



Editorial

In common with many other provincial Jewish communities, Bournemouth Hebrew Congregation has seen the demographics of our community change. Despite the many attractions of the area, few “young marrieds” come to live here. Many of our new members are young (relatively) retirees. As well as enjoying the various activities on offer, quite a number of them have also become involved in voluntary roles, and in this way have become an integral part of the community, benefiting both themselves and the BHC. With their influx, hopefully this community will thrive and our congregants will continue to be supportive of one another.

At the time of writing, we in this country live in a time of political uncertainty. Whether there is a majority win for one party, or whether again there is a hung Parliament following the General Election is at present a matter of conjecture. Whatever the result, the country will no doubt face challenges as to how it can overcome the differences that have been highlighted over the past months.

We hope the outcome will bring a unified and positive future for us all.

We wish Rabbi and Rebbetzen Jesner and the Community Chanukah Sameach.

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Front Cover illustration by local artist Di Roberts

Contents

2	Chanukah message from our President
4	Rabbi Adrian Jesner's Chanukah message
6	Tribute to Gilian Walker
9	Education at BHC
24	Diary

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A CHANUKAH MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT



As I write my last Ruach article as President, the country is in the grip of another general election which will take place on 12

December, just 10 days before the start of Chanukah 5780. It has been reported that this is the first time in more than 100 years that a general election is taking place in December, underlying the serious political situation in our country.

Three years after the EU referendum, we are no closer to resolving the Brexit issue, which has been incredibly divisive and has overshadowed those issues that matter most to ordinary citizens, such as the state of the health service, investment in mental health, climate change, schools and the infrastructure, tackling poverty and homelessness, putting an end to anti-Semitism and many more. After years of debate and a paralysed Parliament, we all want an end to the Brexit debate, so that the country can move on and set its new course in the world.

The political situation in Israel is no better than here in the UK. The latest election has resulted in another hung Knesset; neither Bibi Netanyahu nor Benny Gantz is able to form a government and the country limps on without the benefit of decisive leadership, just when it is most needed.

Israel is surrounded by dangerous enemies who are acquiring more and more sophisticated weapons designed to overwhelm the defences of this small country. We were in Israel during the latest barrage of rocket fire from Gaza into Israel. Most of the rockets were intercepted by Iron Dome, but one got through and caused extensive damage to a house in Sderot; thankfully no lives were lost. Meanwhile in Tel Aviv, citizens were receiving audio alerts on their smartphones every time a rocket was fired into Israel.

One could have been forgiven to think of this situation in terms of a computer game detached from reality, which of course it is not. The situation is serious and some experts think that a major escalation with Iran, the main sponsor of terror on Israel's borders, is inevitable. If this is indeed the case, the country needs a united

and strong government which will prepare it for the challenges ahead.

In my last year's Chanukah message, I referred to the mass shooting in a Pittsburgh synagogue which resulted in the loss of 11 lives. This senseless hate crime shocked the world, but over the past 12 months little has changed. On last Yom Kippur, another right-wing Jew hater attacked a synagogue in Halle, Germany and caused the death of two congregants. I was pleased to learn that the imam of the local mosque in Bournemouth had written to Rabbi Jesner extending his condolences and expressing solidarity.

However welcome this local gesture is, in the UK we continue to witness an increase in anti-Semitic behaviour coming both from the far-right and far-left. Let's hope that the new government will take this problem seriously and will put measures in place to fight it.

Here in Bournemouth we celebrated the Yomim Noraim in peace and safety. This year, we once again enjoyed outstanding Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur services led by Rabbi Jesner and ably assisted by Rev. Sklan and our wardens - my congratulations and thanks to them all. We were fortunate to welcome again Zak Benarroch as our chazan, assisted by his two cousins Yoni and Nathan.

As has been the case for many years now, Zak's father Bernard Benarroch was in charge of the shofar blowing and we were pleased to welcome back Zak's grandfather, David Marriott, who came to Bournemouth especially to hear his grandson's chazanut and to enjoy these holydays with us. It was wonderful to have three generations of the Marriott/Benarroch family on the Bimah, leading the services for the Congregation.

In past years, for our traditional Kol Nidrei Appeal, we worked with UJIA, and it was UJIA who printed the pledge cards, collected the donations and decided how the money would be deployed.

This year, we decided to carry out the whole process in house, to ensure that the charities that matter to us benefit most from your generosity. We chose three charities, Hannah Levy House from Bournemouth, Chai Cancer Care from the UK and Magen David Adom from Israel.

Those of you who were in Shul on Yom Kippur will remember our Vice President Josie Lipsith making a wonderfully eloquent appeal, which touched everyone present. I am pleased to say that you rose to the challenge and donated more than in previous years, which will greatly benefit the charities mentioned above.

At this point I would like to thank those members of the Congregation who worked so hard to make the Yomim Noraim so special for all of us. I would like to thank Ken Cohen, Simon Pinner and Simon Tammam for designing and printing the pledge card for our Kol Nidrei Appeal and I wish to thank the Ladies' Guild for catering the first night Succot dinner and the wonderful Simchat Torah lunch, as well as the regular Shabbat kiddushim.

My thanks also go to those ladies who prepare the 'Coffee and Kichels' kiddushim, not to mention the cholent. I would like to thank Gilian, Loraine and Barbara for coping so well with the extra work generated over this period. I would also like to thank Melvin and the Security Team, Jane and the Shop volunteers, and of course Pat and Bob Nixon our caretakers.

The next festival on the horizon is Chanukah, a festival with just one mitzvah, that of lighting the Chanukah candles. It might be a less demanding festival than the three Pilgrimage Festivals (Shalosh Regalim) but it is full of symbolism. Chanukah has two central themes; the first is 'light', lighting candles to emulate the lighting of the Menorah in Temple times, and the second is 'unity'.

Rabbis ask the question whether it is permissible to light the Chanukah candles from the first candle that is lit (assuming we have run out of candles and there is no Shamas). As usual there are two opposing views, one saying it not permissible and the other saying that it is.

Those claiming it is not acceptable, point out that the act of lighting the candles from the first candle diminishes that candle, as it would drip and burn out quicker, whereas the widely accepted view argues that it is permissible.

Just as a learned person shares his knowledge with others, thus enlightening them, would not diminish himself, a candle used to light other candles would not diminish itself.

Every new light we light, every new person we help enlighten brings more light to the world. We must do all we can to bring light to where there is darkness and help to those in need to achieve their potential.

I recently came across an interesting concept regarding the importance of unity during Chanukah. Rabbi Marc Angel writes that the Shabbat of Chanukah was observed among Sephardi Jews of the Ottoman Empire as 'Shabbat Halbashah', the Shabbat of providing clothing for the needy. Traditionally, the rabbi would deliver a sermon that day on the mitzvah of charity and loving kindness.

The following day, members of the community would

bring clothing to the synagogue and it would then be distributed among the poor. This interesting custom meant that those in need were looked after before the onset of the cold winter weather, thus demonstrating the unity and mutual support that prevailed amongst Jews.

I would like to thank the members of the Executive Committee for their hard work and the support they have given me. I have benefited enormously from the wise counsel of the Trustees and the Honorary Life Presidents, as I have benefited from working closely with Rabbi Jesner, Rev Sklan and Bernie Dexter on all religious matters.

Above all, I would like to thank our Vice-President Josie Lipsith for her friendship, support, wisdom and hard work. It has been a delight working with her and I would consider it a privilege to support her in the future, despite the fact that I am anticipating a somewhat quieter life after the next AGM.

Anne and I wish Rabbi Jesner and Rebbetzen Pamela, Vice President Josie and Harvey Lipsith, the Trustees, the members of the Executive and all the Community, Chanukah Sameach.

Mahir Ozdamar

As promised in the President's Message in the Rosh Hashanah edition of Ruach, an article was prepared and submitted for this edition in appreciation of Barry and Angela Sklan, to which they contributed and gave their approval. Subsequently they requested that it should not be published, The Editors respect their decision and hope to be able to publish it in the future.

M.O.

RABBI ADRIAN JESNER'S CHANUKAH MESSAGE 5780

CHANUKAH – RENEWAL AND REDEDICATION

It is tradition that Chanukah always falls on the sedra of Miketz, and within that sedra we read the story that “At the end of two years, and behold Pharaoh dreamt that he was standing by the Nile” Pharaoh is very disturbed by a dream wherein seven lean cows eat seven fat cows. None of the wise men of Egypt can interpret the dream for him, and this troubles him even more.

Even if we assume that the Egyptian Pharaohs were much more superstitious than modern man, it seems rather odd that a head of state should get so upset about a crazy dream. What is so upsetting about seven lean cows swallowing seven fat cows?

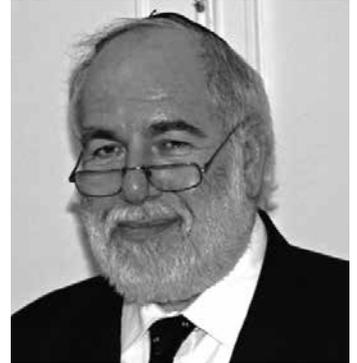
Our Rabbis provide an insight into this question. Pharaoh's whole dominion, like that of any dictator, was based on the premise that the mighty will dominate the weak. “I have the troops. I have the force. Therefore I can impose my will, because no one can do anything against me.”

Pharaoh was so bothered by this dream because it portrayed a situation wherein the weak dominated the powerful. It was the seven lean cows that swallowed the seven fat cows. He understood that as not just a silly dream, but as a terrible omen from heaven. He saw this as a Divine message that his dominion was not secure despite his power. This message shook him to the core, for it undermined the premise of his whole monarchy.

The Rabbis further point out the reason why Parshas Miketz always coincides with Chanukah, which is a constant of the Jewish calendar. The reason why is not just a coincidence. One of the major themes of Chanukah is the idea that “the mighty fell into the hands of the weak, the many into the hands of the few”, as we say in the Al HaNissim prayer.

The Rabbis comment that Chanukah is unique among the Jewish holidays in that it is the only holiday that spans two months (Kislev and Teves). This means that Chanukah always contains a ‘Rosh Chodesh’ [First day of the Month] within it. Why is that?

We can perhaps suggest that the same idea applies to Rosh Chodesh. Rosh Chodesh implies renewal (of the moon and of the month). This is the theme of Chanukah — the renewal of the spirit of the Jews and the renewal of the Service in the Bais HaMikdash.



The Jewish people are compared to the moon — sometimes their fate seems to darken and fade away but we are always confident that it will be renewed in the future. This too is a pattern that sometimes reflects our relationship with the Almighty. There are ups and downs. There are peaks and valleys. It waxes and it wanes. Rosh Chodesh demonstrates that there can be renewal. There can be a new moon. The moon returns. It can get bigger.

This is why Chanukah is connected with Rosh Chodesh. The whole theme of Chanukah is that the Jewish people's relationship with G-d slackened; but then they came back and the relationship was fully renewed to its previous level, the Temple was rededicated and the miracle of the oil lasted 8 days.

It only remains, on behalf of both Pamela and myself, to wish the President, Vice President, Executive Committee and all the members of Bournemouth Hebrew Congregation, a warm, happy and meaningful Chanukah, and a year filled with light.

Rabbi Adrian Jesner

ROBIN SEGAL Z" L

(15 APRIL 1912 – 30 NOVEMBER 2019)

OBITUARY

Robin Segal was born in Muswell Hill, London to Josef and Rachel Segal on 15 April 1912, the very same day that the Titanic sank in the North Atlantic. Robin's father had come to England from Lithuania and his mother from Poland. Robin had two siblings, his brother Bertram and his sister Beulah.

Robin's extraordinary life covered 107 years, 7 months and 15 days, or, put differently, a total of 39310 days. Robin's was an extraordinary life not just because of its length, but also because of who he was and what he experienced and achieved.

Robin spent World War II attached to the Anti-Tank Regiment, Royal Artillery from 1940 to 1946, seeing action in France, Belgium, Holland and Germany as a supplies storeman, where he found out that the army stock control system was based on the Marks & Spencer system. He was proud that an entire generation of his family had served King and Country.

After the War, Robin started working in Ladies' fashion and travelled the country selling products to local shops. Each year he drove tens of thousands of miles and thanks to his friendly and happy disposition, he was welcomed as a much loved friend by all his customers.

He once told me that he enjoyed his work so much that he did not have time to get married, which, incidentally, he thought was the main reason for his longevity.

Robin retired from business life in the mid-1980s and when he arrived in Bournemouth in 1987, he was already in his mid-70s. Upon settling in Bournemouth, Robin was disappointed to find that there was no branch of U3A (The University of the Third Age), which he had enjoyed so much when living in London, and resolved to set one up.

Working with friends and numerous contacts, he started the first U3A in this area in August 1988, the membership of which grew quickly to 1000. Thanks to Robin's energy and determination, many people in this area benefitted from further education.

Robin attended the Bournemouth Hebrew Congregation regularly. He served on the Bournemouth Jewish Representative Council and the BHC board until reaching the age of 80, at which point he stepped down to make way for the younger generation. Robin always came to Shul immaculately dressed in his blue blazer and grey slacks. He always walked with a straight back, no doubt the result



Robin Segal celebrating his 106th Birthday

of the years spent in the military. Until recently, he took part in the annual Remembrance Day parades, wearing his medals with pride and was a proud member of Bournemouth AJEX.

In 2005, Robin was part of a group of 40 from BHC which toured Israel under the leadership of Rabbi Lionel and Natalie Rosenfeld. He was already in his 90s, but he was still active and curious, showing particular interest in anything military.

One day, Robin did not feel well and was advised to visit the local hospital and was kept in hospital overnight. Thankfully, he was able to re-join our group the very next day, looking and feeling just fine. He took great delight in telling everyone that in his humble opinion, the lady nurses in Israel were better looking than those back at home.

Even after turning 100, he would regularly make his own way to shul for Shabbat services. Robin lived an independent life in his Westbourne flat until his final two years, when due to failing eye sight and memory, it was thought that he would be more comfortable living in the Hannah Levy House, only a short distance away from his flat. He settled in nicely and was a popular resident of HLH.

Robin is interred in Kinson Cemetery next to his sister. He will be much missed by all his friends in the Bournemouth Jewish community and by his family. He was a wonderful man who will be fondly remembered for years to come.

M. Ozdamar

Some of the facts in this article have previously appeared in the Wessex Jewish News for which we thank them.

TRIBUTE TO GILIAN WALKER ON HER RETIREMENT

Bringing with her an air of elegance and sophistication from a career in banking, Gilian Walker took over as administrator of BHC after the retirement of Rosamunde Bloom our beloved shul secretary of almost 25 years.

It was a hard act to follow, but with great efficiency and charm Gil has guided us through many changes during the past 8 years, working alongside an illustrious list of past presidents including Brian Bradley, Brian Lassman, Harvey Lipsith, Ivor Weintraub, and now completing her service to the community with Mahir Ozdamar at the helm. She has had to adapt to many leadership styles and has used her many skills to offer help and support to all.

It hasn't always been plain sailing, but with her extensive experience Gil has handled even the most challenging situations with her inherent diplomacy. She

is a true professional, and even during times of great personal sadness she has insisted "the show must go on"!

Working closely with Gil over the last few years has been both a pleasure and a privilege, and it is a delight to see her so happy and excited about her future.

We thank you Gil for your hard work and dedication, and wish you the happiest of futures maintaining contact with old friends in Bournemouth, exploring new relationships in Guildford, and pursuing your many interests including your strong association with the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra.

With appreciation from the Trustees, Executive, Executive committee, and all at BHC.

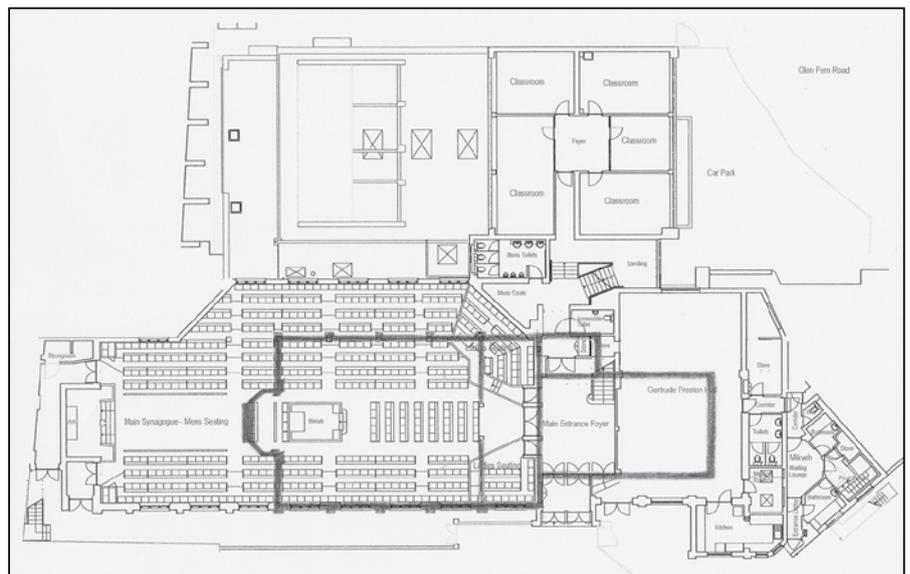


DORSET ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE WEEK

Dorset Architectural Heritage week takes place every autumn, when buildings which are not normally accessible are opened to the public. This year for the first time, and following the recent Grade II Listing of our Shul, we were invited to participate.

Visitors were required to pre book their places on the tour, and on 18 September approximately 25 people were welcomed to our Shul. They were given a brief history of the building, and a description of the interior and its contents including how these relate to our faith and religious practices.

They then toured the synagogue, looking in closer detail at the temporary exhibition and in particular at the stained glass windows. There followed many



questions, and much discussion about our practices (the participants were mainly Christian).

The drawing which aroused much interest amongst both visitors and our congregants who saw the display, is the original plan of the synagogue superimposed on the current plan, illustrating the compact nature of

the original and the extent of the alterations carried out in the sixties. This drawing is reproduced here.

The tour was deemed a great success, as we were immediately asked to participate again next year, and could we possibly do two tours as the uptake had been so over subscribed!

INVEST IN PEACE

More than 100 people attended a meeting in the Menorah Suite on Thursday 19 September and listened to two peace activists – one Israeli and one Palestinian – speak about their hopes for reconciliation.

They were joined by the Mayor of Bournemouth, Councillor Susan Phillips. Palestinian Ruba Huleihel and Israeli Michal Katoshevsky were speaking at 'Invest in Peace', a joint initiative between the Board of Deputies of British Jews and Churches Together in Britain and Ireland, with the endorsement of the Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby, which invites Christians and Jews to support Israeli-Palestinian peacebuilding. This event was part of a UK tour organised by Solutions not Sides liaising with Anthony Silkoff, Interfaith and Social Action Officer at the Board of Deputies. Sharon Booth, who is the Founder and Director of Solutions not Sides, chaired the discussion.

Rabbi Jesner gave a welcome address to both the speakers and the many people attending the event. Both speakers talked about their family backgrounds, their childhoods in Israel / Palestine, and how they each came to be peace activists. They answered questions from the audience about topics such as a two-state solution, the history of the region, and education.

Board of Deputies Vice President Stuart MacDonald said:

"We're proud to have initiated an Invest in Peace programme which presents challenging dialogues to packed and highly engaged meetings across the country. This is about helping to export peace, rather than importing conflict."

The Revd Peter Colwell, Deputy General Secretary of Churches Together in Britain and Ireland, said: "With so much violence, hatred and suspicion in the world, there is a critical need for different faith groups to come together. Our message to extremists on all sides is simple: You will not divide us. This project delivers that message loud and clear."

The event was held by Bournemouth Hebrew Congregation in partnership with St Peter's Church Bournemouth.

The Invest in Peace initiative, the first of its kind at a national level, invites Christian and Jewish communities in Britain to come together in support of Israeli-Palestinian peacebuilding projects. Each event is jointly hosted by a church-synagogue partnership.

Many of the members of the Jewish community who attended the event must be commended for listening quietly to the discussions, albeit not necessarily agreeing with the narrative. The Board of Deputies must also be congratulated for supporting such an event. Its position continues to be a vehicle for discussion, and abstains from taking a political stand on one side or the other but encourages dialogue.

Marilyn Keen

Joint B.O.D. Deputy for Bournemouth Hebrew Congregation

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I DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT THE ARTS, BUT I KNOW WHAT I LIKE – ARE WE A NATION OF PHILISTINES?

There are many definitions of the term 'Art' and semantics, although helpful in clarifying linguistic usage in many areas, proves confusing in this case. For the purpose of avoiding misunderstanding, I am using 'Art' in a stipulative sense, meaning a skill or ability that is non-utilitarian.

Activities like music, painting, and the performing arts would meet this criterion, but angling, although regarded by Izaak Walton as an art, would not because it is essentially utilitarian.

The use of the term Philistine to denote an uncultured being, one unmoved by the light, as Heine put it, is to invite a charge of anachronistic usage and ignorance. Biblical research and archaeology suggest that the Philistines were an Aegean people who were no less cultured than their neighbours. However, because of religious beliefs and belligerency they received a condemnatory press from the writers of Judges and 1 Samuel, a view reinforced by nineteenth century German and English scholars, particularly Matthew Arnold. To such minds there was a definite hierarchy of civilisation which in turn indicated levels of cultural sophistication. Social anthropologists have alerted us to the dangers of claiming cultural superiority, and the connection between Western Civilisation and a highly evolved culture is not as obvious as some would have us believe.

Are we a nation of uncultured, arrogant people because we admit ignorance of the nature of Art? Is simply liking a painting or sculpture or piece of music without understanding a mark of barbarism? What exactly are we trying to comprehend and how does this relate to ideas of objectivity? In demanding that the public appreciate Art we are assuming that there is not only merit in the work but a latent message, instruction or intention to be discovered. There can be no doubt that Art, in its many forms, elicits a response from the observer and it may please or disgust; the reaction is not ultimately important but response there must be.

The so-called message of a particular artist may appear banal. In Shakespeare's *The Tempest* the playwright implies that he merely wished to please. Clearly, to fully appreciate the plays of Shakespeare requires some understanding of Elizabethan English, his use of puns, the playwright's wit and the historical

background of the period in which he was writing. Music and the visual arts place less of an intellectual demand on us than literature because words have to be processed before there is an emotional response. If music and visual art make such a direct appeal to our senses does this imply that ignorance might be bliss? A disregard for the intellectual component of Art is not being advocated, but rather a respect for spontaneity: of unshackled emotions.

To suggest that the average man doesn't know the difference between good and bad Art is to adopt the arrogance of that displayed by totalitarian regimes that, historically, knew what was best for the populace, and claimed spurious objectivity for Art in order to purge it of contradictions. The result of this view is to sterilise art, to destroy, as Hazlitt pointed out, genius and Art. But surely ordinary people require guidelines as to what has artistic merit and what doesn't? If we are looking for such certainty we are bound to be disappointed for stamps of approval or disapproval have a habit of being reversed by the tide of history.

An animal preserved in formaldehyde or an assortment of bricks, or a rather shambolic bedroom, all of course, presented in an art gallery, may please or leave one scratching one's head. So if we are perplexed, unable to see the artist's vision, then surely the experts, the art critics, can offer illumination?

Does the critic, the expert, not have good advice for us? Has he not a deeper understanding of the technical merits of the artist, of his mind? The problem with any group that sets itself up as custodians of quality is that once their ranks are broken, by errors of judgement, their credibility suffers. The history of Art is littered with the skeletons of artists and their sponsors. In their day they were heralded as extremely talented but, alas, later generations soon tired of their limited repertoire.

This essay is not advocating anti-intellectualism but to expose the fallacy of claims of objectivity when pronouncing on the value of Art. Underlying this polemic is a plea to remember Wordsworth's injunction: to give both heart and mind to art. If as a nation we can experiment with our feelings, accept that sometimes we have to think for ourselves, to maintain a healthy suspicion of the expert, and to continue to put the emphasis on liking rather than claiming to know what is good or bad Art, then we shall fare no worse than any other people.

Peter Beyfus

EDUCATION AT BHC

Tony Miller, chairman of the BHC Executive Education Sub Committee organised an interesting and eclectic programme for the Autumn semester.

The first meeting was held at the home of Ken Cohen, when Rev Barry Sklan spoke on the sedrah of the week and on prayer, which was followed by a lively discussion as people expressed their thoughts and views .

The following week, Rebbetzen Pamela Jesner gave a talk on "Preparing for the New Year, dealing with catering arrangements". She spoke of the various customs and practices of different Jewish communities internationally, which led to members of the audience talking about their own minhagim and others they had come across.

(For example on the Yom Tov table a fish either whole or its head, a sheep's head, alternative fruits for a Shechecheyanu) It was remarkable how many customs were revealed within a relatively small group of people.

The programme had a break for the Yom Tovim and resumed at the beginning of November when Rabbi Jesner spoke on the months of the year.

A number of regulars at the education meetings were unable to attend Chris Woodward's November 11th talk on "The Amazing Fogel" which had been postponed from an earlier date, so he kindly agreed to a version being printed in this edition of Ruach, plus some illustrations.

Attempting to improve our culinary skills, about a month before Chanukah, Dave Linz, assisted by Lorraine Stein, gave a demonstration of how to make perfect doughnuts. From the photos of the event, they were obviously delicious and eaten with relish.

The recipe for Dave's delicious doughnuts has been included with Ruach, but results as good as his are not guaranteed!

The final session of this term was given by Rev Barry Sklan, who displayed an encyclopaedic knowledge during his talk "Songs of Praise" on the life and works of Leonard Cohen, which was held at the home of Jane Victor.

To those who gave talks, thanks for sharing your knowledge with us, and thanks to those who hosted sessions in their homes.



DOUGHNUT RECIPE

Ingredients

- 7g dried yeast (1pack) (Allison's)
- 55g caster sugar
- 160mls warm water
- 500g strong flour
- 1 tsp salt
- 100g Tomor margarine
- 2 large eggs beaten

- Vegetable/sunflower oil
- Seedless jam

- Frying pan – ideally deep fat fryer
- Piping bag
- Small piping tube

Method

- Mix together all dry ingredients then add egg and warm water
- Leave for 1hr to rise.
- Measure the dough into 227g pieces.
- Roll each piece into a round ball.
- Leave for 30 minutes to rest.
- Put into deep fat fryer on 170 – 180 degrees/medium



- heat on gas hob
- Once golden brown turn over and then put onto tray with kitchen roll.
- Put raspberry jam into piping bag.
- Squeeze into doughnut.

Should make 36 doughnuts.

OF BITTER HERBS AND SWEET CONFECTIONS A BOOK REVIEW BY ISA BRYSH

Of Bitter Herbs and Sweet Confections narrates the harrowing journey of a Jewish family seen through the eyes of Tanya, the teenage daughter, that takes them from a privileged life in Nowy Sacz, Poland to the icy wilderness of Siberia, and then to Central Asia, Europe, and finally to the newly independent State of Israel.

The book, a fictionalised memoir based on the actual experiences of the author's late mother-in-law, chronicles a decade of Tanya's life from 1939 to 1949, and the author tells the story with great sensitivity and unusual insight in a riveting fashion.

The book's strength lies in its vivid, even-paced narrative and in Tanya's appeal as a hardworking, sensitive and courageous girl who never gives up despite the circumstances. The heartwarming bond she shares with her father and her transformation

from a starry-eyed young girl to an intelligent, independent woman make the reader root for her. The author skillfully conveys Tanya's enduring mettle and teenage yearning for a simple life of social and economic freedom.

The moving story embodies all the major elements: tragedy and humour, suspense and horror, romance and a happy end. The narrative contains no gratuitous violence, erotica or bad language, and is suitable for older teens as well as adults. This vividly told, beautifully crafted book kept me fully engrossed up to the last page.

The author, Susan Shalev, is the daughter of Bournemouth Congregation members Irvin z"l and Muriel Shindler. The book can be bought from Amazon UK. Paperback £8.99, Kindle £2.99

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ADULT EDUCATION - MAURICE FOGEL - AND THE BOURNEMOUTH CONNECTION

On Monday 11 November Chris Woodward gave a PowerPoint presentation to an attentive audience in the Menorah Suite on the exciting life of pioneer showman Maurice Fogel.

Maurice's parents, Nathan and Malka were both born in Zavichost Poland and in 1910 they arrived in the east end of London aged just 21 and 20 with virtually no money, no job, and little prospects - speaking mostly Yiddish and very little English. After a short stay in two attic rooms in 29 Hanbury Street, in July 1911 they moved into Chicksand Street where Maurice was born, their first of seven children, later to adopt three more!

Maurice attended Lower Chapman Street School and studied hard leaving in 1924 as top boy. He joined the nearby Oxford and

St. George's Club run by Basil and Rose Henriques, affectionately known as 'The Gaffer' and 'The Missus'. It was here as an enthusiastic beginner it gave him the opportunity to build his confidence in front of an audience and to perform small magic tricks that he had learned from magic books in the local library. Neither he nor his parents could afford the joining fee or the annual subscription but he was kindly 'sponsored' by Alex Simpson who would become the future owner of the elegant clothing store in Piccadilly, and as a result he became an active member of The

Magicians Club that was run by Will Goldston.

Following a short spell in 1929 at the Kursaal in Southend assisting Rameses -The Wonderworker, (the nom de theatre of Albert Marchinski) who also came from Poland, Maurice began to learn all about showmanship the hard way. When Rameses was too ill to perform and to protect his father's

financial 'investment' Maurice presented all the illusions himself! Under the flamboyant costume and heavy dramatic makeup no one was any the wiser!

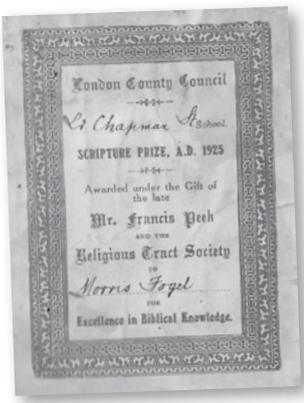
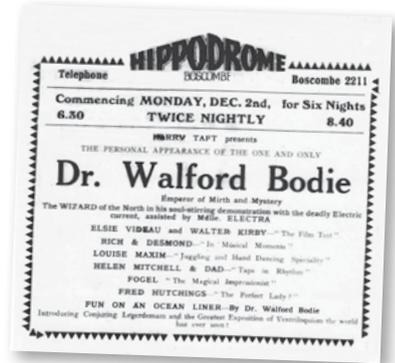
After Marchinski's death in July 1930, Maurice made his first major stage appearance in December 1930 at the Lyric Theatre in Liverpool. His first billing was 'The Man of Mystery', and he received good press reviews. He soon realised that he needed to have an act that was different and devised a routine impersonating other famous magicians of the day presenting the classic of magic.

Many other venues followed and in 1935 his first appearance was at the Boscombe Hippodrome ('a very versatile impressionist gives fine impressions of other great magicians') where he appeared with top of the bill Walford Bodie MD. Not a real doctor, as he was often challenged but advised that M.D. stood for Merry Devil! This would be Maurice's second exposure to a successful Showman, learning how to attract an audience, how to hold their attention, and most importantly how to deliver!

Maurice appeared three times more at the Boscombe Hippodrome in 1938 and 1939 and he was back again after the war in 1949 as part of the successful "Front Page Personalities" tour, appearing alongside then unknown comedians Morecambe & Wise.

His last Bournemouth stage appearance was at the New Royal Theatre in Albert Road with top of the bill heartthrob singer Frankie Vaughan.

Charity was never far from his heart and on Hallowe'en 1962 he appeared at the Highcliff Hotel on the West Cliff for the Lions International where the guest of honour was Mayoress of Christchurch, Mrs Hilary Myers who assisted him on stage! Many other local hotel successful appearances were at the Green Park, the Cumberland, the Queens and the Ambassadors hotels all with repeat bookings.





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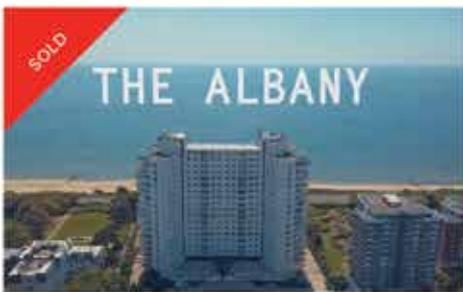
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OUR YAM LE YAM TREK FOR EMUNAH

What was the purpose of your visit? We've all been asked that question by security at Ben Gurion airport. This time, when I responded that I'd just done the Yam le Yam trek, I was greeted with a "kol hakavod" and no more questions. It seems that Yam le Yam is a well-known trek in Israel.

Most trekkers begin at the Mediterranean and end up at the Kineret, but our organisers decided that we should visit the Emunah Sarah Herzog Children's Home in Afula before we began our trek, so we started in Tiberius.

I've been fundraising for Emunah for over thirty years, but in that time, I'd never actually visited any of the projects. So it was a great treat for me to do so at last. Afula is the first home that Emunah opened in Israel, and this year it turned 70.

We met children past and present who have been rescued from abusive families of one sort or another. We heard some horrific stories about their lives that thankfully we have never come across in our own sheltered and stable lives.

After a tour of the home, we were invited to dinner in their dining room that was a delicious buffet of chicken legs, schnitzel, rice and salads.

Throughout our trip, Anne Ozdamar and I stayed in various youth hostels that were more like hotels; they were really very nice.

On the first day of the trek, we were taken by bus to the banks of the Kineret where we filled a bottle of water to take with us on the trek. Then off we went. Our lovely guide Shimmy told us that unfortunately, there are many Israelis who, like here in the UK, don't value their environment and he asked us to collect some litter as we went. We were delighted to do so.

The day was a story of rocks and brambles. We were walking in a valley but we were very exposed to the sun and we were quite hot. We were constantly picking our way over rocky terrain, and climbing over, under or through brambles that quite often returned to slap us in the face.

My arms were already quite shredded when we climbed up a platform with barbed wire on either side. I got up nicely avoiding the barbed wire, but then as I walked along the platform, I caught my arm on some barbed wire. The lovely medic Lotan dressed the wound but I did end up in A&E later on for a tetanus shot.

We stayed overnight in a youth hostel back in Poriya overlooking Kineret (taken back by bus). We had a



Hikers for Emunah

lovely buffet meal of chicken legs, shnitzels, rice and salads.

The next day, we had a mountain to climb! We were taken to Mount Meron of Shimon Bar Yochai fame. We started at 450 metres above sea level. Shimmy said: do you see those golf balls on the top of that mountain in the far distance? That's where we're going.

We actually thought he was joking, but it turns out he wasn't! When we arrived at the golf balls, they were actually large – very large radar balls. Shimmy told us about the archeology, the geology, the history and the flora and fauna. It was all fascinating.

The terrain was less rocky, but it was steep and we still did some scrambling. We met up with a group from Norwood on the mountain. Many people in each group knew each other. We ended up at 1,200 metres and at one point, Shimmy stood us on an innocuous mound and told us to look east and we could just about see the Kineret, then look west and we could just about see the Mediterranean. It's apparently the only spot in Israel where you can see them both.

The third night was spent in a youth hostel in the Druze village of Pekiin; Shimmy told us all about the Druze and their religion, it was all so interesting. There

we had a lovely buffet dinner of chicken legs, schnitzel, rice and salads.

Day three was all about crossing streams on stones. We followed the water all the way and we even stopped at a beautiful clear pool where some hardy souls bathed. I was content with a paddle. Shimmy pointed out lots of herb bushes to us including bay leaves and thyme. There was so much natural beauty all around us. Shimmy was fond of telling us that we'll get there "soon enough". I never worked out quite when soon enough was!

We arrived at our last hostel in the old city of Akko. There we had a lovely buffet dinner of chicken legs, schnitzel, rice and salads!

The next day, we walked to a monument to fourteen fighters who had fallen when trying to take a bridge during the Mandate. The monument is called Yad (monument) le Yad (to the fourteen, yud daled being fourteen.) There, we sang Hatikva. It was a very moving moment.

Then we went to the coast, finally arriving at the Mediterranean. We symbolically poured the water from the Kineret into the Mediterranean, as Shimmy put it, we added a little sweetness to the sea.

Thanks to all our wonderful sponsors, Anne and I raised the magnificent sum of £5,000, which is £2,000 above our minimum.

Thank you all so much. I've got a feeling that if we remain healthy G-d willing, we might be doing this again!

Marilyn Dexter
for Bournemouth Golda Emunah



SHULOID

☆ On November 10th Shuloid held one of their popular Bridge and Games Supper Evenings.

☆ Sixty players took part on this occasion in a Duplicate rather than a Chicago Bridge Tournament, had private Bridge Tables or chose to play Kalooki.

☆ The evening raised approximately £700.

☆ Sincere thanks to Jeffrey Cohen and to Adrian Levey for their organisation of the card games and also for their help in setting up the event.

☆ It was pleasing that we had a willing team of helpers who baked quiches and apple pies before the day, help set tables and came in to prepare salads on the morning of the event and serve during the evening.

☆ Our grateful thanks to our team named as follows, who helped make the evening a success.

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| Diana Barzilay | Vivienne Gollom |
| Hilary Harth | Jan Opas |
| Cyndy Miller | Tony Miller |
| June Noah | Katarina Webb |

Congratulations to the Winners of the Duplicate Bridge

- North South** – Tony and Judy Curtis
East West – Cyril and Susan Lee

A REMINDER:

Duplicate Bridge is held every Monday afternoon at 2pm in the Menorah Suite. New players are always welcome.

Contact Jeffrey Cohen or Adrian Levey

Corinne Rein
Shuloid Chairman





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Personal

CRAVITZ – Pat Cravitz would very much like to thank all those who were so supportive regarding the sudden loss of her brother in September. It was really much appreciated.

WALDMAN – Hilary Waldman would like to thank the wonderful community of BHC for their good wishes following her recent accident on her way home from Shul. The love and kind thoughts have been overwhelming, Thank you all so much.

WHITE – Stephen. I would like to thank Rabbi and Rebbetzen Jesner, the Honorary Officers and all the members of the Bournemouth Hebrew Congregation for their many kindnesses and expressions of sympathy on the passing of my dear mother, Sheila.

WOOLFSTEIN – Hazel Woolfstein would like to sincerely thank all her family and friends for the many flowers and cards she received on the occasion of her 80th birthday.

MAZALTOV – To Max Lopes Dias on the birth of his great grandson, Zachary.



Photo shows (l to r), Zachary in the arms of his father Michael Lopes Dias, with new grandfather, Martin Lopes Dias and great grandfather Max Lopes Dias

MITZVAH DAY



The community once again were generous in donating items for the Food Collectathon held on Mitzvah Day.

Photos show Lewis Citron handing over his bags of goods, to helpers Dave Linz, Mahir Ozdamar, Josie Lipsith and Anne Ozdamar and the van needed to collect the items.



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Chanukah Sameach!

**SHOP AT
THE SHUL**



CHANUKAH RECIPES WITH A DIFFERENCE

FORWARDED BY VERITY OLSWANG

Vegetable Latkes

Ingredients

- 1 Onion
- 1 Potato
- 3 Carrots
- 1 Courgette
- 1 Handful chopped Spinach
- 2 Eggs
- 1 tbsp Salt
- Pepper

Olive Oil

Method

- 1) Chop and fry the onion
- 2) Grate the rest of the vegetables and mix all the ingredients together
- 3) Heat up the olive oil and drop individual serving spoon sizes of the mixture into the frying pan. Fry for a few minutes on each side in the olive oil
- 4) Place on Kitchen Roll to soak up the oil

Serve Hot

Cinnamon Pavlovas with caramelized apples and blackberries

Serves 8

Preparation 30 minutes

Cooking 1 hour

Meringue

- 4 medium egg whites
- 225g (8oz) caster sugar
- 1 tsp cornflour
- 1 tsp pure vanilla extract
- 1 tsp white wine vinegar
- 4tsp ground cinnamon

Topping

- 3 granny smith apples
- 55g (2oz) unsalted butter
- 115g (4oz) soft brown sugar
- 3 tbsp brandy
- 100g (3½oz) fresh blackberries
- 250ml (9fl oz) double cream

Method

- 1) Preheat the oven to 180°C/350°F/Gas 4. Line 2 baking sheets with greaseproof paper.
- 2) Whisk the egg whites until stiff. Gradually whisk in the sugar, a couple of tablespoons at a time, with the cornflour, vanilla, vinegar, and cinnamon, and whisk until smooth and glossy.
- 3) Divide the meringue mixture evenly on the baking sheets into 8x13cm (5in) individual circles and make a slight dip in the centres. Place in the oven and immediately turn the oven temperature down to 120°C/250°F/Gas ½. Bake for 1 hour, until crisp.
- 4) Meanwhile, peel, core and cut each apple into 8

thick slices. Gently melt the butter in a saucepan, then add the sugar and stir until dissolved. Add the apples and cook over a medium heat until the apples have softened and caramelised.

- 5) Just before serving, add the brandy and blackberries to the apples. Whip the cream until stiff.
- 6) To serve, dollop a spoonful of cream on top of each meringue and spoon over the warm caramelised fruit. Serve immediately.

Tips

- Leave out the cinnamon and you have the classic pavlova recipe.
- Be sure too use egg whites at room temperature, or they will not whisk properly.
- Make the meringues up to a week before and keep in an airtight container.
- To make 1 large pavlova, divide the mixture into 2 x 20cm (8in) round circles. Sandwich together with cream and spoon over the fruit.
- Summer berries would be an excellent alternative fruit in the summer with melted chocolate drizzles over. Use mint leaves or cape gooseberries to decorate and give extra height.

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BOURNEMOUTH CONSERVATIVE FRIENDS OF ISRAEL

Organised by Bournemouth Conservative Friends of Israel and chaired by Alderman Michael Filer, a question and answer session was held in the Menorah Suite at which Conor Burns and Tobias Ellwood, who are standing for re-election as MP for Bournemouth West and Bournemouth East respectively, took unplanned questions from the audience. Around one hundred people attended and were able to ask an eclectic mix of questions of the two candidates both staunch supporters of Israel. The wide ranging topics raised covered the NHS, local issues such as roads and transport and Brexit (Of course!).

Both candidates expressed their support for the Jewish Community, and their abhorrence of anti-Semitism, and any form of racism. They also believed funding to maintain the safety of the community should be provided if it was necessary.

Following the hour long question and answer session,



Conor Burns, Alderman Michael Filer and Tobias Ellwood

during refreshments the two candidates remained and had individual conversations with members of the audience.

COUNCIL OF CHRISTIANS AND JEWS

This important organisation seeks to promote understanding between Christians and Jews. To do so the local committee organises regular meetings, most of which take place in the Menorah suite. The meetings are both educational, entertaining and social.

There is normally a large representation of non-Jewish members that learn about us, through meeting us and, amongst other things learn about anti-Semitism. They are all supporters of Israel but they also learn about the Jewish religion and the common ground found in the

Old and New Testament, from a different perspective than one that might be promulgated from the teachings of the New Testament alone.

It is sometimes disappointing that there appears to be more non-Jews than Jews attending the meetings that might lead to a lack of balance and support for the Jewish perspective of the interfaith relationship.

On December 12 2019 the Local Council was privileged to listen to Elizabeth Harris-Sawczenki, the present Director of the Council, in the Menorah Suite. The Committee hope that many of you, in the interest of the Congregation and the well-being for the future of the Jewish Community, will choose to support the Council's programme for 2020.

Ivor Weintroub

BOURNEMOUTH AND POOLE HMD EVENT

The Bournemouth and Poole Holocaust Memorial Day committee's Annual event will be taking place on Sunday 26th January at The Lighthouse Poole from 2.00- 4.30

2020 is the 75th Anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz and the 25th anniversary of the Bosnian genocide. Henry Schachter who first told his amazing survival story at our event in

2014 and has since spoken to thousands of children and adults has kindly agreed to speak again. He has updated his presentation a great deal since he first presented it! His presentation for HMD 2020 is called ' Road to The Shoah.'

Tickets will be available using Eventbrite.

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Your shop needs you

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

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

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

What will you do?

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

Is there tea and coffee available? Of course!

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

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

We look forward to hearing from you.

Please help us to keep the shop open.

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.

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Your Guild Needs You!!!

Last year the Bournemouth Hebrew Ladies Guild celebrated its Centenary. It was a time to reflect not only on those who had served before us but on all the many events we had been privileged to cater for our community.

Over the years the Guild have supported the Shul and Community by catering Shabbat lunches, fundraising events. Yom Tov meals and of course endless Kiddushim in celebration of members simchas etc. We cover the cost of the special Kiddushim at Shavuot, Succot and Simchat Torah.

Although sadly we are no longer often called upon to cater Kiddushim for Bar and Bat Mitzvahs or even Auff Ruffs (due to the make up of the Community), we are happy to organise them for special birthdays and anniversaries etc. All these Kiddushim are organised by a very dwindling small group of ladies who may be called upon on several consecutive weeks at a time.

We appreciate that you may not wish to serve on the Guild Committee but we would urge you to join our Kiddush rota by putting your name forward to assist (09.30 start) with a Kiddush when asked. Unless we are able to increase our number of helpers we may sadly not be able to continue to organise Kiddushim and may possibly have to employ help which would increase the cost.

So please ladies (and gentlemen) call Thelma, our Chairman, on 01202 290798 or myself, on 01202 552737, and add your name to the list of helpers.

Thank you
Evelyn Grant (Senior Trustee)



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Shabbatot and Chagim

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Diary

December 2019

- Sunday 22nd **1st Night Chanukah.**
Ladies' Guild Chanukah Dinner 7.00 pm. in the Menorah Suite, and Cabaret, featuring Daniel Cainer.
- Thursday 26th Shacharit Service at 09.00 am. Barmitzvah call up for Zak Kessler, Linda and Stephen White's grandson, followed by breakfast in the Gertrude Preston Hall.
- Shabbat 27th /28th **Shabbat Chanukah.**
1st day Rosh Chodesh Tevet. Miketz. Kiddush sponsored by Tova and Lewis Citron in loving memory of their parents.
- Sunday 29th **2nd day Rosh Chodesh Tevet.**
7th day Chanukah.
- Monday 30th 8th day Chanukah.

January 2020

- Shabbat 3rd /4th Vayigash. Kiddush to celebrate Leonard Ostrove's 60th birthday. Sephardi Service.
- Tuesday 7th **Fast of Tevet.** Fast commences at 6.55 am. Fast concludes at 5.07 pm.
- Shabbat 10th/11th Vayechi. Coffee and Kichels Kiddush. Melave Malka at 7.45 pm in the Menorah Suite. D'var Torah by Rabbi A. Jesner and entertainment by Rev Chazan David Rome of Catford Synagogue.
- Shabbat 17th/18th Shemot. Coffee and Kichels Kiddush.
- Shabbat 24th/25th Va'era. Shabbat Mevorchim. Kiddush in honour of Gilian Walker.
- Sunday 26th The Bournemouth and Poole Holocaust Memorial Day Committee's Annual Event. 2.00 pm. at the Lighthouse Poole.
- Monday 27th **Rosh Chodesh Shevat.**
Holocaust Memorial Day.
- Shabbat 31st/
1st February Bo. Coffee and Kichels Kiddush.

February 2020

- Shabbat 7th /8th Beshalach. Shabbat Shira. Kiddush to honour the Ladies' Guild and the Security Team. Sephardi Service.
- Monday 10th **Tu b'Shevat.**
2.00 pm. Tree Planting Ceremony at Throop in honour of Leon Taylor.

3.00 pm. Communal Tea in the Menorah Suite to celebrate Tu b'Shevat, with a selection of fruits, sandwiches etc. Rabbi Jesner will give an introduction about the festival, and four speakers will talk briefly about their 'Roots' and how they have come to set them down in Bournemouth.

- Shabbat 14th /15th Yitro.
Coffee and Kichels Kiddush.
- Sunday 16th Stone setting at Throop.
1.00 pm. The late Hilary Grainger.
- Shabbat 21st/22nd Mishpatim. Shabbat Shekalim. Shabbat Mevorchim. Kiddush to celebrate Mahir Ozdamar's 70th birthday and Irene and Ivor Weintroub's 45th wedding anniversary.
- Sunday 23rd **Shul AGM.**
10.30 am. in the Menorah Suite.
- Tuesday 25th **1st day Rosh Chodesh Adar.**
- Wednesday 26th **2nd day Rosh Chodesh Adar.**
Ladies' Guild AGM. 11.00 am. in the Menorah Suite, followed by a light lunch.
- Shabbat 28th/29th Terumah. Coffee and Kichels Kiddush.

March 2020

- Shabbat 6th/7th Tetzaveh. Shabbat Zachor.
Coffee and Kichels Kiddush.
Sephardi Service.
- Monday 9th **Fast of Esther.** Fast commences 5.31 am. Fast concludes 6.42 pm.
- Tuesday 10th **Purim.**
- Wednesday 11th **Shushan Purim.**
- Shabbat 13th/14th Ki Tissa. Shabbat Parah. Kiddush. Yavneh College Shabbaton.
- Shabbat 20th/21st Vayakhel-Pekudei. Shabbat Hachodesh. Shabbat Mevorchim. Kiddush.
- Sunday 22nd Stone settings at Throop.
1.15 pm. The late David Zeital.
2.00 pm. The late Michael Pins.

Stone setting at Boscombe.
3.30 pm. The late Lesley Nielsen.
- Thursday 26th **Rosh Chodesh Nisan.**
- Shabbat 27th/28th Vayikra. Coffee and Kichels Kiddush.
- Sunday 29th Stone Setting at Boscombe. 2.00 pm. The late Helen Kaye.

April 2020

- Shabbat 3rd/4th Tzav. **Shabbat Hagadol.** Kiddush in the Gertrude Preston Hall.

Sephardi Service (to be confirmed).
21st Anniversary of the foundation of the Bournemouth Sephardi Association.
- Tuesday 7th Search for Chametz not before 8.41 pm.
- Wednesday 8th **Fast of the Firstborn. Erev Pesach.**
Light candles and Festival commences at 7.31pm. Communal Seder in the Menorah Suite.
- Thursday 9th **First day Pesach.** Tal. Sephardi Service.