



Editorial

As well as the Yom Tovim and the usual communal activities over the past few months, there have been other events, such as those connected to Shabbat UK and the Centenary of the Balfour Declaration, which have given an even fuller programme for us all to enjoy.

However, all of these events would not have taken place if it was not for those volunteers who gave time and effort to ensure they ran smoothly. In this community we should be both pleased and proud that so many people are happy to be of service to the rest of us. However, more volunteers are always wanted. Perhaps you could spare a little of your time to help one of the communal organisations in the town.

Wishing everyone Chanukah Sameach. Enjoy!

CORINNE REIN

Editor

RICHARD SAUNDERS CHRIS WOODWARD

Assistant Editors

Front Cover illustration by local artist: Di Roberts

Contents

- 2 President's Message
 - 3 From Rabbi Jesner
 - 4 Chanukah Thoughts from Reverend Sklan
 - 7 Balfour Declaration Commemoration
 - 16 Shabbat UK 2017
 - 28 Diary
-

Contributions for the Pesach edition to be received by 27th February 2018.

Ruach Magazine is published by:

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

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

www.info@bournejewish.org

© BHC2017.

Unless otherwise specified none of the establishments advertising in this magazine is supervised by the Bournemouth Hebrew Congregation.

For advertising please contact the Synagogue Office at the above address

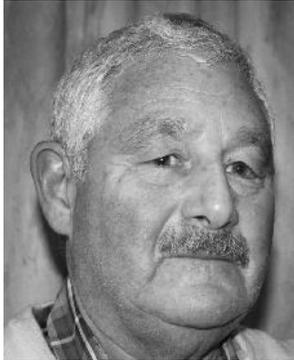
Advertising rates: Full page Cover colour: £200. Colour Full page: £150.00. Colour half page: £75.00.

Full page black & white: £100. Half page black & white £50. Quarter page black & white £25.

Although no charge is made for Personal announcements, a small donation to offset printing costs would be appreciated.

A CHANUKAH MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

"May love and light fill your home and heart at Chanukah"



How time flies "when you are having fun!" It's nearly two years since I was elected President (unopposed), and with Chanukah around the corner, there are only two

months to our next A.G.M. and a change of the Shul President and your chance to stand for the Executive Committee.

What an eventful year has passed since I wrote last Chanukah's message to you all. The community has lost 3 of its most valued members since last Chanukah, our Honorary Life President and Senior Trustee, Harry Ellis, our former President, Arthur Appleton and our former Vice President and Honorary Shul Doctor, Howard Rein. On a happier side, our Ladies Guild Chair Lady, Thelma, was honoured in the Queen's Birthday Honours with the British Empire Medal, an honour that is so rightly deserved. Thelma has recently been unwell, in and out of hospital; it's so good to see her on the mend and hope she will soon be back in Shul.

At our E.G.M. just before Rosh Hashanah, some 2 years of negotiations came to an unsatisfactory end, when, even before our meeting, the Reform Shul had turned down joint proposals for updating the site at 53 Christchurch Road. I must thank Ivor Weintraub along with both Stephen Whites and Geoffrey Feld for their time and effort over that 2 year period. I do hope that the plans for the renovation and refurbishment of the Shul, which are now being prepared, when presented to the community, will meet with approval.

Finally, on a sad note once again, our former Shul Administrator, Rosamunde was taken ill in September and at time of writing, remains in hospital; I know that the Community send their best wishes to Rosamunde and to her husband Neal, wishing her a speedy recovery.

At this point I would like to pay thanks to all of those people who made the Yomim Noroyim this year so special; to name them all would fill a book, but I must name just a few.

Thank you Rabbi Jesner for the high quality sermons that you delivered, to Rev Sklan, Barry thank you for making sure that all services ran so smoothly, to our Chazan Anton for leading our services so well, and to Bernard Benaroch

"wow"! If they were to give out Oscars for Shofar blowing, you would win them every year.

Thank you to the Office, Ladies Guild, and special thanks to Katarina, Lorraine, Stuart and all for the extra work that they put in this year. To the Security team lead by Melvin, the flower arrangers, to Bob and Pat, thank you all.

This year we celebrated Shabbat U.K. with a "Super Kiddush" jointly catered by Angela Sklan and her team of helpers and David Kalfon from our Sephardi Minyan. I must also thank our Guest Chazan, Eliot Alderman who, along with Rabbi Jesner, made the Shabbat U.K. Service in Shul most memorable. Thank you to all concerned.

This year the Ladies Guild are organising our Chanukah Tea Party celebrations in the Menorah Suite on the 13th December with Guest entertainers, Andrew Canon and Stevie. Andrew and Stevie are well known to attendees of "Meet and Munch. I'm sure that the party will be a super afternoon for all. The party will start at 2.00p.m.

Some facts about Chanukah that you may not have known:-

In Yemen, children went from house to house, tins in hand, to collect wicks for the Chanukah Menorah.

In Germany, the eighth and last night of Chanukah used to be very special. All the leftover wicks and oil were lit in giant bonfires. People sang songs and danced around the fire, often until the small hours of the night.

Around 17.5 million oily doughnuts are eaten in Israel during Chanukah, commemorating the miracle of oil.

Gambling is considered almost a sin. However, gambling with a "dreidel" is a popular Chanukah tradition. People play this game with a square spinning top. However, usually the game is not played for a hefty sum, but for pennies or chocolate coins.

So go on, please enjoy the Doughnuts and the Latkes and forget your diet. Spin your Dreidle and don't forget to be generous with the Children's and Grandchildren's Chanukah Gelt.

May I take this opportunity of wishing Rabbi Jesner and Pamela, Rev. Sklan and Angela, Mahir and Anne, all members of the Executive Committee, my dear wife Judy and all members of our family, along with all the members of our Shul, "Chanukah Sameach"

BRIAN G. LASSMAN

President

RABBI JESNER'S CHANUKAH MESSAGE 5778

Now there is not much new or brilliant left to be said about the holiday of Chanukah, right? I think that maybe many would probably agree with that statement. Over many years, of writing and speaking about Chanukah should pretty much exhaust the topic, shouldn't it? But then again that would be selling Chanukah short.

There is always a different and new insight that illuminates all of the holidays of the Jewish year and Chanukah is certainly no exception to this rule.

How did this happen? And how did the Jewish State itself happen? Not in terms of history, facts, personages, dates, places and wars – but in the amazing fact that such a State flourishes and progresses in spite of all odds, past and present, against its existence.

The Rabbis of the Talmud have taught us that people to whom wondrous things occur do not really recognize those events as being wondrous. It is part of the weakness of human nature to have such limited understanding. There has to be a flash of insight, a commemorative act, a tradition of being able to look past the trees to the forest, a spirit of almost childlike wonder in order for the amazing to truly be believable in the eye and mind of the beholder.

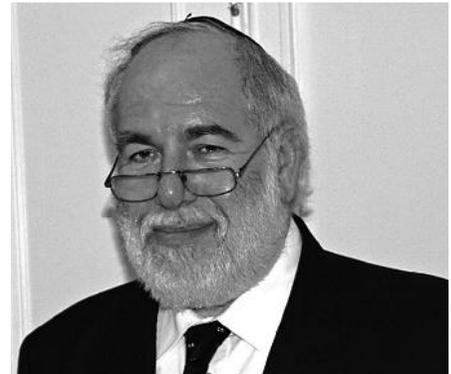
And think that this is essentially how we have to look at Chanukah – as the historical event, as the commemoration of that event and of the traditions and customs that so endear this eight day festival to all of Israel.

Jewish tradition and the Rabbis of the Mishna took an amazing event that many people would look at as being ordinary or natural and restored it to its truly wondrous state. The story of Chanukah is that of a small and apparently weak nation overcoming a mighty army of a world empire.

It records a triumph of monotheism and Jewish tradition over pagan culture and practices, of the small, pure lights in the Temple that overcame the flaming torches that were far from pure, and of the vitality and resilience of Israel over those who would wish to snuff it out of existence. It is all wondrous but only if one views it all as being wondrous.

The Rabbis in their holy perspective of Jewish life and events elevated the mundane and seemingly ordinary to the realm of miraculous and eternal. That is basically the main lesson that Chanukah teaches us – that we are a special people who live a miraculous existence with constant wonder surrounding us and yet it is all encrusted in seemingly natural and ordinary occurrences.

To de-legitimize the story of Chanukah and to treat it as just another ancient war of the Grecian period is the same tactic that the world uses today to de-legitimize the State



of Israel and our rights to our ancient homeland. If the wonder of it all is lost and forfeited then so is our struggle for existence and independence. Chanukah is pure wonder and hence its importance and relevance to us in today's world.

Perhaps more than other holidays of the Jewish year, Chanukah is a children's holiday. Tradition allows even the youngest to light the Chanukah candles, to play dreidel, to taste latkes and sufganyot, to have time off from school and to observe the holiday through the eyes and senses of a child.

Children still retain their sense of wonder and imagination. Their world is not usually bound by the practicalities, realism and sometimes pessimism of their elders. Everything in life is still new and unexpected, worthy of curiosity and examination.

Theirs is yet a magical world, even a spiritual world, viewed from a different plane of perception and thought.

Therefore, Chanukah is the perfect holiday for children for it requires this perspective – to be made wondrous, miraculous and thereby meaningful and beneficial. Chanukah is not for the jaded and empty spirited.

Its candles flicker only for those that see the fire of Torah, tradition and morality that lies beneath their small surfaces.

On who is privileged and able to see the wonder of the events that occurred to us "in those days" will also be able to discern the wonders that we encounter daily here in Israel "in our time."

Pamela and I wish Reverend Barry Sklan and his wife Angela, the entire Executive Committee, Gilian Walker and the Office Staff and the whole community a happy, freiliche and meaningful festival of Chanukah.

RABBI ADRIAN JESNER

CHANUKAH THOUGHTS REVEREND BARRY SKLAN

OK, So I've lit the Chanukah candles. Now what?

One of the many beautiful things I like about Chanukah, is that it's so easy.

I don't have to build a sukkah, get rid of all my cake, chocolate and bread during pre-Pesach cleaning, try to stay awake all night as I do on Shavuot. I don't even have to worry about a possible hangover that happens the day after Purim.

Just show up and light a candle. Simple!

But in some ways, for some people, that's all it is.

And for some people it's, "is that all it is?"

For the first group, this works really well for them.

But most of us are in the second group.

You've said the berachot, the blessings, and you have sung Maoz Tzur. Now what are you supposed to do?

The candles are supposed to burn for at least half an hour. So do we just sit there until then and watch them burn down?

The time after lighting the Chanukah is a beautiful time, very special and full of potential for growing Jewishness, your own and your family's.

Here are some suggestions, and hopefully you will find one or some practical for your particular situation.

Pick and choose what works for you, experiment to your heart's content.

the candles. You can talk to Hashem in your own words about whatever you like. If the surroundings allow, this is a great time to meditate. Gazing at the flames is a good way to focus. You can follow your thoughts, or direct them.

You can play dreidel! It's lots of fun, even if you don't win!!

You can eat potato latkes, mmmm. freshly fried, mmmm. You can eat sofguniyot,- doughnuts, filled with jam, covered in sugar, both of those top my list, (please don't tell Angela or my cardiologist!!)

But please don't overdo it. And while you're eating, maybe discuss what it took for Maccabees to start the revolt; courage, love of Jewishness and what else? Do you/we have what it takes to be a Maccabee?

Try one of the above and make this year's Chanukah even more meaningful and enjoyable

Angela joins me in wishing you all Chanukah Sameach!



BARRY SKLAN

Jewish Carer and Counsellor

Do you need help in your own home with :

.....
Personal care, shopping, medication,
respite care, anything else?
.....

.....
Would you benefit from seeing
a Counsellor?
.....

.....
Lisa is an experienced Jewish Carer
and Counsellor.
.....

.....
She provides a strictly confidential service.
.....

.....
Available in Bournemouth, Christchurch
and Poole areas.
.....

.....
Many years experienced with Alzheimers,
Dementia and all conditions
associated with Senior care.
.....

.....
Car driver, DBS checked, Refs
.....

.....
Call Lisa on 07941 433183
.....

.....
Lisa wishes everyone in the Jewish Community
a very Happy Chanukah.
.....

art by di

Unique gifts! Beautiful portraits of special people for birthdays, anniversaries or in memoriam. Contact me for details and look at my website to see what else I can do for you. I am based on the East Cliff.

www.dirobertsartworks.com
email: dirobertsartworks@gmail.com
tel: 01202 559630



December 2017 / Kislev 5778



**From the President,
Jonathan Arkush**

At Chanukah, we celebrate the liberation of the Jewish people and the re-dedication of the Temple, so it is fitting that I reflect in this message on the more recent liberation of our people and the rebirth of our nation.

This autumn we celebrated the 100th anniversary of the 1917 Balfour Declaration – that momentous 67-word document in which the Foreign Secretary Arthur Balfour wrote that Her Majesty’s Government “viewed with favour the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people”.

This was the first official statement of support for the ideal of Zionism by any government anywhere in the world and it was doubly significant in coming from the nation which was at that very moment poised to take control of the land of the Bible.

Just 30 years later, Israel celebrated its independence and has since provided a haven for Jews from all over the world, including survivors of the Holocaust and the hundreds of thousands of Jews ethnically cleansed from Arab states.

The Board of Deputies has played a prominent role in the community-wide campaign to celebrate this short but auspicious document. We came up with a series of events which certainly put the Balfour Declaration in the spotlight at the beginning of November.

We played host to distinguished parliamentarians, including Boris Johnson, Lord Balfour’s successor as Foreign Secretary, at our Balfour Parliamentary Reception. Held in the spectacular location of Speaker’s House in the Palace of Westminster, this sparkling occasion gave the chance to MPs and peers to celebrate the historic centenary with warm words of support for Balfour’s vision and for the subsequent achievements of the State of Israel.

Another centrepiece of the anniversary was the brilliant lecture given by historian Simon Schama in which he spoke eloquently about the legacy of the document.

Our Board of Deputies Sunday meeting played host to speakers Baroness Ruth Deech, Israeli Ambassador Mark Regev, the current Lord Balfour and Christian Zionist Tim Vince, all of whom gave their angle on the meaning of the Declaration.

The wonderful series of events put on up and down the country across the breadth of the community proves what we can do when our community harnesses its talents. Equally impressive was the reaction of the Government which was honoured to mark and celebrate this crucial moment in Jewish history along with us and share in our happiness that its aim had been realised.

Far less effective were those who protested against the Declaration. They failed abjectly in their aim to persuade the Government to apologise for Balfour’s espousal of the self determination of the Jewish people. And their threats to sue the Government for issuing this historic document 100 years ago were absurd and laughable, as was the turnout at its key rallies.

How much sweeter it is to celebrate the liberation of our people in the knowledge that the Chanukah lights will be lit in Jerusalem, which once again is the capital of the Jewish nation.

I wish you a happy and peaceful Chanukah.

WELCOME TEA FOR NEW MEMBERS

During the past 3 years we have been delighted to welcome the following as new members of our Congregation:

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Dr Stephen & Mrs Beverley Baker | Cyril & Evelyn Brazil | David & Vivien Harris |
| Ivor & Judith Barwin | Lewis & Tova Citron | Herta Kammeling |
| Justine Bentley | David Cohen | Farrell & Aimee Leon |
| Naftali Berkovitz | Jonathan & Debbie Ellis | Sadie Levene |
| Peter Beyfus | Janet & Jeff Gee | Frances Lieberman |
| Tony & Cyndy Miller | David & Diane Rein | Beverley Smith |
| Judy Morgenstern | Ellard & Diane Roberts | Alan & Helen Sunshine |
| Lesley Nielsen | Tony & Coreen Rose | Jeremy Trent |
| Gary & Jan Opas | David Ryder | Jennifer Vernon |
| Simon & Zara Pinner | Stuart & Audrey Samuels | Olivia Whelan |
| Ellis Raymond | Norman & Sheila Shapiro | David & Suzanne Williams |

In September this year, twenty of those were able to come to a tea that we held for New Members. It was an informal occasion, giving them the chance to meet the Rabbi and Rebbetzin, as well as members of the Executive and some have already become so well integrated that they attended the tea as both New Members and Board of Management Members!

ANNE OZDAMAR



Bournemouth Hebrew Congregation

Invites you to

The Crash Course in Torah

By Rabbi Avraham Goldhar

Week 1: Wednesday 10 January at 2.00 PM – *Bereshit*

Week 2: Wednesday 17 January at 2.00 PM – *Shemot*

Week 3: Wednesday 24 January at 2.00 PM – *Vayikra*

Week 4: Wednesday 31 January at 2.00 PM – *Bamidbar*

Week 5: Wednesday 7 February at 2.00 PM – *Dvarim*

Venue: Menorah Suite, Glen Fern Road, Bournemouth BH1 2LU

All Welcome ★ Tea and Coffee served ★ Admission Free

'fresh insight for all seasons'



accountancy & auditing | taxation specialists | computerised payroll service
management accounts | business planning & tax advice | VAT

FK FilerKnapper LLP
Chartered Accountants
Business & Tax Advisors

10 Bridge Street | Christchurch | Dorset BH23 1EF
01202 483 341
www.filerknapper.co.uk

BALFOUR DECLARATION COMMÉMORATION

Some careful planning ensured that our Congregation was able to participate in the celebration of the 100th Anniversary of the Balfour Declaration.

Following up a suggestion made by Rabbi Jesner some months ago, Mahir Ozdamar successfully negotiated, with the Jewish Leadership Council, the live streaming on Wednesday 1st November of the lecture to be given at the Royal Society by Professor Simon Schama, marking the centenary of the signing of the Balfour Declaration, the historic document which signalled Britain's support for a Jewish homeland in Palestine.

A packed audience filled the Menorah Suite for the live streaming, and before the main lecture commenced, we watched a video clip of Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks giving his views on what the Balfour Declaration meant in 1917 and its relevance and meaning today.

The technical wizardry that Mahir had engineered worked perfectly, and within minutes of the end of the Rabbi Sacks video, the link with the Royal Society came up on screen and we heard Simon Johnson, CEO of the JLC, and son in law of Susan and Geoffrey Feld, mention in his introduction that Bournemouth was among six locations holding the live streaming event.

We were then shown a recording of Daniel Taub, the former Israeli Ambassador, chatting with Lord Rothschild as to how the Rothschild family became involved in the Balfour

Declaration and how the letter containing the Declaration came to be sent to the current Lord Rothschild's Great Uncle, Walter Rothschild.

In his keynote lecture, Professor Schama outlined the history of the time and the individuals who had played their part in the events leading up to the Declaration, and stressed the immensely important role played by Chaim Weitzman.

It proved to be an enthralling and highly enjoyable evening and after the lecture finished, all present warmly applauded Mahir's efforts.

During the following Shabbat morning service in Shul, Rabbi Jesner read out a prayer that the Chief Rabbi had composed to mark the centenary event, and after the service, Ivor Weintraub delivered a thoroughly prepared and fascinating Lilmod, covering in detail many interesting and important points, both historical and political, and which had had a significant effect, culminating in the making of the Balfour Declaration.

RICHARD SAUNDERS

Many people are unaware of the unusual but vital link Chaim Weitzman had with this area. The article overleaf, written by the late Howard Rein z"l, has appeared previously in Ruach, but it was felt its inclusion casts light on his contact with members of the British Government and military.

CHAIM WEIZMANN AND THE DORSET CONNECTION

This year marks the centenary of the outbreak of the Great War but the contribution made by Chaim Weizmann to the military campaign of the War has received only scant coverage in the historiography.

He was born in the village of Motol, within the Pale of Settlement and was seven years of age when Tsar Alexander II was assassinated in 1881. Although disabilities against Jews existed in Russia well before this time, the regime became increasingly hostile with accusations being made against the Jews of being part of the conspiracy.

Pogroms, economic hardships and educational quota systems followed which contributed to the mass migration of millions of Jews to the West over the next thirty years.

Before leaving the Pale, Weizmann moved to Odessa where he joined the group, 'Lovers of Zion'. Together with many others he realised that there was no future for Jews in Russia and that they should campaign for Palestine to become their homeland. At the age of nineteen he arrived in Germany where he began to study chemistry as an undergraduate, later gaining a doctorate at the chemistry department in the University of Freiburg.

He had a profound admiration for England and at the age of 29 he arrived here, having taken a plunge into the unknown. He retained his ambition to settle in Palestine but believed that England provided the best opportunity for promulgating his Zionist ideas as well as continuing his chemical research.

In 1905 he started lecturing at Manchester University and first met Arthur Balfour in January 1906 in connection with his Zionist activities which continued in parallel with his academic research. He became naturalised in 1910, gained his Doctorate of Science in that year, and was appointed Reader in Biochemistry in Manchester in 1914.

His research interest in Manchester was in the field of biochemistry and particularly in the study of fermentations. The use of natural rubber was required in many products

before World War I and it was becoming increasingly expensive. A method of producing artificial rubber was required and Weizmann realised that this would involve the synthetic production of isoprene, a hydrocarbon, and for its polymerisation (the joining together of small molecules into larger ones), to create a rubber.

He believed that a substance, isoamyl alcohol, could be utilised in the process and searched for a bacterium that would break down sugar into this product. What he found was that his bacterium resulted in a mixture of butyl alcohol and acetone.

It was in 1916 that the British Government became interested in his research work and he was summoned to the Admiralty where the First Lord was Winston Churchill. Acetone was in short supply and was urgently needed for the production of cordite, to be used as a propellant in naval guns. He was told by Churchill that 30,000 tons of acetone was required for the War effort and a site was chosen for the industrial production of acetone which would be based on Weizmann's research. Holton Heath, outside Poole was to be the location for the Royal Navy Cordite Factory because it was remote from centres of population and had good transport links from Poole Harbour as well as proximity to the railway and road system.

The production of acetone required grain as a source of starch but this was in short supply so, as an alternative, horse chestnuts were used, and local schoolchildren were engaged in their collection. Water for the process was pumped from the River Stour by a pumping station in Corfe Mullen and the cordite was taken from Rockley Jetty, constructed in Poole Harbour, to Gosport.

After the War he received a token reward of ten shillings from the Government for every ton of acetone produced but, more importantly, his work brought him in touch with many people of influence including, Churchill, Balfour and Lloyd George who would assist the Zionist cause.

HOWARD REIN z"l

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 is 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.

BOURNEMOUTH VISION CENTRE

Where can you still find a local optician who will see you personally and look after your eye care needs from the sight test to the dispense?

- Where will you be sure to be seen by the same optician every time, who cares about offering you a service, and who won't be happy until you are completely happy?
- That will be **BOURNEMOUTH VISION CENTRE**, where Mr Bernie Dexter has been looking after the eyes of the Southbourne community for the past 30 years.
- Our receptionists are chosen for their warmth and empathy.
- They are trained to help you to choose just the right frame for you.
- Mr Dexter has over 40 years of experience as an optometrist, and through extensive ongoing training is up to date with all the advancements in modern eye care.
- We operate a price match policy.
- The health of your eyes is our concern

**63, Southborne Grove, BH6 3QU
or call us on 01202 424491**



Also at:

**Your Eye Site Opticians, 304, Lymington Road,
Highcliffe BH23 5ET or call us on 01425 272991**



THE SYNAGOGUE IN SIENNA

In early September, a number of invitees from Bournemouth attended the wedding of Colum and Yael Lipsith in Tuscany. Irene and I were sharing the travelling with Diana and Richard Barzilay.

On Monday 4 September, the day before the wedding we drove to Sienna, a beautiful ancient city, with a very modern parking problem, not only to see the City itself but with the intent of visiting the Synagogue. It is situated in the old Ghetto area of the City, just off the famous Piazza del Campo that dates from the fourteenth century, where the bareback horse race takes place in July and August each year. It is one of the most beautiful piazzas in Europe.

Having found somewhere to park, we then engaged seven flights of escalators to get into the City through one of its magnificent gates. We walked through the streets, avoiding scooters and traffic on the one road that runs through the heart of the City, past the University campus, housed in beautiful buildings. We approached a narrow alley, at the end of which is sited the Synagogue, the address being Vicola delle Scotte 14. Access is available every half hour, being controlled from the inside by a delightful Congregant/Guide who was as pleased to see us as we were her. Shortly after we arrived we were joined by Eta and Gerald Wainer and then by Pamela and Rabbi Adrian Jesner.

As typical of Synagogues built in Ghettos, the exterior is very plain, blending in with the architectural style of the buildings surrounding it, Jews being unable to build a Synagogue identifiable as such from the street. The Synagogue, from the exterior appears a high building of three floors. To the left of the entrance are plaques, the first being a memorial to the pogrom which took place in 1797 after the French had taken control of North eastern Italy from the Austrians, and in accord with egalité, opening the ghetto, which was not at all popular with the Catholic population of the town. The second plaque names those Jews transported following the German occupation and control of Italy from 1943, after the Italians surrendered to the allies. There were very few deportees, as the Jewish Congregation was warned by the

Italian authorities of the intended deportations from the city, most going into hiding, thankfully escaping a terrible fate.

There has been a Jewish population in Sienna recorded from the fourteenth century. It was thriving and relatively prosperous. In 1571 the Medici ordered that the Jews should be confined to a Ghetto. The present Synagogue, designed by Giuseppe del Rosso of Florence, was built in 1786 on the site of the original Synagogue.



(left to right, back) Gerald Wainer, Rabbetzen Jessner, Rabbi Jesner, Ivor Weintroub, Irene Weintroub, Richard Barzilay (front:) Eta Wainer and Diana Barzilay

The Ghetto was demolished following the Risorgimento in 1860 that brought the unification of Italy.

On entering the building a number of steps are climbed to a narrow entrance hall where, on the wall to the left, are a number of photos, which I will return to, as well as a display of books and artefacts for sale. Just beyond are some small steps which lead down to a small museum where old Synagogue artefacts and parochot are on display. Visitors are greeted by the guide in the entrance hall and then invited to take steps up to the Synagogue itself. As the photograph displays, it is magnificent prayer hall built in a neo-classical style, with a bimah in the centre. White marble is the dominant material for decoration, but coloured marble features in the nine columns bearing the ten branch candelabra fronting the Aron Kodesh. The high ceiling is dominated by the ten-commandments written on a crowned plaque. On first sight the interior takes the breath away. It is quite beautiful. The architects, however made an error in the inscriptions written in the marble friezes which adorn the walls above the pews in the men's

section, having in one inscription left out crucial lettering in 'Yerushalayim' to make it fit.

The ladies' gallery is arrived at by a stone staircase from the right of the entrance hall. The gallery is high, but gives a marvellous panoramic view of the interior of the Synagogue through a grille mehitzta. The gallery is set to face the bimah and the Aron Kodesh only.

Outside the entry to the men's section, to the immediate right of the exit door, is a display case with a large silver becher, pointers and parochot on display. To the left, on a plinth, is a magnificent decorated brit-milah chair donated by Rabbi Nissim in 1860. It is engraved with biblical text referring to circumcision. Immediately opposite is a door that leads



into a small dining hall and small kitchen and serving area, with modern furniture used by congregants once a month for a Shabbat Kiddush and/or lunch.

There is a small congregation now of approximately fifty families plus that keeps the Synagogue in regular use, there being a flat for the visiting Rabbi on the third floor of the building. The services are largely in Ashkenaz but also Sephardi and the Italian tradition is followed, as is the case in most of Italy.

On the left wall of the entrance hall, as I mentioned above, are rows of photographs showing communal life from the turn of the twentieth century, including members of the Congregation who served in the Italian forces in the First World War. I found most interesting pictures of visits made by the Jewish Brigade to the Jewish Community after it was brought to Italy for the Spring offensive against the German forces in April 1945, and pictures of the wedding between a Palestinian member of

the Brigade and a lady of the Community, bringing home most graphically, that even after the gravest adversity, Jewish life goes on.

It was a wonderful day out, raising our spirits for the wonderful day to follow, at the wedding of Colum and Yael which took place in glorious sunshine in the grounds of a magnificent Tuscan Villa Pasignano designed by Michael Angelo, the ceremony being conducted by Rabbi Jesner, assisted by the Rabbi from Florence.



IVOR WEINTROUB

LEARNING IVRIT AT BHC

The following two articles first appeared in the Ivrit section of the Jerusalem Post. Jan and Rebecca, who wrote them translated the articles into English for inclusion in Ruach as we were sure our readers would find them interesting. We congratulate Jan and Rebecca on their success.

My name is Rebecca Dorey and I study Hebrew in the synagogue in Bournemouth, England.

I started studying Hebrew when I lived in Israel about 30 years ago.

I went to Israel to work as a teacher at the International School in Jerusalem: the Anglican School on Haneviim Street.

I knew that I would study at the school in English and work with teachers who would speak English, but despite that, I wanted to feel at home in Israel and to get to know Israelis. So before I started working in the Anglican school, I went to study Hebrew in an Ulpan in Tel Aviv.

I lived in a youth hostel: Immanuel house in Jaffa, and I travelled six days a week to the class in Tel Aviv.

Apart from me, there was only one other lady in the class who was not Jewish and all the other students were new immigrants or Jewish students who wanted to immigrate to Israel.

When I started to learn in class, I did not even know the Hebrew alphabet, and the teacher said that I would not succeed in learning the language. But every day when I returned to the hostel I studied for many hours and when I walked the streets of the city, I always spoke Hebrew with people.

First of all, the Israelis I met always answered me in English, but after a few weeks I learned enough words to speak to them in Hebrew, and I had more success.

Every day I bought nuts and seeds from a street vendor in front of the bus station. I always spoke to him in Hebrew and he always answered me in English until one day I learned how to get cross in Hebrew. He was very surprised!

Because I could speak in Hebrew, I made friends with many Israelis and after working for a year at school, I moved in with an Israeli friend named Tali in Jerusalem.

Sometimes I was invited to eat with her family on Shabbat and we often hosted friends of my friend Tali in our apartment. I also travelled to many places in Israel with Israeli friends.

After three years of living in Israel, I returned to England, got married to my husband Mike and we had three children.

I rarely spoke Hebrew and did not have time to learn the Hebrew language anymore. I thought I would forget everything I'd learned.

But about eight years ago, suddenly a friend approached me and asked me to help her in Hebrew.

She had already paid for four classes in the synagogue, but she found that the level in the class was too high for her. She suggested that I go to classes in her place and in return I would teach her at home.

I really enjoyed the lessons and continued attending once or twice a month. I also made friends with a new classmate and we speak Hebrew with each other.

Five years ago, I returned to Israel to visit my friends who still live there. They were amazed that after so many years abroad I could still speak Hebrew. Today I speak to Israeli tourists and recently I met an Israeli family that lives close to me.

We speak to each other or text on mobile phones in Hebrew and I also enjoy reading the easy Hebrew newspaper: Jerusalem Post. Because of my love of the Land of Israel and for the Israeli people, I try to be their ambassador to England.

Therefore I participate in parliamentary lobbies and speak with politicians. I tell members of Parliament and other people with whom I meet about the democracy and freedom of religion in the State of Israel and about all the good that Israel does in the world.

I also teach Christian groups about the history of the State of Israel and the connection between the Land of Israel and the Bible. I explain the failures of Britain against the Jewish people during the British Mandate.

Every year my husband and I host a Passover Seder. During happy meals, we are given opportunities to teach our guests about the truth about current affairs in Israel.

I speak against the BDS campaign, and I draw their attention to growing anti-Semitism and unfair decisions against Israel.

REBECCA DOREY

FOR ME, IT'S A SPIRITUAL LANGUAGE

I am called Jan Biswell and I live in Bournemouth, England. My love for the Hebrew language began after my first trip to Israel in the 1990's. Since then I wanted to understand and to speak Hebrew when I visit Israel again.

At first it was really difficult to learn at home alone, with a Linguaphone course but I still loved the language - I continued to learn. For me it is a spiritual language.

After a few years, when I lived in the north of England, there was an opportunity for me to participate in an evening class at Manchester University and the Hebrew studies there helped me very much.

A visit to Yemin Orde

Over the years I visited Israel many times and at every opportunity I spoke Hebrew: when I travelled by bus, by train or by taxi, in shops and cafes despite that sometimes I spoke funny, with mistakes.

My husband is a volunteer with an organisation, Ebenezer Operation Exodus, that helps Jewish people in the diaspora to go to Israel. The last time we were in Israel, we visited the Yemin Orde Youth Village. There we met some staff and students and we listened to their stories. Yemin Orde is named after Charles Orde Wingate who was a great friend of Israel.

When we returned to England we were invited to a Dinner in London, on the 80th anniversary of the organisation Youth

Aliyah, that supports the Yemin Orde Youth Village.

Rebecca and I

When I moved to the south of England in 2010

I was happy to discover a group of people that meet for Hebrew lessons at a synagogue in Bournemouth.

Now the group is very small: only me and Rebecca,

who told her story in the previous issue of IVRIT.

In 2014 Rebecca and I succeeded in the Modern Hebrew GCSE exam. This exam is equivalent to matriculation exams in Israel. I was then sixty years old and I was the oldest candidate! Now Rebecca and I subscribe to the monthly Jerusalem Post IVRIT and use it in our Hebrew lessons with our teacher Ori.

Shortly I will travel to Israel again, with my husband, and I hope that I will be able to speak in Hebrew. In Israel we will have a visit with a holocaust survivor who lives at Akko. I support her and pray for her.

JAN BISWELL



Rebecca Dorey and Jan Biswell outside the BHC Synagogue

REMEMBRANCE DAY – 12 NOVEMBER 2017



Happy Chanukah!!

May the light of the season be in your hearts

PESACH 5778
in BOURNEMOUTH
The Queens Hotel & Spa
Thursday 29th March - Sunday 8th April

- Rabbi Shisler in residence
- All Inclusive including two Sedarim (private Sedarim by arrangement)
- Fine Wines & Beverages included
- Full Entertainment Programme, Excursion, Family Activities & Guest Speakers
- Spa facilities
- Hotel Restaurant open to non-residents (By prior reservation only)
- A small deposit secures the Holiday
- Under Strict Supervision of London Beth Din



pesach@queenshotelbournemouth.com

01202 431953, Ruth Greenberg



Kosher for Passover



Our shop - Chanukah 2017 / 5778

Our brilliant Kosher Shop, **Shop@theShul**, located right here in the Shul premises, has been serving Bournemouth's Jewish community and the many visitors to our town since 2010.

Cooked food at competitive prices specially prepared in our kitchen just for you!

- Roast chicken
- Chicken schnitzel
- Chicken goujons
- Fried fish - haddock, plaice
- Goujons
- Fish Balls
- Salmon cutlets
- Latkes
- Range of traditional favourites for Yom Tov

Don't see what you want?

Call or email now to discuss your requirements

Serving our community

- Our team of friendly volunteers is here to help you.
- Order by telephone, email, or in person.
- Pay by debit card over the telephone
- We'll deliver to your door free of charge.
- Or drop in and see what's new on our shelves!

Ordering deadlines:

Bread orders: 10am Wednesday

Cooked food: 5pm Wednesday

Meat & deli: 10am Thursday

Contact Jane Victor to place your orders or discuss your requirements

Email: shulshop@gmail.com

Tel: 01202 557433 (option 1 on the menu)

Or 07854 698802

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

www.bhcs hul.co.uk

OPENING HOURS

THUR: 10:00am-2:00pm

FRI: 08:30am-11:30 noon

SUN: 10:00am-12:00 noon

CHANUKAH SAMEACH!



Shulshop@theShul

SHABBAT CHALLAH BAKE



RECIPE FOR SUCCESS!!

There was nothing about the old, faded, yellowing Recipe Box that would have attracted a buyer at a Car Boot in Southgate, North London, that morning but a young man, named Ian, in the crowd saw it and picked it up.

He opened the box and saw around 50 cards: some neatly handwritten and some recipes taken from magazines and stuck on a card. They were all filed under different categories: soups, Yomtov baking, cakes, biscuits, etc. Ian was Jewish but not at all observant or Kosher and was just going to throw the box away when he wondered whether his half sister, Linda, would make use of the recipes that had been so painstakingly hand written. He took the box over to Linda who also decided she didn't want the recipes in the box but she knew somebody who would!!

Linda is my best friend, a friendship spanning over 50 years. She phoned me and we made a date for her to come and visit in Bournemouth. She told me she was bringing something down which I may be interested in. Linda duly arrived and in the evening brought out the recipe box. She said all the recipes were Jewish. "Open it and have a look" she said.

I opened it and pulled out a random card and immediately the hairs at the back of my neck and arms rose and I shivered.... the card showed a recipe for Betty's Yomtov Honey Cake and it was handwritten by my darling mum who had passed away in 1994!!

I pulled out another card for Cheese cake and again it was mum's handwriting! Linda and I couldn't believe it! How amazing! Where had it been all those years? From looking at the recipes and remembering the names of my mum's friends I could only presume that they had all got



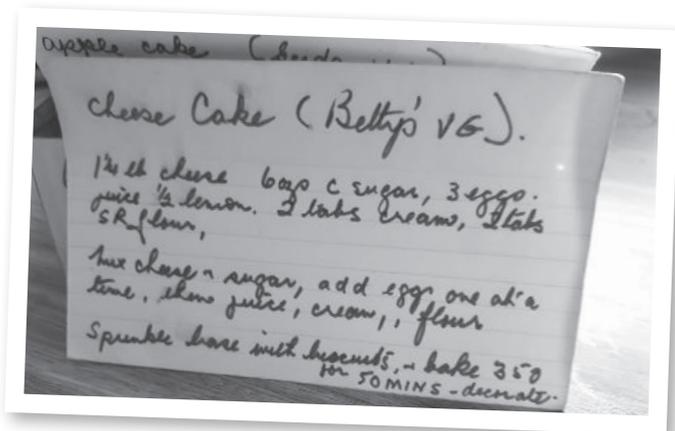
together one afternoon and swapped recipes but as years went by and each of the friends passed away, the Recipe Box had been eventually thrown away.

My sister came down a couple of weeks later and without any explanation I showed her the Recipe Box. She opened it and took out the Honey Cake card ...she went pale and looked at me and said "this is mum's handwriting". This was extra confirmation for me and we were both thrilled.

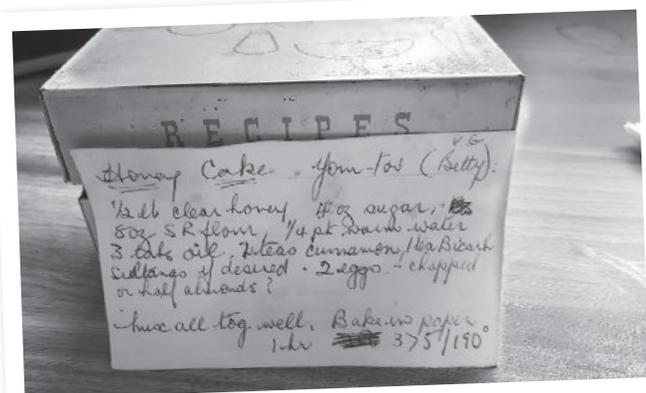
Since then, I have successfully baked the Cheese Cake recipe for Shavuot and the Honey Cakes for Rosh Hashanah. Such a wonderful feeling recreating these delicious cakes which my mum had made for my dad, sister and I! The Recipe Box has pride of place in our kitchen now.

I really believe that it was mum's wish that the Box be returned to our family and thanks to Ian and Linda her wish has come true!

VALERIE J. MILLIN



(above) The Honey Cake and (below) Cheese Cake recipe and recipe box together



POTATO BEAR!



What sort of vegetables do Marilyn and Tony Ward grow in their garden?
Wonder what they'll find for the next copy of Ruach?

RAISING PECAN FOR THE GUIDE DOG FOUNDATION

Last year, on October 26, 2016, the day after Simchat Torah, I drove to the Guide Dog Foundation in Smithtown, New York to pick up the newest addition to the Rein family.

Pecan, a 40-pound, four-month-old, female, yellow Labrador Retriever, was going to live in our house for a year because our family decided that we wanted to be volunteer puppy raisers for a future guide dog in training. We thought it would be a fun, rewarding and meaningful activity and the commitment of having a dog for just one year seemed like enough for us to handle. Pecan came with a 142-page Puppy Raiser Manual!

Future guide dog puppies spend the year learning specific commands, discipline, proper behavior, and socialization so that they can become successful service dogs for the visually impaired. After signing paperwork that ensured The Guide Dog Foundation retained full ownership and authority over Pecan while she lived with us (and that the Foundation would cover all her veterinary expenses), I took her home.

The first few days were exciting and challenging as we all adjusted to having Pecan. She was loving, sweet and smart. Her favorite activity was licking everyone and everything all the time. She was also a rambunctious puppy, jumping on everyone that walked by her and pulling on her leash whenever she went outside. My husband and three children adored her and were always helpful taking care of her whenever they were home. I was her primary caregiver and I immediately felt overwhelmed with the notion of having to teach this puppy how to be calm, walk steadily on a loose leash and to stop jumping on people. Every day I took Pecan for a drive someplace to socialize her.

At the beginning, I took her into town and walked around Great Neck Plaza to expose her to people, cars, trucks, noise, and other dogs walking on the street. When we went out, she always wore a yellow coat that said "Future Assistance Dog" displaying her Guide Dog Foundation affiliation. I had to say "leave it" repeatedly as we walked around. "Leave it" is the command that guide dogs learn to ignore any distraction on the street.

Pecan was supposed to learn how to walk only on my left side, steadily on a loose leash, without pulling me and without smelling things or looking at distractions around her (like birds flying, leaves blowing in the wind, flowers, bushes or trees along the street) that would divert her attention from looking forward.

Easier said than done! Food reward is the key to teaching these puppies acceptable behavior. Whenever Pecan walked properly, she would earn a treat. Eventually, over time, she started to be more consistent and understand my expectations.

As Pecan grew older, I started to feel more comfortable taking her to stores (rather than just walking around town) so she could practice socializing, walking nicely and ignoring the many distractions that she would face as a guide dog assisting her owner navigate commercial facilities. She's been to so many places over the past year such as the bank, post office, library, hair salon, our local kosher stores, Neck, Rite Aid, Home Depot, Starbucks, Haagen Daz, 16 Handles, Bed, Bath and Beyond, Target, Petco, Roosevelt Field Mall, Best Supermarket, Macys, Penn Station in Manhattan, Elite Dental Spa, several doctor's offices and the list goes on.

Her favorite place is Great Neck Synagogue where Rabbi Polakoff, Rabbi Lichter and the office staff of Mark, Jimmy, Paula and Maxine know her well. She usually goes to their offices a few times a week. She is well-behaved and loves to lick the Rabbis when they pet her! (People are allowed to pet her if they ask first and Pecan is behaving well enough to be approached.

When she was a younger puppy, she was not ready to be pet in public). She's even been to many shul board and sisterhood meetings and events with me. I take Pecan to puppy class twice a month sponsored by the Guide Dog Foundation where a teacher shows the class how to work on certain behaviors and commands with the puppies.

Luckily, Pecan was already house-broken when she was placed in our home. She knew how to "go busy" nicely on the driveway. "Going busy" is the command used to tell the puppy to relieve itself – on a hard surface only, never on grass. Guide dogs are required to go to the bathroom only on command so that their owner will be able to control when and where the dog goes.

Since many blind people live in urban areas, the puppies are taught to go to the bathroom only on concrete surfaces rather than get used to grassy areas. At the beginning, she had an occasional accident in the house, but that is always to be expected with any puppy.

In the house, Pecan always had to be on a leash next to me or another member of our family. She was not allowed to roam the house freely. Sometimes we could put the leash handle on a doorknob so we didn't always have to hold it in the room we were occupying. Over the year, as she became more mature and trustworthy, she didn't have to be on a leash anymore. She happily stayed with me in whatever room I was in – and if she did wander around the house – I trusted her to behave properly.

Sometimes, she just wanted to go off alone to sit in the sun by the window in the living room. As a strict rule, Pecan was not allowed to go on any furniture or bed or put anything in her mouth except her food or a toy that was on the Guide Dog Foundation list of approved toys (no balls, squeaky toys, stuffed animals). Pecan was also not allowed to bark.

When we first got her, she barked a little – and we were told to spray her face with water – which immediately stopped that behavior.

Pecan enjoys sleeping in our kitchen in the crate (cage) provided by the Guide Dog Foundation. She feels safe and secure there. She also stays in the crate if she is left alone in the house or if we have guests over who may not like dogs. She learned quickly to be calm and relaxed in the crate – never barking or scratching it to come out.

When our family comes into the house, we are not supposed to talk to Pecan for a few minutes so she doesn't become excited to see us. She stays calm and relaxed in her crate. As Pecan became older, we would leave her in the house without restricting her to her crate. She earned our trust because she was so well-behaved. Eventually, at night, we let her have free range of the kitchen (which we enclosed) so she didn't have to sleep in her crate. Not surprisingly, she always chose to sleep in her crate with the door open anyway.

Pecan is on a strict diet imposed by the Guide Dog Foundation. We measure out her food for each meal and deduct food from a meal if we used food during the day when rewarding her during her training. Of course, table food is forbidden. Being overweight is harmful to a puppy's health. We have to blow a whistle three times before Pecan is fed as she sits nicely in her crate waiting for the command after the whistle to "go eat."

We also had to practise taking the food bowl away while she was eating so that she did not become possessive of food. Sometimes blind people accidentally pick up their dog's bowl while they may still be eating and their dogs are not allowed to growl, bite or be possessive of their food. They are supposed to remain calm and patient. Even though Pecan loves her food, she never exhibited any possessive behavioral problems.

Over the past year, Pecan learned specific commands that would help her become a successful guide dog. She learned "sit," "down," "stand," "ok," "under" (meaning, to sit under a chair), "come," "stay," "leave it," "about" (meaning, to turn direction), "kennel," "enough" (meaning, to stop what she is doing) and "go busy." A guide dog puppy needs to develop skills that will build a foundation for their future work as a guide dog and companion to their partner. My puppy advisor, a staff member of the Guide Dog Foundation, was readily available if I had any questions or concerns about Pecan.

On June 18, 2017, Pecan turned a year old. About a month later, in July, she went into heat for the first time. When female puppies go into heat, they are boarded in the kennel at the Guide Dog Foundation for a month. When I picked her up in August, I was told that she had passed all the tests that would make her a candidate to enter the formal guide dog training facility at the Guide Dog Foundation (a two-



Audre on the left, Pecan on the right

month intensive program the puppies go through before they are matched with a visually impaired person).

However, the supervisor of the breeding program decided to test Pecan further to see if she could be a breeder candidate. Breeder dogs go through even more rigorous testing and have to be in perfect health. They only choose the best dogs to breed so their traits will be passed on. It is more difficult for the dogs to pass all the breeder tests than the guide dog tests. Pecan's strong desire to be a working dog, as well as her easygoing, calm disposition made her a perfect candidate to be a breeder.

By mid-September, right before Rosh Hashanah, I was told that Pecan passed all the breeder tests and the Guide Dog Foundation made a decision to breed her instead of making her a guide dog. Although my family is excited that as a breeder dog, Pecan can live with us now permanently (we just bring her to the Guide Dog Foundation when she is in heat for breeding purposes and any puppies she delivers belong to the Guide Dog Foundation), I was disappointed that she would not be a guide dog to help make another person's life easier, improved and more rewarding. However, I am proud that our family was able to complete the program successfully and we quickly made arrangements with the Guide Dog Foundation to raise another puppy – hopefully for just one year – to become a guide dog.

On October 20, 2017, I picked up Audre, a soft, cuddly, smart, sweet 5 month old yellow Labrador and Golden Retriever mix (bred at the Guide Dog Foundation) to join our family for one year. I was told that a second puppy would be easier to train, especially since Pecan would be a good role model to help the new puppy behave properly.

So far, Audre has been a pleasure to teach and I was immediately able to take her to the Supermarket to do my food shopping and she behaved beautifully. Pecan is very kind and loving to Audre and lets her play with all her toys. They love to run around together outside and they follow each other everywhere in the house.

DIANE REIN

SOMEONE TO CARE: REFLECTIONS ON A JOURNEY TO UKRAINE

*By Rebecca Singer, communications officer,
World Jewish Relief*

Kriviy Rih is just a short flight from the UK but you could be forgiven for feeling like you're going back in time to a northern industrial city in the 1970s. Built along a seam of iron ore, the city is more than 100km end to end and is one of the largest centres for mining and steel in Eastern Europe.

The streets and houses are covered in a fine red dust from the open iron-ore mines scattered along the length of the city and our jovial translator, Arkady, tells us it's not unusual for the birds and stray dogs also to turn red, as well as the snow in winter.

Arkady speaks and teaches seven languages and lives in Kriviy Rih with his wife and four children. A warm, dark humoured man, he relates the long history of the city and the struggle to adapt after the fall of the Soviet Union. Life in Eastern Ukraine is hard and after three years of fighting, the conflict is making it increasingly difficult.

As you drive along the potholed roads you pass low rise Soviet era apartment blocks, tired and worn with peeling paint and disheveled windows.

The view from inside is even more depressing with many families and older people living in dilapidated homes, often without proper heating, bathing or cooking facilities. Inflation is high and even affording the basics can be an enormous struggle.

It's no wonder so many of the younger generation have chosen to leave, Arkady tells us, moving away to find



Home care worker Iryna helps her client Lyubov with washing

work in other, more prosperous cities.

We meet some of those who have decided to stay or don't have any other option, supported by a World Jewish Relief programme that helps them get back into the job market or establish their own businesses. It's quite a different experience for the older people in the Jewish community.

Growing older is never easy. Even in the UK, advancing age comes with its challenges. In Ukraine, it can be a constant struggle. With non-existent social services, virtually no state support and no savings, many older people in the Jewish community are having to choose between eating, staying warm and being able to afford to buy medicine.

As well as the physical hardship, many older Jews in Ukraine face crippling loneliness, isolation and depression. Large numbers are widowed and they are often either childless or left behind when family members move away or abroad.

The lucky ones are those we meet in the Jewish Community Centre. A place where they can meet friends, stay warm, sing, dance and join in with the array of social and cultural activities funded by World Jewish Relief. It's older Jews who are unable to get to the centre, for whom life can be even more unbearable.

Unable to leave their homes without support, they're cut off from their friends, family and community. Suffering from illness and often immobile, they are unable to care for themselves and with very few visitors, they have virtually no opportunity to speak to or see their family or friends and depression is frighteningly common.

Living alone in a small, one room rundown apartment is Lyubov Steinbach, 68 years old. She studied languages at University and worked as an English teacher and translator for many years.

Life has been tough for Lyubov. She has had rheumatoid arthritis for many years, which means it's severely painful to even move around her own home and she can't leave her home because getting down the flight of stairs in her block of flats is impossible to manage alone. She has also become blind in one eye.

Lyubov can't take care of herself. Simple tasks like warming up food or pouring a glass of water are impossible for her to do on her own. Bathing, dressing and cooking are unimaginable without someone to help.

Like many older people in Ukraine, she has no children,

family or friends to help care for her, and the cost of hiring help is much too high for state pensioners like Lyubov to afford.

She is terrified of being left alone in her home - being bedridden and without any help, she is certain she would die alone from starvation.

World Jewish Relief's work supporting older people in Eastern Europe helps to ensure that people like Lyubov aren't left alone to cope by themselves. Every day, Lyubov welcomes Iryna into her home. Iryna is home care worker, funded by World Jewish Relief and provided by the local Jewish welfare service, Hesed.

Not too far removed from a fairy godmother, Iryna cooks Lyubov's meals, washes her, does her laundry and cleans her apartment. She'll also do the shopping and deliver food and medicine.

But just as importantly, she provides Lyubov with vital regular companionship, bringing news of family, friends and the wider Jewish community. For Lyubov, this is her only connection to the outside world and without Iryna's visits she wouldn't see anyone for weeks. She can't praise Iryna highly enough.

She talks about looking forward to her visits and continually stresses how she wouldn't have survived had it not been for Iryna and the moral and physical support she provides as a home care worker.

Home care workers enable older Jewish people to retain their dignity and help combat the devastating



Women socialise at a Warm Home

loneliness, fear and isolation they experience on a daily basis. "Because of my pain, I cannot take care of myself. I am so grateful for my home care worker Iryna and for all the things she does for me," says Lyubov. "I'm also grateful for Hesed. Without Hesed's assistance, I could not survive."

To help us provide home care workers for vulnerable older Jews in Eastern Europe, like Lyubov, this Rosh Hashanah, please visit www.worldjewishrelief.org.

If you're interested in travelling to see World Jewish Relief's work in Eastern Europe please get in touch with Rebecca on rebecca@worldjewishrelief.org or 020 8736 1250.

THE **POWER** OF **WORDS** HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY 2018

The theme for HMD 2018 is The Power of Words, which in these days of social media can be a force for both good and bad.

Our main event will be at the BIC on Sunday 28th January from 2.00-4.00. As well as the Act of Commemoration, we will be hearing from a young Syrian child refugee about his life, and our main speaker will be Bilha Weider, who will be telling us the amazing story of her mother, Lily Ebert's, survival and her take on the Power of Words.

As HMD is on a Shabbat, Saturday 27th and the Council Chamber is not available, we are hoping to have

a ceremony at the HMD Memorial near the Cenotaph, starting at the Town Hall car park and walking the short distance to the Memorial, once Shabbat is out.

We are also hoping to stage an exhibit of the artwork produced by the Year 8 students of Cranbourne Middle School as result of having heard Henry Schachter speak

The exhibition will be on at the Library for most of January, but we are still working on the final details of this.

Once the details for these events are completely finalised, we will let you know.

LYNDA FORD HORNE

HEAD & WHEBLE

FUNERAL DIRECTORS & MONUMENTAL MASONS TO
THE BOURNEMOUTH HEBREW CONGREGATION

REGISTRATION & REPATRIATION SERVICE

When a person dies and you are unsure of what to do, especially if they are a member of a burial Society or Synagogue in a different part of the Country or abroad, we can help at any time, Day or Night, 7 days a week, including Bank Holidays, to organise the paperwork, legal Registration of the Death and repatriating the body to where the funeral is to take place

MONUMENTAL MASONS



Beautiful memorials produced in Granite, Marble & Stone, together with a full restoration, lettering and cleaning service.

The selection of a memorial to a loved one is a very personal expression. The greatest of care is taken by our staff when assisting you in making your choice.

With a wide range of designs and materials available your monumental selection will be a wonderful and lasting tribute.



For Professional and compassionate advice & assistance contact
SIMON HEAD DIP FD MBIFD - CATHERINE HEAD

24 HOUR SERVICE - TEL: 01202 551190

1A OXFORD ROAD LANSDOWNE BOURNEMOUTH BH8 8EY FAX: 01202 317456
www.headandwheble.co.uk e-mail: info@headandwheble.co.uk

GIVING WITH CARE

Giving with Care is a gift donation scheme and has been launched by Bournemouth Jewish Social Services. Instead of taking the usual gifts of wine, flowers or chocolates to family and friends on social occasions, these simple gift cards can be used to show your thanks.

They can be personalised for every occasion, and show that a donation has been made to BJSS.

Every donation helps the Bournemouth Jewish Social Services, which is a charity run and staffed by volunteers, trained and supported by Jewish Care.

Your donation will make a huge difference to the lives of our clients, enabling us to provide

the help and care they need in so many ways.

For example:

£5 will provide a supply of essential toiletries

£10 would assist with cleaning requirements

£25 would provide food for Friday night and Shabbat

The cards may be purchased from the offices of BHC, BRS or on request direct from BJSS telephone number 01202 298817.

Payment can be left with the Shul offices in an envelope marked BJSS with a slip inside giving your name as donor or sent directly to the BJSS account, the details of which are printed in the cards.

LEAGUE OF JEWISH WOMEN

I have been to many communal events with speakers, but never to one when the audience was so engaged in the subject that, if time had allowed, almost everyone present would have asked a question or shared a personal experience.

Such was the interactive talk that Ken Cohen, a retiree to Bournemouth some five years ago, delighted Bournemouth League of Jewish Women members and visitors with at a recent Afternoon Tea.

Ken has a wealth of knowledge derived from various occupations he has had. However, his seven years working in data protection gave him the experience for his talk "Hello I'm phoning about your Recent Car Accident".

Ken explained the significance of each of us protecting our personal identity and how important it is to keep personal documents such as birth certificates, utility bills, passports and driving licenses secure and to shred documents no longer needed rather than throw them into the bin.

He also spoke of how easy it was for hackers to get so much information from our computers, tablets and phones and the persuasive methods used by these unscrupulous operators on the telephone to access



(Left to right) Helen Woolf with Ken Cohen and his mother Freda Cohen

personal banking details or technology passwords which could have dire repercussions within minutes.

I particularly remember Ken's advice to have various unusual passwords and use a cross-cut shredder before disposing of any paper receipts or personal documents.

Ken's parting words "Watch out there's a thief about" were certainly food for thought and action..... a Talk to remember followed by a scrumptious Tea prepared by Bournemouth LJW Members. Thanks to you all.

SHIRLEY SHERMAN

Israeli Dancing

Since 2001, 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



Are you clearing out your clutter, downsizing, moving or making aliyah?

Clear your cupboards and give Emunah your unwanted designer goods (bags, shoes, watches & jewellery, china, cutlery and silver) so we can raise funds to feed and clothe Israel's children in need, via our top-rated Ebay site: www.stores.ebay.co.uk/Emunah-Charity-shop



For more information or to arrange collection please call Wendy on 020 8203 6066 or visit www.emunah.org.uk

Follow British Emunah  

www.emunah.org.uk
Registered charity no. 215398

Bournemouth Hebrew Congregation Synagogue



is available for all your simchas.
Hear the Choir every Shabbat Mevarachim in Shul

For more information contact the Shul Office

Wessex Jewish Golf Society

Are you a Skillful Golfer?

Are you an Enthusiastic Golfer?

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
WOULD LIKE TO BE VISITED. BECAUSE
OF DATA PROTECTION LAW, THIS
INFORMATION IS NOT GIVEN TO THE
SYNAGOGUE OR TO OUR TEAMS OF
VISITORS TO THE HOSPITALS.
TO ENSURE THAT EVERYONE
HOSPITALISED IS VISITED PLEASE
PASS ON DETAILS AS SOON AS
POSSIBLE.

Record Collection

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

Shabbatot and Chagim

C U there!



Diary

DECEMBER 2017

- Tuesday 12th 1st night Chanukah.
- Wednesday 13th 1st day Chanukah; light 2nd day candles after nightfall.
CCJ meeting in the Simcha Hall, Bournemouth Reform Synagogue, at 6.30 p.m.
- Thursday 14th 2nd day Chanukah; light 3rd day candles after nightfall.
- Friday 15th 3rd day Chanukah; light 4th day candles before lighting the Shabbat candles. Shabbat candles should be lit at 3.42 pm.
- Shabbat 15th/16th Miketz. Shabbat Chanukah. Shabbat Mevorchim. 4th day Chanukah. Kiddush. Sephardi Minyan. Light 5th day candles after Shabbat terminates, which is at 5.00 pm.
- Saturday 16th Klezmer Evening with supper; 7.00 p.m. in the Menorah Suite.
- Sunday 17th 5th day Chanukah; light 6th day candles after nightfall.
Erev 1st day Rosh Chodesh Tevet.
- Monday 18th 1st day Rosh Chodesh Tevet. 6th day Chanukah; light 7th day candles after nightfall.
- Tuesday 19th 2nd day Rosh Chodesh Tevet. 7th day Chanukah; light 8th day candles after nightfall.
- Wednesday 20th 8th day Chanukah.
- Shabbat 22nd/23rd Vayigash. Coffee and Kichels Kiddush.
- Thursday 28th Fast of Tevet commences at 06.55 am and terminates at 4.57 pm.
- Shabbat 29th/30th Vayechi. Kiddush to celebrate Michael Freedland's Second Barmitzvah.

JANUARY 2018

- Shabbat 5th/6th Shemot. Kiddush to honour the Security Team.
- Wednesday 10th The Crash Course in Torah. Session 1. 2.00 pm in the Menorah Suite.
- Shabbat 12th/13th Va'era. Shabbat Mevorchim. Kiddush.
- Wednesday 17th Rosh Chodesh Shevat. The Crash Course in Torah. Session 2. 2.00 pm in the Menorah Suite.
- Shabbat 19th/20th Bo. Kiddush to honour the Ladies Guild.
- Sunday 21st Stone Setting at Throop at 2.00 pm. The late Hyman Jacob Gollom.
- Wednesday 24th The Crash Course in Torah. Session 3. 2.00 pm in the Menorah Suite.

- Shabbat 26th/27th Beshalach. Shabbat Shira. Kiddush sponsored by Anne Pollard.
- Sunday 28th Holocaust Memorial Day Annual Commemoration: 2.00 – 4.00 pm at the Bournemouth International Centre.
- Wednesday 31st Tu b'Shevat. The Crash Course in Torah. Session 4. 2.00 pm in the Menorah Suite.

FEBRUARY 2018

- Shabbat 2nd/3rd Yitro. Coffee and Kichels Kiddush.
- Wednesday 7th The Crash Course in Torah. Session 5. 2.00 pm in the Menorah Suite.
- Shabbat 9th/10th Mishpatim. Shabbat Shekalim. Shabbat Mevorchim. Kiddush.
- Wednesday 14th Bournemouth Hebrew Ladies' Guild AGM at 10.30 am in the Menorah Suite.
- Thursday 15th 1st day Rosh Chodesh Adar.
- Friday 16th 2nd day Rosh Chodesh Adar.
- Shabbat 16th/17th Terumah. Kiddush to honour the outgoing Executive.
- Sunday 18th SHUL AGM 2.00 p.m. in the Menorah Suite.
- Shabbat 23rd/24th Tetzaveh. Shabbat Zachor. Coffee and Kichels Kiddush.
- Wednesday 28th Fast of Esther commences at 05.50 am and terminates at 6.27 pm. Erev Purim.

MARCH 2018

- Thursday 1st Purim.
- Friday 2nd Shushan Purim.
- Shabbat 2nd/3rd Ki Tissa. Kiddush. Moriah School Shabbaton.
- Shabbat 9th/10th Vayakhel- Pekudei. Shabbat Parah. Shabbat Mevorchim. Kiddush. Yavneh Shabbaton.
- Shabbat 16th/17th Shabbat Rosh Chodesh Nissan. Vayikra. Shabbat HaChodesh. Coffee and Kichels Kiddush.
- Shabbat 23rd/24th Shabbat Hagadol. Tzav. Kiddush to celebrate Evelyn and Michael Grant's Golden Wedding Anniversary.
- Thursday 29th Search for Chametz not before 8.25 p.m.
- Friday 30th Fast of the Firstborn 05.43 a.m.
- Friday 30th Erev Pesach; light candles at 7.17p.m.
- Shabbat 30th/31st First day Pesach. Tal. Light candles for Second day after 8.28 p.m.