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The Magazine of Bournemouth Hebrew Congregation

2025

Chanukah

5786



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Ruach רוח

EDITORIAL

At the final Shabbat Morning Service in our shul in Wootton Gardens it was difficult for anyone attending not to have a feeling of sadness, mixed with pride as we reflected on the achievements of our community since its founding.

However the uplifting Service, together with the Concert the next day, revitalised our spirits and gave a feeling of excitement as we looked forward to our new home on the East Cliff.

Following the Concert the Aron Hakodesh was emptied of our Sifrei Torahs and they were taken from Wootton Gardens and into our new shul on Manor Road. We knew then we had arrived at our new home.

Although the main prayer sanctuary is not yet complete the community has been enjoying services in the meeting hall, but we know our new home is no longer a vision but a reality.

We congratulate the many members of our community who have helped in bringing this about.

We wish Rabbi and Rebbetzen Lewis and the community Chanukah Sameach

CORINNE REIN – Editor

ROSAMUNDE BLOOM – Assistant Editor

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Cover photos show Rabbi Lewis affixing a mezzuzah to the door at our shul Sefrei Torah being carried to the shul.

The Editors of Ruach wish to state that the views expressed in articles are those of the contributors.

Contributions for the Pesach edition to be received by Tuesday 3rd March 2026.

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BETTINA GOULD - CHAIR'S REPORT – CHANUKAH 5786 (2025)

Since the publication of our Rosh Hashanah edition of Ruach, life at BCHC has been nothing short of extraordinary. The months that followed brought a wave of emotion, activity and transformation — beginning with our uplifting Yomim Noraim and culminating in our long-awaited move to our new home at 28b Manor Road.

Our Yomim Noraim services this year were truly inspirational. We were delighted to welcome back Chazan Michael Rowe, whose davening uplifted the congregation throughout Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. His warmth, sincerity and voice brought depth and beauty to the Tefillot, creating an atmosphere many described as among the most moving High Holy Days in recent memory.

Alongside the Ashkenazi services, our Sephardi members gathered for their own Yom Tov prayers, led with dedication and devotion, and once again extended their hallmark hospitality by hosting communal Yom Tov meals enjoyed by many. These shared occasions reflected the unity and strength of our Kehilla — one community, many traditions, all celebrating together.

Barely had the echoes of the Shofar faded before we came together again to celebrate the joy of Succot. The Succah was beautifully decorated thanks to our volunteers, becoming a hub of warmth and celebration. From the Erev Succot communal meal to the lovely Kiddushim over Yom Tov and Shabbat, the atmosphere was one of togetherness and gratitude.

We were also delighted to host a Council of Christians and Jews event in the Succah, welcoming friends to share in the festival, and later that week Rebbetzen Miriam hosted a Girls Allowed evening — an inspiring gathering that brought women together to hear her speak and share in an evening of reflection and connection.

This year's Succot period also marked the second Yahrzeit of the 7th October attacks, and after almost two years of praying every week for the hostages, we were deeply moved by the news of the release of the living hostages on 13th October 2025. For so long their photos had surrounded us as a constant reminder of their absence, and it was an indescribable joy to see their faces reunited with their families.

We gave heartfelt thanks to Hashem for their safe return while continuing to remember those who were lost and those still mourning.

The festival concluded with Simchat Torah — a joyful

and meaningful celebration of Torah and community. We were delighted to honour our Chatanim, Ivor Weintraub and David Harris, and Neshei Chayil, Rhona Taylor and Anne Filer. We also posthumously honoured Shiri Bibas o'h and her beloved sons Ariel z'l and Kfir z'l, whose bravery and tragic loss touched our hearts.



The celebrations culminated in a beautiful Kiddush marking a fitting conclusion to the Yom Tov season.

As the festivals ended, attention turned to the enormous task of preparing for our relocation. What followed was a display of teamwork that truly defined our congregation. Volunteers went into overdrive — packing, sorting, archiving and labelling every item accumulated over generations. It was a vast undertaking, managed with patience, care and good humour. From archive materials and religious items to furniture and equipment, every object was treated with respect and purpose.

My heartfelt thanks go to everyone who gave their time and energy, and to those who undertook the many practical and technical tasks required to prepare both buildings for transition — dismantling, repairs, removals and installations — ensuring every detail was managed safely and efficiently. Throughout, our Relocation Committee and Project Team worked tirelessly, liaising with contractors and overseeing every aspect with dedication and integrity. Their leadership made the impossible seem effortless, and our gratitude to them is immense.

On Shabbat 25th October we gathered for the final time in our beloved Shul at Wootton Gardens. More than 200 people attended — members past and present, families from across the country and friends who wanted to share in this once-in-a-lifetime occasion. The atmosphere was filled with gratitude, nostalgia and pride as we reflected on 120 years of prayer and community life within those familiar walls. It was an emotional and dignified farewell, marking the end of one chapter and the beginning of another.

The following day, Sunday 26th October, we reunited once again for a Farewell Concert that filled the building with music, joy and blessing. Led by Rabbi Lionel Rosenfeld and Jonny Turgel, accompanied by Josh Nesbitt, the concert was a beautiful tribute

to the generations who built and sustained our Kehilla. Local dignitaries, including The Worshipful Mayor of Bournemouth, Councillor Jackie Edwards, together with councillors, Members of Parliament and community leaders, joined us for this historic moment of pride and unity for Bournemouth Jewry.

Immediately following the concert, the Hachnasos Sefer Torah ceremony, led by Rabbi Alan Lewis, began as the Sifrei Torah were moved from Wootton Gardens to Manor Road. From there, Sue and Leo Noé generously hosted the starting point of the joyful procession as the Sefarim were carried with song and celebration to their new home at 28b Manor Road. Rabbi Lionel Rosenfeld accompanied us with song and music throughout, as people lined the streets to share in the joy of the occasion. The atmosphere was filled with emotion and pride.

When we reached our new building, Rabbi Alan Lewis affixed the Mezuzah to the front door, marking the moment our new spiritual home was formally sanctified. We then entered together and sang Psalm 100 - Mizmor L'toda. As the Torah scrolls were placed lovingly into their new Aron Kodesh, it was a most moving ceremony — not a dry eye in the room. The sense of holiness, unity and gratitude to Hashem was overwhelming, a moment that will forever stand as a true Kiddush Hashem in our Kehilla's history.

We were all so well looked after by our Security Teams, who coordinated every detail of the day together with the local police, ensuring that everything ran smoothly and safely from start to finish. It was a remarkable day of holiness, unity and joy, one that will long be remembered in the history of our Kehilla.

Just days later we reached the milestone we had all been waiting for — our very first Shabbat in the new Shul. The Parashah could not have been more fitting — Lech Lecha — a story of new beginnings and faith in the journey ahead. The Shul was packed to capacity, standing room only, filled with Ruach, joy and awe. Despite the builders still on site and finishing touches still underway, the atmosphere was electric.

From the first Kabbalat Shabbat through to the Kiddush in the new Banqueting Hall, it was clear that we were witnessing history. Each person who walked through the doors brought their own emotion, memory and pride, and the sense of unity was overwhelming. We are now fully settled in our temporary Shul Hall while the main Prayer Hall nears completion, and every service since has been filled with warmth, participation and community spirit.

And more recently, on Sunday 9th November, the Jewish community took part in Bournemouth's Annual Remembrance Day Parade and Service, honouring all who served and sacrificed for freedom. The Jewish community was proudly represented under the AJEX banner, with Rabbi Alan Lewis participating in the civic ceremony, joined by members of our Kehilla standing

together in respect and unity.

That evening, to mark the solemn anniversary of Kristallnacht, we kept the lights of our Shul shining bright as part of the international "Let There Be Light" initiative — a symbol of remembrance, resilience and hope against the darkness of hatred and intolerance.

As we continue to settle into our new home, our gratitude extends to everyone who has made this possible — our volunteers, committees, donors and supporters, as well as our professional advisors, contractors and project managers. Together, you have helped to build not just a new building, but a renewed sense of purpose and belonging. My sincere thanks go to our Board for their guidance and commitment, to our office and accounting staff for managing countless details with professionalism and good humour, and to our caretaking staff and helpers who quietly keep everything running smoothly — from preparing the Shul and halls to clearing up afterwards. Your dedication, patience and teamwork have been truly remarkable and deeply appreciated.

When the Fundraising programme started in August we thought it might be an uphill struggle, because of the pressure on everyone's resources. But when the cause is so exciting and emotional people respond wonderfully. I want to thank everyone who has given to Project 53 so generously. And I want to remind our members who have not yet joined in to come forward and become an active part of this revitalization of the Bournemouth Community Hebrew Congregation. Your help will enable us to go from strength to strength. Funds are urgently needed to complete the building and opportunities remain for sponsorship and dedication. If you can help, go to our website or contact the office, and they will tell you how you can JOIN IN.

And now, as the lights of Chanukah draw near, we reflect on the journey we have travelled — from the challenges of transition to the blessings of renewal. Chanukah reminds us of light overcoming darkness, of faith and perseverance — the very qualities that have guided our Kehilla through this extraordinary period.

The lights of the Menorah remind us not only of miracles past, but of resilience, courage and unity in the present. As long as we persevere together, care for one another and nurture the bonds that connect us, our Kehilla will continue to shine brightly — bringing warmth, comfort and joy to all who are part of it.

We look forward to celebrating Chanukah together in our new surroundings, surrounded by friends, family and community spirit, and we invite everyone to join us as we share in the light and joy of this new chapter in BCHC's story.

Keith joins me in wishing Rabbi and Rebbetzen Lewis, the Trustees, Executive and Board, and all our members, volunteers and friends, a "Chanukah Sameach", a happy, healthy and peaceful Chanukah and continued blessings to you all for the year ahead.

A MESSAGE FOR CHANUKAH FROM RABBI ALAN LEWIS

THE GLARING OMISSION

Have you ever tried to find a tractate of Chanukah in the Talmud? The answer is don't try too hard since there is no tractate. Yes, there are a few highlights of the history and some brief discussion of the Menorah-lighting mentioned on a few pages in the second Perek (chapter) of the tractate of Shabbos. However, there is no "in-depth" discussion, let alone a tractate, devoted to Chanukah.

The Talmud (Yoma 29a) discusses another "omission" concerning Chanukah. "It is written (Tehilim 22), 'For the Conductor, on the Ayeles HaShachar (brightening of dawn, according to one interpretation).' Rav Assi said: Why was Esther compared to the dawn? To tell you that just as the dawn is the end of the whole night, so too is the story of Esther the end of all the miracles. What about Chanukah? – we refer only to those included in Scripture."

The story of the miracle of Chanukah, as this passage in the Talmud notes, is not included in the Scriptures of Tenach (The Bible), while the story of Purim is, in Megillas Esther. Chanukah is omitted from discussion in the Talmud, while the discussion of Purim is contained in an entire tractate. Clearly, there must be a reason for this stark difference between Chanukah and Purim. Rabbi Yehonasan Eybshitz comments that this difference highlights an underlying historical difference between these two holidays.

In the Talmud (Shabbos 88a), we learn that "Raba said . . . they re-accepted it (the Torah) in the days of Ahashverosh, for it is written (in Megillas Esther), [the Jews] confirmed, and took upon them [etc.] – they confirmed (at the time of Purim) what they had accepted long before. (by Mt. Sinai). The spiritual problem that existed in the days of Mordechai and Esther was a fundamental one: the Jewish people were lacking in their faith. People openly flaunted their disdain for the precepts contained in the Torah and dabbled in idolatry. Upon the threat of physical annihilation, Mordechai rallied the nation to repent. The people saw the errors of their ways, repented, and a miraculous turn-around of fortune occurred. The nation of Israel was saved from the murderous hands of Haman and his willing cohorts. The nation, as the Talmud states, then reaccepted the Torah upon themselves, reaffirming the acceptance of the Torah that occurred at Mount Sinai.

However, not all was well and good with the spiritual status of the nation of Israel after the events of Purim. Granted, no one desired any longer to worship idols. However, a new form of heresy emerged. Groups formed that denied fundamental Jewish beliefs. Rav Eybshitz explains that at the time of Chanukah, there were three distinct segments of the populace: the Perushim – those who faithfully upheld the Torah – both the Written and Oral Laws; the Tzedukim – those who, although accepting the validity of the Written Law, disavowed any notion of a World to Come or Resuscitation of the Dead; and lastly, the Baytusim – those who, although accepting the validity of the Written Law, denied the validity of the Oral Law. Greek philosophy had infiltrated the belief system of a segment of the population, and those who adhered faithfully to the teachings of generations previous were in the minority.

The Chashmonaim were part of the minority Perushim group. They had to battle the Greeks and their non-believing Jewish brethren who were known as the Misyavnim. As we know, in the end, they were victorious. The Chashmonaim were able to uphold the honour of the Oral Law. In fact, the very miracle of the Menorah's oil is an illustration of one of the precepts of Oral Law: nowhere in the Written Law do we find any prohibition on lighting the menorah with impure oil. That law is learned in the Oral Law, and because of the strict adherence to this precept, the nation of Israel merited the miracle of one flask of oil lasting for eight days, the miracle which we celebrate to this day.

The Oral Law is just that – Oral Law. It was not to be written down. Only because of dire circumstances did our Sages allow for Mishna and then Gemorrah to be transcribed and ordered. Because Chanukah is the holiday that commemorates the reestablishment of the primacy of the Oral Law, it was not to be recorded in the Written Law, in Scriptures. Purim, however, was written in Scriptures as it celebrates the renewed acceptance of the entire Torah, Written and Oral. The Oral Law is not merely an aid to understand the Written Law, it is in fact a whole Torah in its own right, comprising of Halochah, Midrashim, Mishna and Gemorrah and Sisrai Torah (the Mystical learning of Torah). As the word Oral indicates this side to Torah was supposed to be learnt and transmitted by word of mouth. It was therefore appropriate that the very holiday that commemorates the Oral Law be kept in that form of transmission to the greatest degree possible and only limited legal and historical discussion is found in the Talmud. Purim, however, does not carry with it this same significance, and therefore it is discussed in the Talmud with the same degree of detail as any other holiday.

Chanukah, as we know, commemorates a victory of the weak over the mighty, the few over the many, the pure over the impure, the righteous over the wicked, and the diligent students of the Torah over the wanton. However, the holiday also celebrates purity – not just of the requisite olive oil that was needed, but of tradition. The integrity of the Oral Law was upheld by the Chashmonaim in the face of those who did all they could to diminish it. Tradition was upheld in the face of philosophical arguments advocating modernity and change. Chanukah commemorates the strength the Chashmonaim had, not only on the physical battlefield, but on the spiritual battlefield as well. It is now up to us to live up to the ideals for which the Chashmonaim fought, and to safeguard those ideals for generations to come.



*Wishing all our wonderful Kehilla a
Chanukah Samaich.*

RABBI ALAN & REBBETZEN MIRIAM LEWIS

CHANUKAH MESSAGE 5786

As we look forward to this Festival of Lights we do so while both reflecting on dark times over the past year, but also looking forward with renewed hope.

In the coming year we are looking forward to spreading light with the first ever Jewish Culture Month, building on our interfaith initiative, the Optimistic Alliance, our heritage plaque scheme and Civic Shabbat initiative.

Our community has continued to face challenges and anxiety.

We have seen a rise in antisemitism after the attacks of 7th October 2023, culminating in the sickening terror attack on Heaton Park Synagogue on Yom Kippur.

Despite these many challenges, I have seen extraordinary strength. From Manchester to Glasgow, Cardiff to London, I have spent time with proud and flourishing Jewish communities.

We – the Jewish people - have resilience in our DNA.

Since my election as Board of Deputies President last year, we have identified five priorities for building a brighter future for our community and we have significant achievements in each area:

- **Fighting antisemitism:** The Commission on Antisemitism – backed across our political parties – is a review of anti-Jewish discrimination across public and professional life co-chaired by political heavyweights Lord John Mann and Dame Penny Mordaunt. They have produced a powerful report filled with practical recommendations.

Our advocacy has led to a change in the law which will push protests away from our synagogues. In the aftermath of Heaton Park Terror attack, the Jewish community has presented the Government with priorities for comprehensive strategy to tackle antisemitism. We need action, not just words, to keep our community safe.

- **Standing up for peace and security in Israel and the Middle East:** We campaigned tirelessly for the hostages with weekly vigils in Westminster and Edinburgh and our Adopt a Hostage scheme and campaigns at Chanukah and Pesach. We rejoiced when the living hostages returned home and mourned with the families of the bereaved.

We never want to see another 7 October, or experience years like the last two we have had, so we are working constantly to ensure our community's hopes for lasting peace and security for Israelis, Palestinians and the wider Middle East are

heard by governments in the UK, Israel, across the region, and beyond.

- **Defending our religious freedoms:**

Ensuring that our religious freedoms are protected is fundamental to us all. Our revised Employer's Guide to Judaism is helping Jews struggling against discrimination in the workplace and we

are working with other faith communities to have Judaism classified by government as an ethnicity as well as a religion, which will help ensure the protection of Jewish rights in all fields.

- **Making our community more united, inclusive, and outward-looking:** I fulfilled my pledge to visit Jewish communities in every nation and region in the UK within my first year of office.

Within weeks of my election, I launched with Muslim communities the Optimistic Alliance to tackle anti-Jewish and anti-Muslim hatred; challenge extremism; support mainstream voices; and to defend shared religious freedoms.

In the wake of the Heaton Park attack, many of our Muslim partners reached out in solidarity against the shared threat of extremism. Next year, we will launch a new Commission on Disability Inclusion, to make our community as accessible and inclusive as possible to all.

- **Celebrating our faith, heritage, and culture as British Jews:** In 2026, we will have our first British Jewish Culture Month – an uplifting celebration of our history, arts, and our contributions to society, economy and culture.

It's an opportunity to demonstrate who we are, where we have come from and to share our unique heritage.

In short, we need Less Oy, and More Joy!

Wishing you and your families a happy and peaceful Chanukah,



Phil Rosenberg

President, Board of Deputies of British Jews

FINAL CALL (UPs): FAREWELL FROM THE BIMAH

If you thought aliyot on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur are a gabbai's challenge, what do you do when 170 men turn up to shul and all think they should be called up, with many dropping subtle (and not so subtle) hints about reading the Haftorah.

Welcome to the 5,964th and last shabbat at Wootton Gardens, 25 October 2025. It was a day of mixed emotions as 300+ of the community gathered for a final farewell to our beautiful shul.

Generations of families joined together to recall many memories made over the decades and to remember those no longer with us but whose presence was so tangible in amongst the pews but with an air of excitement of what was coming next.

So what do the gabbaim do when faced with dozens of do-gooders, past chairman, trustees, lifelong volunteers and general ganzer machers, to say nothing of husbands of dozens of similarly worthy women, all deserving of an aliyah?

You come up with a plan, stick with it, communicate it and hope for the best. And so we did on that special shabbat morning, recognising that if it went wrong, anyone upset wouldn't step foot inside the shul again.

Given it was parshat Noach, we considered doing the call-ups two-by-two (hurrah) but thought we might get a flood of complaints.

We had enough yahrtzeits that week to take up all the regular aliyot, so in consultation with Rabbi Lewis, we agreed to add some extra stops, of which Rabbi Lionel had four prepared.

Amongst those with family yahrzeits that week, we called up past President **Simon Lurie** – who was responsible for it being the last shabbat, as he had sold the shul and whose parents, Gerald z'l and Jean, had been devoted to the community with leadership roles in the Chevra Kadisha and Guild respectively; **David Marks** – whose late parents, Sam and Hilda, were so deeply involved in all aspects of the shul, not least by leaving a lasting legacy through donating the land on which Throop cemetery is located and from whose Sefer Torah we were leining; and **Michael Goldberger**, whose wife, **Ilana**, was commemorating the 40th yahrzeit that day of her late father, Chazan Moshe Korn z'l. Rabbi Lionel spoke movingly about him and how he and his father (on his day off) would walk over from Kinloss to hear Chazan Korn daven at Raleigh Close.

Then came the specials. Given the historic nature of the day, we decided to honour the descendants of the longest standing families in the community based on when they first arrived in Bournemouth.

To put that into context, and as mentioned from

the Bimah, I wouldn't have made the shortlist as our family (the Marriotts and Richmans) only came to Bournemouth in 1943.

So where did we start. Firstly with the family of the late **Avraham and Beckie Levy** who arrived in Bournemouth in 1923 and whose great-grandson, **Rabbi Jamie Cowland**, we called up. His mother, **Jane**, is a legend in the community and her cousin, **Linda White** (and Stephen R who had Hagbah), are ever present and continue to do so much for the shul.

Tragically, Jane and Linda's grandfather died in his 30s but not before setting up and running the shul's first choir. Both Jane and Linda's fathers, Norman Levy z'l and Harry Wayne z'l were Presidents of the shul.

Next up was **Michael Filer**, whose wife, **Anne's** grandparents, **Harry and Betty Kasmir** moved to Bournemouth in 1917 and were stalwarts of the community from the outset.

Apples don't fall far from the tree and it was our pleasure to thank both Anne and Michael for their lifelong contributions to the shul and wider community, and particularly for their years of civic service to Bournemouth, both having served as Mayor of the town (Anne twice).

Continuing to dive into our history, we next recognised **Israel and Toby Cohen** who came to Bournemouth in 1916. It was so appropriate to honour their granddaughter **Marion** by calling up husband **Peter Reichwald**.

In recent years, Marion has led the Guild, aided and abetted by the kitchen team, with such enthusiastic dedication, evidenced by such wonderful events and kiddushim.

It is difficult to truly understand the herculean task that Peter undertook to pack up Wootton Gardens during the final months leading up to the move. He led from the front and organised a military operation to get it done.

We were thrilled to thank Peter and Marion for their outstanding dedication to our shul.

Our final special Aliyah went to **Leon Taylor (91)**, grandson of **Lazarus and Feigele Schneiderman** who arrived in Bournemouth in 1904, the year before the congregation was founded. Leon and Rhona (whose own grandparents, the Yauners and Polakoffs, came to Bournemouth in 1919) are one of the longest standing members of the shul and one of several couples in shul that day who had married in Wootton Gardens.

We were delighted to thank them both for their long involvement with the community; Rhona being active

in the Guild for many years, now their Life President and Leon utilised his talented landscaping skills so sensitively to design our beautiful cemetery at Throop.

(On a personal note, my father (David Marriott) owes much of his early golfing experience to Leon. Five years older than my father and with a new licence (74 years ago),

Leon used to pick up my dad up from Green Park on Sunday mornings and take him to golf over several years. My father always considered Leon to be one of his best drivers.)

Stephen H White needs little introduction. Although he and **Marilyn** have been in Bournemouth for only 41 years, their wise, calm and thoughtful leadership has been a mainstay of the community for all those decades.

Without fanfare, they have quietly supported the community, with Throop and the new shul benefitting significantly from their generosity. It just so happened that Stephen had yahrzeit for both his parents during that final week in Wootton Gardens and therefore trumped all other claimants for the Haftorah, no questions asked. Ellard and I are indebted to Stephen for giving us that get-out-of-jail card.

And then we come to our beloved "Uncle" Bernie who had the final mitzvah that morning, gelilah. Words are inadequate to express what Bernie means to all of us and the impact he has had on the shul in the 40 years that he and Marilyn have lived in Bournemouth.

From the beaming welcoming smile to allcomers, the years he dedicated to the kids in the children's service and his ever presence around the bimah, Bournemouth Shul is synonymous with Bernie Dexter.

With thanks to Michael Goldberger for the suggestion, we are so incredibly thankful that Bernie sat in his rightful place on the bimah throughout the leining on that final shabbat.

We also had the privilege of turning the Dexters' living/dining room into a mini shul for a packed and ruach-filled Friday night davening the evening before – a house where we had been so graciously hosted on many Friday nights during our final sojourn towards our new home on the East Cliff.

Bernie was so happy being in the new shul in Manor Road those first two weeks. On the second Sunday, the night before his cruel stroke, he posted this message on the shul's minyan WhatsApp group:

Boruch Hashem
We had 24 tonite.
It is wonderful to see a renewed spirit
In our new home!
Bernie

As I write this, Bernie is sadly still in hospital and he and Marilyn and all the family need all our prayers, good deeds and love to help Bernie along the road to a refuah sheleima and a return to Manor Road.

The atmosphere, warmth and love we all experienced in shul that last shabbat marked a fitting end to a long, historic and unforgettable era at Wootton Gardens, leading, as Bernie so beautifully expressed, to us witnessing a renewed spirit in our new shul, Boruch Hashem, that PG will stand the community in very good stead for the years and decades to come.

Jonathan Marriott

THE FINAL SHABBAT

At the conclusion of the final Shabbat morning service our Gabbai Jonathan Marriott announced that Rabbi Lewis would make Kiddush from the Bimah. Displaying the silver Becher, he said it was both significant and poignant that it was to be used on this historic day as its engraved inscription reads "Presented by Mrs S M Silverman on the occasion of the opening of The Bournemouth Synagogue July 2 1911 Tammuz 6 5671"



NARRATIVES FROM THE CONCERT BROCHURE TRUSTEES AND CHAIR

We have included the Narratives from the Concert Brochure, written by the Trustees and the Chair, as not all our members were able to be present at the Concert and the Editors are sharing them as they deserve a wider audience.

"TOGETHER IN HARMONY"

Bettina Gould - Chair BCHC

It is a privilege and with deep gratitude, that I welcome you all this afternoon to our Final Concert at Wootton Gardens. This is not simply another concert, but a milestone, a moment that will be remembered for generations to come.

For over 100 years, this Shul building has been the spiritual home of the Bournemouth Hebrew Congregation and the main Orthodox Shul in Bournemouth. Within these walls, voices have risen in prayer and song through times of joy and meaning. Weddings, Bar and Bat Mitzvahs, baby blessings, Yomim Noraim and moments of remembrance have all taken place here.

More than that, this has been the centre of our communal life, where lifelong friendships have been forged, families have grown and countless simchas have been celebrated together. Every corner of this Shul holds memories, and every memory belongs to us all.

Today's concert is both a tribute to those moments and a celebration of the resilience, unity and faith that have sustained us for more than a century. Music is a universal language. It links us to our past, gives expression to our present and carries our hopes into the future. To gather here one final time in song is a fitting way to honour this sacred space.

Yet while there is sadness in saying farewell, there is also excitement in what lies ahead. Very soon we will step into our new home on the East Cliff, a Shul built not only of bricks and mortar, but of vision, generosity and determination; a place for prayer, learning and community for generations to come.

Our recent 120th Anniversary reminded us of the strength and legacy of those who came before us, and it inspires us now to look forward with the same commitment to the next 120 years.

As we turn the page, let us carry the warmth of Wootton Gardens with us. The melodies do not end here. They move with us from the old to the new, "Together In Harmony".

"OUR SYNAGOGUE IN WOOTTON GARDENS"

Ivor Weintraub - Senior Trustee

Bournemouth Hebrew Congregation was founded in 1905 by a gathering of 22 men led by Sidney Silverman. From those humble beginnings the Congregation grew into a vibrant centre of Jewish life and culture. The rapid

expansion of the town as a popular seaside resort resulted in the Congregation expand during the twentieth century.

By 1911 a Synagogue was built that was extended in 1921 and an entertainment hall, later dedicated to Gertrude Preston the long serving Secretary of the Ladies Guild, and offices above, were built.

In 1962 the Synagogue was extended to its present form, making it one of the most beautiful Synagogues in the United Kingdom.

In 1973 the Murray Muscat centre was added as an educational and entertainment complex, and a Mikveh was built. The whole development displayed the philanthropy and determination of the local Jewish community to be at the forefront of Orthodox Jewish worship in Bournemouth.

The Congregation, with its independent partner, the Guild, founded by the ladies in 1918, enhanced the civic life of the town, contributing 5 Mayors, and an Alderman.

The Guild has supported not only to welfare within the Congregation but also making significant financial donations to local charities. The Congregation is managed by a lay Executive and Board, voted annually, and has been fortunate in those who have given their time to serve, most recently responsible for overseeing the recent sale of the complex and the move to the Congregation's new home.

The Congregation, through the generous financial support of Sam and Hilda Marks and Stephen H and Marilyn White, was able to consecrate its own beautifully landscaped cemetery at Throop.

The Congregation has been served by outstanding Rabbanim, notably, in the latter half of the twentieth century by Rabbi Indech z'l, Rabbi Silberg z'l, Rabbi Shisler, and into this century by Rabbi Rosenfeld, Rabbi Jesner and Rabbi Lewis.

The Chazanut of Rev. Israel Cohen z'l and Rabbi Rosenfeld leading the Congregation in prayer, has been unsurpassed and has brought many visitors to pray with the Congregation and celebrate with us.

It was foreseen at the beginning of the 21st century that the needs of the Congregation would necessitate the Congregation having to leave the magnificent edifice that has served us so well for 114 years, to a new home on the East Cliff in order to be at the centre of Jewish life for the next 120 years, ensuring Bournemouth Hebrew Congregation.

It remains a beacon of Jewish life, dedicated to its founding principles, while embracing all the possibilities of the future.

is name, continue to inspire, nurture, and unite both residents and visitors, ensuring that the light of the Orthodox tradition shines brightly in Bournemouth for years to come.

It is that which we today celebrate in prayer and song as we remember our history, led by our present Minister, Rabbi Alan Lewis and look forward to our future in our new home.

"LOOKING FORWARD TO OUR NEW SYNAGOGUE"

Stephen H White - Senior Trustee

**'Every time we say goodbye, I cry a little
Every time we say goodbye, I wonder why a little'**

Many of us, sitting in this magnificent house of worship today for the last time, will share Cole Porter's sentiments. We have prayed here, celebrated here, cried and laughed here, met our friends and enjoyed smachot here. It has been the centre of Bournemouth Jewish life for over 100 years. So why are we saying goodbye?

Others have focused on the good reasons which have pushed us to move. But there are even better reasons which pull us to the East Cliff and our new magnificent premises at Number 28b Manor Road. Let me count the ways:

- The new shul is so much more accessible for everyone who lives on the East Cliff. The walk is shorter and flatter, there are no steps, entry from Manor Road is via a ramp, and the environs are much more pleasant.
- The new prayer hall is more appropriate in size for our Congregation and is beautifully designed to be both contemporary and traditional, with echoes and references to the Wootton Gardens shul. Davening there will be a truly spiritual experience. In addition, a refurbished Shaare Tzedek room for the Sephardi Association is provided.
- The refurbished building is much more user-friendly with better heating, air-conditioning and a step-free interior on the ground floor. It is more environmentally friendly with better insulation.
- The interior design is tailor made for community facilities and events as well as religious services.

We will be very proud of our new home and quite rightly. But a building does not define a Kehilla, nor does it guarantee its success. The commitment of our members and the welcome we give to visitors is so much more important.

We live in uncertain times, and predicting the future is no easy thing but my hope is:

- That our membership numbers gradually swell as visitors new and old savour and enjoy the atmosphere of the new shul
- That even more holiday-home visitors come to use our facilities

That those of a less liturgical bent join us to enjoy the communal facilities on offer

- That Bournemouth becomes a more enticing place for younger people, who no longer need to live in London to 'go to work' (because they work from home).
- That, as a result of all of this, Bournemouth Community Hebrew Congregation goes from strength to strength.

The future is bright if we work hard to make it so. To those who have got us to this momentous point in our illustrious history – Kol Hacavod. Now let us all pull together to keep up the momentum.

בהצלחה- B'hatzlacha

"A FAREWELL TO OUR BELOVED SHUL"

Mahir Ozdamar - Senior Trustee

Today we gather for a poignant and historic moment: a farewell concert marking the end of an era in our synagogue of 120 years.

For more than a century, this building has stood as a beacon of faith, tradition, and community spirit. Generations have prayed within its walls, celebrated life's joys, and supported one another through challenges. It is far more than brick and stone – it is a vessel of memory, identity, and belonging.

Over the years our community and our synagogue have been integral parts of the wider community. We have had the pleasure of welcoming tens of thousands of pupils through these doors to help them learn about Judaism, our practices and our values.

We have had a strong tradition of contributing to the communal life of our town evidenced by the number of times our members have had the honour of being the Mayor of Bournemouth and marking the occasion with special services in this very building.

This special milestone we celebrate today is not only significant for our members but also for the many friends from the wider community who have shared in our journey.

We are deeply touched that so many have joined us this afternoon, including our cherished partners from the Council of Christians and Jews (CCJ), who are here to help us say goodbye to this much-loved edifice.

Their presence is a testament to the bonds of friendship and solidarity that reach beyond the boundaries of faith, reminding us of the importance of dialogue, respect, and unity.

This concert is both a celebration and a farewell: a chance to fill our synagogue one last time with music, song, and shared spirit.

Though we are moving on from this building, the values and traditions it has nurtured will accompany us to our new home on the East Cliff.

Our hope is that the new synagogue will continue to be more than a place of worship—that it will be a vibrant centre of learning, culture, and togetherness. Just as our current home has welcomed so many, we pray that the new building will open its doors even wider, strengthening community ties and serving as a sanctuary of peace and shared values for generations to come.

As we close this chapter, we do so with gratitude to the Almighty for the past and optimism for the future.

WHAT A FINALE!

Rabbi Lionel Rosenfeld had come to Bournemouth from Jerusalem for this historic weekend. He led the weekend services in his usual dynamic and energetic manner!

Despite it being the final Shabbat morning service he managed to overcome any sadness felt by the congregation, getting everyone to stand up clapping and joining in as he went around the shul singing "Ado no Lam" for the last time in Wootton Gardens. Leaving a spirit of joy and optimism as we faced our move and the future.

The following day, Sunday 26th October, saw a Full House at the Bournemouth Hebrew Congregation Wootton Gardens Synagogue for the Final Celebrity Concert. Many of the audience had travelled far and wide to be in the shul for this celebrity performance. Special guests included local MP Tom Hayes, the Mayor of Bournemouth, Councillor Jackie Edwards plus many other civic guests.

The audience also included people who had association with the shul from childhood travelling from the United States, Israel as well as all parts of the UK. Peter Malpas, the Chair of the Bournemouth Council of Christians and Jews, attended together with many Christian friends.

For the concert Rabbi Rosenfeld was joined by Chazan Jonny Turgel a leading soloist with the Shabbaton Choir, the two having joined forces on numerous occasions previously.

Highly accomplished pianist Josh Nesbitt who has also regularly played alongside the two Chazanim, accompanied them. The stage was set for a rousing musical afternoon.

Bettina Gould, chair of BCHC, welcomed everyone to this special event, which in the Concert programmes she had written, it was "Not simply a concert but a milestone, a moment that will be remembered for generations to come."

She thanked all those who had made it possible, particularly Marilyn Keen and Loraine Berlyn, who had undertaken the task of its organisation.

The programme included a wide variety of melodies, a medley of High Holy Day songs, the Liverpool Yigdal, Adon Olam Medley, The Blessing for the IDF, Halleluya, Am Yisroel Chai, 'Empty Chairs and Empty Tables' from Les Miserables, Prayer for the State of Israel, 'Next Year in Jerusalem' and a special



rendition of Ein Kelohanu dedicated to congregant, Valerie Millin. Aviran Reuven of the Sephardi Congregation was invited to join Chazan Lionel and Chazan Jonny in singing 'Shabechi Yerushalim to the delight of the audience.

Before the second half of the programme, Reverend Hayley Ace of Christian Action Against Antisemitism, in Waltham Abbey told the audience of their support for Israel and the Jewish community.

She ended with "Am Yisrael Chai", which was continued in song by Rabbi Lionel and Chazan Jonny.

Concluding the concert, Stephen White Senior Trustee spoke of how the Community was moving forward and despite the rise of anti-semitic incidents in the town, we were feeling very positive about the move.

He felt he must give the thanks of the Community to our Chair Bettina Gould for her hard work in seeing this day come.

Finally Rabbi Lewis spoke and led the Hachnasos service with the removal of the Sefrei Torahs from the Aron Hakodesh, which were paraded around the Bimah before being taken out to our new Shul.

A truly unique and emotional occasion for everyone in attendance certainly, although sadly a 'first' for the Bournemouth Hebrew Congregation!

Josephine Jackson



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HACHNOSOS CEREMONY

The anticipation of the impending arrival of the Sefrei Torah, from their home in Wootton Gardens, to the drop off point in Manor Road, could be felt by everyone.

It began to drizzle, but that could not dampen the ruach and excitement.

From every direction came people, who were affiliated with the Bournemouth Community Hebrew Congregation and also those from many other communities.

Men, carrying numerous Ashkenazi and Sephardi scrolls, stepped down off the coach which had taken them from Wootton Gardens, and soon many chuppot were erected over them.

The simcha began and continued with singing, as the colourful procession wound its way along the tree-lined route, secured by police and CST volunteers.

It halted as it reached number 28b Manor Road, and walked along the pathway leading to the new BCHC premises.

With aching arms and happy hearts the procession of Sefrei Torah made its way from the gate down the new ramp that ends up at the shul's front door.

There Rabbi Alan Lewis inaugurated the building with a blessing, as he fixed a mezuzah.

The doors opened with palpable excitement as those carrying Sefrei Torahs, were allowed into our new premises.

After their journey, the Sefrei Torah carriers rested their treasure into the safes, which eventually will be housed at the back of the Aron Ha'Kodesh.

Then as Rabbi Lionel Rosenfeld began to sing Uvenucho Yomar, the hallway erupted into an emotional rendition of the verses which follow.

The final words, always so poignant, were fittingly so on this occasion.

"Renew our days as of old," reflecting the symbol of the Torah's constant renewal, just as BCHC's renewal, now in its East Cliff home.

Rosalind Schogger



PRESERVING OUR LOCAL JEWISH HERITAGE

Back in the Autumn of 2022 'The Living Stones' project took off in earnest after being awarded a grant from the National Lottery Heritage Funding.

The driving force who set this in motion was new BHC member Howard Freeman, liaising with the Dorset History Centre, the Russell Cotes Museum and the History Department of Bournemouth University.

Our then Synagogue Administrator Loraine Berlyn offered to help with researching the lives of past BHC members, knowing that the Shul held a wealth of untapped information.

Fast forward a couple of years and the Dorset History Centre learned of the plans for both BHC and BRS to downsize to much smaller premises, reigniting their long-held interest in curating a collection of documents to showcase the social history of the life of the local Jewish communities.

Working with Barbara and Simon Lurie they secured funding to employ the services of professional archivists, enabling an Archive Scoping Assessment to be carried out, and overseeing our archiving efforts.

Meanwhile Peter Reichwald was busy masterminding the relocation from Wootton Gardens to the East Cliff, allocating Loraine Berlyn and myself the marathon task of sorting 'The Print Room' (together with all the other paperwork that resurfaced after being secreted elsewhere!) – a depository of documents recording all that had taken place at BHC since the inception of the Community 120 years ago!

The Print Room

There followed many months of hard work as we, together with a great many dedicated helpers (a huge thank you to you all!), trawled through the mountains of papers, under the guidance of our archivist who helped us assess, organise, document, package and label our collection. Yes it was exhausting, but also fascinating as we uncovered a wealth of information. We ended up with two visits from the shredding van to dispose



l to r Loraine Berlyn, Archivist Liz Selby and Barbara Lurie

of the many sacks of unwanted sensitive paperwork, and eventually in October forty archive boxes of BHC catalogued paperwork were transported to DHC's climate controlled quarantine room in Dorchester.

What does the future hold?

- The Living Stones Exhibition at the Russell Cotes Museum, postponed from this October, will now take place in October 2026
- We have many historic photographs which need to be catalogued before to being added to the Collection
- We are putting together a digital archive (starting with the video interviews that some members gave for the 120th celebrations) for deposit at DHC
- Further papers are coming to light, which need to be assessed and catalogued prior to being deposited at DHC. If you have any papers which you think may be of historical or cultural significance, please let us know!
- Over the course of the next few years, and once funding has been approved, DHC will work with professional archivists and interested volunteers to conserve, catalogue and digitise the collection.

This is an exciting venture which will eventually be available for everybody to access. It is an opportunity to showcase our rich heritage and inform the public of the important role played by Jews in public life.

It will be a rich educational resource to further our outreach efforts to foster understanding and help combat anti-semitism.

If you have an interest or skills which you feel could help in this vision, please do offer your services – we would love to hear from you!

There is much work to be done, but it should prove both fascinating and rewarding.

Anne Ozdamar



The 'Print Room' at Wootton Gardens

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VISIT BY BOARD OF DEPUTIES PRESIDENT



(above) Marilyn Keen Debra Tendler Jess Toale MP Phil Rosenberg, Tom Hayes MP, Bettina Gould and Stephen White

Phil Rosenberg, BOD President spent a busy weekend just before Rosh Hashanah in Bournemouth, visiting our town in solidarity after several antisemitic incidents had taken place. He met with local MPs, representatives of Jewish organisations and the police.

On Shabbat he attended our morning service, where he addressed the Congregation and on Sunday morning held an open meeting in the Thelma Cowan Hall. At both events he emphasised the five guiding principles of the Board.

These are:- to fight antisemitism; to stand up for peace and security in Israel and the Middle East; to defend our religious freedoms; to make our community more united and outward looking; to celebrate our faith, heritage and culture as British Jews.

He said, "Like Jewish communities across the UK Bournemouth's local Jewish population has been through a tough time of late, but on my visit I was struck by the community's resilience, its proud history and its

(left) Marilyn Keen questions Phil Rosenberg



(above) At meeting Chief Inspector Barry Gosling, Inspector Matt Fuller, Inspector Sophie Wilkins, PC Dominic Frost with Andrew Kaye Head of CST Southern Region, Debra Tendler, Stephen White, Bettina Gould and Phil Rosenberg

dynamic plans for the future."

Coinciding with his visit came an announcement from the Russell Cotes Museum that the "Waves of Change – Jewish Life in Bournemouth 1880-2020" which had been postponed will now open in October 2026. Expressing his pleasure at this he said that it was "the right decision" for "celebrating the contributions and reaching out to our friends and neighbours from different faiths is more important than ever."

Corinne Rein

FINAL CURTAIN

On Friday 31st October 2025 I was tasked with dismantling parts of the Aron Hakodesh and Bima in the shul at Wootton Gardens as these would no longer be used for religious purposes.

The Parochet (curtain) had been presented in memory of my late grandfather, Ruby Marriott z'l and was taken down for the last time.

It was a somewhat emotional morning at the end of a week where bit by bit we removed our memorial and display boards from the shul following the unforgettable concert finale and hachnasat sefer torah ceremony on Sunday 26st October.

On Friday 31st October 1986 I was tasked with dismantling parts of the Aron Hakodesh and Bima in the shul at Green Park Hotel as these would no longer be used for religious purposes.

The Parochet (curtain) had been commissioned by my late grandfather, Ruby Marriott z'l and was taken down for the last time.

It was a somewhat emotional morning at the end of a week where bit by bit we removed mezuzot throughout the hotel and dismantled the shul following the unforgettable Simchat Torah finale on Sunday 26th October.

1st November 1943 was the day my grandparents opened the doors of Green Park as a kosher hotel and it was a privilege for me to play a role, on 1st November 2025, ushering in a new era for Bournemouth shul in it's new home just across the road.

Jonathan Marriott



SUKKOT AT BHC

BHC hosted CCJ during Chol Hamoed Sukkot at a meeting with Rabbi Lewis in the Thelma Cowan Hall Rabbi Lewis spoke about the festival, about the construction of a sukkah and the foods and

traditions associated with Sukkot.

Everyone was then invited into the sukkah for refreshments, and the appropriate blessings when eating in the sukkah were recited

GIRLS ALLOWED "IN THE SUKKAH WITH REBBETZEN MIRIAM"

Everyone was well wrapped up with sweaters and coats when Girls Allowed held a Social in the Shul sukkah during Chol Hamoed Sukkot. With hot soup and drinks we soon warmed up and this ensured we had an enjoyable evening.



AJEX MARKS REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

A strong contingent marched on Remembrance Sunday this year to the Bournemouth Cenotaph alongside the Ajax Standard, carried this year by Clifford Lux. Rabbi Lewis took part in the service alongside other faith leaders and a wreath from Bournemouth Ajax was laid at the Cenotaph.

A week later a Bournemouth contingent, many of them former members of BHC, now living in London, marched proudly under the Bournemouth Ajax banner at the annual Ajax Parade. Mandy Glazer carried the Standard. Several. Close to three thousand people were in attendance or spectators at the Cenotaph in Whitehall.

In the opening address we were reminded of the enormous contribution by the Jewish community in armed service to this country, which was publicly recognised by King George V's in 1935 when he granted Ajax the right to hold their own Remembrance parade one week after that of the nation.

Mandy Glazer

AJEX at the Cenotaph in London



Rabbi Lewis before his participation in the Service



Some of those who marched with the AJEX standard in Bournemouth



PERSONAL

KNELLER/CHEYNEY SAUL –

Audrey- Alan and Yvonne (her sister) would like to thank Rabbi Alan and Rebbetzen Miriam, the Executive and Honorary Officers of BCHC, Bournemouth Hebrew Guild, our dear family and friends for all their kindness, their visits, cards, letters, gifts, phone calls, emails, WhatsApp messages, all of which helped lift



our spirits during the loss of our dear wife and sister. Special mention must be made of Angela Kneller, her daughters and grandchildren who helped us through a very difficult time.

LEVEY – Adrian would like to thank Rabbi Lewis, family and friends for their kind visits, telephone calls and good wishes received during his recent illness

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY

The Bournemouth and Poole Holocaust Memorial Day Committee's annual Act of Commemoration will be taking place on Sunday 25th January 2026 in the theatre at Lighthouse Poole 2.00pm - 4.30pm. There will also be a short event at the Civic Centre (Bournemouth Town Hall) on 27th January starting at 10.00am. After which we will be going to the HMD memorial near the Cenotaph.

The theme for HMD 2026 is Bridging Generations. A young student will share her recent experience of taking part in the Lessons from Auschwitz project.

Our main speaker is Melvyn Leach, a representative of Generation 2 Generation (G2G), an organisation that trains descendants of Holocaust survivors to share their family stories.

Melvyn will recount the story of his relative, Willy Halpert, using filmed testimony to describe Willy's survival as a hidden child in Belgium.

He will also speak about what happened to Willy's parents and wider family. Willy now lives in Canada and remains closely connected to Melvyn's family.

The tickets are free and will be available from the Box Office at the Lighthouse on 01202 280000 from the middle of December.

At this point in time the direct email link to get tickets has not yet been set up.

Lynda Ford-Horne

Chair of Bournemouth and Poole Holocaust Memorial Day committee



A CALL FOR HELP AND INFORMATION

If you have family members or friends who are buried in Boscombe, Kinson or Throop then please help us to document their family connections and stories of their time in Bournemouth.

We have a team of people willing to help you complete a form online, on paper, or record an interview with you.

Without your help these stories will be lost.

For more information please contact

Barbara Lurie 07932 123116, barbara.lurie@bhcshul.co.uk or

Howard Freeman 07866 736640, howard.freeman@bhcshul.co.uk

The Living Stones Project Team

A NEW NIGHTINGALE HOUSE

The beautiful, CQC Outstanding, recently renovated home is open to new Residents.

Nightingale Hammerson has cared for members of the older Jewish community for over 185 years. We provide outstanding residential, nursing, dementia, respite, palliative and end-of-life care to Residents and support their families along the way.

To continue this breadth of care, the much loved Nightingale House in Clapham is undergoing a major renovation and refurbishment project.

The charity is excited to unveil the initial phases and transformations to this beautiful, grade 2 listed building.

Nightingale House needed refurbishment, and it was time to bring the building back to life - befitting a modern and innovative care provision, for which Nightingale Hammerson is well-known.

The home is officially rated CQC Outstanding, offering a specialised environment for care and a home that has a family feeling. Nightingale House is a community with a strong, caring and supportive bond that is visibly evident amongst care teams and volunteers, who always put Residents and their families first.

Now this beautiful, refurbished building will reflect this welcoming community. Following the refurbishment of Wohl Household, where 40 Residents with dementia and high-care needs are cared for, the communal areas are being modernised in the style of a stately home.

There will be a new Garden Café and lounge providing a gorgeous space, open to Residents, their friends & family, the local community and the children and families from the home's onsite

nursery. The on-site salon will offer Residents some well-deserved pampering, manicures and hairdressing. We offer a new, well-stocked shop complete with kosher items for visitors and local Jewish families.

Nightingale House is synonymous with excellent care and is also renowned for its stimulating and enjoyable engagement activities.

There is always an activity for everyone to enjoy, provided by our skilled and compassionate engagement and volunteer teams.

To match their energy, our new activity hub offers an expansive space to gather, engage and interact, whether it is pottery, baking or gathering for a club.

There is everything one could need for people to enjoy their day, whatever they may be doing. When the weather is fine, the hub opens up to beautiful gardens which are expertly managed by the head gardener, who works closely with the Residents each week.

Do come and visit, we would love to welcome you. As a charity we can also provide financial support for those unable to meet the full cost of care.

If you wish to learn more about our care or to book a tour, contact Residents' Services on residentsservices@nightingalehammerson.org or telephone 020 8673 3495.

"JEWISH CARE PRESENTS" PROGRAMME

This is an excellent virtual programme every Monday to Thursday, mornings and afternoons, except on Yom Tov. In the mornings often subjects like Coffee & Chat, light chair exercises, Pilates, mindfulness, chair dance.

In the afternoon, a huge variety of talks or music. Examples include A Virtual Tour of the Wallace Collection, Sounds of the 60's plus talks on many different subjects. Guests are experts in areas including art, history, politics, entertainment, religion and more.

There is no cost and to register for these events please email JCPresents@jcare.org or call 020 8418 2114.

If you need help getting set up on Zoom, please get in touch with Max on maxbianconi@jcare.org or call 020 8922 2337 for guidance through the process.

There is a monthly listing for all live zoom sessions and you receive daily reminders. Do try it!

Stephen Ison
Jewish Care Community Support Practitioner

REBBETZEN'S RECIPES

This recipe was given to Rebbetzen Miriam by her niece. It is one of her favourites as it is simple, quick to make and yummy. When the kitchen in the shul is ready she hopes to make some

for our Kiddushim, perhaps having a team with her to learn and create for us all to enjoy. Makes 6-8 cookies.

Rebbetzen Miriam

Chocolate Snowballs

Ingredients:

- 2tbsp oil
- ½ cup sugar
- ½ cup flour
- ¼ cup cocoa powder
- 1 egg
- ¼ tsp vanilla extract
- ½ tsp baking powder
- ¼ cup icing sugar

Equipment:

- Mixing bowl, Small bowl, Mixing spoon, Cookie tray

Method:

- Preheat oven to 180°C
- Line one tray with baking parchment. Set aside
- In a bowl mix oil, sugar, flour, cocoa powder, egg, vanilla extract and baking powder. Keep mixing until a soft dough forms

■ In another bowl

put the icing sugar

- Roll the dough into about 6-8 cookies

■ Roll the balls

one by one, and dip in icing sugar until fully coated. Set on cookie tray.

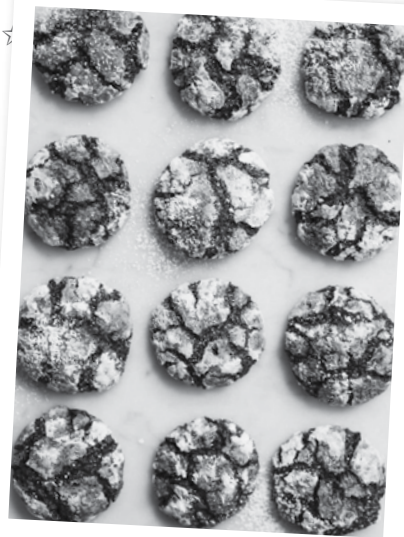
- Leave room in between each ball, as the cookies will spread out

- Bake in the oven for 18 minutes

- Once they have cooled completely the cookies are ready to be enjoyed.

Tips and tricks!:

- Make sure to roll the whole ball in icing sugar
- Keep your hands wet when rolling the balls so it doesn't stick to your fingers.



Bournemouth Jewish Support Services

Registered Charity number 1209413

Clients and Community First

This year, at the Autumn Training and Networking Event for our Volunteers, we had a lively group discussion on why we volunteer for BJSS: what drew us to BJSS, what keeps us actively involved, and how we fit our volunteering around our other commitments.

We all agreed that it's the focus on Clients and Community first that is the great strength of our Charity. Everything we do is structured around maintaining the knowledge, training and infrastructure that enables us to provide our broad range of confidential information, advice and support services. There is also the flexibility to spend as little or as much time as each Volunteer has available.

We always have interesting opportunities for new Volunteers and would love you to join us. After initial training, you can get involved with any or all of our wide range of activities - it's up to you to choose. Have a look at our website for more details about what we do.

Do also contact BJSS if you, a family member, friend or neighbour needs our support.

Telephone: 01202 298817 **Email:** info@bjss.org.uk **Website:** www.bjss.org.uk

Janet Gee, Tova Citron, Zara Pinner, Jan Opas, Janet Gilbert, Michele Perry

BJSS Admin Team

MEN & LADIES REQUIRED

TO JOIN OUR CHEVRA KADISHA TEAMS

If you feel you can carry out
this very rewarding work you
will be most welcome.

Full training will be given.

Please contact the
Shul Office.

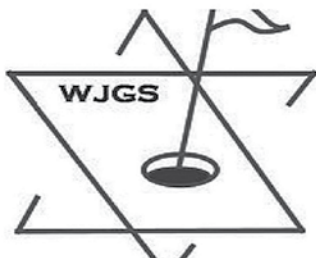
HOSPITAL VISITING

Please inform
the office if
you, a member
of your family
or a friend is
in hospital and
would like to be visited.



Because of data protection law,
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the synagogue or to our teams
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To ensure that everyone
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pass on details as soon as
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We need you to be hands on!!

Functions

Yom Tovim

Kiddushim

Support community activities

To find out more contact Marion, BHG Chair at
marionj.bhg@hotmail.com or via WhatsApp on
07813864707

DIARY

December 2025

Shabbat 13th	Vayeshev Mevarachim Hachodesh
Sunday 14th	Chanukah First Candle
Monday 15th	Chanukah First Day
Shabbat 20th	Shabbat Chanukah Mikketz 1st Day Rosh Chodesh Tevet
Sunday 21st	2nd Day Rosh Chodesh Tevet Chanukah Tea & Entertainment – 2.30pm in Shul Hall
Monday 22nd	Eighth Day Chanukah
Shabbat 27th	Vayigash
Tuesday 30th	Fast of Tevet

January 2026

Shabbat 3rd	Vayechi
Sunday 4th	Stone Setting Throop The late Mrs Dolly Bitton o"n – 2pm
Shabbat 10th	Shemot
Shabbat 17th	Va'era Mevarachim Hachodesh
Sunday 18th	Throop Stone Setting The late Dr Martin Tobias z"l – 2pm
Monday 19th	Rosh Chodesh Shevat
Shabbat 24th	Bo. JAMI Mental Health Shabbat
Shabbat 31st	Beshalach – Shabbat Shirah

February

Monday 2nd	Tu B'ishvat
Shabbat 7th	Yitro
Shabbat 14th	Mishpatim – Shabbat Shekalim Mevarachim Hachodesh
Tuesday 17th	1st day Rosh Chodesh Adar
Wednesday 18th	2nd day Rosh Chodesh Adar

Shabbat 21st	Terumah
Sunday 22nd	Stone Setting Throop The late Mr Lewis Cosky z"l – 1pm
Shabbat 28th	Tetzaveh

March

Monday 2nd	Fast of Esther
Tuesday 3rd	Purim
Wednesday 4th	Shushan Purim
Shabbat 7th	Ki Tissa
Shabbat 14th	Vayakhel-Pekudei – Shabbat Hachodesh Mevarachim Hachodesh Kiddush to honour the memory of the late Mr Gerald Sherwood z"l
Sunday 15th	Stone Setting Throop The late Mr Gerald Sherwood z"l – 2pm
Thursday 19th	Rosh Chodesh Nisan
Shabbat 21st	Vayikra
Sunday 22nd	Stone Setting Throop The late Mr Nigel Graham z"l – 12 noon
Shabbat 28th	Tzav – Shabbat Hagadol

April

Wednesday 1st	1st Seder Night
Thursday 2nd	1st day Pesach – 2nd Seder Night
Friday 3rd	2nd day Pesach
Shabbat 4th	Chol Hamoed Pesach
Thursday 9th	8th day Pesach Yizkor
Shabbat 11th	Shemini Mevarachim Hachodesh
Tuesday 14th	Yom Hashoah

**Wishing you
Chanukah
Sameach**



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