud that so many activities run by volunteers are on offer for them to enjoy.



FLORAL ART

The BHC Flower Group meet in the classroom once a month to make flower arrangements for Shabbat.

It is a friendly group of ladies of all ages and we always welcome new members, so why not join us?

If you have never tried flower arranging you will not find it difficult- with a little guidance !

For further details please contact Eve Cowan on 01425 - 485243.

FRIENDS OF THE ISRAEL SPORT CENTRE FOR THE DISABLED

The Bournemouth Committee of the FISCD organised an "Ascot in Autumn" evening in the Menorah Suite, which was enjoyed by one hundred and thirty people who joined into the spirit of the event.

Between the courses of dinner, films of races were shown and guests placed "bets" on their favourite to win. The event raised £10,000 for the Sport Centre.

National Chairman of FISCD, Brian Harris, who gave a brief talk about the Centre, which has trained some Paralympians and which aims to give as many younger children with disabilities an opportunity to take part in sports, thanked the Bournemouth community for their support over many years.

Based in Ramat Gan on the eastern edge of Tel Aviv, the Centre is one of the world pioneers in the field of sports rehabilitation. It opened its gates in 1960 and specialises in the physical and psychological rehabilitation of children and youth. For more than 50 years their remarkable staff and volunteers have encouraged the disabled to participate in a variety of sports activities to benefit from the countless in which sport is healthy.

The spirit and motivation of sport is used to help guide the



Photo shows centre left David Weitzman, Bournemouth chairman of FISCD with some of the guests enjoying "Ascot in Autumn"

disabled from a state of helplessness to productive, fulfilling lives. Sports activities contribute more to the confidence, morale and self- image of the disabled than any other form of rehabilitation, and the Centre's sports activities have proved to prolong life expectancy of the seriously disabled.

Today more than 3,000 youngsters and adults participate in 20 different sports activities without discrimination of religion, race or ethnicity.



BOURNEMOUTH JEWISH REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

In a break from its long tradition, BJRC has adopted a fresh approach complete with a brand new logo reflecting its vital role as the umbrella organisation for the whole spectrum of Jewish life in Bournemouth.

The organisation is now under the joint leadership of Jonathan Kay, David Benjamin, Tommy Kraus and Greg Rubins who will share the chair on an equal footing. It has a vibrant committee of 12 dedicated members from across the spectrum of the ever-changing, wider Bournemouth Jewish community, making it uniquely placed to look after the interests of all local religious and secular organisations.

The BJRC committee is now made up of three working parties covering Leadership, Publicity and

Administration, thus creating a strong platform to keep the entire community abreast of plans, news and activities. This is further facilitated through the regularly updated website: bjrc.co.uk

As some indication of BJRC's important role in both Jewish and civic events, details are already in the diary for Remembrance Day, the Menorah lighting in the Mayor's Parlour, Tu B'Shevat tree planting, Holocaust Memorial Day and Yom Ha-atzmaut.

WIZO

Bournemouth Wizo held a luncheon on 21st August in the Simcha Hall. Our speaker was Mr Brad Ashton, a former script writer to many comedians, such as Groucho Marks, Bob Monkhouse and Tommy Cooper, to name but a few.

Brad opened by talking about many of the comedians he had worked with over the years reminiscing about such greats as Arthur Askey, who some of us older ones remember with fondness.

He regretted that humour had changed so much over the years. Originally, it was not permitted to use the name of any member of the Royal family or politician. With the introduction of such shows as "That Was the Week That Was" and the "Frost Report", such restrictions were relaxed. However, he

abhorred the new wave of comedians, whose gags relied on sex, bad language, etc. and, in his opinion, there should more censorship.

He invited the audience to choose their favourite comedian and then spoke about his experiences with that particular individual. Everybody responded most enthusiastically. In fact, so interesting were his anecdotes, the time passed so quickly, we were in danger of being turned out of the hall!

Rita Keene gave the vote of thanks. All agreed it had a most enjoyable, interesting and informative afternoon.

The event was extremely well attended and £450 was raised towards various Wizo projects.

CLAIRE LEVEY

Wizo National On-Line at Home Quiz

On the evening of 1st February 2014

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The article below is published with the hope of keeping our readers up to date with local developments relevant to our well being

FAST FORWARD TO THE FUTURE – LOOKING AHEAD

Gail Thomas, Governor of the Royal Bournemouth and Christchurch Hospital and Dean of the Bournemouth University Health & Social Care School talks to Judith Adda, RBCH Governor for Bournemouth and Poole about the future link-up plans between Bournemouth University and the Royal Bournemouth and Christchurch Hospital

I understand that there are outline plans to create future links between Bournemouth University and the Royal Bournemouth and Christchurch Hospital, can you tell us more about what this will entail?

Bournemouth University (BU) has had a close relationship with the Royal Bournemouth and Christchurch Hospital (RBCH) for many years as students on nursing, midwifery, occupational therapy, physiotherapy and operating department practice courses are all placed at the Trust for their practice experience throughout their studies. We also have developed close links with many medical clinicians over the past five years and many of the Trust's consultants are part of 'Visiting Faculty' working on joint research projects with BU staff. We have been in conversation with the Trust over the last year or two to consider designating the Trust as a 'University Trust' to make the relationship stronger and more robust.

Historically there has been a convention in the UK to designate acute hospitals as 'teaching' hospitals if they offered medical students clinical placements while undertaking their medical school programmes. However more recently, there has been a surge of 'University Trusts' in a broader sphere as a kite mark of quality, a means to improving clinical services through academic endeavour.

When will this proposed link-up officially take place?

We have paused on progress until the decision about merger takes place but are keen to pick it up once the future is more certain. The ideal would be to designate the new merged Trust as a University Trust as Poole Hospital is also very interested but we will await the Competition Commission outcomes before taking next steps.



Looking ahead to creating this partnership, what benefits could this proposed link-up potentially bring to the Hospital and the University?

A University NHS Trust could be described as a hospital or institution affiliated with a named university, for the treatment, care and cure of the sick and wounded, for the study of disease and research of treatments and innovation, and for the training of doctors, nurses, midwives and allied health professionals. The main reason for moving towards university hospital status is that combining service with research and education in association with an academic partner leads to better healthcare outcomes for patients (Care Quality Commission 2009).

In respect of the move of RBCH to being designated by BU as a University Trust, we believe that a formal link between the organisations will provide significant opportunities. The Trust will benefit from the education and research expertise of the University. The University will gain access to the clinical resources of the Trust and will also be able to work alongside highly skilled professionals with significant research and teaching potential. The University will be enhanced through working with a nationally recognised high performing NHS Trust. The Trust's ability to attract and retain high quality staff will be enhanced by the formal University link.

Once launched, how could this new working partnership between the Royal Bournemouth and Christchurch Hospital and Bournemouth University benefit the local Dorset population, the wider South-west region and in particular, the various community groups in Bournemouth?

Universities have a role to play in developing high quality practitioners through their initial training and continuing professional development. However the School of Health and Social Care's (HSC) aim is to 'help improve people's lives' so we are additionally committed to high quality research that tests out new treatments and improves outcomes for patients and to engaging in projects that lead to service improvement. All of this work leads directly into better care for the local population and has the added benefit of considering the specific needs of the health economy of Dorset in a targeted way.

How could Bournemouth University students also benefit from this partnership with the hospital?

Students sometimes experience a 'theory / practice gap' when the teaching in the university does not reflect the reality of care delivery in practice. The closer the links between the organisations, the better able we are to work on common approaches, cultures and values so students experience more synergy.

Finally Gail, what are your hopes for the success of this working partnership/joint venture?

I think there are mutual benefits for the Royal Bournemouth and Christchurch Hospital and Bournemouth University which are not confined to Health and Social Care. There are five other Schools at Bournemouth University with expertise in service areas across the Trust including media, communication, business planning and management, human resources, psychology, computing, engineering, events management, catering, sustainability... the list goes on.

Being collaborative partners, we hope that RBCH will talk to us about any developments that we can support with our expertise, for example identifying possible student placement / project opportunities, joint research and innovation projects, education programmes and practice development initiatives. Ideally it will be a win / win for both organisations!

Judith Adda and Jayne Baker, both very active Governors of the Royal Bournemouth and Christchurch Hospital representing the Jewish Community for Bournemouth & Poole, would be pleased to receive brief feedback of your hospital experiences by email only to: judithandjayne@yahoo.co.uk. While they cannot enter into any individual correspondence, they are keen to hear your views and gain your overall impressions so that any real satisfaction or genuine concerns you may have are heard at senior level.

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Israeli Dancing

For the past ten years, a dedicated group of dancers have been meeting every week to enjoy beautiful Israeli music, exercise and socialise. Now, due to popular demand, we have now started an Israeli dancing session for absolute beginners. There is no age limit, and no fun limit. It's only for half an hour so why not come along on Tuesday nights at 7.00 in the Menorah Suite. See the shul notices for any changes of time or venue.

MARILYN DEXTER

Stuck For That Gift?

There is now a local source for a limited number of World Jewish Relief celebratory cards.

There are four card designs, (which are on display outside the Shul Shop) respectively wishing *"Mazeltov"*, *"Thank You"*, *"Happy Birthday"* and *"Happy Anniversary"* and in each case the wording on the inside reads:

"A donation has been made on your behalf to World Jewish Relief This thoughtful gift will make a real difference to one more Jewish Family"

The cards can be obtained by contacting Richard Saunders, via telephone: 01202 922468 or via e-mail: rip-saunders@tiscali.co.uk

New for September

Nature School Sessions

Yavneh Kindergarten

Town Centre Preschool for 2-4 year olds

Ofsted registered and inspected

Members of the Pre-school Learning Alliance

Qualified and experienced staff

Forest School sessions

Opening hours

9am - 3pm Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday

Call 07831530216

Email yavnehkindergarten@gmail.com

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Are you a Social Golfer?

If you are any of the above we of the WJGS would love to hear from you

Please call Jeffrey Cohen

Tel: 01202 701117

Modern Hebrew Classes Monday in the Classrooms

With Ori (Dora) Glaser

Learn Hebrew in a pleasant, friendly and relaxed atmosphere. Studying can be easy and enjoyable. Continuing Beginners
11:10 – 12.40

The class is suitable for people who have some knowledge of Hebrew print and script letters, and can say a few basic sentences in Modern Hebrew. The course will help you to participate in simple transactions and conversations on everyday topics. You will be able to 'get by' in everyday situations, like travelling, asking directions, shopping, ordering meals, talking about yourself, your family and your interests at a basic level.

There is a fee payable.

For more details telephone Ori on 023 8061 5652 or email her on ori@glasers.org

HOSPITAL VISITING



PLEASE INFORM
THE OFFICE IF
YOU, A
MEMBER OF
YOUR FAMILY

OR A FRIEND IS IN HOSPITAL AND
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VISITORS TO THE HOSPITALS.
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HOSPITALISED IS VISITED PLEASE
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POSSIBLE.

Record Collection

After 25 years, Uncle
Bernie's Children's
Service is **STILL** my
number **ONE!**

Shabbatot and Chagim

C U there!



Diary

November

- Wednesday 27th Chanukah First Candle
Chanukah Tea in the Menorah Suite sponsored by Viviene and Mostyn Levein
- Thursday 28th First Day of Chanukah
- Shabbat 30th Sephardi Minyan
Communal Lunch catered by the Ladies Guild

December

- Tuesday 3rd Meet and Munch Chanukah Lunch
- Wednesday 4th Rosh Chodesh Teveth
Eighth Chanukah Light
Council of Christians and Jews
Chanukah / Advent Event – Menorah Suite – 7.30pm
- Shabbat 7th Coffee & Kichels sponsored by Celia Dworkin and Louisa Rubinstein to celebrate their special birthdays
- Sunday 8th Stone Setting Throop – 2.00pm
The late Mr Sam Marks
- Wednesday 11th WIZO AGM at the home of Barbara and Martin Tobias – 2.30pm
Opera Video Club - Turandot – Menorah Suite – 7pm
- Thursday 12th Flower Arranging Group – 2.30pm
- Wednesday 18th Opera Video Club La Boheme – Menorah Suite – 7pm
- Shabbat 21st Sephardi Minyan
Kiddush to celebrate the Golden Wedding Anniversary of Ruth and Ronnie Class
- Shabbat 28th Rosh Chodesh Kiddush

January

- Tuesday 2nd Rosh Chodesh Shevat
- Thursday 16th Tu B'Shevat
- Wednesday 22nd Ladies Guild Lunch with speaker Davina Belling – Menorah Suite – 12.30pm

- Shabbat 25th Rosh Chodesh Kiddush
- Friday 31st Rosh Chodesh Adar

February

- Shabbat 1st Second Day Rosh Chodesh Adar
Coffee and Kichels sponsored by Ronnie Field
WIZO on line at home Quiz (Evening)
- Wednesday 12th Ladies Guild AGM Menorah Suite – 10.30am
- Sunday 23rd Synagogue AGM – 2.00pm – Menorah Suite
- Thursday 27th CCJ Meeting with renowned interfaith figure Ed Kessler of Cambridge, Menorah Suite – 7.30pm

March

- Sunday 2nd Rosh Chodesh Adar 2
- Monday 3rd Second Day Rosh Chodesh Adar 2
- Shabbat 8th Kiddush sponsored by Mr Derrick Cohen in memory of his late wife Anita
- Sunday 9th Stone Setting Throop – 2.30pm
The late Mrs Anita Cohen
- Thursday 13th Fast of Esther
- Shabbat 15th Kiddush sponsored by Mr John Wartski in celebration of his birthday
- Sunday 16th Purim
- Monday 17th Shushan Purim

APRIL

- Tuesday 1st Rosh Chodesh Nisan
- Shabbat 12th Shabbat Hagadol
- Sunday 13th Search for Chametz
- Monday 14th Fast of the First Born
Erev Pesach
Communal Seder
- Tuesday 15th First Day Pesach
Second Seder