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Ruach רוח

The Magazine of Boumemouth Hebrew Congregation

2013

Pesach

5773



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The Best Calendar Event Of The Year

The BJRC Yom Ha'Atzmaut 65th Birthday Celebration

At BHC's Menorah Suite – Glenfern Road



A chance for the entire community to celebrate

Monday April 15th – following the Yom Hazikaron service
8:00pm till late

Tickets - £10 Adults - £5 Students & Children

For reservations or to purchase tickets please contact:

Simon & Lynda – 01202 431 444 or Greg & Elissa – 01202 314 984

Or you can email david@bjrc.co

Traditional Israeli Supper – Music and Dancing

Proceeds from this evening will go to
OPERATION WHEELCHAIRS COMMITTEE

After a car bomb attack in Beersheva, 8 year old Orel, was left partially paralysed.
He now has two special neuromodular devices which enable him to walk.

Editorial

The Editors of Ruach wish the recently elected Executive Committee Mazaltov on their appointment and wish them every success in their endeavours for the Community.

We wish everyone a happy and Kosher Pesach.

CORINNE REIN – Editor
SUE LEE – Assistant Editor

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PLEASE NOTE

Because Rosh Hashanah is at the **beginning of September** articles for publication in Ruach need to be forwarded by **16th July**. This will also include members New Year greetings – the forms for which will be sent to members after Shavuot.

Last date for contributions to Rosh Hashanah Edition 16th July 2013.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

PESACH 5773



My report to the recent Annual General Meeting of the Congregation necessarily contained some unpalatable messages which I hope strike a chord

with our members; in particular, I would emphasise again the need for more people to participate in some form of voluntary activity, and for everyone to make the largest financial contribution which they can afford to support the shul.

It became clear at the AGM that the members had two main areas of concern: religious services and education. Measures have already been taken to introduce some variety into the Shabbat morning service, and our Warden, Bernie Dexter, who chairs the Religious Services committee, will be looking at ways in which we can improve still further. To the extent that "education" refers to kindergarten and Cheder, it is sad to report that we shall shortly see the departure of the last participants, and our overtures to other congregations to consider some form of amalgamation have fallen on deaf ears.

To consider education in a wider context, however, our community does contain several young people of post bar- and bat-mitzvah age for whom little provision has been made in the past. We must face up to the challenge of involving these youngsters (and their parents) in the Shul's activities. To this end, I have expanded the Education portfolio on the Executive Committee to "Education and Youth", and I have asked Brian Bradley to take on this responsibility.

I also highlighted in my report the structural problems which we face with the synagogue complex, and fortunately, Michael Grant has agreed to retain responsibility for the House

committee: I am sure that Mervyn Shaya will provide invaluable support to Michael in addition to working with Geoffrey Feld on the Relocation committee. I am pleased to welcome Leslie Goldstone as a first-time member of the Executive Committee and, recognising his extensive experience in health and safety, he has agreed to take on this responsibility, to which I have added security, in which capacity he will liaise with Melvyn Millin and the security team. Nigel Graham, who did an excellent job on health and safety last year, will assume responsibility for fund-raising and legacies.

With his many years of kosher hotel management experience, Brian Lassman is well-suited to chair the Kashrut committee, and Corinne Rein will continue the Rein family tradition of running Shul-aid with an enthusiastic team. Last but not least, Josie Lipsith, who last year was a co-opted member of the Executive Committee but who is now an elected member, will retain responsibility for Welfare and New Members.

We have a very strong committee, and I thank them in advance for the contribution I am sure they will make to the management of our Congregation. I should also like to thank the unsuccessful candidates for standing for election, and I hope that they will not be deterred from putting themselves forward on a future occasion.

After the negative tone of my earlier comments, it is very encouraging to note that we have had a busy start to the year, with two Shul-aid functions having taken place already, another one which will have happened by the time you read this report, not to mention the Purim seudah and the communal lunch in honour of the President of United Synagogue. We also look forward to another communal seder, which leads me to wish all of our members, their families and friends a

Pesach kasher v'sameach.

HARVEY LIPSITH

A PESACH MESSAGE FROM RABBI ADRIAN JESNER

Even those far from observance know that the reason we eat matzah is that we left Egypt in too much of a hurry to bake the bread. “And they baked the dough that they took from Egypt into matzah cakes, and it had not risen. They were expelled from Egypt and they could not wait; and also, they had not prepared other provisions” (12:39). This idea is reinforced every year at the Seder, where we declare “Matzah (that we eat) for what purpose? Because they did not have enough time for the dough to rise”. As anyone who has witnessed the baking of matzah knows, the operative word is speed.



Yet, as is often the case with our basic assumptions, the complete picture is somewhat more complex. “You shall eat the meat on that night, broiled; with matzah and marror you shall eat it” (12:8). A full two weeks before the Exodus, Moshe prepared the people, giving them a series of instructions (mitzvot) to ensure the viability of the Exodus.

The main highlight is the slaughtering and consumption of the Pascal lamb. This delicacy had to be eaten with the reminders of slavery, that of matzah and marror. And a mere four verses later, the Torah tells us that it is not enough to eat matzah just on the night of the Seder, but “seven days you shall eat matzah”.

It sure seems as if the command to eat matzah is independent of how we left Egypt, and predates the Exodus by at least two weeks. While it is impossible to explain that G-d commanded this based on His knowledge of what would happen, the simple reading of the verses gives no indication of such. Even if that is so, we are left wondering, why give the command now if it is meant as a result of some future event?

The matzah we eat actually seems to have a dual (and contradictory) message. “This is the food of slavery that our ancestors ate in Egypt”. Tasteless and filling, economical to produce and easy to store, it is the ideal food for a slave. While lacking the bitterness of marror—a food they likely did not actually eat in Egypt—matzah reminds us of our years of slavery.

It serves to endure we don’t get carried away eating barbecued lamb chops, and forget the years of hardship. That, in turn, must remind us not to oppress the stranger, “for you were strangers in the land of Egypt”.

Yet matzah is also the food of redemption and freedom, and today, it is the central feature of our most elaborate and joyous meal of the year.

“Matzah - because our ancestors were redeemed from Egypt” (Mishnah Pesachim 10:4).

“And the Jewish people travelled from Rameses to Sukkot” and baked the dough they had brought out of Egypt for their first taste of the matzah of freedom. It was with this food that the Exodus was complete, and that meal marked the end of “the lifestyle that the Israelis endured in Egypt for 430 years”. This social night on which we celebrate with matzah is a permanent *leil shimurim*, a night of protection for the Jewish people.

We are no longer slaves to Pharaoh; we’ve replaced that with joyous servitude to G-d, the greatest freedom man can have. We are not beholden to flesh and blood, but only to the Divine Creator, who created all in His image. We are “slaves” to a G-d Who demands human dignity for all, Who demands that the stranger be protected, Who declares, “One system of justice shall be for you”.

The matzah of freedom and the matzah of redemption may have the same ingredients and a similar taste. But in essence, they could not be more different from one another. The matzah that we were forced to eat in Egypt is now eaten by choice.

Matzah reminds us of both slavery and freedom. We can only appreciate the latter if we still recall the former. We were given two weeks’ notice of the impending Exodus, with the command that we commemorate it by eating matzah. We must never forget what it is like to suffer as slaves. We must ensure that all have freedom. We must convert the matzah of slavery to that of freedom.

I would like to conclude by wishing the new Executive and Board of Management Mazal Tov on their new appointments. To Reverend and Mrs Barry Sklan and all the Office Team and the whole Congregation of Bournemouth Hebrew Congregation, Pamela and I wish you a Chag Kasher V’Sameach.

RABBI ADRIAN JESNER

PESACH MESSAGE FROM REVEREND BARRY SKLAN

Pesach marks a half-way point in our Jewish calendar. Although it comes in the first month of the Jewish year, Nisan, it is actually six months since Rosh Hashanah.

During this month before Pesach we mark almost each Shabbat with special preparations for this important holiday.

For example, there is Shabbat Parah, when we read the additional portion about the very unusual ritual of the red heifer, the PARAH, HA'ADUMAH, the cow that the High Priest sacrificed and whose ashes were then used to purify those made impure via contact with a corpse.

There are several interpretations as to the deeper meaning of this ritual.

The red heifer atonement ritual is meant as an antidote to the sin of EIGEL HA'ATZAHAV, the Golden Calf.

The red cow and the golden cow.

One symbolizing the return to life and G-d's laws, while being purified from contact with death, the other symbolising the seduction of idolatry, the turning to hedonism and anarchy, which voids life of any meaning and leads to a deadening of one's soul.

Why are we being reminded of these two different symbols as we begin our preparations for Pesach?

What do we learn from this contrast that relates to our lives today?

For one, we might think of our whole cleaning process before Pesach as a way of getting rid of the stale, the useless, things that "deaden" our lives.

Both the Red Heifer ritual and the aftermath of the Golden Calf involve making a kind of cleansing solution with water, so we too use water, the symbol of life in Judaism, and other cleansers to wash away the accumulated "dirt" of our surroundings in preparation for Pesach and the coming spring season.

As we prepare for Pesach we look both backwards and forwards.

Looking backwards, the sin of the Golden Calf reminds us of our first major back sliding after leaving Egypt and receiving the Torah.

According to the Midrash (Shemot Rabbah 51:6), the two Divine crowns which each Israelite received at Sinai upon reciting the words "Na-aseh v'nishma - We will do and we will obey" (Shemot 24:7), were then removed from each person and human mortality was reinstated.

Looking forward the red heifer ritual confronts the mystery of death, but, as Rashi explains in his comment on the three features of this special cow, the word "perfect" alludes to the Israelites loss of perfection through the Golden Calf sin. "Let this come and atone for them so they can regain their perfection".

Yes there is hope that we can regain that state of spiritual perfection, *if* we are willing to give up the "golden calves" in our lives and follow the ethical teachings of the Torah.

Follow the "red cow" practices which restore us to life.

Keeping the symbolism of these two cows in mind is especially important at this half-way point in the Jewish year.

It **IS** time to take stock of where we are going, of what has happened since we began the process of *teshuva* six months ago at Rosh Hashanah, of turning from old habits, thoughts, and actions that were not the expression of the best of ourselves.

Have we made any progress in these changes that we foresaw in ourselves or have we slid back into the old habits?

Before we can really make the Seder or taste that first bit of matzah we need to do our own spiritual house cleaning. And even if we do not succeed in cleaning up every single crumb in our lives, we need to try for the ones we surely can pick up and discard.

Let us do the cleaning that will help us reach next Rosh Hashanah having made major strides and *moved!!!* forward in the improvement of our lives and in those of the others to whom we are connected.

Angela and I wish Rabbi and Rebbetzen Jesner, the Executive and all our Congregation at BHC a Chag Kasher v'sameach.



REVEREND BARRY SKLAN
(Assistant Minister)

Bournemouth Hebrew Congregation Synagogue



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CHIEF RABBI

CHIEF RABBI'S PESACH MESSAGE 5773

The Seder opens with a strange declaration: "This is the bread of affliction our ancestors ate in the land of Egypt. Let all who are hungry come and eat." What kind of generosity is it to invite strangers to eat the bread of affliction?

In my Haggadah I offered a radical interpretation. We find that in the course of the seder two conflicting interpretations are given of matzah. At the beginning, it is called the bread of affliction, the food of slaves. Later, however, we speak of it as the bread of freedom that our ancestors ate as they were leaving Egypt in such a hurry that there was no time for the dough to rise.

How does affliction turn into freedom? When we share our bread with others. I learned this from the harrowing account of the last days of the Second World War by one of the survivors of Auschwitz, Primo Levi. Levi writes in *If This is a Man*, that the hardest time was the ten days between the evacuation of the camp by the Nazis and the arrival of the Russian army.

The only people left in the camp were prisoners deemed too ill to take part in the "death march" as the Germans left. It was bitterly cold, mid-January. There was no electricity, no heat, and no meals. Levi and a friend were digging desperately in the frozen earth, trying to find vegetables, when they were observed by a fellow prisoner who invited them to share the food he had found.

At that moment, writes Levi, we ceased being prisoners and became free human beings again. As long as the Nazis were in power, it was suicidal to share your food with a fellow prisoner. You would starve. This first act of generosity, of empathy and altruism, was the sign that the survivors had recovered their humanity. When we share our bread with others, it ceases to be the bread of affliction and becomes the bread of freedom.

We are, thankfully, a very long way from that particular Egypt, but the principle remains. There are Jews and non-Jews today who live in poverty, in Britain, in Israel and elsewhere. Let us do what we can to help them. In the last month of his life Moses warned the Israelites – children of the people he had led to freedom – that the biggest challenge they would face would be not poverty but affluence, not affliction but freedom.

When we are affluent we tend to forget about others. Affluent societies throughout history have tended to become self-centred and individualistic. People lose the sense of solidarity they had when they and their friends and neighbours were poor. The Jewish answer to this has always been tzedakah, giving to others, and hachnassat orchim, hospitality to others.

So, before Pesach, the custom was to give ma'ot chittim, money to those who lacked it, so that they could buy the requisites for the Seder meal. I can still remember from my childhood how my late grandmother, who ran the Frumkin's wine shop in London's Commercial Road, would give away free bottles of wine to all needy

Jews in the East End so that they and their families would have their four cups for Seder night.

Please this year make sure that you give tzedakah to those in need. The move from affliction to freedom begins in the act of sharing our blessings with those who have less than us.

This is the last year that I will write a Pesach message as Chief Rabbi. The words I most want to say are simple thanks for the privilege of serving this great community these past twenty-two years. In that time Jewish life has been renewed in ways none of us thought possible. There are more Jewish schools, more Jewish learning, more cultural activities and outstanding welfare facilities than have ever existed in British Jewry since the return of Jewish life in 1656.

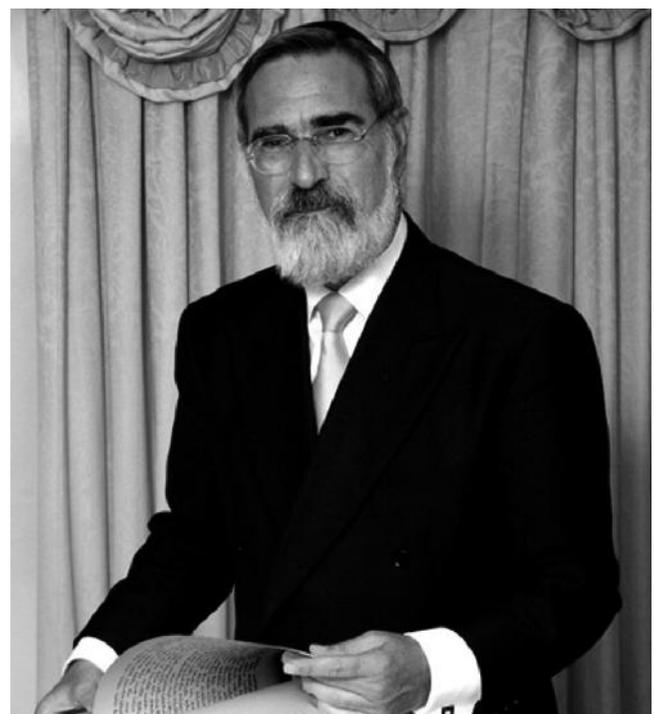
As I wish my distinguished successor, Rabbi Ephraim Mirvis, every blessing, I want to thank you for all you have done to bring about this renaissance. May our children and grandchildren go further still, and may our re-invigorated community bring blessings to all its members and nachat ruach, delight, to Heaven itself.

Wishing you all a chag kasher vesameach.



CHIEF RABBI LORD SACKS

Pesach 5773



OUR NEW BOARD OF MANAGEMENT 2013 - 2014

Following the Synagogue AGM held on Sunday 10th February in the Menorah Suite.

Senior Trustee/ Hon Life President	Harry Ellis	President	Harvey Lipsith
Hon Life President	John Kasmir	Hon Life President/ Vice President	Ivor Weintroub
Hon Life President	Sam Marks	Warden	Bernie Dexter (Religious Services Responsibility)
Trustee	Geoffrey Feld		
Trustee	Stephen H White		

Executive Committee

Brian Bradley	Education & Youth	Josie Lipsith	Welfare & New Members
Leslie Goldstone	Health & Safety and Security Liason	Mervyn Shaya	Relocation Project
Nigel Graham	Fundraising & Legacies	Corinne Rein	Shulaid
Michael Grant	House	Spencer Nathan Nadine Woodward	Board of Deputies Representatives
Brian Lassman	Kashrut		



Harry Ellis



John Kasmir



Sam Marks



Geoffrey Feld



Stephen H White



Harvey Lipsith



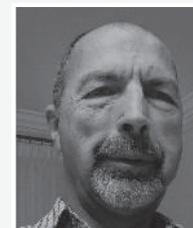
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Nigel Graham



Michael Grant



Brian Lassman



Josie Lipsith



Mervyn Shaya



Corinne Rein



Spencer Nathan



Nadine Woodward

INTERVIEW OF CHIEF RABBI LORD JONATHAN SACKS *By Oliver Rein*

Oliver: We don't have a Chief Rabbi here in America, what does that mean? What kinds of things do you do?

Lord Sacks: I am kind of an ambassador for Jews. I represent the Jewish community vis-a-vis the outside world, the government, the other religious leaders, the Royal Family, the media and internally. I'm kind of a Rabbi's Rabbi. So I induct all new Rabbis, I go and visit all the Shuls, and I am the head of the Beth Din.

Oliver: How did you become a Lord? What are some of the best things about being a Lord?

Lord Sacks: Well, there is no way you become a Lord, they just choose you. There is no route - you don't get elected to it. I became a Lord, not because I was Chief Rabbi, but because I got involved in national debates about moral issues.

Oliver: What does it mean to be a Lord?

Lord Sacks: It means that I am part of the government. The House of Lords is the upper chamber, like what you call your upper chamber... the Senate. It is like being a Senator. The House of Lords functions throughout the week. I go there when I can. I speak at debates there. It is a very unusual house because there are not that many second chambers like it. So, everyone there has an enormous amount of expertise. So if a scientist gets up he is probably one of the world's great scientists, or if somebody is involved in sports he might be the head of this association. It has a lot of concentrated experience and wisdom, which means that the quality of the debates is very considerable. I usually speak on the general debates because I don't really think I have a role in examining legislation, but that is what the House does. Every law has to go through the House of Lords just to be scrutinized and they make changes and send it back, but I don't do much of that.

Oliver: Have you ever met the Queen or any other members of the Royal Family? What are they like in person?

Lord Sacks: Many, many times. I gave the Queen a menorah for one of her anniversaries. We know Prince Charles very well. Prince Philip we know well and they are very, very lovely people. Very supportive of the Jewish community and they come to things that we ask them to come to. Prince Philip will come to open a school, Prince Charles will come to events that we do and they are really very good and it is quite nice to have a relationship.

Oliver: What is your favorite Jewish holiday and why?

Lord Sacks: Jewish holiday? They are all wonderful, aren't they? You cannot separate them out. You really can't. So I just take the one that I'm writing a Machzor for at the moment. So I've just finished the Pesach one. But I do not have a favorite Jewish holiday. They are all special.

Oliver: What did you want to be when you were growing up?



Lord Sacks: I had three ambitions when I was going up. I wanted to be either an academic, a professor or a fellow of my Cambridge College, or an economist or a barrister. Do you know what a barrister is? It is a lawyer who appears in court. I didn't want to become a Rabbi, that wasn't one of my ambitions. Then I met some people, the Lubavitcher Rebbe, who persuaded me to become a Rabbi. But in the end I achieved all the other ambitions as well, because I got to be a professor, I got to be a Fellow at my Cambridge College, I got to give the top two economics lectures in Britain, and they made me an honorary barrister. So I got all of the ambitions.

Oliver: What was your favorite subject in school?

Lord Sacks: Well, I was really a mathematician in school.

Oliver: Who is your favorite person in the Tanach?

Lord Sacks: Well, I like the ones who struggled. I like Moshe Rabeinu and Yermiyahu. Because out of struggle comes a certain kind of greatness. And Moshe Rabeinu and Yermiyahu both had big emotional turmoil and they came through. And who is yours?

Oliver: Mine would be Avraham.

Lord Sacks: Why is that? Because he was the first?

Oliver: No, because when everyone was bad around him he was the only one to stay good.

Lord Sacks: Well, I think that is a really good choice. Really good.

Oliver: What are some of the most interesting Jewish communities you have visited?

Lord Sacks: I find the slightly isolated ones really interesting. Hong Kong, Perth in Australia which is a very long way from anywhere else.

Oliver: Thank you so much for your time.

Oliver Rein is 11 years old and a 6th grade student at Ramaz Middle School, New York. This interview took place on Friday, November 30, 2012 at the home of Rabbi Dale and Ellen Polakoff in Great Neck, Long Island. (Oliver is the son of Diane and David Rein and the grandson of Corinne and Howard Rein). Reproduced by kind permission of Scope, the magazine of Great Neck Synagogue.

Adult Education Spring Term - April to July 2013

Mondays at 8.00 p.m.

(except Sunday 14 July at 8.00 p.m.)

In the Murray Muscat Centre, Glen Fern Road, Bournemouth

Admission free – all welcome

April 15	No session. BHC Yom Ha'atzmaut event
April 22	Day after Board of Deputies Regional Weekend in Bournemouth
April 29	No session. Sunday is Lag Ba'omer
May 6	Bank holiday
May 13	No session. Tuesday is Erev Shavuot

**The Parkes Institute for
Jewish/ non-Jewish Relations
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Lecture Series Summer 2013***

Images of Jewish Identity 1

**May 20 Prof Joachim Schlör
Modern Photography in
Tel-Aviv**

May 27 Bank Holiday

**June 3 Professor Tony Kushner
Racing against time:
Harold Abrahams,
Jewishness and Englishness**

**June 10 Dr. Tom Plant
British Jewish Youth
Movements**

**June 17 Dr. Helen Spurling
The Significance of the
Bible in Jewish Culture**

**June 24 Rabbi Adrian Jesner
The Three Weeks**

Images of Jewish Identity 2

**July 1 Leon Taylor
Every picture tells a story**

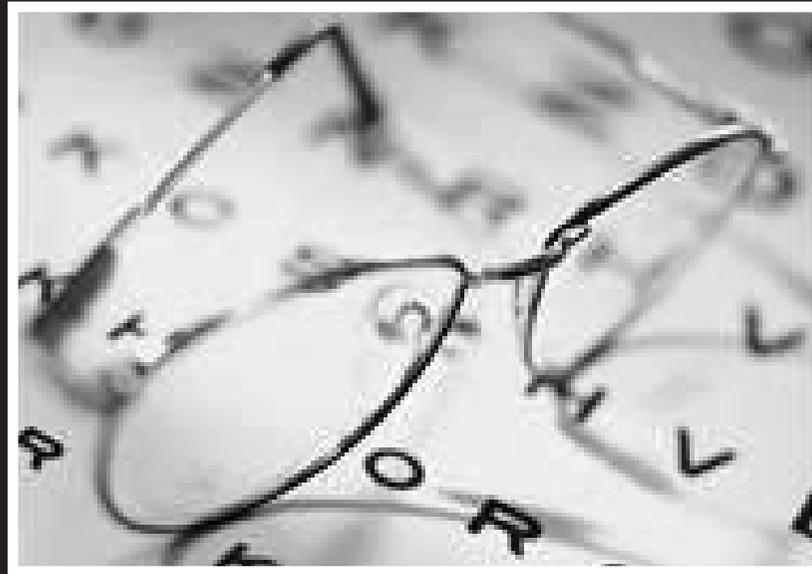
**July 8 Film (60 minutes)
Chagall**

**Sunday July 14 Michael Freedland
interviews Solomon (Momy) Levy,
Gibraltar's first non-parliamentary mayor
Man on the Rock**

**July 15 erev Tisha Be'av
Synagogue service: Megillah
reading of Lamentations**

Suggestions for topics and offers of papers for autumn term 2013 which commences on Monday 2 September 2013 will be most welcome.
I can be contacted at spencer.nathan@lineone.net or contact the Synagogue Office.

SPENCER NATHAN
(Adult Education organiser)



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BOARD OF DEPUTIES WEEKEND

Friday April 19 to Sunday April 21

The Board of Deputies of British Jews exists to promote and defend the religious and civil liberties of British Jewry. As the community's democratically elected cross-communal organisation, the Board connects with Government, media and wider society, providing a unique means through which all British Jews can be heard and represented.

Every year, the Board of Deputies holds a regional weekend, reflecting the reality that it is a national organisation with around one third of all Jews living outside the metropolis. Next month Bournemouth will have the privilege of hosting the annual meeting and it will be an opportunity for you to meet deputies from all parts of the U.K. and to participate in its activities, including all the meals, entertainment and Sunday plenary session.

Both BHC and BRS are represented at the Board and the Sephardim, Masorti and Liberal Judaism are represented nationally. The outline programme is as follows:

■ Friday

Friday evening services. Please contact your organisation for starting time.

8p.m. A traditional Friday night meal at BHC;

■ Shabbat

Shabbat morning services. Please see BJRC website or contact your

organisation direct for starting times The President, Vivian Wineman, will address the congregation at BHC and the senior vice-President, Laura Marks, will address the congregation at BRS;

1p.m. – Shabbat lunch at BHC;

4p.m. – Guided tour of Russell Cotes Art Gallery and Museum (provisional);

7.30p.m. – Seudah at Simcha Hall, BRS; havdalah led by Vivien Wineman at the termination of Shabbat; followed by light entertainment.

Sunday

11a.m. – BoD plenary session at the Queens Hotel.

1.30p.m. – Sandwich lunch at BHC

2.30. – BoD plenary session at Queens Hotel

4p.m. – End of meeting.

This is an opportunity for everyone in Bournemouth to see the Board of Deputies in action and to find out about its full range of activities.

Attendance at both the Sunday morning and Sunday afternoon plenary sessions at the Queens Hotel is free but all the meals, whether purchased individually or as a package, are chargeable and will be collected by the Synagogue.

The Board of Deputies looks forward to welcoming you and participating in the weekend events.

SPENCER NATHAN
(Deputy for BHC)



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INTRODUCING TONY NAIRN FROM WALTHAMSTOW TO WATFORD TO BOURNEMOUTH

– HOW I NEARLY BECAME RABBI ANTHONY NARINSKY

Well, how did it all start? I have to go back to the beginning. I was born in University College Hospital London in 1947. My Parents lived in an apartment in Mornington Crescent with my Aunt and Grandmother (that's my late mother's sister and mother). My Father changed his name from Narinsky to Nairn.

When I was 2 years old, my father was offered a new business venture in Canada and we all uprooted to Toronto. We lived in a very nice apartment and, a year later, according to my Mother, the business collapsed and my father deserted us. To this day, I have never seen him. I do not know whether he is dead or alive. Mother and Aunt had to go to work and I went of course, to school. I was very happy there, but in 1955 when I was seven years old, Mum could not carry on anymore and wanted to return to England. We all came back by steamship and with a help of a cousin living in Manor House London, we moved into a house in Walthamstow, where I was to live for 17 years.

Life was very tough. Mum and Aunt went to work doing Dressmaking and Waist coat making respectively. I had a very unhappy time. Mum was the youngest of the daughters and I used to get up for school in the mornings and hear her arguing with my Nan, a regular occurrence. I could not get out of the house quick enough. The best thing Mum ever did was to join the local Synagogue - Walthamstow and Leyton Hebrew Congregation, Boundary Road. I joined the Cheder at the age of 8 where Reverend Gordon, the Minister, taught me to read Hebrew which I picked up very quickly. He died shortly after that and along came two men who very nearly changed my life – Rabbi Salasnik (Meir Salasnik's father) and Reverend Levinson from the Hull Hebrew congregation. Reverend Levinson came originally from Lithuania and he was a great Chazzan, not with such a wonderful voice, but a great Bal Tefillah. Cheder was 4 days a week, Sunday, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday and I therefore went straight from School to Cheder, a mile ride on the Trolley bus. It kept me out of the house. Mum did not take too much interest in the Shul but she did keep a Kosher home. We used to get the Chicken delivered from the East End every Thursday by Solly who came by on his way home from the East End to Ilford. I went to Shul regularly on Friday nights and Shabbat mornings because I loved it and also I found it to be a sanctuary from the dramas and traumas of home. I used to walk back with Rabbi Salasnik. Reverend Levinson lived in the Shul House opposite.



I did very well at Cheder and was always at or near the top of every Class even when Meir Salasnik (The Rabbi at Bushey Shul) was in my class. Meir was a few years below me in School and never showed signs of wanting to follow in his father's footsteps. I played football for my school and six of us including me had a trial with West Ham United. We all failed miserably (dribbling if I remember). Just as well, I was going down a different road. I studied with Reverend Levinson even after Cheder and I watched and studied him dovening in Shul. He used to take the Shacharit and Musaph services as well as leyn.

At the age of eleven I could not wait to learn for my Barmitzvah and in the end I taught myself.

We also had Seudah Shlishit on Shabbat evening and Reverend Levinson used to take a barmitzvah class in the afternoon, so naturally I used to get there early. He always had about 6 or 7 boys and he used to ask me to sit with some of them and listen to them and correct them. I was teaching Barmitzvah boys before I was barmitzvah! I eventually had my own to learn and read the whole Sedra and Haphtarah.

I continued studying with Reverend Levinson and he became the father I did not have, even though my Mother remarried in 1964. My stepfather died 4 years later in 1968.

At 20 I was happy doing what young boys did then, but I was devoted to Shul and study. Reverend Levinson was my hero and I was always available to help out and study with him. I took services, and he was happy for me to take them and I taught barmitzvah too. I eventually got the opportunity to take part of the High Holiday services and once, when I stepped down from the Bimah, I saw a tear in

Continued on next page

Continued from previous page

his eye.

In 1970 I was aged 23, studying Accountancy and working for a firm of accountants in London. One Shabbat Afternoon in Shul, studying with Reverend Levinson, he said to me, "Anthony, you could make a good Rabbi or Chazzan if you want to take a major stage further by going to Jews College and studying. Would you like do this?" I could just imagine telling Mum that I wanted to become a Rabbi. "What sort of job is this for a nice Jewish Boy?" she would say.

I replied to Reverend Levinson that I wanted to know what was required of me, but deep down inside me, I knew what was coming! He said, "Anthony, before you go to Jews College, you will have to give up two things."

"You must stop going dancing on Saturday night or any night." I thought again, thought of my friends and I knew I would not lose them and replied "yes" I can do this.

"Anthony, you must cut your hair."

As soon as the words came out, a shudder went right through me. You see I had beautiful long black hair down to my shoulders. The late George Harrison would have been very proud of me. Cutting my hair would have destroyed me; you see I thought long hair was forever. Little did I know by the early eighties, people were having really short hair. I thought about my girlfriends, my mates, and I replied, "This is going to be very difficult for me". What a pity the remake of "The Jazz Singer" came out 10 years later, I could have been Walthamstow's own Neil Diamond. So at that point, that defining moment in my life, I declined and carried on but that yearning to become a Rabbi haunted me a lot of the time. That's why Meir Salasnik became a Rabbi and I didn't. He had the real conviction and the want to do it.

As one of the lines of the famous song "Margaritaville" by Jimmy Buffet goes "Some people claim that there's a woman to blame" because along came Ros in 1971, and I fell in love and that was it for the moment. Ros, you are not to blame!



We married on 20 May 1973 in Walthamstow Shul, Rabbi Salasnik senior, married us and Reverend Levinson was the Chazzan under the Chupah. The last thing Ros wanted, was to become a Rebbetson.

Leaving Walthamstow Shul was a wrench but we ended up buying a house in Watford because we could not afford to buy a house in Ilford or Edgware. My Cousins, Susie and Clive Walters, lived in

Watford and Clive took me to Watford Shul the first Friday we moved in.

I remember seeing many people who have since passed on. Bobby Hill was the minister and they could see I was quite able and learned. I took the services the next Friday night and

most of Watford knows the rest of the story. But it's those feelings that kept coming back.

When I took services in particular on High Holidays, they kept coming back; when I taught all those Watford Boys barmitzvah in the 70's and 80's, they kept coming back.

When Reverend Levinson died in 1991, I was shattered. It was like losing a father but I tried to keep his memory going by dovening the way he did. I regretted not making that decision to become a Rabbi in 1970. He was very proud of me but would have been even prouder.

I know I could have made a better Rabbi than an Accountant and those feelings kept coming back, even when our eldest daughter Hayley passed away in 2005 after a long illness, many people in our position would have lost faith, denounced religion, but with me, I gained stronger faith and thought again, is it too late to sacrifice everything? The answer was inevitably, "yes". I had to think of both Ros and Melissa and we all had to work through this terrible tragedy together and we still are.

Sadness's are forever and the pain is unforgiving, so we are learning to live with them but never forget them. I am thankful with what I have in two beautiful grandchildren. Hayley's Stained Glass Window in Watford Synagogue always inspires me .

On reflection, and from a religious perspective, I think I had given Watford, the next best thing without being a Rabbi. We have had many great ministers in Watford. Bobby Hill, Jeffery Toretzky, the Late Rabbi Ehrman, Daniel Roselaar, Barry Lerer and Ephraim Levine.

So despite serving on the board for over 35 years, mostly as Warden, U.S. Bal Musaph on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur for 30 of those years, Chairman for 4 years when we built the new Shul in 1992, we decided in 2011 that it was time to think for ourselves. With Melissa and our Grandchildren living in Leicester, we decided to sell the house and move from Watford. We had always enjoyed holidays in Bournemouth with the family, so the only place we thought we could be happy and at peace was Bournemouth.

Sunny Bournemouth, a nice permanent rest, but oops!!, spoke to soon. Walked into Shul, tried to keep a low profile about dovening and layening, but no, somehow, you just get eventually found out in the end. Oh well, no change here then.

Firstly, Ros and I rented in Branksome Park from October until we purchased Keythorpe on the East Cliff in June 2012.

However, just think of it. I could have been Rabbi Anthony Narinsky of the Watford and District Synagogue and if Watford had wanted me, the difference is, I probably would have stayed!

Now I am here in Bournemouth so who knows what the future holds.

All I know, It's been quite a journey!

A Chag Sameach and happy Passover to you all.

TONY NAIRN

“THE ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE 2012” – FEATURING ‘THE MAN WHO NEVER WAS!’

It is only on very rare occasions that we make a return into the capital. Like so many others, we prefer the sedate clime of our beloved Bournemouth. But there is one date of the year when we up ourselves, so-to-speak, and take a coach trip to London. This is when we have our early appointment at The University College Hospital, to where Anita has been looked after for the past 30 years since that unfortunate period when she was diagnosed with breast cancer, but by the grace of the almighty G-d, and the excellent skill and care of Mr Bailey, Dr Godley and Dr Blackman of the University College Hospital, she has survived to tell the tale.

This year was going to be special for the new university College Hospital McMillan Cancer Centre was now open, with high expectations of grandeur, top quality equipment and continued expertise. So with apprehension that befits all hospital appointments, plus a little excitement of our new venue, we booked our coach tickets, packed our egg sandwiches, thermos and cakes etc, and set off to catch the 7.10 am coach to Victoria on the morning of Wednesday July 18 last year for our 11.30 am appointment with our good friend Dr Blackman who always looks forward to his bottle of plonk!!

Our timing was perfect arriving at our destination at approx 11.00 am to be greeted by this very magnificent state of the art building that oozed splendour and gracefulness, its all glass structure gleaming from the bright light streaming through its windows. We promptly signed in at this computerised object similar to those that are now part of doctor’s surgeries and sat down on plush leather armchairs to begin watching with other giant screens that were conveying information letting one know when it was their turn.

Time passed in a relaxed manner as we watched our television station showing us that Professor Tobias’s clinic was running 1 hour late, or Dr Marshall’s 40 minutes behind schedule, but from Dr Blackman’s – not a mention. Time continued on its merry way, names flashing up on the screen

in rapid fashion, but for us not even a glimmer of hope. 12.30 came and passed and we began to get worried. By 1.30, enough was enough. We sauntered over to the reception making our fears known, to which the computer’s reply was that Dr Blackman still had other patients in front of us and that we would be seen eventually – who dares to argue with a computer?? By 2.00 pm we felt it best to converge onto the 1st Floor where the clinics were in operation, we stated our own reasons for our intrusion to be told that Dr Blackman hadn’t shown up that morning and that his clinic had been cancelled. “Oh my God”, cried the lady at reception, “nobody has told the computer!” (Modern technology teething troubles for you!)

Well, to cut a long story short, we were eventually seen by Professor Tobias who kindly interrupted his lunch break and delayed his afternoon lectures to give Anita the once over with the good news that all was fine and to come back again next year. Hopefully by then Dr Blackman would have returned and his clinic running smoothly with no more ‘high-tech hiccups’!

We now have an appointment for Dr Blackman’s clinic on July 24 this year at the same time of 11.30 am. So once again we shall be making our annual pilgrimage, book our coach tickets, pack our sandwiches plus other nosh and nick-nacks, not forgetting that bottle of plonk!, and catch our usual coach, G-d help the devil if again he doesn’t turn up! We will ask for a transfer!, but to where? Bournemouth, Christchurch or Poole Hospital (that would be nice), no, why rock the boat, take it on the chin, make a trip to ‘Madame Tussauds’ and step, into the real fantasy topsy-turvy world. Boy, were we fuming!

Incidentally the lovable Professor Tobias is perhaps known to many in Bournemouth for his late Mother, Sylvia Tobias resided for many years on the East Cliff area before moving back to London.

Wishing all readers a Happy and Kosher Pesach!

N.B. How wonderful to read that a new breast cancer drug is now on the market. ‘Penjeta’ a new drug that could boost survival rates for thousands of women with aggressive forms of breast cancer. Trials have shown that this drug could be more effective than chemotherapy or Herceptin, the drug currently offered, by the grace of G-d Almighty, may all forms of medical treatment continue to help the medical profession in their lifetime mission on behalf of society.

DERRICK COHEN

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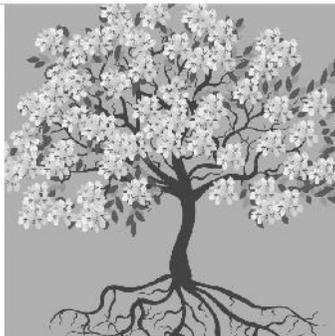
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★ ★ MAZALTOV ★ ★

To Jed Avissar on your Barmitzvah Shabbat
– 16th February 2013.



To Chloe Cass on your Barmitzvah – 9th March 2013.

Chloe was born in Bournemouth and has a brother, Ollie and a sister, Emily who both had their Bar and Bat Mitzvah's here. Her great great grandfather was one time president of the BHC., and her Grandparents, parents married here. Chloe attends Bournemouth Collegiate. She is very keen on sport and is under 13 Dorset Table Tennis Champion. She plays, netball, badminton and now rows for the school.

Personal

LEVEIN – Minette Levein thanks Rabbi Jesner and all her friends for their kindness during her recent illness.

SKLAN – Barry Sklan would like to thank all those who telephoned or sent cards during his recent "recharge", and a special mention of thanks for the fruit and the cake (you know who you are!!).

WEITZMAN – Avis Weitzman thanks everyone who enquired, visited, sent cards and good wishes for my post- operative recovery. I appreciate all your kindness and support (and the yummy food!) I am pleased to report that I am feeling much better.

SHOP & SWAP FOR EMUNAH

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.

PESACH RECIPES FROM DENISE

■ Coconut & Cranberry Chocolate Slices

If you are looking for a quick, family favourite cake for Passover, this has to be the one. It is ideal for the matza ramble, packed lunch or mid-morning treat with a cup of coffee. In addition it contains no nuts! Just mix all the ingredients together in one bowl and transfer to a baking tray... what could be easier! I have used dried cranberries but if you prefer chopped apricots or raisins can be substituted.

NB: For a short cut with the chocolate, use plain chocolate drops which makes it parev too!

Desiccated coconut is the coconut meat that has been shredded or flaked and dried to remove as much moisture as possible. Dried coconut can be coarse or fine and should be stored in a cool dry dark place out of the sun light whereas fresh coconut needs to be kept in the fridge or freezer to keep it fresh.

■ **Preparation Time:** 10 minutes ■ **Cooking Time:** 30 minutes
■ **Makes:** 16 slices

■ Ingredients

300g desiccated coconut, 75g caster sugar, 2 tablespoons fine matza meal, 200g white or dark chocolate – roughly chopped or chocolate drops, 75g dried cranberries, 6 eggs.



■ Method

- 1) Pre-heat the oven to: 180°C / 350°F / Gas mark 4.
- 2) Line a 20 cm x 30 cm baking tray with baking parchment.
- 3) In a large bowl, mix the coconut, sugar, matza meal, chocolate, cranberries and eggs until well combined.
- 4) Bake for 20 minutes until golden brown and set.
- 5) Cool in the tin before slicing.

■ Passover Apple Squares

I am always looking for something different to cook over Passover that is quick and tasty to make. I find that Apple recipes are always popular, especially if they are parev and can be made in advance. This recipe is similar to apple clafoutis, a cake mixture cooked in an egg and matzah meal batter. Pears and fresh apricots could be substituted should you prefer.

Note that this recipe has the advantage of being Nut Free. At Pesach, I feel especially sorry for anyone with nut allergies, because so many recipes, whether sweet or savoury, use nuts. Serve this recipe in squares and it is delicious for tea or as a dessert during Passover.

■ **Preparation Time:** 20 minutes ■ **Cooking Time:** 45 minutes
■ **Makes:** 16 squares

■ Ingredients

1 tablespoon margarine – to grease the tin, ½ teaspoon salt, 120ml vegetable oil, 200g fine matzo meal or cake meal, Zest and juice of 1 lemon, 5 eggs separated, 2 large dessert apples, peeled, cored and thinly sliced, 225g sugar, 2 teaspoons ground cinnamon.

■ Method

- 1) Pre-heat the oven to 190°C / 375°F / Gas mark 5.
- 2) Line the base of a 20 cm / 8 inch square tin and grease the sides.
- 3) Combine sugar, cinnamon, salt and matzo meal.
- 4) Add eggs yolks, oil and zest and juice of the lemon and whisk



- together until the mixture is thick.
- 5) Whisk the egg whites in a separate clean bowl until stiff. Combine the egg whites into the egg yolk mixture.
- 6) Pour half of this batter into a greased tin. Cover batter with thinly sliced apples. Sprinkle with remaining batter.
- 7) Bake for 45 minutes in the pre heated oven until the mixture is firm and set in the middle.
- 8) Cool completely before cutting into squares.

To serve the stylish way: Stack up the squares up high and dust with icing sugar.

PESACH RECIPES FROM DENISE

■ Rustic Lemon Macaroons

Biscuits of all shapes, flavour and sizes are most welcome at Pesach. The Italians make a biscuit called 'Ricciarelli' which originate from the Tuscan city of Siena during the 14th Century. These are a twist on our traditional Pesach macaroon biscuits. I like to follow the classic method of toasting and grinding my own almonds but for a short cut buy ready ground. Shape into oval, diamond or circle shaped biscuits and leave for 4 hours in a fridge before baking. The rough and cracked surface gives a rustic appearance and is lightly sprinkled with icing sugar to complete the look!

- **Preparation Time:** 10 minutes plus 4 hours
- **Cooking Time:** 10 – 15 minutes ■ **Makes:** About 24

■ Ingredients

250g peeled almonds –toasted and ground, 180g icing sugar, ½ teaspoon baking powder, Zest of 1 lemon, 1 tablespoon potato flour, 200g ground almonds, 2 large egg whites, Juice of ½ lemon, Bowl of icing sugar – for dusting

■ Method

- 1) In a large mixing bowl, combine the dry ingredients.
- 2) In a separate bowl, whisk the egg whites until they reach stiff peaks and then fold in using a metal spoon. Stir in the lemon juice. The dough will feel slightly sticky and heavy.
- 3) With wet hands, take an olive size piece of dough and shape



into diamond shape by pinching the sides and then roll into a shallow bowl of icing sugar.

- 4) Flatten with a fork and transfer to a tray lined with baking parchment paper.
- 5) Cover and refrigerate for 4 hours.
- 6) Preheat the oven to 150°C/ 300°F/ Gas mark 3.
- 7) Bake for 10-15 minutes or until they turn golden brown. Leave to cool on a rack.
- 8) Store in an air tight container for 4- 5 days or freeze.



Date On A Plate

This is a really successful format for meeting new people – six men & six women learn to cook a three-course meal, and then eat it!

- Sun 14 April: Age: 40 –55 Gourmet Greek
- Sun 21 April: Age: 30 – 45 A Taste of Italy
- Sun 28 April: Age: 26 -30 Lebanese
- Sun 5 May: Age: 50 – 60 Fancy Fusion
- Sun 12 May: Age: 40-50 Shavuot Special
- Sun 26 May: Age: 28–38 Classy Caribbean
- Sun 9 June Age: 35-50 Sensational Summer



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NEW CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE INDISPENSABLE MINYAN MEN

(Who keep the weekday services going all year round)

- *These new rules come into effect from 1 April 2013.*
- *If you are ill there is no sick pay. 4 week's notice is required if you are going to be off for illness. Sick notes will be required.*



- *No more than one week's unpaid holiday may be taken at any one time.*

- *Holiday bookings must be cleared with the wardens in advance. Upon your return from holiday you must come direct from the airport to the Shul in time for morning or evening services just in case a top up is required for a minyan*
- *If you are retired you must not be late for the minyan otherwise a deduction will be made from your pay cheque.*



- *A new sign in and sign out register will be implemented to be used to check your attendance.*
- *Those who attend once a month are exempt because it will be assumed that you are already off for illness or holiday and the attendance register will be marked accordingly.*

PLEASE SIGN THE REGISTER!

YOU MIGHT ENJOY THIS AS A JOKE, BUT IT IS NO JOKE. A ROTA IS VITAL TO KEEP OUR DAILY MINYANIM GOING. PLEASE INDICATE YOUR AVAILABILITY.

Thank you
RABBI ADRIAN JESNER

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PRESENTATION OF NEW MEGILLAT ESTHER TO SHUL

The Table Tennis Group meets in the Gertrude Preston Hall on Mondays between 10am and 12.30pm. We have two tables and our average attendance is around fifteen.

Since its earliest inception it has been a sociable event, and now it is followed by a Ladies Bridge group which takes place in the same venue until 4.30pm.

With the weekly subscriptions from both groups we have managed to support different charities and have made presentations to the Shul.

This now includes a new Megillah which was formally presented to the Shul this Purim before the reading of the Megillah after Shabbat.

You are always welcome to join us for an occasional or regular game.

VICKY COHEN
(Co-ordinator)



Rev Barry Sklan, Rabbi Adrian Jesner and Mrs Vicky Cohen

THE FOUR SONS

Jamie Rubinstein, aged 11 together with three of his friends, George Rosenfeld, aged 13, Asher Levy, aged 14, and Noam Bernstein aged 13, have recorded a C.D. of their favourite Jewish songs. They are selling them to raise money for three charities, Emunah, Chai Cancer Care and Water Aid.

They now have a website, www.the4sons.com, where you can read a little more about them, how they got together, and what they think about the songs they have recorded.

Proud grandparents Louisa and Harold Rubenstein have a few C.D.'s available for anyone who would like to support this very worthwhile venture. The boys hope you will be happy to donate £10, all of which will go to the charities.

Costs of the following for your information set out below:

Yahrzeit Board – £600 per name

Yahrzeit Book – £100 per name

Leaf on Simcha Tree – £250

Kiddushim:

Rosh Chodesh Kiddush – £150

– basic Kiddush plus cost of any extras required

Kiddush when not Rosh Chodesh

– £225 – basic Kiddush plus cost of any extra required.

Coffee & Kichels – £50 and supply of 1 Litre Bottle of Whisky by sponsor.

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BRING OUT MORE CHAIRS

By 7.20 pm there were about sixty people gathered in the Menorah Suite to listen to and to ask questions from a panel on Antisemitism. And then they started pouring in; and soon every available chair was in use to accommodate an estimated 140 people, Jews and Christians, from Bournemouth and further afield.

The panel was expertly chaired by the Reverend Ian Terry, Vicar of Bournemouth and a committee member of Bournemouth Council of Christians and Jews which had organised this event. Also joining the panel was the Reverend David Gifford, the CEO of CCJ nationally and an expert on anti-Semitism today. There were presentations from the panel which also included Andrew

Kaye from CST, representatives of Dorset police and the Reverend Werner Oder who voiced strong support for Israel.

There followed a lively question and answer session and then, almost miraculously there proved to be sufficient supplies to give everyone hot drinks and biscuits. Most gratifying was to see a large number of people engaged in animated discussion which went on for long after the panel had finished. Was this a record for Bournemouth CCJ? Well not exactly, as it will take a lot to exceed the 200 people who crowded into the same venue some years ago to hear Geza Vermes talk about the Dead Sea Scrolls. However a large crowd is expected on May 30th to hear a presentation on Kinder Transport, also taking place in the Menorah Suite at 7.30pm

GERALD NORMIE

The Council of Christians and Jews Bournemouth Branch

Tuesday 30th May

"Kindertransport "

presentation by Otto Hutter, Walter Kammerling and Josephine Jackson

Thursday 4th July

Meeting with speaker To be confirmed

Wednesday 4th December

December Annual Chanukah/Advent Celebration

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There is a fee payable.

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

CHANUKAH TEA – DECEMBER 2012

Organised by Thelma Cowan, chairman of the Ladies' Guild, together with her team of ladies and hosted by Vivienne and Mostyn Levein, a Chanukah Tea for the whole community was held in the Menorah Suite on Tuesday 11th December. Attended by 90 people, it was a great success.

A big thank you to Vivienne and Mostyn, this was the 47th year they had sponsored the Chanukah Tea. The entertainers, the Bournemouth U3A Olde Tyme Songsters, were wonderful

and enjoyed by all, following which an excellent tea was served by the Ladies' Guild. Mr Bobby Collins, on behalf of Portsmouth & Southsea Hebrew Congregation, presented a colour print of Jerusalem to the Ladies' Guild for being so kind and inviting them to their functions. The print will be hung in the Menorah Suite.

The Chanukah lights were lit by Rabbi Jesner, Mostyn and grandchildren.

BOURNEMOUTH HEBREW LADIES' GUILD

– Annual General Meeting – 2013

Our Annual General Meeting was held on 27th February in the Menorah Suite. Our Chairman, Thelma Cowan, extended a warm welcome to everyone present.

Thelma commenced her Report by saying what a privilege it had been to serve as Chairman during the past year and reported on a successful year for the Guild. Numerous kiddushim, Shabbat lunches and functions with guest speakers were held and funds were given to welfare and various charities. As well as catering the Tikkun Leil for Shavuot, we catered the annual Simchat Torah lunch.

Thelma gave special thanks to the Guild Committee and other members of our community who arrive early on a Shabbat morning regardless of the weather to prepare kiddushim. Our Kiddush Rota is in the capable hands of Jayne Baker.

Thelma appealed for more ladies to join the Guild, whose function is not only to prepare Kiddushim and cater functions, but is also a welfare organisation, visiting and helping people who are in hospital, care homes or live on their own and are housebound. She said that if everyone present introduced just one person as a member of the Guild, what a difference it would make.

Thanks were also given to the Guild's Trustees for their advice and encouragement, and her Executive and Committee for their support and hard work throughout the year. Appreciation was expressed to Gilian Walker, Sue Lee and the rest of the office staff, Rev Barry Sklan, caretakers Pat and Bob Nixon and to the Chevra Kadisha for their vital work.

Thelma concluded her Report by saying that it is her hope that the Congregation will continue to thrive and we will all share many simchas together, and be blessed with good health and peace.

The Treasurer, Hetty Freeman, presented the Balance Sheet and answered questions from the floor.

The Executive and Committee agreed to stand again, Vice-Chairman, Evelyn Grant, proposed that Thelma be re-elected as Chairman, which was passed unanimously. Thelma suggested that instead of having an Hon Vice-Life President, the title should be Hon Life President alongside the existing Hon Life President, Hilda Marks, and this proposal was accepted by all present. Hetty Freeman agreed to stand for a further year with the appointment of Katarina Webb as Co-Treasurer, which was passed unanimously. The remaining executive officers were proposed and elected unanimously.

The following are the Executive and Committee for 2013/2014:

Hon Life Presidents:	Hilda Marks and Rhona Taylor
Trustees:	Evelyn Grant, Thelma Cowan and Katarina Webb
Chairman	Thelma Cowan
Vice-Chairman	Evelyn Grant
Treasurer	Hetty Freeman
Co-Treasurer & Membership Secretary:	Katarina Webb
Secretary:	Audrey Kneller
Hon Committee Member:	Rebbetzin Pamela Jesner
Committee:	Jayne Baker, Judy Lassman, Hilary Myers, Ros Nairn, Lorraine Stein, Elfrida Strom and Hilary Waldman.

Following the formalities, we were delighted to welcome Josephine Jackson as the guest speaker, who gave a very interesting talk entitled "From Box to Bench" about her earlier life, originating in Sunderland, moving to Leeds and Newcastle and returning to Leeds, learning Braille, and subsequently working as a fundraiser for the Royal National Institute for the Blind. She also spoke about being a Magistrate in Leeds as well as being involved in other communal activities including Holocaust Memorial Day.

Following Josephine and her husband Gerald's move to Bournemouth in 2005, she was transferred to the East Dorset Bench. Happily settled here, she is now involved with amongst other communal organisations CCJ, HMD and the Shop in the Shul.

The vote of thanks in appreciation was given by Janet Pins.

The talk was followed by a delicious warming soup and a Ploughman's lunch.

NOTE FOR YOUR DIARY – FUTURE EVENT:

Wednesday 5th June – Guild Lunch with guest speaker Avril Owton MBE, hotelier and entertainer.

FOOTNOTE: *It was a pity that so many ladies felt they were not able to attend the AGM, and sent their apologies because they had a function in the afternoon, but in fact, as some of our other members did, they could have come to the meeting, heard the talk afterwards and enjoyed the lunch before departing, albeit a little bit earlier, for their other function.*

AUDREY KNELLER
(Hon Secretary)

NEW KIPPOT FOR THE CHOIR

Whilst on holiday in November at the Isrotel Yam Suf Hotel in Eilat, the conductor of the BHC Shul Choir, Frank Morris, noticed that the hotel was now providing their own kippot for use by hotel guests on Shabbat.

Thinking that they would suit the Choir, he was prepared to buy a supply for that purpose. However, before this could be done, the Managers of the Hotel gave a supply of the kippots and refused to accept any payment for them. Frank thanked

them and said that, they would be used by the Choir, at their performance in the local Jewish Home Hannah Levy House on 16 December 2012.

In accepting this very kind offer, Frank agreed to make a donation to the Hannah Levy House on behalf of the Hotel and the Choir. So before the Choir finished their concert, he explained to Staff and Residents what had transpired and presented the Home with a cheque for £50; a donation on behalf of the Isrotel Yam Suf Hotel and the BHC Shul Choir. This was duly accepted, by Andrea Leckerman, on behalf of Hannah Levy House.

AJEX

AJEX has long been a proud member of our Jewish Community here in Bournemouth, and has always paraded with pride in the Annual Remembrance Parades both here and in London, keeping alive our recognition of all those who gave their lives for our freedom.

Sometime in April, at our next AGM, we will have to face a watershed in our local Association.

I am sure that there are many of our members who would want to see AJEX alive in Bournemouth for a few more years. However unless there comes forward those who

are willing to take up the reins and serve, especially as Chairman and as Secretary, it will NOT be possible to continue our branch.

I would like to pay tribute to those who over the past years have served us as Honorary Officers and hard working Committee Members, and have served us well.

No greater tribute can be paid to them than new people coming forward to carry on their work for a little longer

I sincerely hope that our Branch may survive by new faces willing to serve as they have in the past.

BERTIE LITTMAN
(Chairman AJEX Bournemouth)

Don't forget:
AJEX needs
you all!

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 popular Bridge and Games with supper evenings on the January, which raised much needed funds for the Shul. Watch out for the next Games and Supper Evening in the early summer.

On February 3rd the Brains of Bournemouth Quiz was "enjoyed" by a cross section of age groups. After a close run battle the eventual winners were "Jew for a Win". *Congratulations on your valiant effort.*



Winning team "Jew for a Win"



Quizmasters at Shul aid quiz.

JEWISH BOOK WEEK MARILYN KEEN

London's largest international literary festival, Jewish Book Week, took place from 23 February-3rd March 2013. Now in its 2nd year at Kings Place (behind Kings Cross) an excellent venue was provided for audiences to explore Jewish life, history, philosophy and politics.

My husband, Jeffrey, and I had conveniently arranged a visit to London to dovetail family, culture, art, and theatre with lectures and discussions on a myriad of Jewish associated subjects.

There are numerous talks to choose from at any one time running in parallel, and one is overwhelmed by the number of people coming, going, eating and drinking – this is, after all, Jewish Book Week. There are various areas just to sit, wait, consume food and to purchase at the shop the books of the Jewish Book Week presenters. Unexpectedly, we caught up with friends with whom we had lost touch, people with whom we had grown up, and those we knew only by sight.

Having missed numerous talks, which we would have liked to have attended (as we were still in Bournemouth), our first visit was a talk on the hidden world of Hatton Garden given by Rachel Lichtenstein. Rachel's family was intimately connected to the area through their jewellery business and Rachel is an artist-archivist of London streets. Various members of the audience also had connections to Hatton Garden and were able to provide even greater insight to the

history and background of the area.

We enjoyed a discussion on Israeli TV Drama. Although the intended participants, who were the writers of the Israeli series on which the American programme, Homeland, is based, did not attend, we were fortunate enough to have the Israeli Ambassador, Daniel Taub, on the panel. It transpires that one of his "other" previous jobs was as a writer for Israeli TV, and his comments, together with those of other members of the panel, and the televised extracts, gave us a thirst to see more of Israeli television, which is gradually becoming more sophisticated in its programming.

Finally, we went to a very interesting session on Jewish Dreams, Observations, Visions based on TED, the popular international conference which asks each speaker to give "the talk of their life". The four speakers for this "borrowed" format were Masorti Rabbi Jonathan Wittenberg; the actress, author and JC journalist Tracy-Ann Oberman; photographer Judah Passow; and the journalist and broadcaster, Jonathan Freedland. Each of the presenters had to speak for 12 minutes on a subject close to their hearts. Rabbi Wittenberg provided a thoughtful philosophical treatise. Tracy-Ann Oberman talked on "coming out" as a Jew in show business. Judah Passow showed how photographs could be misinterpreted, and Jonathan Freedland presented a thought provoking talk on the greatest danger to Israel - population imbalance.

If you are interested in attending Jewish Book Week in 2014 put a note in your diary that it is programmed for February/ March 2014 – and do not miss it if you can help!

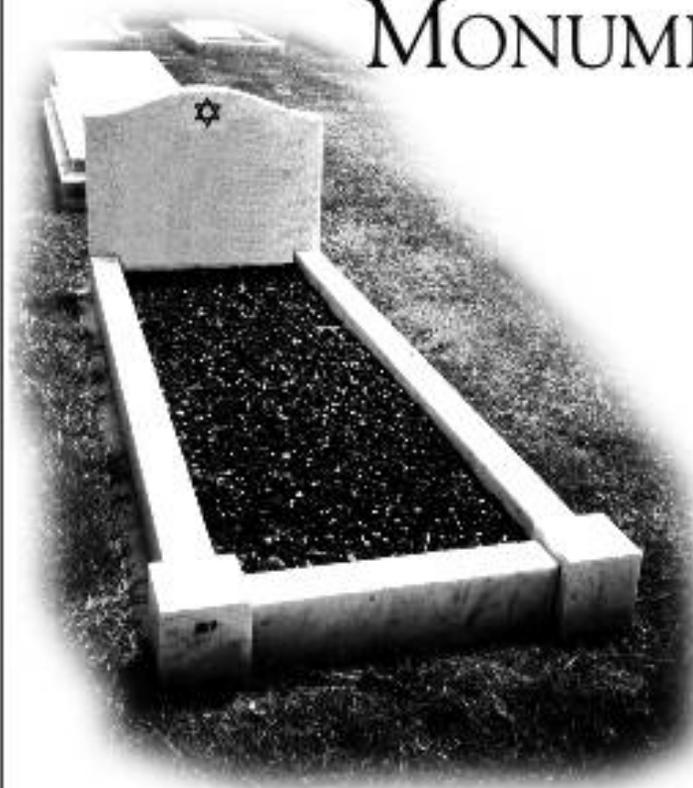
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THE BOURNEMOUTH HEBREW CONGREGATION

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

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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.

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Record Collection

After 22 years, Uncle Bernie's Children's Service is STILL my number ONE!

Shabbatot and Chagim

C U there!



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



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.

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

Mini-Menorah Playgroup



**WEEKLY PLAYGROUP
FOR JEWISH PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN (AGES 0-5)**

EVERY WEDNESDAY 10^{AM} - 12^{NOON}

PARENTS, GRANDPARENTS, CARERS & VISITING FAMILIES WELCOME

GERTRUDE PRESTON HALL
BOURNEMOUTH HEBREW CONGREGATION
WOOTTON GARDENS

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT
01202 557433

YAVNEH KINDERGARTEN

**MEETS IN THE GERTRUDE
PRESTON HALL**

TUESDAY 9.00-12.00/ 12.00- 3.00
(lunch provided)

THURSDAY 9.00- 12.00/ 12.00-3.00
(lunch provided)

FRIDAY 9.00 -12-00

WE WELCOME PRE-SCHOOLERS
FROM 2 TO 5 YEARS

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE
CONTACT

YAVNEH SUPERVISOR JAN KNAPP -
Tel: 07831 530216

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

Diary

MARCH

Monday 25th Fast of the First Born
Erev Pesach
First Seder Night
Communal Seder
Tuesday 26th First Day Pesach
Sephardi Minyan
Second Seder Night
Wednesday 27th Second Day Pesach

APRIL

Monday 1st Seventh Day Pesach
Tuesday 2nd Eighth Day Pesach
Shabbat 6th Kiddush sponsored by Jack Brockiner to celebrate his 90th Birthday
Wednesday 10th Rosh Chodesh Iyar
Sunday 14th Stone Settings
The late Mrs Sara Freedland – Bushey – 10.30am
The late Mr Barrie Levy – Throop – 3.00pm
Monday 15th Yom Ha Zikaron service
Followed by Yom Haatzmaut celebration in Menorah Suite
Tuesday 16th Yom Haatzmaut
Friday 19th Commencement of Board of Deputies Weekend
Sephardi Evening Service
Communal Dinner – Menorah Suite
Shabbat 20th Sephardi Service
Communal Lunch – Menorah Suite
Sunday 21st Communal Lunch – Menorah Suite
Stone Setting
The late Mr Philip Brafman – Throop – 2.00pm
Shabbat 27th Kiddush sponsored by Irene & Ivor Weintroub and Linda & Stephen White to celebrate the retirements of Ivor and Stephen.
Sunday 28th Lag B'Omer
Synagogue BBQ

MAY

Wednesday 1st League of Jewish Women 70th Anniversary Tea with speaker in Simcha Hall
Shabbat 4th Benediction of Sivan
Wednesday 8th Yom Yerushalayim
Friday 10th Rosh Chodesh Sivan
Tuesday 14th Erev Shavuot
Tikun Leil Shavuot
Wednesday 15th First Day Shavuot
Thursday 16th Second Day Shavuot
Shabbat 18th Coffee & Kichels sponsored by Ros and Tony Naimr to celebrate their 40th Wedding Anniversary

Sunday 19th WIZO Afternoon Tea with speaker Sheila Packer, "Tiller Girl to Vernon Girl" at home of Pearl Dale
Wednesday 29th Synagogue trip to "Top Hat"
Thursday 30th Council of Christians and Jews Meeting – "Kindertransport" – Menorah Suite – 7.30pm

JUNE

Wednesday 5th League of Jewish Women lunch with guest speaker Avril Owton MBE – Hotelier & Entertainer – 12.30pm
Shabbat 8th Rosh Chodesh Tammuz
Sunday 9th Stone Settings
The late Mr Henry Olswang – Throop – 2.30pm
The late Mr Bernard Pollard – Throop – 3.30pm
Shabbat 15th Kiddush sponsored by Hazel & Cyril Woolfstein to celebrate Cyril's special birthday
Sunday 16th Stone Setting
The late Mr Gus Lisgarten – Throop – 2.30pm
Sunday 23rd Concert in aid of Hannah Levy House
Menorah Suite – 2.30pm
Wednesday 26th Fast of Tammuz
Sunday 30th Stone Settings
The late Mr Joe Murray – Throop – 1pm
The late Mr Max Shlamka – Kinson – 3pm

JULY

Thursday 4th Council of Christians & Jews Meeting – Menorah Suite – 7.30pm
Shabbat 6th Kiddush sponsored by Jack Valencia to celebrate his 80th birthday
Sunday 7th Stone Setting
The late Mr Leslie Epstein – Throop Time – TBA
Monday 8th Rosh Chodesh Av
Sunday 14th Stone Setting
The late Mrs Yetta (Rita) Morris – Kinson – 2pm
Monday 15th Erev Tisha B' Av
Tuesday 16th Tisha B' Av

AUGUST

Sunday 4th Stone Setting
The late Mrs Jackie Gray – Throop – Time TBA
Tuesday 6th Rosh Chodesh Ellul

SEPTEMBER

Wednesday 4th Erev Rosh Hashanah
Thursday 5th Rosh Hashanah First Day
Friday 6th Rosh Hashanah Second Day