

## Editorial

*Over the past few months the Community has had the pleasure of celebrating a number of milestone events including the 70th Anniversary of the State of Israel and the 100th Anniversary of our Ladies Guild. Individual families have celebrated their own simchot, some of which are reported in this edition of Ruach.*

*Our pleasure continues as their having been given a well-deserved honour, we wish Mazal tov to our Chatanim, Malcolm Stein and Brian Lassman, and Neshei Chayil, Judy Lassman and Ros Nairn.*

*As Rosh Hashanah approaches our thoughts are not only with our own Community but also with Israel, and we hope peace and harmony will soon come to the region.*

*Although it might seem trite, during the recent Guild Lunch with Robbie Sherman, he sang this not often heard verse, which brings our hopes to the fore. It is reproduced here with his permission:*

**The Third Verse to:**

***"It's a small world (after all)"***

*Music & Lyrics by Richard M. Sherman & Robert B. Sherman*

*(3rd Verse written by Robert B. Sherman in January 2011. It was the last lyric he ever wrote.)*

*It's a world of wonder  
A world of worth  
And in years to come  
We'll know peace on earth  
We will open our eyes  
And we'll all realize  
It's a small world after all*

*The Editors wish Shana Tovah, good health, and happiness to Rabbi Adrian and Mrs Pamela Jesner, Reverend Barry and Mrs Angela Sklan, the Executive and the entire Community.*

CORINNE REIN

Editor

RICHARD SAUNDERS, CHRIS WOODWARD

Assistant Editors

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***Front Cover illustration by local artist Di Roberts***

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

[www.info@bournejewish.org](http://www.info@bournejewish.org).

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# A ROSH HASHANAH MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT



**J**ust two months ago in July, Bournemouth Hebrew Ladies' Guild celebrated its Centenary.

I was enormously privileged to be able to speak at their Centenary Dinner. We were honoured to present this much loved organisation with a beautiful illuminated address

commissioned from Sarah Louise Woodward and a leaf on our Tree of Life to mark this historic occasion.

The Guild held its first meeting on 17 July 1918, some 4 months before the end of the First World War. During these eventful one hundred years, the Guild has provided care and succour to the dispossessed and oppressed, resulting from two world wars, being particularly active in assisting refugees from Nazi Germany before and after the Second World War. Until the 1980's the main focus of the Guild was directed to the poor and disadvantaged, but this gradually changed as the Community became more prosperous. Therefore, in addition to its welfare work, the Guild concentrated on charitable fund-raising for Jewish and non-Jewish causes both locally and in Israel. Whatever form its work might have taken over these past 100 years, the Guild has always remained faithful to its core principles of Tzedakah and Chessed. I want to base this year's message on these two powerful concepts.

The Torah teaches us that there are two concepts that govern our social obligations, Tzedakah (Righteousness/Charity) and Gemilut Chassadim (Loving Kindness). These two terms are closely related and sometimes used interchangeably, yet there is a major difference between them as I shall explain below.

The word Tzedakah is derived from the word Tzedek which means justice or righteousness. A person who is righteous is called a Tzadik. The concept of Tzedakah arises from morally doing the right thing, from serving justice and ensuring that the people we are dealing with receive justice and that which they are entitled to. We perform the duty of Tzedakah on account of the moral virtue we have placed upon ourselves. Nowadays, Tzedakah takes the form of providing money or goods in kind to the poor and the disadvantaged.

Gemilut Chassadim or simply Chessed, is the act of performing loving kindness and showing compassion and benevolence towards those who have no right to expect or demand it. Whereas Tzedakah refers to an act performed out of moral virtue, Chessed refers to an act of compassion given absolutely, without motive or the expectation of reward. Chessed, therefore is a more comprehensive charitable act than that of Tzedakah. It is a mitzvah that an individual carries out acts of Chessed without expecting anything in return.

The Talmud teaches us that the giving of Chessed is more important than Tzedakah for three reasons:

- Tzedakah can be provided only to the poor, while Chessed can be given to the poor and the rich.

- Tzedakah can only be offered with money, while Chessed can be given through money and or help.
- Tzedakah can only be given to the living, while Chessed can be bestowed upon the living or the dead, for example by attending a burial service.

As the old Jewish saying goes: "Tzedakah awaits the cry of distress; Chessed anticipates the cry of distress". Among acts of Chessed, especially singled out in the Jewish tradition, are visiting the sick, attending funerals and comforting mourners.

Starting last June, I teamed up with Rabbi Jesner and our Vice President Josie Lipsith with Rebbetzen Pamela, paying visits to some of the older and less mobile members of our Congregation in order to offer comfort and understand how we may be able to help address

their concerns and needs. I find these visits very rewarding. Sometimes a kind word, a little light-hearted joke or a small bunch of flowers is all it takes to brighten their day and to leave behind the daily concerns of life, albeit for a short while.

In Bournemouth we are fortunate to be part of a caring community; it is in our DNA to look out for one other. Some of us are financially rich and others are time rich; both are equally important. We should all make a New Year's resolution to put Tzedakah and Chessed at the forefront of our thinking. The financial challenges faced by our shrinking and ageing congregation are enormous. In order to be able to offer the much needed services we rely on your generosity, be it in the form of leaving a legacy to our Shul or through donations. Equally, as we collectively get older we appreciate more, and indeed require, the kindness

and friendship of others. So, let's resolve to give more to those who are less fortunate than ourselves and to show kindness and compassion to everyone around us. Let's look out for one another and be generous with our financial resources and time for the betterment of the lives of our congregants and the wider community within which we live.

In carrying out these resolutions we could not ask for better role models than the members of the Bournemouth Hebrew Ladies' Guild. We give thanks for the 100 years of sterling work they have done and hope that they will carry on for another 100 years.

Before I conclude, I would like, on behalf of the Congregation, to congratulate the Neshei Chayil, Judy Lassman and Ros Naim and the Chatanim, Brian Lassman and Malcolm Stein, the appointments of which are well deserved. All have worked and continue to work very hard for the benefit of us all and we are certainly privileged to have them as members of our community. We wish them all a hearty Mazal Tov.

On behalf of Anne and myself, I wish Rabbi Adrian and Rebbetzen Pamela Jesner, Rev Barry and Angela Sklan, Vice President Josie and Harvey Lipsith and every single one of you Shana Tova and G'mar Chatimah Tova. May HaShem bless the members of our Congregation with health, happiness and long life. May 5779 be a year of peace in our community, in Israel and in the world.

MAHIR OZDAMAR



*Illuminated Address presented to the Ladies' Guild by the BHC*

# FROM RABBI JESNER ROSH HASHANAH 5779

“And on the seventh month, on the first day of the month, you shall have a holy convocation; you shall do no manner of servile work; it is a day of blowing the shofar (Teruah) unto you.” (Numbers 29.1)

Our festivals derive their sacredness from an extraordinary event that took place on that particular day which marks the start of the festival. For example, Pesach begins on the day the Hebrews left Egypt, Chanukah begins on the day the 2nd Temple was rededicated following the victory of the Maccabees over the Greek-Syrians.

In the case of Rosh Hashanah, literature repeatedly refers to “hayom harat olam”. The word harat is related to conception and birth. Thus this phrase is often translated as “today is the birthday of the World”. Rabbi Weinberg translates it as “today is the conception of the Universe”. Furthermore, the Midrash explains that the first human being was created on this day. Therefore Rosh Hashanah is a celebration of the creation of humanity, a time to consider the reasons for and the direction of our lives; to ponder who we are, where we have been and our future direction of travel. Each one of us, in our own way, needs to question whether we are making the most of our time in this world.

Hearing the blast of the shofar is the central mitzvah of Rosh Hashanah. Maimonides notes this in his chapters on the Laws of Shofar with these words: “It is a positive mitzvah of the Torah to hear the blast of the shofar on Rosh Hashanah, as it is stated “...it shall be a day of blowing the shofar unto you.” [Rambam, Mishnei Torah, Laws of Shofar 1:1].

Let’s take an in depth look at the shofar sounds and their meaning. There are four different shofar sounds:

- Tekiah – One long blast
- Shevarim – Three medium length blasts
- Teruah – Nine short staccato blasts
- Tekiah Gedolah – One extra-long blast

Over time, many meanings have been attributed to each type of shofar sound; however, there is essentially a consistent theme running through the various interpretations given for each particular shofar sound as we shall explore below.

Tekiah, with its long straight blast exemplifies the beginning and the end, consistency and stability in life. It speaks of stability and consistency as values that shape our lives and those of our children and grandchildren. The laws of halacha regarding the sounding of the shofar demand that all soundings of the shofar must begin and end with a Tekiah.

Tekiah is also considered to be the sound of the coronation of the King. Every year, during Rosh Hashanah, G-d is crowned King of the Universe. Crowning Him King acknowledges that His commandments are for the good of mankind and that His concern is that people live in peace and harmony.

However, Tekiah could just as easily become a symbol of complacency and acceptance of the status quo. We could simply go through the year living our daily routine, oblivious to the problems around us. Tekiah is the sound which awakens us from our spiritual slumber and prepares us for what is next to come.

The Shevarim represents the times of trouble, the wails that emanate from the human heart when failure, tragedy and seemingly insurmountable problems confront us.

No one can go through life without problems and suffering as represented by Shevarim. It is the call to look beyond ourselves, realise and empathise with the pain that exists in this world. It is an

awakening towards self-evaluation and introspection that follows, when we understand that we have once again failed to live up to our full potential. It is the cry to reconnect, grow and realise our potential.

Shevarim also represents the sound of mourning for the Temple which once stood in Jerusalem. The Jewish people have shed tears over our long history due to the terrible ordeals they had to go through, but those tears have become the strong foundation of the Jewish nation.

It is in the darkness of the Shevarim, that we can find the glimpses of hope and shafts of light to brighten the future. We can all strive to build a better future from the despair of yesterday.

Teruah is a call for action. It signals that doing nothing is not an option if our potential is to be realised. We need to examine who we are and our direction of travel. Teruah with its nine short notes is like a ticking clock, reminding us to get on with accomplishing our objectives and our destiny.

The short staccato sounds of Teruah remind us that progress is often accomplished in small steps, by putting one foot in front of the other. We sound the Shevarim and Teruah consecutively during the shofar service to indicate that after troubles and difficult times, resilience and positive action is required. Thus the sounds of the shofar come to point our way towards a vibrant and meaningful year that will be filled only with joy, happiness and a sense of accomplishment.

Finally, we gather all our resolutions and go back to the start. We have to right all wrongs. This is the purpose of the Tekiah Gedolah. Its long, continuous blast helps us make a new start full of inspiration. We are reborn surrounded with the unwavering love of G-d; the Long Tekiah sound opens our ears and our hearts to hear it and feel it. We thus establish a new bond between G-d and our newly rejuvenated self.

We now understand why Rosh Hashanah is a “...day of blowing the shofar unto us” and why it is the central mitzvah of Rosh Hashanah. It is our chance to evaluate the year gone by, and make our own covenant with G-d to do our bit for our fellow human beings and to use the gifts with which we were blessed by G-d for the betterment of the world we live in.

On behalf of Pamela and myself, may I wish Reverend Barry Sklan and his wife Angela, together with the President and the entire board of management my heartfelt blessings for the New Year.

*May it bring us health, prosperity, longevity and harmony. May G-d bless Israel, His people and land with peace and redemption.*



RABBI ADRIAN JESNER

# ROSH HASHANAH 5779 FROM REVEREND SKLAN

**B**efore the age of the digital and mechanical scales, people carried out their business with balance scales, where an exact predetermined weight was placed on one side, and the goods were placed on the other side.

So, when a shopkeeper put a one-pound weight on one side of the scale, and six tomatoes on the other side of scale, if the sides of the scale stood perfectly balanced, then the owner and the customer both knew that they were carrying out a transaction over one pound of tomatoes.

Dishonest sellers used to walk around with two sets of weights in their pockets.

For selling, they'd use a deficient weight; for example, their one-pound weight might have weighed only fifteen ounces instead of the prescribed sixteen. The average customer wouldn't be aware of the deficient ounce and would be cheated, paying for sixteen ounces, but receiving only fifteen.

On the other hand, for buying, the dishonest merchant would have a one-pound weight that weighed seventeen ounces. When he'd buy tomatoes from a local gardener, he'd pay for sixteen ounces, or one pound, but by using a false weighing stone, he'd get seventeen ounces of tomatoes thereby cheating the gardener out of an ounce.

Such dishonesty is not only a blatant violation of Torah law punishable by lashes, but it is also called an abomination.

Two sets of stones not only refer to cheating in business, but

symbolise a double standard between the way we judge ourselves and the way we judge others. We are human beings and therefore we may have faults. We tend to be lenient with ourselves but strict with others.

We have fifty four reasons why we neglected to return another person's greeting, such as we were preoccupied with pressing matters, we were worried we were going to be late for an appointment, we were reviewing the day's learning in our mind – the list goes on and on.

Yet, if someone else fails to return our greeting, we're devastated. We accuse the other person of arrogance, of snobbery, and are ready to throw the book at him or her.

We should judge others with at least the same leniency that we judge ourselves, or refrain from judging them altogether. Sometimes, even learned people fall into the trap of judging others on a different standard as they'd judge themselves.

Now is the time of year to be lenient with others and strict with ourselves. By throwing away the double standard, we ask Hashem for a favourable judgment of an inscription in the Book of Life Angela and I wish Rabbi and Rebbetzen Jesner, the President and vice President, their families and all our kehilah, a very healthy, happy and peaceful 5779

REVEREND BARRY SKLAN



## Please support your Shul – Gift Aid your donations

### How does Gift Aid work?

Gift Aid is one of the easiest ways to make your donation tax effective. By supporting the Shul you are supporting reclaims of the basic rate tax from HM Revenue and Customs. There is no extra cost to you and the process is simple – all you have to do is make a Gift Aid declaration. The congregation benefits by obtaining the tax back from the Revenue which of course benefits the Congregation's funds.



As the Congregation is a charity, the contributions you make will be tax deductible if you are a higher rate tax payer, and claimable by you from the Inland Revenue as a charitable gift.

Many of you have already completed gift aid declarations, for which we are very grateful. These are held in the office and, half yearly, we collect Gift Aid back from HMRC on the contributions made for offerings, donations, subscriptions, Yahrzeit donations etc.

### What is a Gift Aid declaration?

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### Please complete the form and return it to us!

Please complete the Gift Aid declaration enclosed in your Ruach and return it to the Shul office. It won't matter if you think you may have completed a declaration form some years ago – we are happy to update our records and claim as far back as April 2000.

Thank you!

# THE CHIEF RABBI'S ROSH HASHANAH MESSAGE



The Talmud prescribes a blessing to be recited upon seeing royalty: “Blessed are You, Lord our God, King of the Universe, who has imparted of Your glory to flesh and blood”.

The Talmud (Berachot 58a) recounts how the renowned sage, Rav Sheshet, once joined throngs of townsfolk as they lined the streets in anticipation of the momentous arrival of the King. A heretic mocked the Rabbi, who was blind, since he would surely not be able to appreciate such an auspicious event. Yet, when the audible excitement of the crowd increased and the heretic believed that the King’s appearance was imminent, Rav Sheshet told him that he was mistaken – the King had not yet arrived. This sequence repeated itself a number of times until, eventually, to the astonishment of all around him, Rav Sheshet announced that the King was about to arrive and, at the precise moment at which he passed, the Rabbi recited the prescribed blessing. The heretic was stunned by what he had witnessed. Rav Sheshet explained, “Earthly royalty is like heavenly royalty. God, who is the King of kings, is not found in the wind, an earthquake or a fire, but ‘in a still small voice’” (I Kings 19:12). With this in mind, it was from the hushed silence that Rav Sheshet knew that the king had indeed arrived.

I was reminded of this passage a few months ago, when I was privileged to accompany HRH The Duke of Cambridge on his historic visit to Israel. He arrived at the Kotel on a Thursday morning to the sound of dozens of Barmitzvahs and thousands of vocal worshippers. In preparing Prince William, I had explained that he should expect the entire Kotel plaza to be filled with a loud cacophony of soulful supplication and joyful song. Yet, something quite extraordinary happened. As we reached the Kotel itself, silence fell. Services came to a standstill, as countless people stood in quiet reverence. How would he react to this very special experience? What would he say? The aura of the occasion was palpable – had Rav Sheshet been there, he would have sensed that something special was happening.

The prophet Isaiah (55:6,7) taught, “Seek Hashem while He may be found, call upon Him while He is near”. The Talmud tells us that “while He is near” refers to the High Holy Days. For this reason, the central theme of Rosh Hashanah is *‘malchut’* – the kingship of Hashem.

Understanding the privilege of being in the presence of ‘earthly royalty’ can give us an inkling of what it means to be in the presence of ‘heavenly royalty’. Over the High Holy Days, our attention should be undivided. How will the King of kings react to what He sees? What will He decree? His presence should be met by no more than the ‘still small voice’ of introspection and prayer.

Let us utilise this timely opportunity to appreciate Hashem’s presence and to be empowered by that awareness to transform our lives for the better.

Valerie and I extend our heartfelt wishes to you all for a happy, peaceful and fulfilling New Year.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ephraim Mirvis'.

**Chief Rabbi Ephraim Mirvis**  
September 2018 • Tishrei 5779





## ROSH HASHANAH MESSAGE President Marie van der Zyl



5778 will be remembered as the year that the Jewish community came together to say 'Enough is Enough' to antisemitism.

It was unprecedented and heart-warming back in March to see so many people from all parts of the community join like-minded non-Jews and parliamentarians to stand in front of the Palace of Westminster to protest against the antisemitism that, staggeringly, is tolerated in our country's official party of opposition.

Several aspects of this protest were meaningful. I was gratified by the speed with which we, the Jewish Leadership Council and other partners, devised and executed the idea. We were overwhelmed by the response from the 2,000 people who travelled to Westminster at 24 hours' notice, including more than 30 MPs from Labour and other parties, and friends from the Muslim, Christian, Sikh and Hindu communities.

Never has our community made a more powerful statement that we will not tolerate antisemitism in the Labour Party. Perhaps most important of all was the near unanimity with which we spoke. And it is this unity which we as a community need as we go forward to face challenges such as this.

Although the overwhelming majority of the community were behind us in our protest against antisemitism, there are issues which do divide us. Of course, we will never agree on everything but there is a right and a wrong way to disagree. For example, when the Kaddish for Gaza event took place following the Hamas-sponsored violent protests at the border with Israel, nobody was more appalled than me.

However, the tone and tenor of some of the comments aimed at the protesters has bordered on hateful and abusive. Such ferocity does nothing to advance the argument but rather discredits the point being made and leaves our community in a less civil place.

While we must fight against hate, prejudice and injustice, much of my work as President of the Board of Deputies is in promoting projects which work for a positive outcome. My first action as President after my election in May was to travel to Manchester for discussions with leaders of northern communities and the Mayor of Greater Manchester, Andy Burnham, then on to Glasgow and Edinburgh for talks with Scottish First Minister Nicola Sturgeon and discussions with my Scottish Jewish colleagues. I intend to be a leader for all Jews of all denominations across the country and none of us is more important than any other.

We also need to reach out beyond our community which is why I have prioritised interfaith work, in particular, creating links with Muslim partners.

This summer, for the first time, the Board of Deputies hosted an interfaith Iftar for senior Muslims and Jews including the Chief Rabbi and I have travelled the country meeting Muslims from Leeds to Luton and points in-between.

Jews and Muslims have much in common and my objective is to create relationships which will strengthen us all and fight the prejudice and ignorance which has divided us in the past.

This was also the year that in the United Kingdom we celebrated our crucial role in the creation of the State of Israel, with celebrations to mark the 100th anniversary of the Balfour Declaration, culminating in the Parliamentary Balfour Reception, attended by many ministers, MPs and peers. And in this 70th anniversary of the birth of the State of Israel, we have been promoting a dialogue for peace between Israelis and Palestinians through Invest in Peace.

This project, undertaken with Christian communities, is interfaith work at its most meaningful, tackling difficult issues positively and head on. We are determined that, rather than import the Middle East conflict, we should work together to support a constructive conversation towards reconciliation.

Those of us who love Israel were delighted that the Duke of Cambridge undertook the first official Royal visit to the country. It would be hard not to be touched by his moving message in the Yad Vashem guest book. And the goodwill and friendship in his speech at the Ambassador's reception left an impression on all of us who were present.

A key message of the visit was about the importance of engagement. In addition to supporting coexistence with the young Israeli and Arab footballers, the fact that President Rivlin and President Abbas felt compelled to offer messages of peace in their meetings with the second in line to the British throne was a real tribute to the enduring 'soft power' of the British monarchy.

This was clearly a man with a genuine warmth and friendship for the Jewish people and, going into 5779, amid all the political turmoil we have encountered this year, the image of the Duke, both at the Western Wall and, playing football on the beach, gives me wonderful memories to take into the new year.

May this Rosh Hashanah bring you, your families and all of Am Yisrael health, strength and peace.

# MAZAL TOV TO OUR CHATAN TORAH

## Brian Lassman

I came to live in Bournemouth almost 50 years ago, moving down from Kenton where, apart from 13 months living in Paris, I had lived since birth, regularly attending Kenton Shul, where my Grandfather was warden from my earliest memories until his passing in 1965.

I attended the Shul Cheder and as well as learning to read Hebrew, summer would bring cricket in the local park and winter football, all under the guidance of our Rabbi, the late and greatly missed Cyril Harris later to become the Chief Rabbi of South Africa. It was Rabbi Harris who taught me my Bar Mitzvah Sedra and Haftorah.

After finishing school, I studied Hotel Management at the Westminster Hotel School in Vincent Square, Victoria. Amongst my classmates there in September 1963 was Malcolm Stein, this year's Chatan Bereisheit. We became friends and even holidayed together in Ostend, Belgium where we stayed in the same hotel as a very young and up and coming Dionne Warwick, who was appearing at the local Casino Night Club.

After leaving College, I went for further Hotel training to an hotel in Paris and also studied French at the Alliance Francaise.

On my return to the U.K. I worked in London for 2 years before moving to Bournemouth on the 1st. May 1969. I worked for a great teacher, Mr. Hymie Selby at the New Ambassador Hotel. Mr. Selby had been one of the top Kosher Caterers in London, owning the Hanover Grand Banqueting Suite and Night Club in Hanover Square, London. Not only did I learn about Kosher Catering, he also taught me to play Kalooki !



In the early 1970's there were many younger residents in Bournemouth. There was a thriving B.B.Y.O., that met weekly in a club room at the Branksome Dene Convalescence Home in Alumhurst Road. There I met Patricia Goldman, whose father, by coincidence, Michael was a retired Kosher Caterer, one of the famous Goldman Brothers recently retired from the Grosvenor Rooms in Willesden, London.

We were married in 1974; at our wedding was our Chatan Bereisheit, Malcolm Stein, Patricia's cousin. I think that it's safe to say that, apart from Lorraine and Malcolm, I am the only one here today who attended their wedding.

After we were married, I joined and eventually became the Chairman of Bournemouth J.N.F. At some of the early meetings I had the good fortune to meet Judy and Barry Cole, who also had joined J.N.F.

Patricia and I had three wonderful children, Anthony, now known as Aytan, Philip and Sophie, who were all born in Poole Hospital. Tragically Patricia was taken from us in May 1986.

Judy and Barry were well known members of the community and had

two young sons, Jeremy and Timothy. Sadly Barry suffered from not the best of health and Barry was taken from his family in December 1986.

After almost a year I plucked up the courage to ask Judy out for a 'Coffee'. I found out later that evening that we both enjoyed Scotch far better than coffee.

The rest is history; as you read this we will be celebrating our 29th. Wedding Anniversary.

Of our joined family, Jeremy lives in Sydney, Australia with his wife Lindsay and children Naava and Oliver. Tim lives in Hatfield with his wife Sarah, also a Bournemouth girl, and their daughters Jessica and Evie. "A" lives in Tel Aviv, Israel with his son Matan. Philip lives in Borehamwood with his wife Michelle and children Ella and Daniel, and Sophie lives in Leeds with husband Shane and daughter, Stella.

As many of you know I have also given some of my time to working for our Shul as President and on the Executive Board.

*It only leaves for me to thank Mahir for honouring me with this great Mitzvah. I wish the Chatan Bereisheit and the Neshei Chayil mazaltov and to them and Rabbi Adrian and Pamela Jesner, Reverend Barry and Angela Sklan, President Mahir and Anne Ozdamar, Vice President Josie and her husband Harvey, a very Happy and Healthy New Year.*

# MAZAL TOV TO OUR CHATAN BEREISHEIT

## Malcolm Stein

I was born in August 1947 in Holloway, London, to Abraham and Doris Stein, the youngest of three siblings. My paternal grandparents came from Poland and my maternal grandparents from Russia.

The common language between them was Yiddish and when we were growing up they would speak in Yiddish if they did not want us to understand the conversation. My grandparents were ultra-orthodox Jews; my grandfather belonged to 4 different shuls. Religion was their life, giving their time to help others is what they did, a trait I have inherited from them.

My father was in the textile business in the East end of London and my mother's family had been in the furniture business. We lived in Dobree Avenue in Willesden; we used to go to the Willesden Synagogue which was also known as Heathfield Park. Between the ages of 3 and 10, I went to the Hillel House School. I then went to Aylestone secondary school where I had the dubious distinction of being the only boy to take domestic science and where I developed my life-long interest in baking. But baking was not my only interest; I was into all sorts of sports especially football, tennis, cross-country running and cycling. In those days I was also active in the Walm Lane Youth Club, which catered for Jewish youths from the age of 11 upwards.

After Aylestone I went to Westminster Catering College to fulfil my dream. There I met Brian Lassman who was enrolled at the same time. Of course, we had no idea that one day we would end up being related to each other by marriage.

During my first year at the Catering



College, my father developed cancer which he kept hidden from his children until the last minute. After my father passed away, I went to work for Duke Sportsware, which was my first introduction to the rag trade.

Soon after, the family textile business, which was called Preston Mills, was bought out by the famous Courtaulds Textiles. Part of the acquisition deal was that the family members would continue to be employed in the business. I soon went to work for them.

Throughout this time I continued to be involved in the Youth Club life and I was the manager of the successful football team called the Old Willesdonions. Another person involved in the Club was Lorraine's father. In 1968 I wanted to watch England play, but I did not have time to get home before the game started. Lorraine's father invited me to watch the game at their home. This was the first time I laid eyes on Lorraine. The weekend after, there was an Association of Jewish Youth dance to which I had no one to take. A friend suggested that I ask Lorraine. I don't think Lorraine was too impressed with me, but I had a car, which might have clinched the deal. She agreed to go to the dance with me and the rest is history.

We married in 1972 in the Brondesbury Synagogue followed by a reception

in the Grosvenor Rooms in Willesden. Our first home was a flat in East Cote Pinner. Our son Adam was born in 1974. In those days I was working in textiles and Lorraine was working as a hairdresser. In 1976, Lorraine was expecting our daughter Deborah. We moved to Stanmore and started going to the Belmont Synagogue. About that time, I moved from textiles to the fashion business and joined Karida fashion which was owned by a Cypriot family. Following the fallout from the Turkish invasion of Cyprus and the subsequent partitioning of the country, the owner of the business decided to employ more of his relatives and I had to experience my first redundancy.

I started working for a company called Kall Kwik printing in Holborn. Soon I was managing three of their shops. I continued to work for this firm for the next 16 years. During this time we were very active in Belmont Shul, Lorraine as the Ladies' Guild chairperson and I in the Security team (sounds familiar?).

In 1991 Lorraine and I were involved in a car accident which turned out to be a life changing event. Lorraine suffered a spinal injury, which was the start of many operations and a dramatic change in our circumstances.

In 2009 we decided to make a complete life style change. The original plan was to make aliyah to Israel, maintaining a small bolt hole in England. Instead we came to Bournemouth for a year. Health issues for both of us and the desire to be part of the Community have made us want to stay here. We do our bit, not just for the Jewish community; I also support the British Heart Foundation by working in their charity shop.

*I would like to thank the Executive for giving me the honour of Chatan Bereisheit. Lorraine and I wish the entire congregation a Happy, Healthy and Peaceful New Year and well over the Fast.*

# MAZAL TOV TO OUR ESHET CHAYIL

## Judy Lassman



When one reaches a certain age, there is a lot of life to remember but also at a certain age the memory begins to play up. But I do remember where I was born, which is a good start. Blackburn, Lancashire was the place, Rovers is the team.

The Shul there was down a small, cobbled back street, lined with very small houses and opposite a very smelly pub! The cheder was held in the scullery on a Wednesday afternoon, which was, unfortunately, the same afternoon as the Shochet killed the chickens in the back yard, so I know a lot about chicken killing, but didn't learn a lot of Hebrew.

It was a very small, busy and warm community and I remember the visiting Rabbi staying at our house over the Yomim Tovim. There is only one Jewish person living in Blackburn now, Renee Black, who is a cousin of our late Hilda Marks z"l.

When I reached 10 years old, my parents and I moved to Southport, a lovely seaside resort to be brought up in. At that time there was a very large community, a beautiful Shul, and seemingly thousands of youngsters, many of whom I'm still in touch with. The Amelyn youth club was the hub of our social life and kept us all very busy, as did Cheder, four times a week.

We also went on Habonim camps, arranged many inter functions, travelling all over the North and Northwest of England and of course making yet more Jewish friends.

So, Southport High School finished, Secretarial College started, work began. I was a book keeper and excellent coffee maker; then age 22, I moved to a job in Leeds. A year later I moved to London where I met my first husband Barry, whom I married in 1968.

Barry worked for American Express and we lived and travelled all over Europe and South Africa for eight years, during which time we had two lovely boys, Jeremy and Timothy. When they became of school age, we had to stop gallivanting and, as luck would have it, Abbey Life Ins. Co. was relocating to Bournemouth and Barry became their Chief Internal Auditor. That was over 42 years ago.

Bournemouth has been a joy to live in and bring up the family. There is no warmer, friendlier place on earth, and I've lived in a few places!

My friends and I kept very busy, all with small families and very few relatives living near to help, we all worked for and with the community-. Aviv Wizo, JNF, Ladies Guild, Cheder, Yavneh, etc. etc. etc. I even remember being on the original Security team

for Sunday morning Cheder... all 4'11" of me, no yellow jackets, no radios in those days, and no training either!

Life changes, and so it did, considerably in December 1986. After 18 years of marriage, my lovely husband Barry passed away, the children just thirteen and almost fifteen. We were devastated but life has to go on as we all know.

As Brian has already written, his sweet wife, Patty had also passed away, seven months previously, leaving him with Anthony, Philip and baby Sophie.

Three years later we married and co-joined our beautiful families. I must say it was a bit tiring at the time bringing up five of them with a 14 year gap in between the eldest a youngest, but it's worked. They've all turned out to be little treasures and are amazingly close to each other, even though they are far-flung, Australia, Israel, Leeds and London. They've been good enough to bless us with eight grandchildren - all adorable, beautiful, clever, funny, maybe a bit of bias crept in there!

*May I thank the Executive for honouring me with the title of Eshet Chayil this year of which I am extremely proud. Wishing the community a Happy and Healthy New Year.*

# MAZAL TOV TO OUR ESHET CHAYIL

## Ros Nairn

I was born in 1949 at the Bearsted Maternity Home in London. My mother came from Vienna and my father from London. I was an only child.

My family and I initially lived in Tufnell Park where we were members of the Kentish Town Shul. Later on, we moved to East Finchley and between the ages of 3 and 12 I went to Highgate Shul. Subsequently we moved to Edgware, where I attended Camrose School until the age of 16.

I did my hairdressing apprenticeship in Edgware and when I was 19 years old I went to work at the Piccadilly Hotel which afforded me the opportunity to meet the rich and the famous. Whilst working there I was called upon to do the hair of the Miss World contestants and I had the pleasure of meeting Omar Sharif who held his annual Bridge Tournament there. Perhaps one of my proudest moments was when I was asked to do the hair of Prime Minister Golda Meir when she visited London.

In 1971 my father became ill and sadly passed away. I had just met my future husband Tony and I had to move jobs to work locally for Bernard Bowman hairdressers.

We got married in May 1973. Tony was still studying for his Accountancy degree and we could not afford to buy a house in London. Thus we decided to set up our first home in Watford, which was initially quite strange. Thanks to help from relatives who lived locally, we soon settled into local Jewish life and got very involved with the Synagogue. I was involved in starting the kindergarten, which was headed by Miriam Leperer. I helped start the Young Married Social Group



and a few years later I became Tawny Owl for the Watford Brownies. As the years progressed I worked at the local school and pharmacy.

We were fortunate to have two daughters, Hayley and Melissa. When Hayley, our eldest, became ill, I had to give up most activities to care for her with the help of Melissa and Hayley's husband James, in their marital home. Sadly, Hayley passed away in November 2005. We continued to live in Watford until Melissa moved away to Leicester. We are now blessed with two lovely grandchildren we enjoy visiting as often as we can.

After these life changing events, we were ready for a fresh start. Having had many family holidays in Bournemouth, we felt that this would be the right place for us. In November 2011 we sold our house in Watford and rented an apartment in Westbourne for a year.

The walk to and from Shul took 40 minutes each way, so when the opportunity to buy a flat on the East Cliff came up we jumped at the chance.

When we first arrived in Bournemouth we knew no one, but

soon after joining the shul we made many new friends and immersed ourselves in various shul activities, both religious and social. I became involved in the Ladies' Guild, Meet N' Munch and the Shul Shop. I also worked as a volunteer for the Sue Ryder charity shops for a number of years. We enjoy being part of the Bournemouth community and we plan to work hard for the betterment of our community which is very dear to us.

*It is a great honour for me to be an Eshet Chayil in my 70th year. I would like to thank the Executive for choosing me for this great honour; I feel very privileged to be given it.*

*Tony and I send our warm wishes to everyone in the community for a Happy, Healthy and Peaceful New Year.*

# LADIES' GUILD CENTENARY DINNER

On the hottest night of the year, the hottest ticket in town was the BHC Ladies' Guild celebratory centenary dinner in the Menorah Suite.

Distinguished guests included the Mayor and Mayoress of Bournemouth, Councillor & Mrs Derek Borthwick, Tobias Ellwood MP for Bournemouth East, Rabbi and Rebetzen Jesner, Rabbi and Rebetzen Shisler and guest speaker Baroness Ros Altmann CBE, together with her husband and mother.

Guild Chairman, Thelma Cowan, chaired the event, introducing BHC President, Mahir Ozdamar, who expressed his admiration and gratitude on behalf of the community for the work of the Guild over the past 100 years. Steven White, a Trustee of BHC, whose wife Marilyn had collated five large boards illustrating the history of the Guild, gave a fascinating talk which particularly mentioned Mrs A (Cissie) Wolfe, who was its founding President in 1917 and remained so at its 21st Anniversary.

During her speech, Guild Life President Rhona Taylor surprised Guild Trustee Evelyn Grant, who has worked for the Guild for many years, including time as Chairman, when she announced that in appreciation of her dedication to the Guild, it had been decided to honour Mrs Grant with the title of Life President of the Guild. Our special congratulations to her.

On this outstanding occasion, the Guild was given

commemorative presentations. At the Kiddush to honour the Guild, which had been prepared by the Executive Committee and held on the previous day, an inscribed Leaf for the Tree of Life had been presented by BHC Vice Chairman, Josie Lipsith. On this memorable evening, she was delighted to present to Thelma Cowan a specially commissioned Illuminated Address on glass, created by Sarah Louise Woodward, a talented artist who was brought up in Bournemouth.



Demonstrating once again the generosity and loving kindness which has exemplified the Guild for the past 100 years, presentations were made by the Guild to various charities. These included £5,000 to David Moss, Chairperson of Bournemouth Hospital Trust for the Mini Scanner Appeal, as well as £5,000 to Hannah Levy House, and donations

to Bournemouth Hebrew Congregation, BJSS, Meet and Munch and to Chai Cancer, the speaker's chosen charity.

Guest speaker Baroness Ros Altmann served in the Conservative Government with responsibility for Pension Reform, and was elevated to the House of Lords in 2015. She gave a light hearted insight into the day to day life in the House of Lords for an observant Jewish woman.

We give the Guild our heartfelt thanks for enhancing the lives of our congregants and the wider Bournemouth community over the past 100 years, and pray they continue their good works for the next 100 years.

MAHIR OZDAMAR  
WITH KATARINA WEBB

# HLH TEA PARTY

The community was invited to join The Mayor of Bournemouth, Lawrence Williams together with his wife Elaine, at a Spring Tea Party held at Hannah Levy House, which was one of his Charity Appeals during his year of Office, from which over £6000 was donated to Hannah Levy House.

The Tea Party also celebrated the one hundred and sixth birthday of Robin Segal, now a resident at Hannah Levy. He was born on the day the Titanic went down and the chef made a birthday cake modelled on the ship and decorated with candles.



Robin Segal and the Mayor of Bournemouth, Lawrence Williams

## *A day in the life of a* **SHUL SHOP VOLUNTEER**

**I**t's Friday morning and the seconds are ticking by. Anne stands just outside the shul at the ready to pass the message down the line.

Putting her hand to half cover her mouth, she whispers to Ros, "They're just finishing Kaddish. Pass it on!"

"They're just finishing Kaddish!" whispers Ros to Tony, "Pass it on!"

The message reaches the shul shop; a voice cries out from the store room that doubles as Jane's office, "Everyone to your stations!"

At the double, there's a sudden frenzy of activity. Cindy races to the till. Angela finishes putting out the challah and bread and checks the cakes and biscuits, all of which have arrived fresh from Grodzinski's just under an hour ago. Lorraine's finishing stocking up the chiller with the fresh meat and poultry which arrived from Perlmutter early in the morning.

There's a new and extensive cheese display including brie, camembert, cheddar, emmenthal, and cream cheese, and the shelves creak under the weight of pots of yoghurts, butter and cream.

The frozen foods cabinets are bursting with meat, poultry, cooked foods, soups, ice creams, (parev and dairy), cakes, fried fish and latkes.

Then, it's happening! Shacharit is over! And we're off!!

Ivor Weintroub is first out of the traps. He's at a gallop, way in front of the rest of the pack; he turns left out of the shul and is making his way to the half flight of stairs. Jeffrey Cohen's next and is gaining on Ivor. Adrian Levey is third. But what's this? Ralph Epstein has taken a wrong turn! He's making towards the wrong door! Will he get himself back on track?

And here's a surprise! Ivor who was a dead cert to reach the shop first has fallen back into 2nd place and a surprise runner, Mahir Ozdamir has beaten him to it .... to be ... second in the queue! Somehow, Barry's appeared out of nowhere!

So it's Barry first, Mahir second, Ivor now in at third and Ralph trailing in last place. But not to worry; there's plenty of food for everyone and he won't go hungry this Shabbat!

Cindy looks at Barry's carrier bag and asks him what's in it.

"Two babies," Barry replies.

"You sell babies?" a visitor from Stamford Hill asks with some timidity.

"They're plaited!" comes the reply.

Cindy rings up the baby challahs, takes Barry's money and hands him his change.

Mahir's next.

"Three pieces of fried haddock, a tub of fried fish balls, four salmon cutlets, and half a dozen latkes," Lorraine calls out from the order book. "All freshly fried yesterday!" she adds.

"I fried the latkes myself!"

But before she has time to retrieve the order, Mahir reminds her of the two large challahs and the fresh chicken, he also ordered.

"Ah yes!" Lorraine says, finding the order. "That's right!"

Lorraine packs the bags; Cindy rings Mahir's purchases up on the till.

"Can I have 6 bagels, please?" Adrian asks.

Ros disappears swiftly to collect the bagels.

Cindy's fingers dance nimbly over the keys of the cash register. "That's £3,000, please Adrian," she says with a smile.

"Isn't that a bit steep for six bagels?" Adrian asks, reaching for his wallet.

"They're very fresh and they've come specially from London," Cindy replies without raising an eyebrow as she credits the till with £2,997!

This must be the biggest sale and credit ever to have gone through the till in the history of the shul shop!

Meanwhile, there's a run on some 'limited edition' specially cooked fresh foods. Celia Bradley heard about the freshly made quiches and wants to know if there are any left.

"Of course!" Jane says. "Cheese and tomato, or mushroom and pepper?" she asks.

Celia hesitates. "Well I like cheese and tomato but Brian likes mushroom and pepper," she says weighing up the two in her mind.

"Why not take one of each, then?" Jane prompts.

"Go on then! In for a penny!"

And as Jeffrey browses the meat chiller, he spies a stock of meat pies. "Freshly made yesterday by Stuart," Jane tells him. "Between you and me, they're very tasty!" she confides.

"I'll take two!"

The smoked salmon flies off the shelves as does the pickled and schmaltz herring, the chopped egg and onion, the coleslaw and the potato salad, (made to the shul's special recipe)! The brisket, tongue and turkey pastrami storm out through the tills!

And as things quieten down, Cindy asks Jane what that big celebration cake is doing in the other room.

"It was delivered this morning by Grodzinski for that surprise birthday party. I do keep reminding people they can order anything from Grodzinski as they deliver here every Friday, but does anyone listen ...?"

Her thoughts are interrupted. A visitor has rushed back for seconds! "I forgot to ask; have you got any milk?"

"Frozen or long life?" Lorraine asks.

"There's even a choice of milk?" the visitor asks, astounded!

"This is the shul shop!" Jane replies. "It's the best kosher deli outside London!"

"Thanks," the visitor says. "And Shabbat Shalom!"

ANONYMOUS



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# MAGEN DAVID ADOM ADI STATION

04 April 2018 – 19 Nisan 5778



During Pesach, Lorraine and I had the privilege of attending the opening of a new Ambulance Station in a village called Mitzpe Adi on the Shfar'am – Nazareth Highway, some 20 kms. from Haifa.

Our dear Machatunim, Irving and Gillian Carter, have had the Ambulance Station built and dedicated to our grandson Jack Segal on the occasion of his Barmitzvah.

We left Tel Aviv on a beautiful hot day in a coach, along with family and friends and Daniel Berger the Chief Executive of M. D. A. UK.

On arrival some two hours later, we were greeted by senior staff of MDA along with around 20 young volunteers from the village who give their time to man the station. Already lives have been saved when on 10th February an Israeli F-16 fighter was shot down by a Syrian anti-aircraft missile and

the pilots were rescued and treated by the quick response of the ADI station.

Our grandson Jack delivered a speech to the assembly and the station was officially opened, followed by a splendid lunch in the village Community Centre.

The Carter family are instrumental in providing ambulances and equipment including Fast Response Motor Bikes and now small electric vehicles, which are able to navigate through small alleys due to their size. Since 1991 The Carters, along with son Malcolm and daughter Susie Segal, have provided MDA with some 50 vehicles due to their generosity and devotion to Israel.

So after a tiring but rewarding day, we headed back to Tel Aviv along with a sing-song on the coach.

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# MEMBERS OF BOURNEMOUTH ACTION FOR ISRAEL GROUP VISIT THE TOLPUDDLE MARTYRS' FESTIVAL

**D**riving into Tolpuddle, a beautiful, quintessentially English village in sunny Dorset, I felt as if I'd strayed into enemy territory.

I had never attended a so called left wing event before, and I was nervous, especially as the day was Tisha B'Av, the day of Jewish tragedies throughout the millennia.

Our aim was to educate and to put forward another point of view, perhaps not to those with entrenched opinions, but to those who were open and ready to hear the other side of the argument. There was one amongst us who wore a large badge stating: "I'm a Zionist. Do ask!" I was too nervous to wear that badge, but as it turned out, I think that she had the right idea. She was approached by reasonable and open-minded people who indeed wanted to ask, and she was allowed to quietly explain to them the true facts about Israel that have been distorted by the left to such an extent that their view of Israel is unrecognisable to me.

Rosalind Schogger and I wandered around the field that contained many various stalls representing most of the unions in the country. After all, The Tolpuddle Martyrs were all about the foundations of the Trade Union movement, and the people of Tolpuddle can be rightly proud of the role played by the sons of their village. In fact, if I was a trade unionist, I would be very upset about the way that their day of proud celebration of the early formation of a trade union has become highjacked by a cause that has absolutely nothing to do with it.

After wandering round for a while, Rosalind and I spotted a man wearing a tee shirt stating support for the Palestinians. Rosalind took a photograph of him. He spotted her doing this, and from that moment on, he followed us wherever we went, taking pictures of us at every turn. We entered the tent, and made for the stand entitled 'Jews for Justice for Palestine'. We went to speak to them and ask them what exactly they were trying to achieve. Unfortunately for these people, they cannot bear to be questioned about their entrenched narratives, and when you call them on it, they can't take it. The man said to me that Israel is blockading Gaza, and he drew a circle with his hand. I told him that his small hand gesture was dishonest because he was implying that Israel surrounded Gaza, when in fact Egypt was blockading Gaza on its opposite border.

He said that Israel forced Egypt to blockade Gaza. I hadn't realised that Israel had such power over Egypt. Nevertheless, his hand gesture was dishonest and when I called him on it, he couldn't take it so he told me that he didn't want to speak to me anymore and he told me to go away.

Next we went to the Palestinian Solidarity Campaign stand. Again, we started to speak to them, and when it became clear to them that we didn't share their views, they became abusive. Rosalind was filming my conversation with them, and they kept on putting things in her face in front of the camera to prevent her filming. She flicked it away from her face and she was accused of assault. Everybody gathered round these two small, middle-aged, Jewish women and

they became heated and abusive, calling us Zionist intimidators. I don't think that they had the insight to understand the irony of this angry mob accusing us of intimidation.

We were called liars and murderers of children. All we did was disagree. If only they could have remembered the quote from Milton that can be found in the Methodist church where one of the Martyrs used to preach, and which he used in an open letter that he wrote: "Give me the liberty to think, to speak and to argue freely according to conscience, above all other liberties."

One man in the crowd adopted a boxing stance with fists up facing Rosalind challenging her to punch him. I just wonder where all of their anger comes from.

When the procession took place, led by Jeremy Corbyn, we stood peacefully at the side of the road with Israeli flags and Union Jacks, with a banner stating Coexistence, connection and collaboration, UK and Israeli trade unions standing together for workers' rights (we even got the apostrophe in the right place!) At least we stayed on message, even if they didn't. When the Palestinian element marched past us, they chanted slogans at us, gave us the V sign, and one guy came up to me and said: "how can you hold that racist flag"? But we did hand out 1000 leaflets which explained the cooperation and connection between the Israeli union movement, the Histadrut, and the Palestinian unions who receive money from the Histadrut. I hope that some of those who took the leaflets will read them and be educated.

I would go back to the Tolpuddle Martyrs' Festival again. I would like to try a different approach, perhaps wear the Zionist badge and try to engage with the sensible people. A significant number of the people who were at the festival were dangerous and all Jews should be aware of this.

They see all Jews who are Zionists as enemies and murderers. This was brought home to me the next day when I found out that my nephew had been shopping in a Sainsbury's in London when the security guard approached him and told him that there are too many of you people around, you're evil and you kill children. "How would you like it if I killed your family"?

This narrative is spreading like a virus, and combatting the virus is not helped by Labour's current Code of Conduct in relation to anti-Semitism; it has been well publicised that in its Code, the Labour party has not adopted the complete definition of anti-Semitism established by the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA). Instead, Labour has adopted its own version of the definition, amending or dropping the IHRA's examples of hatred against Jews.

In a recent Sky Data Poll, more than a third of those questioned amongst all political parties thought that Jeremy Corbyn tolerates anti-Semitism in the Labour Party (37% Yes, 26% No, 36% Don't Know).

*If he becomes Prime Minister of this country, it will become an even more dangerous place for Jews than it is now.*

MARILYN DEXTER



# NEW YEAR GREETINGS

**BAKER** Jayne, Tali and Scott, Benjamin, Yasmine and Laya, wish the community a happy, healthy and successful New Year.

**BLOOM** Rosamunde and Neal wish the entire Community a very happy and healthy New Year and well over the Fast.

**BOURNEMOUTH HEBREW LADIES GUILD** wish Rabbi Jesner and Pamela, Reverend Barry Sklan and Angela, together with the entire community a Healthy, Happy New Year.

**BOURNEMOUTH LEAGUE OF JEWISH WOMEN** wish Rabbi Jesner and Pamela, Reverend Barry Sklan and Angela, together with the entire community a Healthy, Happy New Year.

**BOURNEMOUTH SEPHARDI ASSOCIATION** wish the Bournemouth Hebrew Congregation and all the Jewish Community a peaceful, healthy and happy New Year and well over the Fast.

**BOURNEMOUTH WIZO** wishes all its members and the whole Community a very Happy, Healthy, Peaceful New Year.

**BROCKINER** Jack wishes Rabbi and Rebbetzen Jesner, Reverend Barry and Mrs Angela Sklan and the whole community a happy and peaceful New Year.

**BRYSH** Isa extends greetings and best wishes for the New Year 5779 to Rabbi and Rebbetzen Jesner, Reverend and Mrs Barry Sklan, the President, Honorary Officers, Executive Committee and members of the Bournemouth Hebrew Congregation L'Shanah Tovah Tikateivu.

**COHEN** Freda and Ken wish everyone a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year and well over the Fast.

**COSKY** Megan and Lewis send best wishes to all their family and friends for a happy healthy year and well over the Fast.

**COWAN** Thelma wishes all her friends and the entire community a very happy and peaceful New Year.

**DEXTER** Marilyn and Bernie wish all family and friends a Shanah Tova and peace for Israel.

**DWORKIN** Carole wishes to send New Year Greetings to family, friends and the whole Congregation.

**GOLDBERGER** Ilana and Michael together with all their family wish the community a happy and healthy New Year and well over the Fast.

**GRAHAM** Nigel and Francine wish everybody connected with BHC a very happy and healthy New Year. With love and best wishes from them and their entire family of boys Joshua, Jason, Shaul, Alon, Charles and Sammy.

**GRANT** Evelyn and Michael together with all their family wish the entire Community a healthy and happy New Year and well over the Fast.

**HARRIS** Valerie wishes all her children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and friends, a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year.

**HARTH** Syd and Hillary wish their family and friends a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year and as easy Fast.

**INVERNE** Zena wishes all family and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

**JESNER** Rabbi Adrian and Pamela Jesner wish everyone at the Bournemouth Hebrew Congregation a happy and healthy New Year and well over the Fast.

**KAMMERLING** Herta and Walter wish Rabbi & Rebbetzen Jesner, Reverend Barry and Angela Sklan, and all their friends in the Community, a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year. Shana Tova.

**KASMIR** John wishes all his family and friends, Rabbi Jesner and Pamela, Reverend Barry and Angela Sklan, Life Presidents and the entire community a happy and healthy New Year and well over the Fast.

**KAYE** Mandy and Larry, together with their children and grandchildren, wish all their family, Rabbonim and friends, a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year.

**KEEN** Marilyn & Jeffrey wish Rabbi and Rebbetzen Jesner, Reverend Barry and Mrs Sklan, our dear family and friends a happy and healthy year and well over the Fast.

**LEMEL** Lucille and Nat wish all their friends in the Bournemouth Community a very happy and healthy New Year.

**LIPSITH** Josie and Harvey wish all their dear family and friends a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year.

**LOW** Enid sends sincere greetings for a year of peace, happiness and good health.

**LURIE** Barbara and Simon wish all their family and friends a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year.

**LURIE** Jean wishes all her family and friends a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year

**MILLER** Cyndy and Tony wish everybody a happy and healthy New Year.

**MORRIS** Frank wishes the community a very happy, healthy and peaceful New Year.

**OLSWANG** Verity wishes her dear family and friends a happy and healthy New Year and well over the Fast.

**OPAS** Gary and Jan wish all our friends and everyone in the community a very happy and healthy New Year and well over the Fast.

**OZDAMAR** Mahir and Anne together with Karen, Dan, Harry and Georgie, and Liza, Gavin, Jacob and Elana, wish their friends and the Community a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year.



**PINS** Michael and Janet wish their family and friends a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year.

**RADLEY** Fay wishes her dear family and friends a healthy and happy New Year and thanks them for all the love and care shown to her.

**REIN** Corinne together with her family wish Rabbi & Rebbetzen Jesner, Reverend and Mrs Sklan, the Executive and the community a happy New Year and peace to all Israel.

**ROSE** Tony and Coreen wish all their Bournemouth friends a happy and healthy New Year.

**ROYSTON** Leila and Ronnie wish their daughters, son-in-law, grandchildren and great-granddaughters, relatives and friends a healthy and happy New Year.

**SAUNDERS** Ruth and Richard wish all their friends a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year.

**SEGAL** Lorraine and Len wish all their family and friends a happy, healthy and safe New Year.

**SHERWOOD** Sylvia and Gerald wish their family and friends a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year.

**SHINDLER** Muriel and Irvin wish Rabbi and Rebbetzen Jesner, and all our family and friends a very happy and healthy New Year.

**SHOP AT THE SHUL** wishes to thank all its customers and volunteers for their support and hard work. Hoping we all have a sweet and happy Shana Tova.

**SONDACK** Barrie and Diane Perless wish all their family and friends a happy, healthy New Year.

**TALISMAN** Arnold and Rosalie wish Rabbi and Rebbetzen Adrian Jesner, Reverend & Mrs Barry Sklan and all their friends a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year.

**TAYLOR** Leon and Rhona wish all their family and friends a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year.

**TOBIAS** Barbara and Martin wish all our dear friends in Bournemouth a happy, peaceful and above all healthy New Year and well over the Fast.

**WAINER** Eta and Gerald wish their children, grandchildren, family and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

**WARTSKI** John – I have never known myself to be so happy and contented! Sending good wishes to Rabbi and Rebbetzen Jesner, Reverend and Mrs Sklan, Honorary Officers and their families, the whole Congregation, residents and staff of Hannah Levy House for a very happy and peaceful New Year.

**WEINTROUB** Irene, Ivor, Nicola, Daniel, Simon, Timna, Lilya and Diego, wish all the members of the Congregation, friends and family, a happy and healthy New Year and a peaceful Fast.

**WEITZMAN** Avis and David send best wishes from Israel for Shanah Tovah to all friends and BHC members. May we all be blessed with peace, health and happiness in the coming year.

**WHITE** Marilyn and Stephen together with their dear children and grandchildren, wish family and friends a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year.

**WISEMAN** Anna and Simon extend every good wish for a very happy and healthy New Year to all the Congregation.

## NOTICE FOR NEW VOLUNTEERS

Bournemouth Jewish Social Services provides much needed assistance to any Jewish person living mainly in Bournemouth and Poole, Christchurch and in the Wessex area.

In order to continue providing this invaluable service, we urgently need volunteers to help with any or all of the following:

- To complete forms – benefits, blue badge applications etc. .
- assess new clients to establish their needs.
- point people in the right direction to obtain help they need
- undertake home and hospital visits,
- assist with shopping

Training , guidance and support is given to all volunteers .

Whether you can spare the occasional hour or are able to undertake a more regular commitment, all help is gratefully received.

If you think you could help, please get in touch with us at [bjss1@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:bjss1@hotmail.co.uk).

Alternatively, please telephone and leave a message for Pat on our (unmanned) office phone - 01202 298817. *We will get back to you as soon as possible.*

We look forward to hearing from you.

PAT AND JOSIE

# LADIES GUILD LUNCH

## *"A Spoonful of Sherman"*

On Sunday 10th June, organised by Thelma and her excellent team, 120 guests sat down in the Menorah Suite to a delightful lunch. The Tables were appropriately decorated with musical notes on the serviettes.

A brief welcome by Thelma who introduced Dr. Amit Char, the Chief Radiologist at Bournemouth Hospital, who spoke about the need for a new scanner, and all the proceeds from today's event would go towards that wonderful cause.

After lunch Thelma then introduced our honoured guest Robbie Sherman who was interviewed by Simon Galkoff with some really fascinating questions, and appropriate answers from Robbie.

Following a few interesting questions from the floor, and one question that wasn't asked and that is "Which came first the words or the music?" and the answer is always the same..... the telephone call! Robbie then adjourned to the piano and gave us more than a spoonful or two, in fact a large helping, of his wonderful and fascinating life in music.

Robert J. Sherman or "Robbie" (born in 1928) is the highly talented son of the late Robert B. Sherman (1925-2012) who along with his brother Richard M. Sherman (born in 1928, 90 this month!) have jointly written some of the most memorable film and stage musicals of all time including: *Mary Poppins*, *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*, *Bedknobs and Broomsticks*, and so many more shows. They rightfully won two Oscars, two Grammys and an astounding 24 Gold and Platinum records. Indeed, the Sherman Brothers wrote more musical film song scores than any other composer and lyricist team in Hollywood history. Robbie just finished a UK and Ireland tour of his 5 Star show, *A Spoonful of Sherman* which chronicles 100 years of Sherman songwriting and songwriters. The show in fact played at the Bournemouth Pavilion earlier this year. Robbie gave us a one-man overview of that show on Sunday.

Robbie's grandfather was the first in the line, also a noted songwriter, but from the Tin Pan Alley era. Al Sherman (1897-1973) wrote songs for Bing Crosby, Maurice Chevalier, Billie Holiday, Ella Fitzgerald, Frank Sinatra, and Rudy Vallee and in the waning days of vaudeville was a part of a travelling troupe of songwriters in a show entitled *Songwriters on Parade*. When the Sherman Brothers won their Oscars for *Mary Poppins* in 1965, Al's old friend Ira Gershwin (George Gershwin's lyricist brother) wrote to Al's sons: Robert and Richard saying "You're my favourite brother act since George and me!" It certainly doesn't get any better



*The Ladies Guild Committee*

than that, does it?

Skipping ahead to the next generation, Robbie explained how his father and uncle, Robert and Richard were hired personally by Walt Disney in 1960 and worked for Walt until his death in 1966. The Sherman Brothers finally took their leave from Disney Studios in 1968 but not before creating some of the most iconic family music of all time!

When asked by Simon whether the rumours of Walt Disney being anti-Semitic were true, Robbie said that they were absolutely not. He explained their origins being from a "tell-all" book published the year after Disney's death and that the motives behind its publication were dubious at best. But sadly bad rumours persist. It is required that good and responsible people stop those rumours. Robbie elaborated that as a World War II decorated veteran who joined the Army a year early so that he could fight Nazi's, Robbie's father did not take anti-Semitism lying down. Robbie said, "My father knew and worked with Walt and was adamant that those rumours were false. And considering my father's history, just in this area, that's testimony you could take to the bank!"

Simon then asked what it was like to be the son of a famous lyricist. To this Robbie replied, "It was much as you'd hope it would have been. My father had the heart of a poet. In company, Walt Disney would, on occasion refer to the elder Robert Sherman simply as 'The Poet'." Robbie elaborated on this, sharing an anecdote from his childhood. When Robbie was about 10 years old, father and son were driving along Santa Monica Blvd. in Beverly Hills, California when the elder Robert saw a beautiful garden of roses. (Growing roses was a shared hobby of Robbie's parents.) The elder Robert declared, "I'll bet those roses smell wonderful!" to which Robbie declared: "I wouldn't know. I've never smelled a rose." This wouldn't do, so the elder Robert made a U-turn (not a recommended move by the California Department of Motor Vehicles). The two of them got out of the car, walked up to the rose bed, and then, first father, then son, proceeded to smell the roses. Father then gently admonished son, "In life it is important to take time to smell the roses." "That's what I mean when I say he

had a Poet's Heart.", Robbie continued. "He quite literally would take time out to 'smell the roses.' And I think we can all learn something from my Dad's example."

Robbie then sang a selection of songs at the piano beginning with his grandfather, Al Sherman's Tin Pan Alley hit: "Save Your Sorrow (For Tomorrow)" the royalties from which paid the hospital bills when Robert arrived in December 1925. He also played Al Sherman's "You Gotta Be A Football Hero" which was the biggest song in America in 1932.

Robbie then sang and played a dozen or so Sherman Brothers' greatest hits including The Academy Award winning "Best Song" from 1964: "Chim Chim Cher-ee". Also from Mary Poppins, he sang, "Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious!" and "A Spoonful of Sugar". Walt Disney's favourite song of all was the Sherman Brothers', "Feed the Birds".

Robbie pointed out that in "Feed the Birds" there is an underlying theme of giving charity, something never written about in a popular song prior to that time. Specifically the lyrics from the song expound on how giving charity is a merit to the giver and how that is a uniquely Jewish concept.

Robbie told the story of how often, at the end of day, on Fridays, Walt would call the Sherman Brothers into his office and after some small talk, he would quietly say... "Play it!" Robbie's uncle (who was the musician of the two Sherman Brothers) knew what Walt wanted to hear. He would then play the "Feed the Birds" [on the baby grand piano which was in Walt's office].

Robbie continued his performance for us playing "Hushabye Mountain" which was originally from the 1968 motion picture, Chitty Chitty Bang Bang. The theatrical version of Chitty came to London in 2002, receiving rave reviews. Chitty is currently the most successful stage show ever produced at the London Palladium, boasting the longest run in that century-old theatre's history.

Robbie, who is also a professional songwriter, then played one of his own numbers, a catchy patter song called: "Crunchy Crackers" a comedy song from his 2015 Edinburgh Festival hit Love Birds

Robbie, born in California, came to London with his father soon after the passing of Robert's wife (and Robbie's mother), Joyce in 2001. The elder Robert needed to get away from it all and so with the opening of first Chitty Chitty Bang Bang in 2002 and then the London opening of Mary Poppins in 2004, there was plenty to make the elder Robert, by then 75 feel very needed and useful. Both Robert and Robbie stayed in London, loving it dearly! Robbie



*Robbie at the piano*



*Dr Amit Char, Robbie Sherman Coreen Rose, Tony Rose and Simon Galkoff*

further explained that with the death of the film musical, only stage is left for the genre. And there are only two placed on the globe that you can still create and propagate musicals, London or New York. These are the great musical hubs!

Robbie has had his own personal musical successes with a show called Love Birds which premiered at The Edinburgh Fringe in 2015 and which was lauded by both crowds and critics alike. Robbie is currently rewriting and lengthening the show with intentions of bringing it to the West End. The show is a fantasy about parrots and penguins singing in a Vaudeville revue. Robbie sang one number from Love Birds entitled "Crunchy Crackers" which is sung by an opera singing, cracker crazed macaw.

Robbie's grandfather Al, had a hobby making kites, which he would give to neighbourhood children for free. Robbie explained that this was the inspiration for his father and uncle to write "Let's Go Fly a Kite" (from Mary Poppins). Robbie led the group in song as 120 listeners also joined in, singing and swaying to the infectious melody and soaring words.

I little thought that when I saw the wonderful exhibit at the New York World's Fair on a hot summers day 54 years ago that I would be writing this article, but...

"It's A Small World After All". Oh yes and that's something else the Sherman Brothers wrote too! (and which Robbie played and sang and which much of the house sang along). And that song is on record as the most performed song on earth, playing somewhere on the globe, non-stop for many decades now because of all the Disney parks in which it plays on a continual loop.

Following on the from the 2016 West End success with his last show Bumblescratch a musical about the Plague and the Great Fire of London as a postscript I must mention that Robbie is a Rat!

That is to say, he really is.....a member of the Grand Order of Water Rats but that's a story for another day.

A vote thanks was very ably given by Coreen Rose and everyone in the room went away in a much happier mood.

For me It was an afternoon that was so enjoyable I didn't want it to end.

CHRIS WOODWARD

# THE DISAPPEARING SUITCASE

Last Pesach, due to my ill health, Neal and I stayed at the Queens Hotel in Bournemouth, which was kosher for Pesach.

We had a most enjoyable time and all went very smoothly until the day of departure.

Pesach ended on a Saturday night and all the guests in the hotel were requested to vacate their rooms by 11.00 am the next day, Sunday.

Neal and I brought our luggage downstairs to the reception area in good time at 10.45 am and I went to the lounge to wait for our taxi to take us home. The reception area was a real balagan with many of the guests and luggage waiting for drivers to take them home to various parts of the country, such as London, Leeds, Manchester and Liverpool.

Whilst waiting Neal came into the lounge to tell me that my suitcase had disappeared. "Can't have done," I said. After making a complete search of the area my case had indeed disappeared and we went home. We informed the hotel staff about what had happened and the next day the manager looked at the footage on the CCTV camera, which luckily the hotel had in the reception area. Low and behold, a taxi driver was spotted with a lady who had been a guest in the hotel, taking my rather large black suitcase out of the front door. The lady had left behind her own purple suitcase - not much difference in colour!

When the hotel manager rang the lady, who lived in London, to inform her what had happened, she was most apologetic and

embarrassed. She immediately offered to pay for a taxi firm to take her suitcase to London and return mine to Bournemouth. There was just one problem, the lady had not realised the suitcase she had taken home did not belong to her and her cleaner had already unpacked the case. I had not locked my case, as I did not think it was necessary. After all, I was not at an airport or a coach station, so why was it necessary to lock it? The lady told the hotel manager that her cleaner would not be coming again until the following week, when she would ask her to repack the case. Therefore the case would not be ready to be returned to Bournemouth until the following Wednesday.

Thinking that I may have to make an insurance claim if I did not get my belongings back, I made a list of everything I could remember I had in the suitcase. Neal emailed the list to the hotel and this was posted to the lady in London, in order to assist the cleaner with the repacking, ready for the taxi firm to return the case the following week.

The following week, I received a phone call from the hotel to say they now had my case and Neal went to collect it. He unpacked the case item by item, which I ticked off against my list. Everything was present and correct. There was even a cardigan, which I had forgotten about.

I did wonder if the lady may have put a note of apology in the case but there was nothing apart from a biro pen and a small ladies comb in a cellophane bag.

*You could not make up such a story! C'est la vie.*

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# YOM HAATZMAUT AT BHC

Following a solemn Yom Hazikaron service at the Bournemouth Hebrew Congregation, a dinner to celebrate the 70th Anniversary of Israel's founding was held in its Menorah Suite.

One hundred and seventy people sat down in the hall which was bedecked with blue and white balloons, decorations and Israeli flags.

Speeches were made by Bournemouth's Mayor, Lawrence Williams, who had recently returned with a party of local councillors from a visit to Israel, which included a stay in Netanya, which is twinned with Bournemouth, and Senior Trustee of BHC, Geoffrey Feld who has served on several fund raising committees for Israel, including JIA.

They were followed by Elad Ratson, Director of Public Diplomacy in the UK and Special Foreign Ministry Advisor for Algorithmic Diplomacy, who spoke about his experiences whilst working internationally in a wide number of countries and for future developments in Israel.

Final speaker was Conor Burns, MP for Bournemouth West, who spoke of his own support for Israel, which he has visited several times, and for the Jewish people in this country, who have made such a contribution to life here. He read out a letter from Theresa May, the Prime Minister, in which she spoke warmly of Israel and its achievements in so many fields. She also spoke of her respect for the Jewish people and her intention to rid this country of "the scourge" of anti-Semitism.

The following day the festivities continued with a post Shacharit Breakfast.

In the afternoon, there was a showing attended by sixty people of the film "The Prime Ministers", which is based on the book written by Yehuda Avner, and narrated by him. A remarkable film, it goes through momentous events from the time he arrives in 1947 to Israel, to when he works for Levi Eshkol, Golda Meir, Yitzhak Rabin and Menachem Begin.

The film goes then made their way to the decorated Menorah Suite, where about another forty people joined them for a celebration Afternoon Tea.



*Compere Brian Bradley with Elad Ratson*



*l to r Geoffrey Feld, Mayoress Elaine Williams, Rabbi Jesner, Mayor Lawrence Williams, Elad Ratson, Susan Feld and Mrs Pamela Jessner*



*Conor Burns, MP for Bournemouth West*



*Afternoon film show*



*Afternoon tea in the Menorah suite*

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# BOURNEMOUTH HEBREW LADIES' GUILD

## – Annual Report

It has, as usual, been a busy year for the Guild, and it has once again been very nice to cater so many kiddushim celebrating simchas, including chagim, special birthdays, anniversaries, engagements, weddings, Bar and Bat Mitzvahs, welcoming visiting schools and visiting Rabbis and Chazanim, as well as catering Communal Lunches and Dinners with guest speakers.

In addition, the Guild has carried out their welfare work, visiting and helping people who are in hospital, care homes or live on their own and are housebound, and ensuring that they receive honey cakes for Rosh Hashanah and appropriate provisions for Pesach. It has also been a pleasure to cater and serve the meal at 'Meet 'n Munch at the Menorah' which has proved to be such a popular fortnightly event for the whole community. 'Meet 'n Munch' celebrated its 5th anniversary in July.

On the first night of Succot, 30 people sat down to a delicious meal in the Succah catered by the Guild, and for Simchat Torah the Guild catered a lunch attended by 100 plus to honour the Chatanim and Neshei Chayil. It is always a very enjoyable simcha for everyone, particularly members of the families who travel great distances to be there on this special occasion.

On Wednesday 13th December, the Guild catered a Chanukah Tea with entertainment by Uni-Sing which was enjoyed by all.

On Sunday 13th May, at the BHC event to celebrate Yom Yerushalayim, the Guild catered the buffet tea following the talk given by the Israeli Ambassador, Mr Mark Regev. Later in the month, on Motzei Shabbat 29th May, Erev Shavuot, the Guild catered a salmon meal for the Tikkun Leil.

On Sunday 10th June, the Guild Lunch showcased the talents of songwriter and entertainer Robbie Sherman. This was a fundraiser for the Bournemouth Hospital Charity Mini MRI Scanner Appeal.

On Sunday 8th July, the Guild celebrated 100 years since its inception by holding a Centenary Dinner.

We look forward to continuing with our welfare work and to serve the Community in 5779 and we wish you all Shana Tova.

**A Date for your Diaries:** Sunday 28th October:

**Guild Dinner with "Frankie's Guys" – a celebration of Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons.**

Ticket price: £22.50 to include a 3 course meal.

AUDREY KNELLER, HON SECRETARY  
– SEPTEMBER 2018

## MEET 'N MUNCH AT THE MENORAH

At the time of writing this, in the second half of July, we are preparing to take about three dozen members of the Jewish Community to the Sir Harold Hillier Gardens, near Romsey, on the 24th July.

This date will mark the 5th Anniversary of starting the lunch club. We are still averaging at least fifty five customers every time we meet.

At this point, we must give a sincere vote of thanks to our dedicated band of helpers. First of all, the loyal group of trained security people, who keep us safe within the building. Also, the helpers inside, such as the cooks, the people who serve tea or coffee, or who run a scaled down version of the Shul shop, or serve meals to our customers.

Also, our volunteer drivers, led by Derek and Bobby Winograd, who faithfully transport those who find walking very difficult. I must also give a special mention to Frances Gordon, who helps me at the cash desk, and Rita Shlamka,

who regularly turns in a profit of £20 or more for us, while running our raffle.

Without all of these people, we could not have not possibly have continued to make it a friendly, welcoming and enjoyable place.

Our next three functions, which may have already taken place by the time you read this, will be:

**July 31st: Entertainment from the versatile Amanda Young.**

**August 14th: A talk given by Max Dias on the 'Adon Olam.'**

**September 4th: Alan Kneller's presentation of songs by Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin and Sammy Davis Jr.**

This brings me to our next big thank you. Alan Kneller has worked tirelessly to arrange the entertainment programme, which has proved so interesting and enjoyable this year.

And lastly, a thank you to all our faithful customers who have supported us so enthusiastically, and to Rabbi Adrian Jesner for his unfailing support

BRIAN AND KATARINA WEBB  
AND THELMA COWAN.

# CORPORAL LEONARD STOPLER MILITARY MEDAL – MY BELOVED UNCLE

by Jean Lurie



Visiting my Uncle's grave in April 2018, at the Anzio Beach Head War Cemetery in Italy was something I had long wished to do.

My parents and aunt had done so in 1968, but I would never have attempted this journey on my own. Knowing this, my son Simon and his wife Barbara organised the trip there, which coincided with Italy's National Liberation Remembrance Day.

We were joined by Roz and Michael Rose - my cousin Roz is also a niece of Uncle Len, and by Paul, who is a great-nephew, as is my son Simon. They were all born long after Uncle Len was killed on the 18th March 1944 at Anzio during the Italian Campaign in the Second World War. I am now the only one left in the family who is old enough to remember him.

We based ourselves in Rome, which is about an hour from Anzio. On the first day we went to the Rome Jewish Quarter (the old ghetto area) which has many kosher restaurants where we ate. We wanted to visit the Shul, but we could not go inside as it did not coincide with their tour times. There were security guards and a turnstile outside: it seems to be well protected. In the main street, Via del Portico d'Ottavia, were some brass plaques set in the pavement. These plaques were inscribed with the names of people who had lived in the street at the start of the war and were deported from Rome to the concentration camps, very few of whom returned. Whilst this was distressing to see, it was positive that these people were remembered as individuals and not just numbers.

During the drive to the Beach Head War Cemetery I was feeling apprehensive as I knew this would be very emotional for me to be visiting the grave of my Uncle whom I had loved dearly as a child. I have an abiding memory of my dear Uncle Len giving me a gorgeous doll dressed in blue satin, which was as tall as I was at the age of four. However, this was just before the



outbreak of the war when evacuation threatened, so my mother took the doll for safekeeping. Ominously I never saw it again!

Uncle Len (one of seven children) was born in Carlisle, whilst his mother was visiting her father, Rabbi Moishe Pinsker, who was shomering Bonn's Matzos at the Carrs Carlisle factory. Len was brought up in London where he was a member of the Stepney

Jewish Boys Club and was captain of both football and cricket teams and won many sporting medals. He was always brave and had fought against the Mosley Fascists gangs in London's East End. He volunteered for the army at the outbreak of the war, joining the Cameronians, a Scottish Rifle regiment which was part of the Eighth Army. Many of his friends were from Scotland and so he maintained his affiliation with the North. The medallion pictured is of Uncle Len and his Cameronians Cap Badge.

We know he was posted to India as there is a snapshot of him there. He contracted Malaria twice and my mother and aunt said that if he had caught it a third time he would be sent home – had he survived.



Corporal Leonard Stopler was awarded the Military Medal for his bravery in searching and rescuing wounded men at the Rosarno (Italy) battleground under intense mortar and machine gun fire on the 8th September 1943. Part of his citation reads:

'... Corporal Stopler's example did much to encourage the remainder of the men in a difficult situation. He behaved in an exemplary manner and showed complete disregard for his own personal safety'.

He knew he had been awarded the Military Medal, the highest award given to non-commissioned officers; it was published in the London Gazette on the 27th January 1944. Unfortunately, he tried to repeat this action of saving wounded soldiers two months later, during the Battle of Anzio, but this time he was caught in crossfire and was killed at the age of 25.

I remember his last "home" visit to his sisters, my mother and aunt, who lived together in Oxford, where the family were evacuated. I still have a vivid memory of him coming to say "goodbye". This was very traumatic as he had a strong intuition that he would not be coming back. Sadly, he was to be proved right.

My grandmother, on hearing that she and my grandfather were requested to go to Buckingham Palace to collect the Military Medal in February 1946, said "I don't want that - I want

my son”, but she was told, “You cannot refuse the King – it is an insult to the Crown”. So, my foreign-born grandparents went from Westbourne Arcade, Bournemouth where they then lived, to the Palace to be presented with the Military Medal [pictured here]. They travelled on third class rail vouchers supplied by the Central Chancery of the Orders of Knighthood, St James’s Palace.



On arriving at the Beach Head War Cemetery, we walked through arches covered in gorgeous wisteria to my uncle’s grave. This was set amongst the 2,200 graves of servicemen, some as young as 19, who are buried at this beautifully maintained military cemetery.

Reaching my uncle’s graveside, I felt quite overwhelmed at seeing his final resting place. Inscribed on the headstone was ‘Corporal L Stopler MM, The Cameronians 18 March 1944’, engraved with a large Magen David and ‘Sadly mourned by his Parents, Brothers, Sisters, Relatives and Friends’.

Simon conducted a moving service at the graveside, in which we all participated and joined in saying Psalm 23 “The Lord is my Shepherd”, followed by Kaddish. After the playing of the “Last Post” we humbly stood for a minute’s silence, which was followed by “Reveille”, The National Anthem, and the Hatikvah.

We found ten more graves of Jewish soldiers and recited Kaddish for each of them. It was especially distressing to see

the graves of the soldiers who were so very young.

There are many unnamed soldiers which was so very sad - their gravestones were inscribed, ‘Known unto G-d’. However, they are all resting in a beautifully maintained military cemetery which is some comfort to have seen. It was a very harrowing but



somehow heartening visit and as Roz said, we can only hope that somehow Uncle Len knows of our visit.

Corporal Leonard Stopler’s name is read out at every Yizkor service in our Shul, along with the many other brave young men who ‘gave their today that we might have our tomorrow’, plus the other Jewish servicemen buried in our Boscombe Cemetery from both World Wars.

There is a young child buried between my grandparents at Boscombe Cemetery, as when my grandfather died very suddenly in 1948, the adjoining grave was not automatically reserved for the surviving spouse as it is nowadays. The family consoled my grandmother by saying that this child had taken the place of her son Leonard and there is a marble book in memory of Leonard on my grandfather’s grave.

Deplorably, the Military Medal and Cap Badge, which were kept in a safe at my late cousin’s bungalow, were stolen during the time that my cousin’s husband spent his final four days in hospital late last year. The burglars removed the whole safe.

Barbara and Simon are now attempting to get a replacement medal, which is obviously very difficult to do and is a long process. Proof must be given of the theft and also the relationship between my uncle and me, which involves sending Birth and Marriage Certificates to the Ministry of Defence. Hopefully, there will be a happy result.

I can only say a huge ‘Thank You’ to Simon and Barbara for arranging and organising this trip – the birthday gift of a lifetime for me.

Simon’s second name is Leonard after my beloved late Uncle.

*Editor’s note*

*On the 3rd September 1943 the Allies invaded the Italian mainland, the invasion coinciding with an armistice made with the Italians who then re-entered the war on the Allied side. The Germans put up stiff resistance and the Allies broke through in Sicily and then Southern Italy; the Cameronians were in January 1944 moved from Sicily to Rosarno and then to Anzio some 60 miles to the north. A breakthrough at Anzio, a small coastal port, was not actually achieved until June. The battle for Rome 32 miles to the north, could now begin, with the ultimate objective of reaching Berlin before the Russians.*

**“Their name liveth for evermore”**



*The memorial at the Beach Head War Cemetery, Anzio:*

# THE CAIRO GENIZAH

We spent last Spring Bank Holiday in Cambridge, taking part in a one day tour organised by Marcel Manson for Jewish Renaissance.

The day was organised in two parts; in the morning we visited sites of interest in the city centre and in the afternoon we went to the Cambridge University Library to learn more about the Cairo Genizah; In this article I shall be summarising the intriguing and fascinating story of this Genizah.

The word Genizah is believed to have entered the Hebrew language from Farsi and it means a storeroom or a repository. The Cairo Genizah refers to the attic room in the Ben Ezra Synagogue located in Fustat, which is a suburb of modern day Cairo; therefore to be accurate, we should be talking about the Fustat Genizah.

The Genizah in the Ben Ezra synagogue is where the Jews of the area deposited their worn out scrolls, sacred texts, their letters and anything and everything that had Hebrew text on it. These items numbering an astonishing 300,000 individual pieces shed light over the past 1000 years, giving us a remarkable insight into the religious, social, business and personal lives of the Jewish community of Fustat. Most of the material dates back to the 11th to 13th centuries - a very important period in Jewish history.

The content of the Cairo Genizah is unique in providing such a wide ranging written record of the past 1000 years. Why was this treasure of discarded history found in a Cairo suburb? Three elements appear to have conspired to preserve this treasure trove of written history:

- a. The Jewish custom of respecting and preserving anything with Hebrew writing on it;
- b. The warm, dry climate of Fustat; and
- c. The fact that the Ben Ezra synagogue stood intact for 1000 years.

When we arrived at the Cambridge Library, we were led to a conference room with comfortable seats. We were given a 1 hour presentation by Dr Melonie Schmierer-Lee (Dr MSL) which was informative and entertaining in equal

measure. Dr MSL has spent the past 11 years studying material from the Cairo Genizah and she is passionate about the subject. Here is the story as told by Dr MSL.

The story begins in 1896 when Scottish twins Agnes and Margaret, who were independently wealthy, thanks to the fortune inherited from their businessman father, returned from a trip to Egypt and Palestine. They brought with them scraps of documents they had found in the Genizah of the Ben Ezra synagogue. Amongst them there was a page of particular interest, identified as being from the original Hebrew book of Ben Sira. They showed these documents to their friend, Cambridge lecturer Solomon Schechter, who immediately recognised the importance of the find and shortly afterwards travelled to Cairo himself. Solomon Schechter was a charismatic man; despite rivalry from other

parties also interested in snaring these documents, Schechter was successful in obtaining the permission of the Chief Rabbi of Egypt to take 'whatever he liked'.

Schechter declared that he 'liked all' and, with the help of his wealthy colleague Charles Taylor, shipped some 193,000 documents back to Cambridge, amounting to some 2/3 of the entire content of the Genizah. The remaining 1/3 is scattered across numerous libraries, personal collections or simply buried or lost.

The documents cover a wide range of topics from worn-out Bibles to prayer books, from dowries to children's exercises, from poems to shopping lists and cheques.

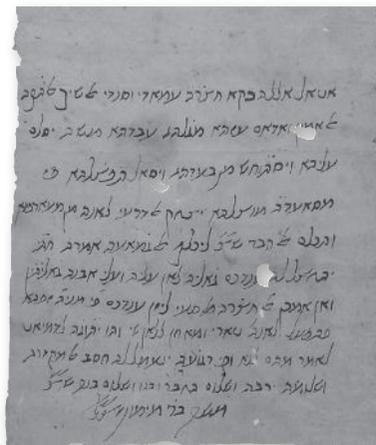
Documents are written in Hebrew and Arabic, in Latin, in Greek, in Aramaic, in Ladino and in Yiddish. There are fragments of Quran written in Hebrew and a Bible written in Hebrew with Arabic letters. The diversity is truly astounding.

Another fascinating aspect of the Genizah documents is how they bring history to life. Here are a few examples.

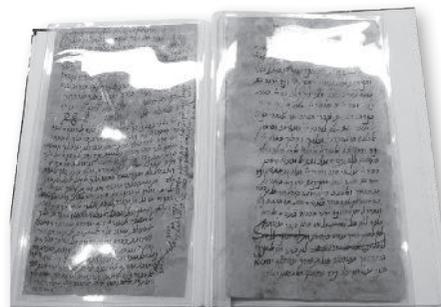
We find a Hagaddah reflecting the Syrian-Palestinian custom which asks a fifth question:

**Question:** Why is it that on all other nights we eat meat either roasted, marinated, or cooked, but on this night it is entirely roasted?

**Answer:** On all other nights, we eat meat that is roasted, stewed or boiled, while tonight we used to eat only roast meat in the Temple.



*Maimonides' signature can clearly be seen at the bottom of the page*



*Maimonides' handwritten manuscript from Guide for the Perplexed*

We find numerous documents relating to Moses Maimonides. Last year we visited Spain and toured the cities of Jewish interest, amongst them Cordoba, the birth place of Moses Maimonides. Later on he moved to Egypt and Ben Ezra in Fustat was his local synagogue. He died in Fustat at the age of 69. We find documents in his hand writing, giving rabbinic opinion about everyday matters such as marriage, letters he had written to Sultan Saladin, whose physician he was, and letters from his brother David, a merchant, who sadly died when his ship sank. These documents bring the individuals to life and help us make a connection with them by opening a tiny window from which we can peer into their lives 900 years ago.

After her lecture Dr MSL showed us a selection of the original documents she talked about and provided more interesting stories about each one. We spent another hour going through the documents, making those all-important connections to the people whose lives they reflect.

The visit to the Cambridge Library to learn about the Cairo Genizah was a great experience which surpassed my expectations. I highly recommend it, and if there is sufficient interest, we could organise a coach trip to Cambridge so that more people can enjoy this experience. If you are interested do let the office know. There are two recommended books



*Melonie Schmierer-Lee talking about the various manuscripts*

for those who would like to read about this subject: "Sacred Treasure, The Cairo Genizah" by Rabbi Mark Glickman and "Sacred Trash" by Adina Hoffman and Peter Cole.

My thanks go to Dr Melonie Schmierer-Lee for providing me with a copy of her presentation as well as links to Genizah documents in Ladino.

**MAHIR OZDAMAR**

## *Personal*

**BERKLEY** – I would like to take this opportunity to say a big “thank you” to Rabbi Jesner and to all the lovely people from the community who visited me during my stay in Poole Hospital and later in the Hannah Levy home. I was totally overwhelmed by the number of people who came. It was indeed a great comfort to me.

Thanks must also go to the Hannah Levy home who looked after me so magnificently. The care staff were absolutely superb. It made me feel lucky to be a part of such a wonderful and caring community. With all good wishes, Ruth Berkley.

**DEXTER** – Marilyn and Bernie thank the BHC choir who sang at the Chuppah of their son Brett and Daliah. Their singing really enhanced the service and made it even more special.

**LEE** – Susan and Cyril Lee thank everyone for their good wishes on the occasion of the barmitzvah of their grandson Jake in London on 28th April.



*The BHC choir (see Dexter, left)*

**SHAPIRO** – Sheila Shapiro would like to thank everyone for their condolences and sympathy on the death of her brother, Roderick A. Jacobs, (Ricky) in Atlanta USA. He was a pupil at Bournemouth School for Boys and had his Barmitzvah at our Shul in Wootton Gardens. If you knew him I would love to hear from you.

**SKLAN** – Angela and Barry would like to thank all those who sent good wishes following Barry’s recent surgery.

# 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS OF THE JEWISH COMMUNITY

*- Krakow Poland April 2018*

I recently came to the end of my term of office as a Trustee of World Jewish Relief after 10 years. When I joined the Board, there were serious discussions about the significant investment required to build a community centre in Krakow, as we knew it was not only building the centre, but also we would have to support the running costs for many years to come.

World Jewish Relief had the vision and, encouraged by Prince Charles, the Patron of World Jewish Relief, the project proceeded. The Krakow Jewish Community Centre (JCC), named Beit Chayil, was opened by the Prince of Wales and the Duchess of Cornwall in April 2008.

On the 19th April 2018, Marion and I travelled to Krakow to be part of the 10th birthday celebration of the JCC.

Friday morning gave us time to walk around the old Jewish quarter, Kazimierz. For me this was my first visit, but Marion, with her dear sister Connie, had been on a tour led by Rabbi Mirvis, as he then was, in 2008 just before the JCC was officially opened. For Marion, memory recall came back very quickly, despite significant regeneration and re building in the area. We walked around, mindful of the reality of the history of the area. Amongst sights and memorials that stood out was a visit to the famous Remu shul and graveyard with the grave and monument of the famous Rabbi Moishe Isserles. As we entered this tiny shul, we heard unbelievably clear young voice practising his barmitzvah portion with his father, a Chazan. This young voice made us see that there was a Jewish future here.

The celebratory weekend kicked off with Kabbalat Shabbat at the Isaac Synagogue, led by Rabbi Avi Bauman who, while living in Etzion Israel, visits Krakow on a monthly basis to provide spiritual support to the community. We then walked a short distance to the JCC where we were greeted with warmth and vibrancy in a room filled with many survivors and young people, who had found their roots. We were there with 20 people from World Jewish Relief, the present Chair and his two predecessors, both of whom had played such a significant role in the establishment of the JCC, together with Leo and Susan Noe. Leo was one of the main funders of this project. It was an unbelievable Friday with a personal highlight being a droshe from Zofia Radzikowska aged 84, who had survived the Holocaust with her mother by using fake documents. A member of the Children of the Holocaust Association, she is JCC Krakow's most active member. As a member of the Marble Arch whisky club, I had brought whisky to the table, which was passed round with Zofia enjoying a tipples or two.

Shabbat morning service was at the Isaac Synagogue

following which we visited members of the very active Hillel Gimel for Kiddush. This is the youngest member of the Hillel family, catering for 50-60 students with many of their members receiving bursaries through the World Jewish Relief Connections group. The young people inspired us with their stories of reconnecting to their Jewish roots, following which we returned the JCC for lunch. No shluf this Shabbat, as after lunch we were led on a two hour walking tour of the Old City of Krakow by Anna, our knowledgeable guide who had previously been a volunteer at the JCC. We celebrated Havdalah on a boat that then cruised along the Vistula through the centre of Krakow to the wonderful vocal sounds of Daniel Kahn. The whole boat was filled with the renewed life of a Jewish community in Krakow, with Zofia leading the party and so many young people surrounding her.

The climax of the celebrations was on Sunday afternoon with a concert and speeches in the beautiful Temple Synagogue that, having been used as a grain store during the Nazi occupation, had not been damaged. The community choir, with Zofia again demonstrating her active participation in all the JCC activities, sang and the choir finished with a medley based on the tunes of the Beatles. We then moved to a bar-b-cue party in the garden of JCC. As part of this, the

JCC Director Jonathan Ornstein, gave a briefing on the activities of the JCC and spoke of the amazing achievements in the past ten years. Jonathan, a former lifeguard on a Kibbutz, moved to Krakow in 2001 to teach at the University and in 2008 he met Paul Anticoni, World Jewish Relief's CEO, in a café where he had taken a group of students.

Paul saw 'manna from heaven' when he met Jonathan, following which he invited Jonathan to be the JCC's Director. Jonathan explained how the centre had reached this milestone, which would not have been achieved without the staff who today number 47 employees with 55 volunteers, 54 of whom are non-Jews. Jonathan gave us some details; they support 80 survivors and 200 have embraced their Jewishness by crossing the door.

As the centre enters its second decade, we celebrated the opening of a kindergarten. The centre is now bulging at the seams. Jonathan's energy has brought the JCC close to being self-funding and World Jewish Relief can look back with pride on the courage it took to commit funds to this project.

Marion and I left the party for our flight back to London, sad at leaving but with confidence that we had witnessed an unbelievable renewal of Jewish life.

Do not miss an opportunity of visiting the centre if you ever visit Krakow. We are convinced you will be as enthralled as we were.



MARION AND PETER REICHWALD

# WORLD JEWISH RELIEF GARDEN PARTY



*The Bournemouth, Bank Holiday Sunday, World Jewish Relief Garden Party - in record breaking weather.*

On a spectacularly warm sunny Bank Holiday Sunday 27 May, Barbara & Simon Lurie hosted a Garden Party at their Bournemouth home in aid of the World Jewish Relief program “Dine in HELP OUT”.

Instead of wine, chocolates, or flowers, their guests had been asked to contribute a donation to support the World Jewish Relief work, helping vulnerable Jewish communities, particularly in the Former Soviet Union.

The Guests arrived and were welcomed into the garden, where tables and chairs had been set out in readiness, cold drinks were served and music played in the background.

A delicious meal was hugely enjoyed and the guests socialised with friends old and new in this lovely setting.

Barbara & Simon thanked all their friends for their support, including those who had contributed but were celebrating Simchas elsewhere.

Simon also gave a background to the World Jewish Relief work, “that there are far too many older Jewish people not only tackling poverty, but battling loneliness and isolation. Many of these people feel as though they have no-one left in the world who cares about them. World Jewish Relief believe that no-one should have to face crippling loneliness.

This is why their programs, provided by this fund-raising and many other similar lovely events, help to achieve the aim of bringing people together to create warmth and community; to eat, chat and lift their spirits - a lifeline for those who would otherwise be stuck at home all week.

By taking part in Dine In, Help Out, you are helping us to bring people together”.

Barbara and Simon were thanked for arranging this well-organised event by all who attended.

It is hoped that others may take up this idea and follow by raising money for this Charity.

It was a delightful afternoon enjoyed by all who attended. The total amount raised at this event was in excess of £1,000.

## SHULAID BRIDGE AND GAMES SUPPER EVENING

Following a live large screen showing of the World Cup Football Final in the Menorah Suite, Shulaid held a Bridge and Games Evening, which raised £500 for the Synagogue.

Congratulations to the winners of the Chicago Bridge Competition who were Ellard Roberts (left) and Barry Berlyn (right).



# YOM YERUSHALIYIM

## *Ambassador Regev's visit to Bournemouth*

**A** visit to Bournemouth by Israel's Ambassador to the UK, Mark Regev coincided with Yom Yerushaliyim.

Following a brief tour of the Town Hall with Bournemouth's mayor, Lawrence Williams, he went to lunch at the home of Rabbi Adrian and Mrs Pamela Jesner, where he met leaders of many local Jewish organisations.

He then went on to the synagogue in Wootton Gardens, where he addressed an audience of more than 200 from different denominations in the town, plus members of the local Council of Christians and Jews. Ambassador Regev, referred to the importance of the day and the significance of a united Jerusalem to the Jewish people. Naturally, several light hearted references were made to the previous night's success in the Eurovision Song contest, as the Ambassador was introduced.

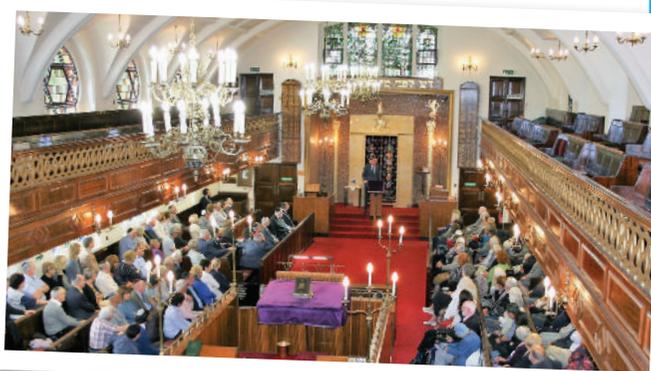
His up-beat talk spoke of how politically and economically, as well as spiritually, the future of Israel was secure. Many of the Arab states who previously had shunned Israel, now, because of the situation in Syria and with Iran, were in dialogue with the State. They also could see that Israel's remarkable growth in the past few years was bringing prosperity to her citizens, which no doubt they would wish to emulate.

The technological innovations had been significant, and were attracting overtures from parties worldwide who wanted to use this expertise. This success was leading to a feeling of confidence, especially among young Israelis, who were more than happy to undertake start-up businesses, and have faith in their own abilities to eventually to succeed.

He was happy to take questions from the floor on a wide



*Ambassador Regev at the home of Rabbi and Mrs Jesner*



*Ambassador Regev addresses the Community at BHC*

range of topics including the slanted reporting on Israel by the BBC and future trade links between Israel and this country.

The event concluded with a reception in the Menorah Suite, where Ambassador Regev chatted informally with numerous guests.



## ★ ★ MAZALTOV ★ ★



*Brett Dexter and Dahlia Elias who married on May 9th at Wootton Gardens Synagogue*

*Simon Bitton and Ceri Silverstone who married on 11th March at Mill Hill United Synagogue, London*



# COM KOREA NATIONAL SHOW

I was very honoured to have been the first International Judge to be invited to COM Korea's National Show in Seoul, South Korea. I had no hesitation in accepting such a great opportunity.

My wife had no hesitation in accompanying me either! The flights on Korean Airways were ten hours going and eleven hours returning. We arrived in the afternoon – Donald Trump had arrived in the morning! We only have high praise for our outstanding welcome to such a wonderful country. Very modern, well organised and very clean. We found the people very friendly, warm and, above all, extremely generous.

The Committee had arranged for us to stay at the very comfortable Sheraton D Cube City Hotel. Our room was on the 31st floor and the dining room was on the 41st floor – the view was fantastic. During our free time, in the evenings, we enjoyed wandering around the enormous shopping mall next to the hotel. The shops were full of good quality trendy clothes, shoes, bags, toys etc. etc. The restaurants were many and varied and there was also a Supermarket.

Mr. Ha, who is the Secretary of COM Korea, and who made all the arrangements and, Mr. Lee, a Director of his company were our outstanding hosts. They took us to the most unique and traditional restaurants for lunch, where shoes had to be removed before entering into our own private dining room. The local vegan and vegetarian food was absolutely delicious.

Whilst visiting the enormous grounds of an ancient palace, it happened to coincide with a high school graduation, so many of the students were dressed in national costume, to celebrate. We couldn't believe it when we found ourselves one afternoon, on the border with North Korea! What a memorable experience that was for us to see the barbed wire fences, lookout posts on both sides of the border and, a relic from past history, a huge old train engine that had once crossed the bridge over the river, travelling back and forth in friendlier times. Now, a reminder of the sad history, riddled with over a thousand bullet holes.

After a great week of sightseeing and dining, the day of the show arrived and it was time to go to the Exhibition Hall for the opening of the COM Korea 2017 Show. The hall was decked out with the most beautiful, tall, flower displays. One especially stood out, it was draped with two large, wide ribbons with the wording on one saying, 'Simon Tammam



Congratulations COM-Korea National Show' and the other saying, 'COM-UK OMJ'

The President and I were invited to cut the ribbons to open the show. We were greeted with such warmth by the members of COM Korea. The President welcomed us with a speech and I also said a few words in reply, mentioning how honoured I was to be judging their show. Diana and I were presented with beautiful Orchid corsages and the most gorgeous bouquets of flowers. I was also delighted to receive a heavy glass plaque with thoughtfully engraved words. Diana was very happy to receive the most amazing, black lacquered and mother-of-pearl, jewellery box, with many little gifts inside.

My wife was astounded and photos were taken and then I set about judging the canaries, finches, budgies and parakeets etc. The show attracted many visitors who enjoyed looking at the varied colourful birds. There was lots of chat going on amongst those attending, but unfortunately, we didn't understand a word!

The show was very well organised with many entries. The standard was high and once I had selected the three outstanding winners it was a difficult decision to choose the best in show. It took me quite some time to make up my mind. It was between a North Frill Canary, an Indian Ivory Ringneck Parakeet and a beautiful Gouldian Finch, the colour of which I have never seen before – brown breasted, silver body and red beak. In the end the Gouldian had the upper hand and was awarded best in show, beating the North Frill into second place and the Ringneck into third.

There was an entry of over 450 birds, not large by our standards, but the quality of the birds was very high. All the breeds excelled in their sections. I must congratulate all those who bred and showed to such an outstanding standard.

One main difference between judging in England and Korea is that in Korea the exhibitors are allowed to stay in the hall during judging. The show opens first, visitors enter the show hall and once seated, after the speeches, judging commences.

We have so many good memories of our amazing visit to Seoul, and we shall never forget the wonderful welcome we received.

SIMON TAMMAM



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# IRONMAN

In 1977, during the awards ceremony for the Oahu Perimeter Relay, the runners and swimmers were debating about which of them were more fit.

US Navy commander John Collins pointed out that a recent article in Sports Illustrated had declared that Belgian cyclist Eddy Merckx had the highest recorded oxygen uptake of any athlete ever measured, so perhaps it was cyclists who were the fittest. Collins suggested that the debate would be settled with a race combining three existing long-distance competitions: the Waikiki Roughwater Swim (2.4 miles), the Around-Oahu Bike Race (115 miles, originally a two day event) and the Honolulu Marathon (26.2 miles).

The bike course was shortened to 112 miles to fit in with the finish of the Waikiki Rough Water and the start of the Honolulu Marathon. Thus the present day Ironman distances were established.

Because of the Hawaiian origins of the race, all the races that take place these days are qualifiers for the iconic Kona Ironman in Hawaii which is the annual World Championship event

Our son Lee is a passionate triathlete, so it was only a matter of time before he would be eyeing up the Ironman distance. His first shot at the Ironman was in 2007 when he undertook the Ironman 70.3 at Wimbleball. Although it's called a half-ironman, they say that there's nothing 'half' about it. It's still an extremely tough distance, and far longer than the Olympic distance of swim 1500m, bike 40k and run 10k.

After this success, his thoughts turned to the full distance. He was working in Liverpool at the time, and the official UK Ironman was due to take place in Bolton that year for the very first time. The training was hard and it didn't fit in with his long hours as a foundation level doctor. We went up to Bolton to support him, in fact I volunteered as an official crew member for the race. I had a lot of fun helping the athletes in their transitions between the disciplines. We only saw Lee once during the whole 15 hours 11 minutes that he was out there. We didn't know what was happening to him. We saw lorries coming in with participants and their bikes on the back. We heard ambulance sirens all the time. It's safe to say that I was worried.

We stood for hours at the finish line waiting for his arrival. Being the first year at Bolton, they weren't very well organized and they failed to provide any extra facilities in the town. The queue for the Costa toilets snaked round the town centre.

Finally, we saw him coming, we jumped up and down and cheered him along, and he was so focused, he ran straight past without seeing us.

That was nine years ago. Now he had decided to do it again. Last year, by way of a warm-up, he did a 70.3 race in Norway. The official European championships take



*Dr. Lee Dexter at the Finish*

place in Frankfurt, so that was where he chose to do his next full Ironman.

Of course, we had to be there, either to cheer him on or pick up the pieces. It was so different this time. We had a tracker app on our phones so we were able to see exactly when he was coming in for his transition from bike to run, so we were there to cheer him on. We saw him a few times on the run, which consisted of four loops around the river, crossing over bridges. There were 300 Israelis taking part, 10% of the field. They must be super fit because of their army training.

This year, because of roadworks, the organisers added an extra 5k to the cycle course. So the cycle was actually the 115 miles that was the original distance back in 1977. This probably meant that these athletes were the only ones to have done that cycle distance during an Ironman event. On top of that, instead of the usual 17 hour cut off time, they made it 15 hours meaning that anybody arriving at the Finish line after 15 hours would not be awarded a medal and would not be deemed to have done the race. Harsh! Remembering that he had been over 15 hours at Bolton, that was another worry.

Thankfully, Lee arrived home in 14 hours 20 minutes, and this time, he high fived us as he came to the Finish – he didn't want to give me another nine years of complaining that he'd ignored us! In the finishers' tent, he saw tens of people on beds receiving IV drips. The conditions had been grueling. The sky was cloudless and the temperature was 30 degrees. On the cycle course, there were headwinds to battle. As we watched the competitors coming into the transition from bike to run, we remarked that not one of them looked fresh enough to run a marathon, yet run it they did.

He now has four Ironman medals, two half and two full. The Ironman mantra is "anything is possible". I'm hoping that possibly this might have been Lee's last Ironman, but I won't count on it.

MARILYN DEXTER

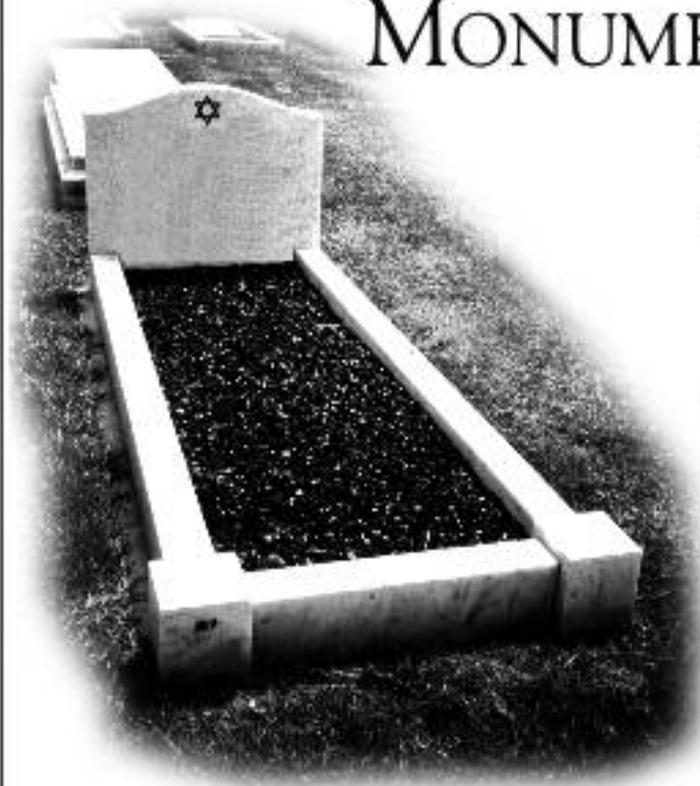
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# SHANA TOVA

Wishing you all a happy, peaceful and safe new year from CST

CST works to give British Jewry the ability to lead confident and safe lives, and we have never been better prepared to support Britain's vibrant Jewish community.

As we move into a fresh new year, we reflect on the work we have done over the last twelve months:

Since last Rosh Hashanah, CST has protected over 600 communal buildings and over 1,000 events, from the large AJEX Annual Remembrance Parade and public Chanukah candle lightings to small community events.

CST has managed a Home Office grant of £13.4 million, subsidising commercial security guards for over 400 schools, synagogues and Jewish communal buildings across the UK. We are pleased to have secured another year of funding for our work.

CST's Security Enhancement Project has funded security equipment, such as CCTV systems, fencing and alarms at hundreds of Jewish buildings across the country. This project has committed and spent over £12 million to strengthen our community's buildings against attack.

Since Rosh Hashanah last year, CST has monitored more than 4,400 cameras at over 280 synagogues, communal buildings and schools across the UK, ensuring immediate

responses to antisemitic attacks or suspicious behaviour.

CST's monitoring and analysis of antisemitism across the UK has been as vital as ever since last Rosh Hashanah, and we have strengthened Jewish communal bonds with the Police, government bodies, as well as other organisations such as Facebook, The FA and interfaith organisations, all of which impacts upon our lives and society.

Since last Rosh Hashanah, CST has committed hundreds of hours in developing its volunteers. CST volunteers are fitter, better informed and more skilled than ever before.

As we celebrate a new year, bringing both further challenges and a thriving community, we ask you to join us in helping to keep British Jewry safe and confident.

**Please volunteer;** CST needs volunteers to protect our Jewish community. **Please report** antisemitism or suspicious behaviour; if you experience antisemitism, such as verbal abuse, threats, graffiti or antisemitism on social media, please report it to CST. **Please consider giving a donation** to CST; all of our projects rely on communal fundraising.

CST wishes you a *Good Yom Tov* and a happy, peaceful and safe year ahead.

 [www.cst.org.uk](http://www.cst.org.uk)

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London (Head Office) **020 8457 9999**  
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# 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



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For more details telephone Ori on 023 8061 5652 or email her on [ori@glasers.org](mailto:ori@glasers.org)

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Service is **STILL** my  
number **ONE!**

Shabbatot and Chagim

**C U there!**



# Diary

## SEPTEMBER .....

Shabbat 31st Aug/ 1st Sept.	Ki Tavo. Kiddush to celebrate the 70th Wedding Anniversary of Yvonne and Otto Hutter.
Saturday night 1st Sept.	11.30pm. Selichot Service.
Sunday 2nd	<b>First day Selichot.</b> Stone Setting at Throop at 1.30pm. The late Evelyn Kaye Stone Setting at Throop at 2.15pm. The late Geoffrey Silverman Stone Setting at Throop at 2.45pm. The late Beatrice Sanis.
Wednesday 5th	Stone Setting at Boscombe at 12noon. The late Michael Rivlin.
Shabbat 7th/8th	Nitzavim. Kiddush to celebrate Adrian Levey's 75th birthday and the 55th Wedding Anniversary of Judy and Tony Curtis.
Sunday 9th	<b>Erev Rosh Hashanah.</b> Candle lighting and Festival begins at 7.15 pm. Zak Benarroch davening.
Monday 10th	<b>1st Day Rosh Hashanah.</b> Zak Benarroch davening. Sephardi Minyan. Tashlich. Light candles for 2nd day after 8.23 pm.
Tuesday 11th	<b>2nd day Rosh Hashanah.</b> Zak Benarroch davening. Sephardi Minyan. Festival ends 8.21 pm.
Wednesday 12th	<b>Fast of Gedaliah.</b> Fast commences 5.32 am. Fast ends 8.09 pm.
Shabbat 14th/15th	Shabbat Shuva. Vayeilech. Coffee and Kichels Kiddush.
Tuesday 18th	<b>Erev Yom Kippur.</b> Candle Lighting and Fast commences 6.55 pm. <i>N. B. If you light candles before 6.55pm so that you can be at shul for Kol Nidrei, have in mind that you will not be accepting Yom Kippur immediately, but will do so when you arrive at shul.</i> Kol Nidrei service 7.05 pm. Zak Benarroch davening. Sephardi Minyan.
Wednesday 19th	<b>Yom Kippur.</b> Yizkor. Zak Benarroch davening. Sephardi Minyan. Fast ends at 8.02 pm.
Shabbat 21st/22nd	Ha'azinu. Coffee and Kichels Kiddush.
Sunday 23rd	<b>Erev Sukkot.</b> Candle lighting and Festival begins 6.44 pm. Communal Meal in the Sukkah.
Monday 24th	<b>1st day Sukkot.</b> Kiddush. Sephardi Minyan. Light candles for the 2nd day after 7.51 pm.
Tuesday 25th	<b>2nd day Sukkot.</b> Kiddush. Festival ends at 7.48 pm.

Shabbat 28th/29th	<b>Shabbat Chol Hamoed.</b> Kohélet. Kiddush.
Sunday 30th	<b>Hoshanah Rabbah.</b> Erev Shemini Atzeret. Light Candles for Shemini Atzeret at 6.28 pm.

## OCTOBER .....

Monday 1st	<b>Shemini Atzeret.</b> Yizkor. Kiddush. Light candles for Simchat Torah after 7.35 pm. Hakafot.
Tuesday 2nd	<b>Simchat Torah.</b> Hakafot. Celebration Lunch to honour the Chatanim and Neshei Chayil. Festival ends 7.33 pm.
Shabbat 5th/6th	Shabbat Bereshit. Shabbat Mevorchim. Kiddush.
Tuesday 9th	<b>1st day Rosh Chodesh Marcheshvan.</b>
Wednesday 10th	<b>2nd day Rosh Chodesh Marcheshvan.</b>
Shabbat 12th/13th	Noach. Kiddush to celebrate Marilyn and Jeffrey Keen's 50th Wedding Anniversary and Rhona and Leon Taylor's 60th Wedding Anniversary. Sephardi Minyan.
Shabbat 19th/20th	Lech Lecha. Coffee and Kichels Kiddush.
Shabbat 26th/27th	Vayera. Coffee and Kichels Kiddush.
Sunday 28th	Ladies' Guild Dinner with entertainment. Celebrating the music of Frankie's Guys. Doors open at 6.30pm. Dinner at 7.00pm.

## NOVEMBER .....

Shabbat 2nd/3rd	Chayei Sarah. Shabbat Mevorchim. Kiddush. Sephardi Minyan.
Sunday 4th	Stone Setting at Kinson. 12 noon. The late Vivienne Levein. Stone Setting at Throop. 2.00pm. The late Dr. Harry Rezler.
Thursday 8th	<b>1st day Rosh Chodesh Kislev.</b>
Friday 9th	<b>2nd day Rosh Chodesh Kislev.</b>
Shabbat 9th/10th	Toledot. AJEX Shabbat. Kiddush.
Sunday 11th	Stone Setting at Throop. 2.00pm. The late Ura Saklow.
Shabbat 16th/17th	Vayetzei. Coffee and Kichels Kiddush.
Shabbat 23rd/24th	Vayishlach. Coffee and Kichels Kiddush.
Shabbat 30th/ 1st Dec.	Vayeshev. Shabbat Mevorchim. Kiddush.

## DECEMBER .....

Sunday 2nd	<b>1st Night Chanukah.</b>
Shabbat 7th/8th	Mikeitz. <b>Shabbat Chanukah.</b> <b>1st day Rosh Chodesh Tevet.</b> Coffee and Kichels Kiddush.
Sunday 9th	<b>2nd day Rosh Chodesh Tevet.</b>
Shabbat 14th/15th	Vayigash. Kiddush in celebration of Geoffrey Feld's Second Barmitzva.
Sunday 16th	Stone Setting at Kinson. 12 noon. The late Corinne Caller.
Tuesday 18th	<b>Fast of Tevet.</b> Fast begins 6.51am. Fast concludes 4.51pm.
Shabbat 21st/22nd	Vayechi. Coffee and Kichels Kiddush. Sephardi Minyan.
Shabbat 28th/29th	Shemot. Coffee and Kichels Kiddush.