

# Ruach רוּחַ

The Magazine of Bournemouth Hebrew Congregation

2012

Pesach

5772



## HAPPY PESACH

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## Editorial

Mazal tov to our newly elected Board of Management who have undertaken the task of ensuring the communal life of our Synagogue runs smoothly and is to the benefit of our Congregants.

Although they have agreed to take on this responsibility, other people are always needed, whether it is for making up minyanim, helping with kiddushim, running the shop and so forth - to have a pool of volunteers happily willing to give of their time makes their task so much easier. Its amazing how this is a two way affair with volunteers expressing their surprise at the satisfaction they feel, and how much more they feel part of the community.

Pesach is synonymous with Spring, and despite all the preparations it entails its arrival signals the end of winter's gloom.

May everyone enjoy a happy and Kosher Pesach. Chag Sameach

CORINNE REIN – Editor  
SUE LEE – Assistant Editor

*Cover shows the new Ner Tamid in Wootton Gardens Synagogue  
and Moses & the parting of the Red Sea*

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

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# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

## PESACH 5772 – 2012



I regard it as a great honour to have been chosen again to lead our wonderful community, an unexpected honour as I think we had all assumed that Professor David Weitzman would

take the reins after his successful two years as Vice President: David decided that his family commitments, with children and grandchildren scattered around the world, must now take precedence, and that is a decision which we must reluctantly accept.

It is appropriate at this point to thank and congratulate David, and retiring President Brian Bradley, for their outstanding leadership over the last two years, and whilst David has made his position clear, I hope that we shall be able to persuade Brian to return to office at some future time.

There is a sense of “déjà vu” about this year’s Executive Committee, with Ivor Weintroub again serving as my Vice President, and Bernie Dexter returning to the Wardens’ box (was he ever away?), not to mention the return of Corinne Rein, after her enforced absence for a year, and Michael Grant. Re-elected from last year’s Committee were Jane Victor, Brian Lassman and Thierry Iгла, but I am particularly pleased to welcome new Committee members Nigel Graham, Mahir Ozdamar and Mervyn Shaya, as well as new Warden Jacques Adda, names which may not be familiar to everyone, but regular shul-goers all. Committee membership will be completed by Brian Bradley, who serves as ex officio President: this is an exciting balance of experience and new blood which I am confident will serve the Congregation well.

At the recent Annual General Meeting, I repeated the priorities of my predecessor when he took office – finance, relocation and religious services; that is certainly not to say that no progress has been made, rather it emphasises the magnitude of some of the tasks which we face. The Religious Services sub-committee continues to examine ways in which the synagogue services can be

made more interesting and enjoyable, the Relocation sub-committee is still considering the options which are open to us after some disappointments, and the previous Executive made significant progress on costs and outstanding debts: with a diminishing membership and an inexorably increasing cost base, though, finance remains the biggest task, and in this context, I make no apology for repeating two paragraphs from my last President’s Report:

“I have previously appealed for sponsors for our regular kiddushim, and I am now re-iterating that appeal. I would also draw attention to the memorial boards, where space is still available, and to the yearzeit book – the office has full details.”

“Ours has always been a charitable community but unfortunately, most people seem to regard their membership fee as their only obligation to the shul – whilst I would not wish to persuade anybody to neglect other worthwhile causes, please remember that the shul is also a charity, and one which desperately needs funds. In a similar vein, please also consider the shul for a legacy when drawing up a will.”

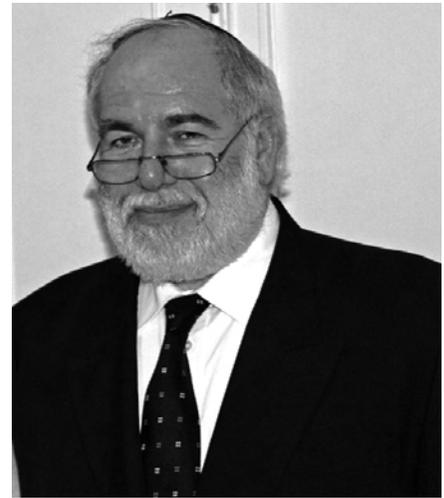
On this last subject, we have reached agreement with a local solicitor to provide a free will-drafting service for members who are prepared to make a bequest to the shul. I would also remind members of the Simcha Tree, which was purchased with funds left by the late Betty Kasmir.

There are two other areas where members can donate not their money but their time: the shul shop, under Jane Victor’s leadership, has been an outstanding success, but desperately needs more volunteers – since the initial enthusiasm, the number of volunteers has steadily declined; and our daily minyanim, with the exception of Shabbat morning, remain a serious problem, and are often dependent on the presence of visitors. Please give thought to whether you can spare some time for either of these essential activities.

It now only remains for me to wish you all a Chag Kasher V’Sameach!

HARVEY LIPSITH

# Rabbi Jesner's Message Pesach – 5772



Numbers have great symbolic value to people. Just look at the attachment athletes have to their jersey numbers. For Jews numbers are an important part of our tradition. One example is towards the end of the seder where we list the numerical symbols of one to thirteen. The number one, of course, is the symbol of the One G-d who controls the world, a message the Egyptians were slow to realise. Thirteen refers to the attributes of G-d which we must emulate as we strive to become better people. In between we have numbers symbolizing our founding fathers and mothers and our key books and

mitzvot. Yet one symbol seems out of place. “Who knows eleven? I know eleven. Eleven are the stars in Joseph’s dream”. Joseph’s dream! Is that what we want mentioned at the seder? His dreams were the reason we ended up in Egypt in the first place. The young immature lad of 17 dreaming that his brothers will bow down to him elicited anger and jealousy from his older siblings not to mention rebuke from his father. These 11 stars caused us untold pain and suffering and mention of them appears out of place at the end of our most joyous meal.

Pesach is the time of communal unity, when the wise and the wicked can sit together at the same table, when disparate families come together as we realise despite all of our differences we are still one family. While the focus of Pesach is togetherness we must be constantly reminded to avoid the pitfalls of friction. In fact the seder reminds us of the dangers of internal strife in subtle but important ways. Our calendar is arranged so that Tisha B’av, the day of national mourning (caused by internal discord), always falls on the same day of the week as the first day of Pesach. It is customary to eat an egg, a food associated with mourning, to symbolize the festival sacrifice which we no longer have. Our seder begins with *hah lachma anyah*, this is the bread of affliction where we remind ourselves that we are still in exile. It ends with *chad gadia* symbolizing the persecutions we have endured throughout history where we have literally been eaten alive. Both passages, in contradistinction to the rest of the hagadah, are in Aramaic the language associated with the Babylonian

exile. And of course at the beginning and at the end of the seder we pray that next year we shall celebrate the seder in Jerusalem complete with a pascal lamb. The seder is a time for rejoicing but if we don’t learn from the mistakes of Yosef and his brothers redemption will remain a dream.

There is also much on the positive side that we can learn from the subtle reminders of Joseph. “And Moses took the bones of Joseph with him for he had bound the children of Israel by oath saying G-d will surely remember you then carry up my bones with you” (Exodus 13:19). The Jews are about to depart Egypt and Moshe is worrying about the bones of his long deceased ancestor! Yet Moshe understood that the future of the Jewish people was dependent on maintaining a link with the past. It may have been the mistakes of Yosef that led to our sojourn in Egypt but it was his approach to life in exile that is to serve as the model for the Jewish people. His continued faith in G-d during trying times, his moral strength in rejecting the advances of his boss’s wife, his constant use

of the name of G-d and his fidelity to the traditions of his parents and grandparents despite the allure of the Egyptian way of life must serve as an inspiration to us. Perhaps most importantly for the fledging Jewish nation he had the ability to foresee crisis and to strategize effectively to meet the challenges that lay ahead.

Though the average slave had no idea who Joseph was, Moshe made sure that they would soon find out. His casket was to serve as a reminder of the importance of unity amongst the people and as a source of inspiration in coping with the inevitable challenges that lay ahead. In our haste to move forward we must be sure to maintain the link with our past.

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

RABBI ADRIAN JESNER

From the *office* of the  
CHIEF RABBI

# CHIEF RABBI'S PESACH MESSAGE 5772

The story of Pesach, of the Exodus from Egypt, is one of the oldest and greatest in the world. It tells of how one people, long ago, experienced oppression and were led to liberty through a long and arduous journey across the desert. It is the most dramatic story of slavery to freedom ever told, one that has become the West's most influential source-book of liberty. "Since the Exodus," said Heinrich Heine, the 19th century German poet, "Freedom has always spoken with a Hebrew accent".

We read in the maggid section of the Haggadah of Rabbi Gamliel who said that one who did not discuss the Pesach lamb, the maztah and the bitter herbs had not fulfilled their obligation of the Seder. Why these three things are clear: The Pesach lamb, a food of luxury, symbolises freedom. The bitter herbs represent slavery due to their sharp taste. The matzah combines both. It was the bread the Israelites ate in Egypt as slaves. It was also the bread they left when leaving Egypt as free people.

It is not just the symbolism, but also the order these items are spoken about in the Haggadah that is interesting. First we speak of the Pesach lamb, then the matzah and finally the bitter herbs. But this seems strange. Why do the symbols of freedom precede those of slavery? Surely slavery preceded freedom so it would be more logical to talk of the bitter herbs first? The answer, according to the Chassidic teachers, is that only to a free human people does slavery taste bitter. Had the Israelites forgotten freedom they would have grown used to slavery. The worst exile is to forget that you are in exile.

To truly be free, we must understand what it means to not be free. Yet 'freedom' itself has different dimensions, a point reflected in the two Hebrew words used to describe it, chofesh and cherut. Chofesh is 'freedom from', cherut is 'freedom to'. Chofesh is what a slave acquires when released from slavery. He or she is free from being subject to someone else's will. But this kind of liberty is not enough to create a free society. A world in which everyone is free to do what they like begins in anarchy and ends in tyranny. That is why chofesh is only the beginning of freedom, not its ultimate destination.

Cherut is collective freedom, a society in which my freedom respects yours. A free society is always a moral achievement. It rests on self-restraint and regard for others. The ultimate aim of Torah is to fashion a society on the foundations of justice and compassion, both of which depend on recognising the sovereignty of God and the integrity of creation. Thus we say, 'Next year may

we all be bnei chorin,' invoking cherut not chofesh. It means, 'May we be free in a way that honours the freedom of all'.

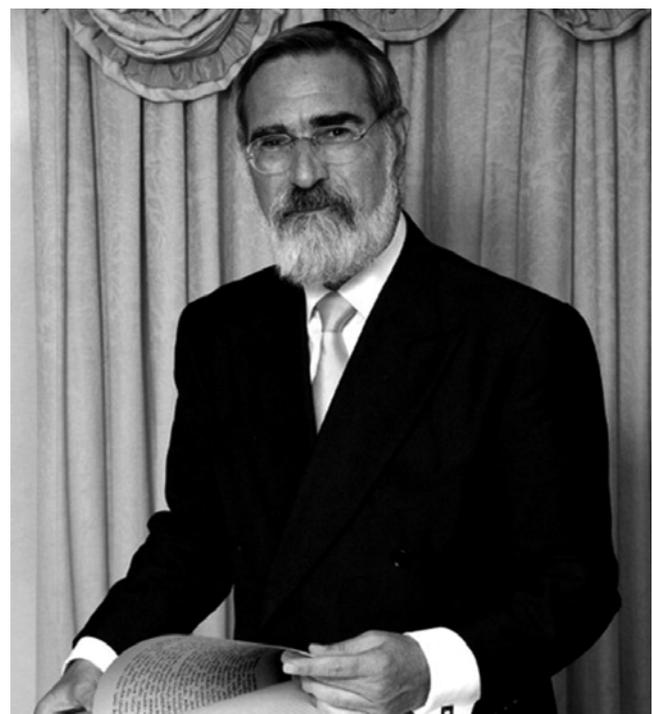
The Pesach story, more than any other, remains the inexhaustible source of inspiration to all those who long for freedom. It taught that right was sovereign over might; that freedom and justice must belong to all, not some; that, under God, all human beings are equal; and that over all earthly power, the King of Kings, who hears the cry of the oppressed and who intervenes in history to liberate slaves. It took many centuries for this vision to become the shared property of liberal democracies of the West and beyond; and there is no guarantee that it will remain so. Freedom is a moral achievement, and without a constant effort of education it atrophies and must be fought for again. Nowhere more than on Pesach, though, do we see how the story of one people can become the inspiration of many; how, loyal to its faith across the centuries, the Jewish people became the guardians of a vision through which, ultimately, 'all the peoples of the earth will be blessed'.

*I wish you and all your family a Chag Kasher v'Sameach*



CHIEF RABBI LORD SACKS

Pesach 5772



# OUR NEW BOARD OF MANAGEMENT 2012- 2013

Following the Synagogue AGM held on Sunday 26th February  
in the Menorah Suite

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

## *Executive Committee*

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Michael Grant	House	Corinne Rein	ShulAid
Thierry Igla	Education	Jane Victor	Kashrut
Brian Lassman	Fund Raising	Spencer Nathan	Representative at Board of Deputies
Mahir Ozdamar	PR/Web Site		



Harry Ellis



John Kasmir



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Geoffrey Feld



Stephen H White



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Bernie Dexter



Nigel Graham



Michael Grant



Thierry Igla



Brian Lassman



Mahir Ozdamar



Mervyn Shaya



Corinne Rein



Jane Victor



Spencer Nathan

# Frank Harris z"l

## 1930-2012



**F**rank grew up in Willesden with his parents and older brother Gerald and left school (Kilburn Grammar) prematurely as a result of the school being bombed in the war, fortunately at night when it was empty. Being too young to serve in the British services, his father sent him to Pitman's College to learn typing and shorthand! He then joined his father in the family wholesale clothing business.

He met Valerie as a young teenager and they became childhood sweethearts. Frank and Valerie were married in Willesden Shul in 1951

Frank came to reside in Bournemouth with his wife and 3 young children at the end of 1964. Having moved from the West End of London and having been a member of the West Central Synagogue in Great Portland Street. He had just stepped down as chairman of the Parents Association of the Shul.

Having always enjoyed getting involved with Jewish community work he and his wife Valerie became members of the Bournemouth B'nai Brith and it wasn't long before he became President of the Lodge at the same time as Valerie had become President of the Ladies Lodge.

His greatest love apart from his family, was the Bournemouth Hebrew Congregation and after a few

years serving on the Board of Management, he served as Treasurer for 3 years before eventually becoming President for a further 3 years. It was during this term of office that the Bournemouth Hebrew Congregation celebrated its 75th anniversary in 1980 and he was responsible for organising events, which included a commemorative dinner at Bournemouth Town Hall and an exhibition at the Russell Cotes Museum. He regularly attended daily services at the synagogue right up until the end of his life.

He enjoyed playing bridge with his friends and a keen football fan with QPR firmly in the family blood!

A truly devoted husband and father who was a great inspiration to his family and many friends. He will be sorely missed by his wife Valerie & children, Paul, Mark & Melissa, their respective partners Michelle, Andrea & Paul, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

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# ON GENEROUSLY PRESENTING A NEW NER TAMID TO THE SYNAGOGUE LAURENCE COHEN ADDRESSED THE CONGREGATION.

His speech is reproduced here for all those unable to be present.

I wish to thank Rabbi Jesner and the Honorary Officers for allowing me to say a few words today, Shabbas Chanukah.

As we are all aware, we celebrate this festival because of the miracle of the oil which lasted for eight days.

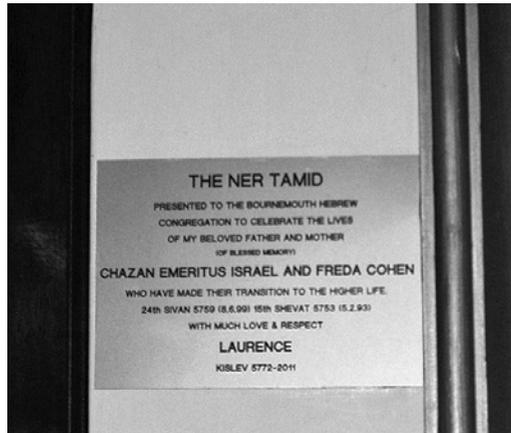
The Menorah was lit every day in Temple times, and now there is no Temple we substitute it with a Ner Tamid, an everlasting, perpetual light, which you will find in every shul and Beit Hamidrash.

It says in MISHLE (Proverbs 20-27) "NER HASHEM NISHMAS ADAM" – The soul of man is the light, or lamp of G-d.

A Ner Tamid is what I have chosen to donate to our beautiful shul in sacred memory of my dear parents, who have made their transition to the higher life – as in the words of our Rabbis, "L'ACHURAY HAPARGUD", which means – the other side of the curtain.

The word NER is made up of two letters, NUN and RESH.

The NUN stands for NESHAMA – Soul – and RESH is the first letter of the word RUACH – SPIRIT, as in "ADON OLAM" – I place my spirit in G-d's hands when I go to sleep, and when I awake.



Plaque on wall near the Ark

The NESHAMA, the soul, is the true source of life, the energy that allows the physical body to function, and because it is connected to Hashem, the giver of life, it is immortal.

My father, together with my beautiful mother by his side, put THEIR heart, life and soul into everything THEY undertook.

A larger than life figure of a man, who brought so much happiness and comfort into the lives of so many people, as did my mother.

For over 65 years, my father dedicated his life to being of service to The Almighty.

He was an all rounder – A CHAZAN, SHOCHET, TEACHER, BA'AL KOREH, BA'AL TEKIAH, and if I may add, entertainer and occasionally an auctioneer, raising money for different charities.

The word NER (light) if we add the letter HAY (meaning then THE light) the order of the letters can be changed to make the word RINO, which means singing or jubilation.

Just as a NER TAMID is an integral part of the shul, so the shul was my father's whole life, even till the end, with one leg, he carried out his duties, davening and singing praises to Hashem with his beautiful, melodious, strong, sweet voice of a gifted Chazan, - self taught, I might add.

*Why did I choose this particular time for my presentation?*

Firstly it would have been my Bar Mitzvah Sedra.

Secondly I am in my 69th year. 6 and 9 equal 15 – one and five.

The fifth Commandment says "Honour or respect your father and mother", which I hope I did when they were both on earth, and now I wish to honour them in their new life in OLAM HABA.

And finally, the one, stands for CHAZAN ISRAEL COHEN, who was a one-off.

A jovial character and personality, a people's man, loved by all whose lives he touched and a great husband and father.

My dad told me, one should think about dying, like the sun disappearing over the horizon. It's sad when it's gone, but you know at that very moment it is appearing somewhere else. I think that my dad and mum are shining somewhere else. I know that, because they were too good to just disappear!

Shabbat Shalom and a Happy Chanukah.

LAURENCE COHEN



The late Chazan and Mrs Israel Cohen

# Adult Education

## Summer Term - April to July 2012

### Mondays at 8.00 p.m.

In the Murray Muscat Centre, Glen Fern Road, Bournemouth

*Admission free – all welcome*

April 23 Documentary Film  
**The revival of Jewish soul music**

April 30 Mahir Ozdamar  
**The trouble with you Jews...**  
*A historical guide to how Muslims perceive the Jews*

May 7 Bank holiday- no session

**The Parkes Institute for Jewish/ non-Jewish Relations of the University of Southampton**

*Bournemouth Mini Lecture Series Summer 2012*

## Interpreting Jewish Spaces

May 14 Prof Joachim Schloer  
**'Street Life in the Modern Metropolis'**

May 21 Dr Helen Spurling  
**'The End of the World: Jewish Apocalyptic Visions'**

*(Continued in next column)*

May 28 Shavuot

June 4 Bank holiday- no session

June 11 No session

June 18 Prof Tony Kushner  
**'Exodus 1947: Illegal Immigrants or Deserving Survivors?'**

June 25 Dr Dan Levene  
**'They left us the Babylonian Talmud, but did you know of the magical incantations?'**

July 2 Michael Freedland  
**Witch hunt in Hollywood Antisemitism and McCarthyism in Tinseltown**

July 9 Rabbi Adrian Jesner  
**The Three Weeks**

July 16 Documentary film  
**Yiddish**  
*The Shlemiel, the Shlemozl and the Doppess*

Suggestions for topics and offers of papers for the autumn term which commences on Monday 3 September 2012 will be most welcome.

I can be contacted at [spencer.nathan@lineone.net](mailto:spencer.nathan@lineone.net) or contact the Synagogue Office.

SPENCER NATHAN  
(Adult Education organiser)

# Continuing adult learning

*Please contact the synagogue office (01202 557433) to register your interest in any of these free courses.*

## Sundays at 11am

### Haftarah class

*Rabbi Adrian Jesner will lead a series of classes instructing you how to prepare a Haftarah for Shabbat or Yom-tov.*

There are two classes by arrangement

### **Understanding and participating in the weekday and Sabbath synagogue services**

Spencer Nathan will lead a series of classes for those unfamiliar with the synagogue services and wish to follow the person leading the recitation of the prayers in the siddur.

The classes will also be suitable for those who wish to lead weekday services when they are mourners or have a yahrzeit.

### Tefillin

Rev Barry Sklan will give one-to-one tuition on how to put on the phylacteries and remind you of the blessing for putting on a tallit. Contact the synagogue office to make an appointment with Barry.

Please feel free to come to any or all of the sessions. If the times are inconvenient for you, let us know and we'll try to reschedule them to suit your requirements.

*The minimum number needed for a session is one.*

SPENCER NATHAN

## Welcome to our new members

*Mr Anthony Curtis & Mrs Judith Curtis*

*Mrs Stephanie Diamond*

*Mr Ralph Epstein*

*Mr Stanley Goodwin & Mrs Myra Goodwin*

*Mrs Hilary Grainger*

*Mr Joshua Menton*

*Miss Jessica Menton*

*Mr Joachim Oberlander & Mrs Renee Oberlander*

*Mrs Barbara Salem*

*Mrs Rosalind Schogger*

*Mrs Lucille Sylvester*

*Mr Geoffrey Waldman & Mrs Hilary Waldman*

### Non Resident

*Mr Arthur Lawson & Mrs Toby Lawson*

*Mr Daniel Seal*

# PURIM AT BHC



Rabbi Jesner read the Megillah in Shul with a lively and raucous accompaniment from the Congregation. Especially rowdy were the Cheder children many of whom came in fancy dress and armed with "tools" to ensure a noisy evening.

A Purim Seudah in the Menorah Suite catered by the Ladies Guild followed. A hilarious cabaret by entertainer Trisha Lewis ensured a fun event was had by everyone.

The following morning the Megillah Reading by Rabbi Jesner preceded a Purim breakfast. Rabbi Jesner then went to Hannah Levy House to read for the residents, who were having their

Purim celebration. Finally he gave a Megillah reading in his flat for women to give a further opportunity to perform the mitzvah.

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# A REMARKABLE DAY

**W**hy had I never heard of it before? The Lobby day to speak up for Israel in Parliament, organised by the Zionist Federation and the Christian Friends of Israel?

Several members of the Bournemouth Jewish community went to London on Wednesday, 8th February to join the lobby. It was a completely new experience for me. I have been to public events about Israel in the past, but there have always inevitably been many voices critical of Israel. This time, we were amongst friends, both Jewish and Christian.

The day started out at the Emanuel Centre in Westminster, in a church hall. There were over 250 people present and we were addressed by Eric Mooman on behalf of the Zionist Federation, and Geoffrey Smith from the Christian Friends of Israel.

The first speaker was the deputy Israeli ambassador. He was a most eloquent speaker who was absolutely thrilled for once to be in a room full of friends of Israel, a nice refreshing change. He addressed amongst other things, the charge that Israel is an apartheid state. His answer was that those who make the accusation do not base it on fact. It is an attempt to demonise and delegitimise Israel. Ethiopians have been integrated into Israeli society, and there are Arabs in the Israeli judiciary, in the Knesset and in Israeli hospitals to name but a few.

When asked what he felt about the aid that the UK gives to the Palestinian Authority, he said that it was not up to Israel to tell another country where to send their aid, but they only ask that the Government should ensure that the money does not fund terrorism.

We were addressed by Harvey Rose, president of the Zionist Federation, and Vivian Weinman, President of the Board of Deputies.

Geoffrey Smith came from a different perspective. He quoted Canon Andrew White, the vicar of Baghdad who said that the only place in the Middle East where Christians are really safe is Israel. The three main concerns of the Christian community are:

The persecution of Christians in Iran. Ahmadinejad said that he aimed to eradicate Christianity in Iran. Pastor Youcef Nadarkhani has been arrested and sentenced to death simply because he refused to recant.

The plight of the Coptic Christians in Egypt. Since the Arab Spring, Christians in Egypt have been persecuted, and in Cairo on 10th October, 26 people were killed and hundreds injured in an attack in which the army was involved.

The arc of terror in Africa. In Somalia, Nigeria, Mahgreb, there is an arc of terror that threatens the stability of the entire region. The aim is to Islamise the area through murder and by driving Christians out of the countries.

Speakers addressed the issue of the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions organisation whose aim is to work against Israel, portraying it as an apartheid state. They recommend academic boycotts, cultural boycotts and the boycotting of Israeli products and businesses.

It was suggested that when lobbying MPs about this issue, it should be pointed out that if these boycotts are supposed to help the cause of peace, it could well be counterproductive. They could harden attitudes in Israel and actually harm the peace process. The key messages to the BDS were as follows:

- *You cannot build a Palestinian state by demonising the Jewish one.*
- *You cannot build a Palestinian state through BDS*
- *You will build a Palestinian state by negotiation, by recognising the legitimate rights of the Jewish people to sovereignty in the land of Israel. Peace is possible, but not through BDS.*

It was mentioned that the Habima company was to put on the Merchant of Venice at Shakespeare's Globe in May, and members of the BDS have already bought their tickets to disrupt the event as they did in the Royal Albert Hall when the Israeli Philharmonic Orchestra appeared last year. We were told that we could write to the theatres and ask them to increase security for the performances and to evict anybody causing trouble very quickly.

After the meeting at the Emanuel Centre, the group made its way to the Palace of Westminster. We went into the glorious main lobby, overawed by the majesty of our surroundings, and the history of the corridors of power.

We gave in "green slips" which were requests for our own MPs to meet us personally. The daily buzz of parliamentary business was in full swing, with a debate going on in the main chamber. We went to committee room 10. It was so packed that we had to go to an overflow committee room, and even this room filled up.

MPs came in one by one. The first was Lee Scott, a member of the Conservative party. Every MP who came to address us was a committed advocate of Israel, as was everybody within the two committee rooms. It was so refreshing to be amongst so many friends – like being part of Question Time with an audience that hasn't been hand-picked by the BBC!

The second speaker was Louise Ellman of Liverpool Riverside, a Labour MP and well known for her strident support for Israel. Every MP who came in stressed the value of lobby days like this, and how much MPs listen to our opinions. They do take note of our letters, and because those arguing for the other side are so well organised and vocal, we have to do likewise.

Next we were addressed by Nigel Dodds, the Unionist member for Belfast North. After him came Patrick Mercer

*Continued on next page*

*Continued from previous page*

of Newark in Nottinghamshire. He was followed by Bob Blackman of Harrow East, then Luciana Berger, a Labour MP from Liverpool.

There was a loud bell ringing in the corridor outside which we were told was the call to the MPs to come and vote. As the members of the Commons went off to vote, we were addressed by Lord Palmer of Childs Hill, a Liberal Democrat. He told us that Nick Clegg is vehemently pro-Israel. He said that there had been two debates in the House of Lords during the past two days alone that were anti-Israel. They were both raised by Lord Warner.

We were finally addressed by Andrew Percy, a Conservative from Goole in Yorkshire. All the MPs had nothing but praise for the work of the "Friends of Israel" of each of the parties. Stewart Pollock of the Conservative Friends of Israel was singled out for his work. In particular they take groups of MPs to Israel every year. This is the ultimate Israel advocacy so that they can see for themselves the facts on the ground.

After the speakers, we had a private meeting with Tobias Elwood, Bournemouth East MP, who listened to our concerns, and he put forward his own views to us.

The day was exciting and exhilarating. I learnt so much about the value of lobbying our MPs. I would urge you all, the next time you are informed that this annual event is taking place, make every effort to go. It is a unique experience.

MARILYN DEXTER

### **Costs of the following for your information set out below:**

**Yahrzeit Board – £600 per name**  
**Yahrzeit Book – £100 per name**  
**Leaf on Simcha Tree – £250**

#### **Kiddushim:**

**Rosh Chodesh Kiddush – £150**  
*– basic Kiddush plus cost of any extras required*

**Kiddush when not Rosh Chodesh – £225**  
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**Coffee & Kichels – £50** *and supply of 1 Litre Bottle of Whisky by sponsor.*

**Coffee & Kichels Plus – £100** – *Chopped Herring and Egg & Onion included. Supply of litre bottle of Whisky by sponsor.*

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***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.

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

***Is there tea and coffee available? Of course!***

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

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

**We look forward to hearing from you. Please help us to keep the shop open.**

# KRYAT YAM SUF: THE PARTING OF THE SEA

*A Commentary by Otto Hutter*

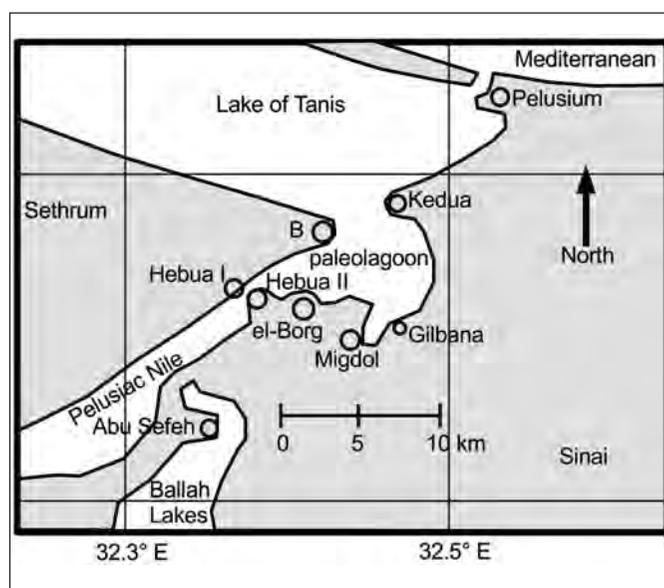
**A**s family and guests assemble for Seder, a pleasant few moments can be spent in examining newly arrived, hitherto unseen Haggadot. Curious minds will then ponder the odd esoteric commentary; whilst those aesthetically inclined will alight on new illustrations of familiar themes. Almost invariably there will be examples of how the artistic imagination has been fired to represent the Children of Israel marching through the parted waters, or how Pharaoh's Panzer-Corps met its watery end. For was this not the greatest of miracles, one that the Children of Israel not only witnessed, but in which all participated? And is this not a miracle that we are enjoined to re-live, for we were rescued together with our forebears?

Yet Judaism has long laid less stock in miracles than in the orderly working of creation in the heavens above and on earth below. For instance, a midrash (Exodus Rabbah XXI, 6) tells us that Moshe Rabbenu, when told to lift his staff to part the waters, asked the Holy One blessed be He: was not converting sea into dry land contrary to the way He had bounded the sea i.e. a violation of the natural rules set down by Him at the creation of the world? In reply Moses was told that already on the second day of creation, when the waters under the heaven were gathered together to reveal dry land (Gen. I, 9), it was predestined that they shall part again to let the Children of Israel pass, i. e. the waters had been given that property from creation.

According to Guttman (2006), Maimonides also held that seeming exceptions to the laws of nature - which if rare enough pass as miracles - were in fact pre-programmed into the laws of nature. So although the waters had been given the physical properties to join together and flow in downward direction, the waters could nevertheless separate at a certain time and at a certain place. Now a millennium later, Maimonides has been vindicated!

Two scientists from Boulder, Colorado USA, experts in oceanic and atmospheric research, have recently shown (Drews & Han, 2010) that 'wind-setdown', a newly understood hydrodynamic phenomenon, can cause an angular body of water to divide under wind stress. And, on the basis of earlier research into the archaeological topography of the Nile Delta, they have located a site, consistent with the route along which Moses led the Children of Israel, where

such a parting of the waters might have occurred (see map). Moreover, the time scale of the computer model by which they recreated just such an event fits well with the biblical narrative. Thus a wind blowing at 100km/hour for one night would have sufficed to create a land bridge 3-4 km long and 5 km wide that would have remained open for about four hours, ample space and time for 200,000 people to cross, even against a strong wind.

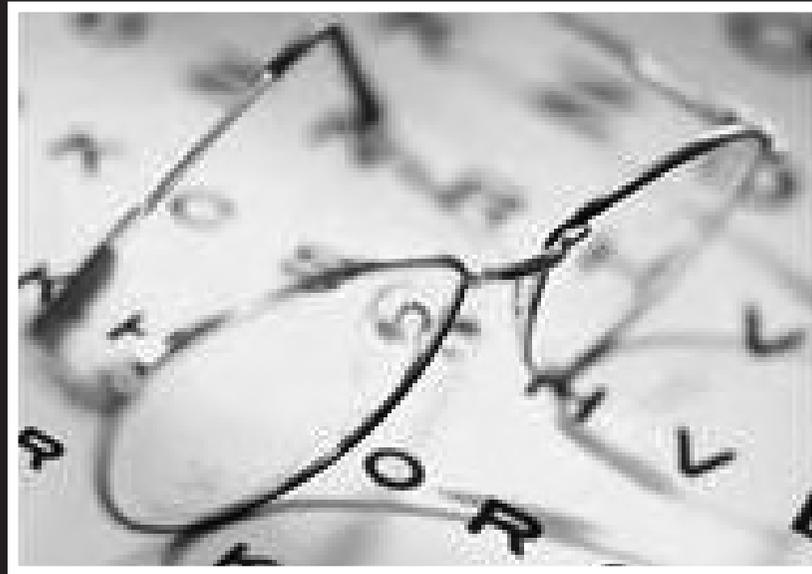


This map is based on the description of the Nile Delta by Herodotus (5th century BCE). It shows the ancient course of the Pelusian branch of the Nile which flows into Lake Tanis, a brackish lagoon separated from the Mediterranean Sea by a sandy barrier, except at Pelusia. The site of interest is between point B at the eastern tip of the Sethrum peninsula and Kedula about 4km across the water to the east. Note the angular bend of the waters there. Given an east wind strong enough, the waters at Kedula would be driven WNW into Lake Tanis and WSW back up the Pelusian Nile, leaving a land bridge between waters walled up to the right and to the left.

Now that we know that the laws of physics were not violated by Kryat Hayam, that we may believe with less dubiousity that one of the most critical and seminal events in our national history has indeed the historical basis handed down to us, but we have still cause to wonder how come that a natural event as rare in time and space as wind-setdown delivered us from dire danger. So on Seder night, after the feigned, nonsensical modesty of "Dayenu", when we intone al achad khama v'khama, we still have reason to double and redouble our thanks to the Omnipresent, who cleft the sea for us.

Guttman, D. (2006) Miracles in Rambam's Thought. Hakirah, 3, 213-235.

Drews, C. & Han, W. (2010) Dynamics of Wind Setdown at Suez and the Eastern Nile Delta. Public Library of Science, 5(8):e12481.



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*Mr A.B. DEXTER. BSc FCOptom FAIO*

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# RICHARD SPECTERMAN – YESHIVA UPDATE

*Time has been flying past so quickly, it's only a few more weeks then I'm back in the UK!*

I am really appreciating the concept that real growth takes time and deferring gratification is the key to improvement. I see this at its essence in Yeshiva. There have been many days over the past couple of months where I have got frustrated at making the same mistakes and not seeing progress. But keeping consistent and focused, of course with breaks, I look back now and see the results. I am becoming more acquainted with reading the Gemara and Rashi and thinking about the principles behind what the Gemara teaches. I am slowly reading Hebrew books more fluently. More than this, the environment of the Yeshiva allows me to introspect about life and my goals. I have the aim to find more about myself through studying Mussar books. Don't get me wrong I still err many times in the Gemara but growth is there.

Meanwhile, Gemara and Halacha shiurim continue and I have also begun a Faith and Belief class once a week discussing the foundations in Judaism. This Shiur gives me an injection of awareness of G-d and how to work on building a relationship with him, albeit a lifetime work.

Although I have not lived in Israel much before, I have never seen a winter like this one. Most people are saying its the heaviest in a decade. Thank G-d there has been much rain and we even had snow last Shabbat...of course the boys had a compulsory snow fight on the roof! It's amazing that during the week there are hot days and then on Shabbat it rains...such a



*Snow in Jerusalem*

nice blessing!

I email you on the 14th Adar. As I'm sure you have listened to the Megillah and are possibly drinking a few, it's actually not Purim for me in Jerusalem yet. Shushan Purim is Purim in Jerusalem. The Rabbis instituted that for walled cities they are to celebrate Purim on the 15th Adar and outside on 14th, and it just so happens to be that today the only 100% known walled city is Jerusalem.

This means that I will celebrate a Purim and a half day where I will be travelling to eat a Purim Seuda with my Rebbe tomorrow lunch and actually hearing the Megillah and having a 'real' Purim Seuda on Friday morning. Its going to be good fun and there's also a 'Purim Shpiel' tomorrow night full of gags and stage entertainment hosted by the Bochorim.

There are two weeks left until the end of term and the end of my learning here, then I spend the start of Pesach in Israel and fly back to the UK Chol Hamoed Pesach. I hope to send one more report but until then I wish you a hearty Purim Sameach!

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# Yom Ha'Atzmaut

Join the whole Bournemouth community  
to celebrate Israel's 64th Birthday



Wednesday 25th April 2012 at 8pm.  
Menorah Suite, Glen Fern Road entrance.

**Food ★ Wine ★ Entertainment**

To book please call:

Alan & Audrey: (01202) 394386, email: ana180harewood@ntlworld.com

Or Louis & Ruth: (01202) 299432, email: rouis2000@tiscali.co.uk

Cost: Adults £10, Students and children: £5

*All proceeds will be donated to the Israeli Paralympic team.*

## Modern Hebrew Classes Monday in the Classrooms

*With Ori (Dora) Glaser*

**Learn Hebrew in a pleasant, friendly and relaxed atmosphere. Studying can be easy and enjoyable.** Continuing Beginners 11:10 – 12.40

The class is suitable for people who have some knowledge of Hebrew print and script letters, and can say a few basic sentences in Modern Hebrew. The course will help you to participate in simple transactions and conversations on everyday topics. You will be able to 'get by' in everyday situations, like travelling, asking directions, shopping, ordering meals, talking about yourself, your family and your interests at a basic level.

*There is a fee payable.*

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

# “THE SEARCH”

*(not quite the Afikomen!)*

Sadie and Hymie were glancing through the pages of the Jewish Chronicle that advertised Passover holidays. Among those to choose from were many hotels in Israel. “Top class Glatt Kosher on Miami Beach and Key West Florida, package deals in France, Italy, Switzerland and Spain, Pesach fly-cruises to the Bahamas and South America and of course nearer to home. “Taste the Kosher experience” in Brighton with Malcolm Green, and “with Steven Wolfitz in Bournemouth”. There was even a cheery “Spend a Seder in Thailand at Chabad Bangkok with 2000 lucky people” – *(please bring your own Shemriah matzos as our stocks could run out)*.

Last Passover had been a proper calamity which had prompted them into deciding to follow the trend of others and get away from these shores for Pesach, returning with a suntan. They were both getting on in years and each year found preparations harder and harder and what with having to sit 24 around the table it could be very exhausting indeed, especially as Hymie had taken ages to get off the floor, his arthritis killing him as he searched for the Chametz with that large white feather his miner’s lamp perched on his head. Then Sadie had spent the whole afternoon crying her eyes out grating the horseradish; and those grandchildren bless them had spilt all the wine on the tablecloth fighting to find the hidden treasure. Also after Pesach was over with both of them overfilled with Matzos, bloated out and constipated, there was that frenzied panic trying to remember where they had stored the Chometz utensils!

But the incident that broke the camel’s back was ‘The Hunt for Red October’ (*remember the film?*) No, not the submarine, but two of its missiles! Returning from Golders Green with the Passover shopping there was no sign of those 2 bottles of beetroot borscht yet the receipts showed that they had been paid for, and in their place were 2 jars of pickled onions! This even set off a frantic search for those missing torpedo shaped bottles, but nowhere could they be found which meant that Sadie had the hated task of spending hours cooking her own beetroot soup! And to this very day Sadie was adamant that the borscht had been swiped by the kids of that family in front of them at the check-out

counter at Kosher Kingdom, every minute coming over with extra items then being told to take them back. “No not that Chaim, No Chanie we already have those, Don’t touch Mendel they don’t belong to you” was the despairing cry from those overburdened parents. “Goodness knows how many others found their shopping baskets disrupted” Sadie said, “and with us they even made a profit – 2 jars of beetroot borscht are worth more than 2 jars of pickled onions”. So enough was enough!

“Here Sadie” said Hymie “I see that the Chief Rabbi Lord Sacks is scholar in residence at ‘The Nitzzy Palace Hotel’ Nice with Rabbi Lionel Rosenfeld of Marble Arch Shul leading the services assisted by the Shabbatan Choir under its esteemed conductor, Steven Levey. And during Chol Hamoed Rabbi Geoffrey Shisler of the New West End Synagogue will be in cabaret presenting ‘Moments of Magic’ with Chris Woodward from Bournemouth as the star turn. Also there is a special discount for early bookings – this has to be the place for us!

“Hymie” answered Sadie with tears in her eyes, “I don’t really want to go away Pesach time. I will miss our little Shul, miss our Seder nights, miss seeing the grandchildren and their scrambles, miss the gossip in the ladies gallery – we can go away any time so maybe we should give Pesach another try.

“But you said last year” answered Hymie. “I know darling, but we can make it easier for ourselves, we can get the Rabbi to kosher out everything, he will even do the searching for you, all you have to do is make the Brocha sign the document and give a generous donation, then Katarina the caterer can prepare the Seder meals for us, we wouldn’t do a thing, only ask the Four Questions! Then perhaps we can persuade all the family to come with us to Israel next year?”

“Ok” said Hymie, “if that’s what you want – are you sure you will be happy with that?” “Yes dearest”, answered Sadie, “but this time we must make sure we return with the beetroot borscht, and also I am not grating the horseradish!! This will now be your job”. “Yes dearest”, mumbled Hymie wishing he could be in Thailand with 2000 other lucky people!! “And” said Sadie, “if we bump into that family with those horrible kids, I will strangle the gunneffs taking our beetroot borscht last year and leaving us with 2 jars of outdated pickled onions in their place! They are pigs – that’s what they are – KOSHER PIGS”.

Wishing all readers a Happy and Kosher Pesach wherever you may be!

DERRICK COHEN

*Anybody recognise themselves in this story. All that hard work. OY VEH!*

## ■ Note for your diary – future event:

Sunday 6th May at 7.30pm in the Menorah Suite – **Guild Dinner with guest speaker, Sinclair McKay**, author of *The Secret Life of Bletchley Park: The History of the Wartime Codebreaking Centre by the Men and Women Who Were There*.

# MAZALTOV TO RICHARD SAUNDERS FOR HIS AMAZING ACHIEVEMENT IN SUCCESSFULLY CLIMBING KILIMANJARO

*Here Richard gives us an account of the event*

**T**he Kilimanjaro Massif is located in Tanzania and lies near the border with Kenya and is only 340 km south of the equator; the Massif is 40 kilometres long and comprises three volcanic peaks named Shira, Mawenzi and Kibo; Shira collapsed about half a million years ago, but of the two remaining peaks, Mawenzi is 5149 metres high, and Kibo, at 5895 m (19,335 ft) represents the highest point in Africa and it is the highest free standing mountain in the world.

Kilimanjaro was first climbed in 1889 and nowadays more than 30,000 attempt to reach the summit each year

There were two reasons I wanted to attempt the trek: (a) to raise funds for World Jewish Relief and (b) to put a demon to rest; some ten years ago, I had embarked on a trek in the Alps, again to raise funds for WJR but fell quite badly halfway through the trek. Each year I wanted to return to Switzerland to complete the Alpine trek, but my wife, Ruth, wisely counselled that I should not undertake the trek on my own. And so when I heard that there was an opportunity to attempt Kilimanjaro as part of a structured and properly organised group, with both a group manager and a team doctor in attendance, it was the obvious remedy.

Although promoted by WJR, the organisation of the trek was carried out by a specialist company, Classic Tours – they originated worldwide charity challenges that have inspired



*The first sighting of Kilimanjaro, taken from the aircraft window as we flew from Nairobi to Kilimanjaro*

over 45,000 people to raise around £70 million (after costs) for over 500 charities since 1992. The Company was incredibly helpful in making specific personal arrangements to enable me to undertake the trek.

Shortly before departure day, I received contact details from Classic Tours for the rest of the group; one of the attractions was that the group undertaking the trek was composed of like-minded people (about 20 in all, with ages ranging from early twenties to mid sixties), attempting to climb Kilimanjaro in aid of their chosen charity, including Help for Heroes, British Heart Foundation, RNIB, Christian Aid and Cancer Research.

Having received the all clear from my GP, arranged for the necessary inoculation jabs and purchased the appropriate equipment, I then had to start tackling the fairly strict training regime. To my dismay, the training programme was structured over six months; it was already September 2011 and I had only 4½ months before the start of the trek on 19th January. The training schedule was somewhat formidable; here are the requirements for the month prior to the trek:

- 2 consecutive days walking of 7- 8 hours
- Aerobic train 4 days a week
- Stress train 2 days a week
- Hill or stair climbing 3 days a week
- Strength train 3 days a week

The information pack made it clear that fitness, size, age or sex has nothing to do with how altitude affects people, but it had been found that those who are mentally and physically fit cope better with the effects. The main cause of altitude sickness



*Mandara Hut*

is going too high too quickly and whilst it is possible to climb Kilimanjaro in 5 days, Classic Tours build into their programme an extra 2 days to assist in acclimatisation.

On January 19th, the group met up at the check in desk at Heathrow Terminal 4 to catch the flight to Nairobi. We landed at Nairobi the next morning and then caught the connecting flight to Kilimanjaro Airport, where we were met by the Tour Manager. We all bundled into a small coach for the transfer to a hotel in the village of Marangu which is 2kms from the park entrance at Marangu Park Gate. During the afternoon we prepared for the challenge ahead and received a comprehensive and detailed briefing from the Tour Manager, focusing on the need to trek at a measured slow pace and the concerns relating to High Altitude Sickness. We were to trek the Marangu Route which picks its way up the south easterly face of the mountain between wooden huts of a fairly basic and rustic design.

And so on day 3 we started on the trek from the Park entrance at Marangu Gate and followed the trail which weaved through dense forest filled with the noise of chattering of Colobus monkeys and surrounded by an incredible variety of towering trees, giant ferns and wild forest flowers. Having reached the Mandara Huts at 2700m, we then took a short trek to the Maundi Crater, before returning to the Mandara Huts for our overnight stay.

On day 4 we had an early start for the longer trek along an uphill trail through the heather to the edge of the short cropped moorland plants, passing through the cloud level to the Horombo Hut at 3,760 m.

Day 5 was an acclimatisation trek of approximately 5 hours climbing to 4,200m for spectacular views not only of the last hut on the Trek, Kibo Hut but also of the twin peaks and the trail to the summit. We returned to Horombo Hut in order to prepare for the next day's long trek.

The 7- 8 hour trek on day 6 followed the route to Kibo Hut through spectacular mountain flora and fauna – giant cacti, lobelia and other mountain flowers lined the route. The latter part of this part of the trek is beyond the water point as we entered the "desert" zone and initially imperceptibly, we found it slow going and cold due to the high altitude.

It is hard to convey the isolation and freezing temperatures at Kibo Hut. At an altitude of 4,750 m. or 15,520 ft, it is a very basic and not very practical concrete edifice, no water, no sanitation,



Mount Kibo



At the summit of Mount Kibo (Uhuru Peak)

and for most of the time it felt warmer outside the hut.

On day 7 we undertook an acclimatisation trek to Williams Point, at 5000m, before returning back to our "beloved" Kibo Hut to prepare for the push to the summit that night, and after a warming cup of tea and a light snack of biscuits we set out at midnight to embark on a slow ascent up the steepest and most difficult part of the challenge to Gilman's Point at an altitude of 5685m, perched on the crater rim to witness the unforgettable sight of the sunrise.

Everyone qualifies to have climbed Kilimanjaro at this point, but those who were able to continue, undertook the further two hours trek through ice and wind to Uhuru Peak, the summit, at 5895m (19340 ft); By way of comparison, Mont Blanc, the highest point in Europe is 4,810 m high and Everest Base Camp is 5,545 metres (18,192 ft).

After photographs, tears and hugs all round, we descended rapidly for a thankfully brief stop at our beloved Kibo Hut before finishing day 8 with a 3½ hours trek back to Horombo Hut. We had been on the go for 15-16 hours and we all slept very soundly that night!!

Day 9 was a rapid descent from Horombo Hut to the Marangu Park Gate in about 6½ hours, inclusive of a welcome break for lunch at Mandara Hut. Although we went at our own pace during the descent, it was fitting that we all met up at about one kilometre from the Gate so that we could all cross the finishing line at the same time. There then followed a moving scene of a celebratory drink, a heartfelt thank you to the guides and porters who had been fantastic throughout the trek, and they invited us to join in their singing and dancing before we said our farewells to them.

Then we transferred to a hotel in Moshi to shower and relax and to rest our aching limbs, before a final dinner together at which the certificates were presented.

It had been an amazing experience; full of challenges and the opportunity to meet new faces and to work together as a team; but I was very relieved to get home early on Monday morning 30th January. Of one thing I am certain: I could not have completed the trek without the support kindness and generosity of the Community and I am so grateful to you all for having given me the inspiration, motivation and determination to undertake the climb, and helping to raise over £4,000 for World Jewish Relief.

RICHARD SAUNDERS

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# Mazal Tov!

My name is Elana Almagor and I am 12 years old. I have a sister called Jessica and a dog called Cookie. I attend Bournemouth School for Girls which I really enjoy. My favourite subjects at school are Art, Drama and English. My hobbies are cooking, playing on my Nintendo Wii and looking after Cookie.

I have attended BHC all of my life, and on March 4th I celebrated my Bat Mitzvah there. There was a beautiful service in Shul where I delivered my D'var Torah on Tu B'Shevat and Purim. Then there was a party in the Menorah Suite for family and friends. It was the best day of my life and everyone who attended said they had a fantastic time!



## PERSONAL

**COWAN** – Thelma Cowan would like to thank the President, Board of Management and Staff of BHC and all her friends and organizations in the Community for their good wishes, cards, gifts and great kindness on the occasion of her Special Birthday.

**HARRIS** – The family of the late Frank Harris wish to thank Rabbi Adrian Jesner, Pamela, and Reverend Barry Sklan for all their kindness, and all their friends for their kind thoughts.

**LEVINE** – Minette Levine wishes to thank all her wonderful friends and family for their cards, gifts and good wishes on the occasion of her 80th birthday.

**RESTAN** – The stone setting for the late Malcolm Restan will take place on Sunday 15th July 2012 at Bushey Cemetery 12.30pm.

**VICTOR** – Jane Victor wishes to thank all her wonderful family and friends for their amazing support and help during the past very difficult year. The 'being there' attitude of everyone has helped me cope. May we all enjoy good health and simchot together.

**WARTSKI** – John would like to thank Rabbi Jesner, Reverend Sklan, the Executive, the Wardens and the whole Congregation for their good wishes on his 86th birthday.

## THANK YOU B.B.Y.O.

On behalf of the Poole General Hospital, and The League of Jewish Women, I would like to take the opportunity to extend my thanks again to the wonderful young people who gave up their time on Dec.25th to ferry disabled patients back and forwards to the Chapel for their Xmas services.

These admirable young people have volunteered every year, with the exception of last year, when Xmas Day fell on Shabbat, and are deserving of our appreciation.

HELEN WOOLF

## SHOP & SWAP FOR EMUNAH

Here are some easy ways that you can support Emunah's work in Israel:-

- **Shopping on line** – If you already shop on line with Amazon, M&S and many more, you can help Emunah at no extra cost. Simply register at [Easyfundraising.org.uk](http://Easyfundraising.org.uk) as a supporter of Emunah, then every time you shop use the links from the Easyfundraising site to your regular retailers. Donations (typically 2.5%) from your purchases will then be credited to Emunah automatically.
- **Ebay Vintage to Mintage** – Emunah has opened a new on line shop with the help of Geoff Munitz (brother of Elissa Rubins). See what is in store at <http://stores.ebay.co.uk/Emunah-Charity-Shop>
- **Donate your unwanted goods** – Phone Anne Özdamar on 697375 (or contact any other committee member) and we will do the rest! Jan Keyne continues raise money for Emunah by selling items at Antiques Fairs and local Car Boot Sales.
- **Thank your hosts** – If you are invited out for a meal, why not show your appreciation by sending an Emunah Food Fund card. Available from Anne Ozdamar or Thelma Cowan, from £5. All money raised helps feed children in Emunah's care.

*Thank you for thinking of Emunah; your support will make a difference to the lives of less fortunate children in Israel, and is greatly appreciated.*

# BOURNEMOUTH HEBREW LADIES' GUILD

– Annual General Meeting – 2012

Our Annual General Meeting was held on 22nd February in the Menorah Suite. Our Chairman, Thelma Cowan, extended a warm welcome to everyone present, and asked everyone to stand in silence in memory of those members who had passed away during the year.

She especially mentioned the late Sara Citron z"l, who served the Guild for many years, and became our Life Vice President. In tribute to Sara, Thelma said how Sara together with her husband, Bunty, who was present at the meeting with their daughters, had always been at the heart of our community.

Despite having three children, her mother living with them for 30 years and running Sara Jane Slimming Clinic, she worked tirelessly for WIZO and joined the Ladies Guild committee. After a great deal of persuasion she agreed to become the Guild's chairman, a position she held for three years, during which time she displayed increasing confidence. It was said of her at the end of her term of office that the little goldfish had turned into a piranha.

Her greatest challenge as chairman was to cater for a Yom Haatzmaut celebration at the BIC, in which every Jewish organisation was involved. Each item of food had to be prepared on long tables in the Menorah Suite, placed in containers and transported by a team of volunteer drivers across town and there set up by more volunteers at the centre.

Originally the event was expected to be for 300 but as the days passed more and more people wanted to attend, and the final count was over 800!

A great achievement by a woman whose life was devoted to working for the community, was the centre of a warm and loving family, and will be sadly missed.

Thelma then continued saying how privileged she felt to have served as Chairman during the past year and reported on a successful year for the Guild. Numerous kiddushim, Shabbat lunches and functions with guest speakers had been held.

It included in March catering the popular Purim Seudah and in May holding a very successful Hat Show and Lunch. Barbara Kaye brought her stylish hat collection down from London and many of these were modelled by some of our ladies. At the lunch our guest speaker was Neal Williams, the Trust Secretary of Macmillan Caring Locally, who was presented with a donation for the Trust. In June for Shavuot, we catered the Tikkun Leil, and in October, the annual Simchat Torah lunch. In November, the Guild held a Lunch with guest speaker/entertainer, Trisha Lewis, who presented a Touch of



*Evelyn Grant presenting Tree of Life leaf to Rhona Taylor*

Joyce Grenfell.

During the year funds had been given for welfare in our community and to various charities.

Having been in existence for 94 years, Thelma stressed that welfare remains the Guild's top priority. Legacies have been bequeathed for welfare and funds are raised by our social events throughout the year, which enable us to maintain this work and occasionally to support other charitable causes, both locally and in Israel.

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

Thanks were also given by Thelma to the Guild's Trustees for their advice and encouragement, and to her Executive and Committee for their support and hard work throughout the year. Appreciation was expressed to Rosamunde Bloom along with her assistant Sue Lee, Rev Barry Sklan, and to caretakers Pat and Bob Nixon. Thelma also expressed the thanks of us all to the Chevra Kadisha for their vital work.

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

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

The Executive and Committee agreed to stand again, with the exception of Eve Cowan who had resigned from the Committee, and thanks were given to her for all her sterling

all her sterling work as Minutes Secretary. Val Millin and Jane Victor were not standing for re-election and there was a welcome addition to the Committee: Ros Nairn. Vice-Chairman, Evelyn Grant, proposed that Thelma be re-elected as Chairman, which was passed unanimously. Evelyn explained that Rhona Taylor was stepping down as Senior Trustee, and presented her with an inscribed leaf for the Simcha Tree in recognition of her long and committed service to the Guild. Thelma was delighted to announce that Rhona's new position would be Hon Life Vice-President, and proposed that Katarina Webb should be elected as the third Trustee, which was passed unanimously.

The remaining executive officers were proposed and elected unanimously: The following are the Executive and Committee for 2012/2013:

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

Filer Knapper were appointed auditors for the ensuing year.

Following the formalities, we were delighted to welcome **Rhona Taylor**, as the guest speaker, who gave a talk about her involvement with the Guild as a member for 55 years - she was Secretary for 9 years before becoming a Trustee in 1977 - and she touched upon the history of the Guild since its inception



*Rhona with husband Leon , daughter Sally Cass Thelma Cowan and Evelyn Grant at the Tree of Life*

in 1918. Rhona also gave a very interesting and entertaining talk about her life and running a successful fashion business in Bournemouth with her husband, Leon. The vote of thanks was given by Hilary Myers who presented Rhona with a floral display. The meeting was followed by a light lunch.

**■ Note for your diary –  
future event:**

Sunday 6th May at 7.30pm in the Menorah Suite – **Guild Dinner with guest speaker, Sinclair McKay, author of *The Secret Life of Bletchley Park: The History of the Wartime Codebreaking Centre by the Men and Women Who Were There.***

**AJEX**

**A**JEX will be holding their Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 1st May 2012 at the Simcha Hall of BRS at 2pm- doors open 1.45pm

After our AGM we will be offering our members a Special Celebratory Tea , and sincerely hope that all of you will attend this very important occasion.



# “THE TRUMPETS SHALL SOUND”

*Who would have thought life with a trumpet could be so interesting?*

Malcolm Torrent delighted his audience at a recent League of Jewish Women event at the Simcha Hall with his story of how he fell in love with the trumpet at a very early age, and where it led him.

This local lad from a musical family went to Porchester School and, whilst still in his teens, joined the Army where he rose to become a Lt Colonel during a career spanning 40 years. He trained on a variety of brass instruments at the Royal Military School of Music, Kneller Hall and eventually became a Conductor and Director of Music of some of our most famous military bands. He also learned to horse ride and was often part of the escort at many Royal and Civic occasions, resplendent in that familiar red and gold uniform of the Horse Guards with those beautiful plumed helmets and leather riding boots which needed very many hours of polishing to keep them in pristine condition.



*Helen Woolf, Vice Chairman and Lt Colonel (ret'd) Malcolm Torrent and Thelma Cowan, Chairman*

That uniform involved him in ceremonial duties at many historical events at Westminster Abbey and St Paul's Cathedral et cetera. He even performed from the battlements of Caernarvon Castle for the Investiture of the Prince of Wales.

Malcolm is a talented musician who plays not only the trumpet but also every other brass and silver instrument, many of

which, large and small, he brought to show the meeting. He demonstrated the subtleties of the various instruments and delighted us with melodies played on many different ones, finishing with the long slender silver Post Horn. He is certainly a man who knows how to blow his own trumpet!

After the demonstration Miriam Kays gave a vote of thanks, which was followed by a scrumptious Tea with sandwiches, scones and cake, lovingly prepared and served by LJW members.

RUTH LESSER

## ***Stuck For That Gift?***

***There is now a local source for a limited number of World Jewish Relief celebratory cards.***

There are four card designs, (which are on display outside the Shul Shop) respectively wishing ***“Mazeltov”, “Thank You”, “Happy Birthday”*** and ***“Happy Anniversary”*** and in each case the wording on the inside reads: ***“A donation has been made on your behalf to World Jewish Relief This thoughtful gift will make a real difference to one more Jewish Family”***

The cards can be obtained by contacting Richard Saunders, via telephone: 01202 922468 or via e-mail: [rip-saunders@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:rip-saunders@tiscali.co.uk)

# WIZO ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

*7th December 2011– Audrey Kneller and Claire Levey*

The meeting was held once again held in the home of Dr Martin and Mrs Barbara Tobias, and we should like to thank them for their very kind hospitality.

Before the commencement of the AGM, Bonny Cole introduced Paul Muslin, who works closely with the Board of Deputies, to address the meeting on the subject of anti-Semitism, which is of great concern in Dorset. Paul cited many cases of anti-Semitism in the area and urged all present to always be vigilant and to report any such incident or propaganda to the relevant authorities.

Before commencing her report Jeanette thanked Paul for his interesting and informative talk. She then gave her sincere thanks to the entire Committee for their hard work and dedication throughout the year. She then asked everyone present to stand in silence in memory of the late Pauline Benson, who had been a dedicated and committed member of Wizo for many, many years.

Jeanette outlined the events of the past year, and as outgoing Chairman, the highlights during her term of office. She concluded by paying tribute to the Committee for all their support during her years in office and especially welcomed Bonny Cole on to the Committee, who as Programme Co-ordinator has many new ideas for future programmes.

Ura Saklow, the longest serving member of the present

Committee, paid her own personal tribute to Jeanette for all her extremely hard work and commitment over the past 7 years. This was endorsed by all present.

Stella Hanover then presented a Certificate to Jeanette from Wizo, praising her hard work and devotion to the cause.

The Treasurer's Report was given by Stella, who went through the circulated copies of the year's Accounts.

## ■ Election of Committee:

The Executive and Committee were all willing to stand again with the exception of Rose Bratter who now resided in Hannah Levy House. Jeanette Goodman resigned as Chairman but would be staying on the Committee. Claire Levey had agreed to take over as Chairman. The following were then elected en bloc:

**Executive: Chairman:** *Claire Levey (with responsibility for Jewish Women's Week)*

**Events Co-ordinator:** *Bonny Cole*

**Treasurer & Membership:** *Stella Hanover*

**Secretary & Publicity Officer:** *Audrey Kneller*

**Simcha Secretary:** *Rita Keene*

**Committee:** *June Cutner, Jeanette Goodman, Frances Levy, Diana Mendel, Shirley Normie, Ura Saklow, Barbara Tobias, Avis Weitzman and Rosalind Wolfson.*

Following the meeting, all present enjoyed an excellent tea provided by Barbara Tobias.

## JAPANESE FLOWER ARRANGING DEMONSTRATION

Bournemouth WIZO held an Ikebana demonstration on Wednesday 25th January by kind courtesy of Roz Rose (of jewellers Rose's of Winton) in her beautiful home. The demonstration was given by a Japanese lady, Risa Andress, dressed in native costume. Risa's ancestors were Samurai warriors, who gave up this occupation to become farmers. She was born in Yokohama which is the second largest city in Japan by population after Tokyo, and lies on Tokyo Bay, south of Tokyo.

"Ike" means "living" and "bana" means "flower". The flowers and tools used were willow (catkin), chrysanthemum, dracaena (chicken tail), kenzan (pinholder), kaki (vase) and hasami (ikebana scissors). It was a very meticulous procedure, and every flower and plant used was positioned in a precise way.

During the demonstration Japanese music was played in the background to give an atmospheric effect. Otherwise you could have heard a pin drop, as the rapt audience concentrated on every



step of the ceremony. Risa's husband, David, who was also present, interpreted the many questions raised about Ikebana. June Cutner gave the vote of thanks, a beautiful floral display was raffled, and this was followed by afternoon tea provided by Roz.

AUDREY KNELLER

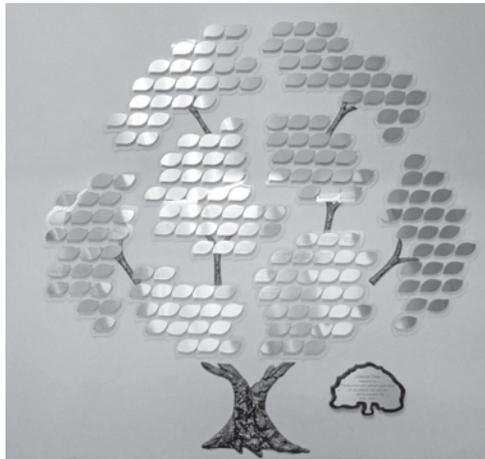
## HANNAH LEVY HOUSE

The ShulAid Team organised one of its popular Supper with Bridge and Games Evenings to raise funds for Hannah Levy House.

The event was sponsored by John Wartski, who was very pleasantly surprised when a large birthday cake complete with candle appeared during the evening in celebration of his 86th birthday.

Over £1200 was raised by the event which will be used to benefit the residents of the home.

*John Wartski with Eve Cowan, Trustee of Hannah Levy House*



## Tree of Life

Next time you have any type of simchah or other happy event to celebrate, why not think of inscribing a leaf on the Tree of Life that hangs in the shul foyer? The Tree was purchased with funds left by the late Betty Kasmir, and is intended to record happy occasions in our community.

The cost of a leaf is £250. After a small payment for engraving, 20% goes to the Ladies Guild, and 80% goes to support the shul. This is an excellent way of marking your joyous events at the same time as assisting the community, and we hope it will continue to attract your support.

### Bournemouth Hebrew Congregation Synagogue



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

For more information contact the Shul Office

### The Bournemouth Hebrew Congregation's Guide to Amazing Food

## Call For Recipes

Bournemouth is renowned for its hospitality. Over the years Harvey and I have enjoyed so many wonderful meals with friends ... some share their recipes willingly, others are more mysterious about their origins, fearing perhaps their simplicity may detract from their deliciousness.

I would like to compile a cookbook containing at least one recipe from each of our members.

Please e-mail your favourite recipes together with a brief account of who or where the recipe came from, and any significance it may have to you or your family to [josie.lipsith@virgin.net](mailto:josie.lipsith@virgin.net) or pop a copy into the shul office. Alternatively I can arrange to call and chat through your recipes with you.

Looking forward hearing from you,

**Josie Lipsith.**

[josie@lipsith.com](mailto:josie@lipsith.com)

# **The Council of Christians and Jews**

Bournemouth Branch

**17th May "Discovering Jewish Mysticism"**  
**Rabbi Nissan Dubov**

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**5th July "The World of Menasseh Ben Israel"**  
*illustrated by his books*  
**Dr Cesar Merchan – Hamann**

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**Aug/Sept A Trip to Yarnton Manor with Tea and Speaker**

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**23rd Nov "Faith Expressed in the Community"**  
**Rt Rev Nicholas Holtam, Bishop of Salisbury**

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**13th Dec Chanukah/Advent Social Event**

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All events at 7.30pm

The Menorah Suite, Murray Muscat Centre,  
Glen Fern Road, Bournemouth BH1 1PW

For further information email: [bournemouthccj@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:bournemouthccj@hotmail.co.uk)



# FOR THE INFORMATION OF OUR READERS

*Putting patients first*

The Royal Bournemouth and  
Christchurch Hospitals  
NHS Foundation Trust

## Hospital consultants to talk at the Royal Bournemouth Hospital Open Day.

The annual Open Day at the Royal Bournemouth Hospital takes place between 10am and 4pm, on Wednesday 9th May. The day gives members of the public the opportunity to find out about some of the services and treatments available at the hospital.

The day will also see the return of the popular and informative consultant talks, with presentations ranging from an explanation of how diagnoses are made, to how the hospital reduces the risk of infection. *The talks will be held in the Hospital Chapel and are completely free.*

### *The talk titles and timings are as follows:*

**10.30am: How do we prepare for an emergency?**

*Farhad Islam, Consultant in Emergency Medicine.*

**11.30am: How do we make a diagnosis? CT and MRI scanning**

*Matthew Benbow, Senior Radiographer.*

**12.30pm: Ultrasound scanning and interventional radiology.**

*Mandy Turner, Consultant Radiologist.*

**1.30pm: Endoscopy.** *Ray McCrudden, Consultant Gastroenterologist.*

**2.30pm: How do we prevent the spread of infection?**

*Mick Martin, Consultant Microbiologist*

***If you would like to attend of the presentations, please call: 01202 704271 to book your place or email: [events@rbch.nhs.uk](mailto:events@rbch.nhs.uk)***

The hospital Atrium will host information displays from different hospital departments, each with their own interactive stand, including quizzes, challenges, and basic health checks.

The Endoscopy Department will be giving members of the public the chance to handle an endoscope, and to scope a virtual patient, whilst the Cardiology Department will be offering blood pressure tests. An echo machine will also be on display and staff will be available to show how the machine works.

The **Jigsaw Appeal** team will be on hand to explain to visitors about how the money raised in their appeal for women is set to dramatically change the experience of women visiting the hospital. The team will also explain the opportunities for supporting the appeal from joining the 'Twilight walk', to jumping out of a plane!

The Communications Team

**Telephone: 01202 704905/726172**

# Israeli Dancing

For the past ten years, a dedicated group of dancers have been meeting every week to enjoy beautiful Israeli music, exercise and socialise. Now, due to popular demand, we have now started an Israeli dancing session for absolute beginners. There is no age limit, and no fun limit. It's only for half an hour so why not come along on Tuesday nights at 7.00 in the Menorah Suite. See the shul notices for any changes of time or venue.

MARILYN DEXTER

## Mini-Menorah Playgroup



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

**EVERY WEDNESDAY 10AM - 12NOON**

PARENTS, GRANDPARENTS, CARERS & VISITING FAMILIES WELCOME

GERTRUDE PRESTON HALL  
BOURNEMOUTH HEBREW CONGREGATION  
WOOTTON GARDENS

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT  
01202 557433

# YAVNEH KINDERGARTEN

**MEETS IN THE GERTRUDE  
PRESTON HALL**

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

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

**FRIDAY** 9.00 -12-00

WE WELCOME PRE-SCHOOLERS  
FROM 2 TO 5 YEARS

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CONTACT

YAVNEH SUPERVISOR JAN KNAPP -  
**Tel: 295414**

# Wessex Jewish Golf Society

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**Tel: 01202 701117**

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# Diary

## APRIL

Friday 6th	Fast of the First Born First Seder Night Communal Seder – Menorah Suite
Shabbat 7th	First Day Pesach Sephardi Minyan Second Seder Night
Sunday 8th	Second Day Pesach
Friday 13th	Seventh Day Pesach
Shabbat 14th	Eighth Day Pesach
Thursday 19th	Flower arranging group – 2.30pm in Classrooms
Shabbat 21st	Benediction of Iyar Kiddush sponsored by Janet and Michael Pins in celebration of their Golden Wedding and the Batmitzvah of their twin granddaughters Sasha and Ellie and by Max Lopes Dias in celebration of his 2nd Barmitzvah.
Sunday 22nd	Rosh Chodesh Iyar
Monday 23rd	Rosh Chodesh Iyar
Wednesday 25th	Yom Ha Zikaron Yom Haatzmaut Service – 7.30pm Followed by Function – 8.00pm
Thursday 26th	Yom Haatzmaut
Shabbat 28th	Kiddush to celebrate 100th birthday of Robin Segal
Sunday 29th	Stone Setting Throop The late Mr Ben Radley – 3.00pm

## MAY

Tuesday 1st	AJEX AGM, Simcha Hall – 2.00pm
Shabbat 5th	Kiddush hosted by Katarina and Brian Webb in celebration of Brian's 70th Birthday
Sunday 6th	Pesach Sheni Ladies Guild Dinner with speaker Sinclair McKay, Menorah Suite – 7.30pm

Wednesday 9th	WIZO Launch of Jewish Women's Week at home of Rabbi and Mrs Jesner – 2.30pm
Wednesday 9th	Synagogue Evening Lag B'Omer BBQ
Thursday 10th	Lag B'Omer
Shabbat 12th	Coffee and Kichels Kiddush sponsored by Enid and Herbert Low
Sunday 13th	Stone Setting Throop The late Mrs Jackie Simons – 2.30pm
Thursday 17th	Bournemouth Council of Christians and Jews Meeting, Menorah Suite – 7.30pm
Shabbat 19th	Benediction of Sivan
Sunday 20th	Yom Yerushalayim
Tuesday 22nd	Rosh Chodesh Sivan
Thursday 23rd	Flower Arranging Group in Classrooms – 2.30pm
Shabbat 26th	Erev Shavuot
Sunday 27th	First Day Shavuot
Monday 28th	Second Day Shavuot

## JUNE

Shabbat 2nd	Kiddush to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee of HM the Queen
Shabbat 9th	Kiddush hosted by Rita and Bernard Keene to celebrate their 60th Wedding Anniversary
Thursday 14th	Flower Arranging Group in the Classrooms – 2.30pm
Shabbat 16th	Benediction of Tammuz Barmitzvah of Sammy Graham, followed by a Kiddush in Celebration of Sammy's Barmitzvah
Sunday 17th	Stone Setting Throop, The late Mr David Freeman 2.00pm
Wednesday 20th	Rosh Chodesh Tammuz
Thursday 21st	Rosh Chodesh Tammuz
Shabbat 23rd	Kiddush hosted by Vicky and Jeffrey Cohen to celebrate their Golden Wedding

*Continued on next page*

# Diary

Continued from previous page

Sunday 24th WIZO lunch with Director of Jewish Museum, Simcha Hall – 12.30pm  
Shabbat 30th Coffee and Kichels Kiddush sponsored by Eta and Gerald Wainer to celebrate their 40 years in Bournemouth.

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## JULY

Thursday 5th Bournemouth Council of Christians and Jews, with Speaker Dr Cesar Merchan-Hamann – 7.30pm  
Sunday 8th Fast of Tammuz  
Thursday 12th Flower Arranging Group in Classrooms – 2.30pm  
Friday 20th Rosh Chodesh Av  
Shabbat 21st Kiddush hosted by Josie and Harvey Lipsith and Marilyn and Stephen White to celebrate their respective Ruby Wedding Anniversaries  
Sunday 29th Fast of Av

## AUGUST

Thursday 9th Flower Arranging Group in Classrooms – 2.30pm  
Shabbat 11th Benediction of Ellul  
Sunday 19th Rosh Chodesh Ellul  
Shabbat 25th Kiddush hosted by Corinne and Howard Rein to celebrate Howard's upcoming 70th Birthday

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## SEPTEMBER

Sunday 2nd Stone Setting Boscombe  
The late Mrs Zena Mazin – 2.00pm  
Thursday 6th Flower Arranging Group in Classrooms – 2.30pm  
Sunday 16th Erev Rosh Hashanah  
Monday 17th First Day Rosh Hashanah

### ■ Note for your diary – *future event*:

**The Annual General Meeting of the Bournemouth Jewish Representative Council will take place on Thursday 12th July at 7pm in Chabad House Bournemouth BH1 4SD**

*Question Time Special Guest:*  
**CONNOR BURNS MP FOR BOURNEMOUTH WEST**

# Record Collection

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

Shabbatot and Chagim

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