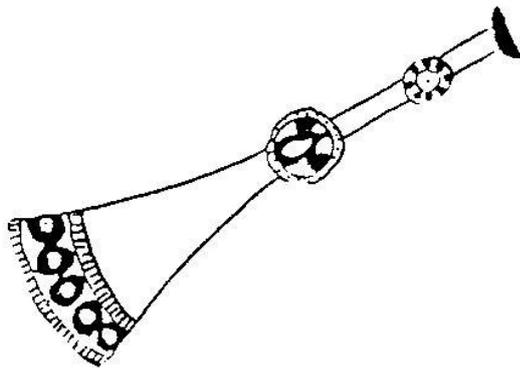
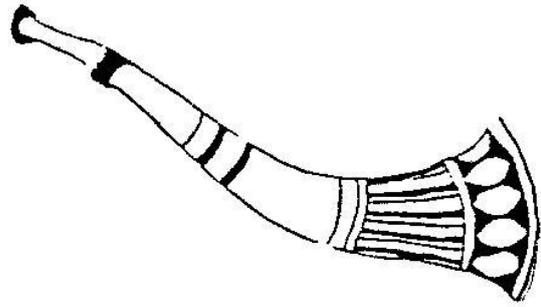


Shofar
Shalom



The Official Newsletter of Ne've Shalom, the Hull Reform Synagogue



Celebrating 250 years of Jewish life in Hull 1766 - 2016





CHAIR'S REPORT

Chesvan 5777
October/November 2016

Phew! What a busy few weeks. We first had the successful High Holy Days Services, followed by a well-attended Sukkot and then a storming Simchat Torah.

Looking back at the High Holy Days, I thought that we were extremely fortunate to have Student Rabbi Danny Newman to lead our Services. From the many positive comments and remarks I have received during, and since, the High Holy Days, I am convinced that we will be seeing Daniel again. He delivered understandable and enjoyable concise sermons and led the Services both confidently and competently. The High Holy Days, however, are not an individual effort and I would like to thank our Senior Warden, Phil O'Driscoll, for all his work and effort in organising and re-organising his first Mizvot and Reading lists and ensuring that everyone did what they were supposed to do – and you wonder why he looks so tired!

I would also like to give a special thank you to all our members who conducted parts of the Services, or opened and closed the Ark, or 'shlepped' the Seferim, or just 'turned up'. There is information of how to donate to our High Holy Days/Kol Nidre Appeal on page 3.

Moving on, both the Sukkot and Simchat Torah Services were well attended and, on behalf of the community, would like to thank Phil and Mark Huntington for being Chatan Torah and Chatan B'Resheet and for accepting this honour as an appreciation of their continuing support of the Shul. I would also like to thank Tony for doing the two readings. Finally, I would like to thank the keen team of young and old Sukkah builders, those who prepared the food for Sukkot and made both Services such a social success.



As you may be aware, AJEX's Annual Service of Remembrance is on Sunday 13 November, 2016 and I urge you all to support this Service.

Finally, a little reminder that the first night of Chanukah is Saturday evening 24 December, 2016.



The Honorary Officers, Executive and members of Hull AJEX would like to invite all members and friends of Ne've Shalom Synagogue to join them at their Annual Service of Remembrance to be held at the **Pryme Street Synagogue** on **Sunday 13 November 2016**, starting at **2.45pm**. The reunion tea will be served after the Service.

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL

BELATED NEW YEAR GREETINGS 5777



BUSH/ROBINSON FAMILY would like to wish all their family and friends at Ne've Shalom a happy New Year and well over the fast.

KECZKES Veronika wishes her children and grand-children, friends and the Hull Reform Synagogue a happy and healthy New Year.

KEARSLEY Joanne wishes Shanah Tovah to all at Ne've Shalom and well over the fast.

HULL JEWISH COMMUNITY CARE (HJCC)



Following the recent success of the October meeting of the Friendly Circle, HJCC have great pleasure in inviting the community to another of their Friendly Circle afternoon teas on **Wednesday 23 November 2016 at 2.00pm**.

The event is taking place at the **Pryme Street Synagogue** and as usual, there will be a "sumptuous repast", before which, there will be some planned entertainment.

For further details or to request a lift, please contact Harold Flasher, Chairman of HJCC, on (01482) 655537 or 07766 416 605, (or indeed, any member of the committee).

HIGH HOLY DAY/KOL NIDRE APPEAL



This year the Council are asking for your support of the national Movement for Reform Judaism (MRJ) appeal.

Part of your donation will help to fund not only our Reform youth movement RSY Netzer, but also the Leo Baeck College, which provides Rabbinic training as well as lifelong learning opportunities for Progressive schools and communities. This will help to support the training of top educators within the Reform Movement to teach and inspire our children. Your contribution will also provide exciting, dynamic Jewish educational opportunities for our children and grandchildren, strengthening their Jewish identity and involving them in communal life.

The remaining part of your donation will be used by MRJ to fund a series of guided trips to Israel for those who have recently converted, or are in the conversion process in order to provide them with the understanding of the importance of the State of Israel to the Jewish people.

If you wish to donate, cheques should be made payable to "**Hull Reform Synagogue**" and sent to our Treasurer, Aimi Sugarman, at 18 Bradgate Park, Kingswood, Hull HU7 3JA or see her in Shul.



OPEN FRIDAY NIGHT SERVICE

Following the huge success of the previous Open Friday Night Service, the next one will take place on **Friday 18 November 2016** starting at **7.00pm**. What makes this Service different from the normal Friday Night service is the running commentary from those leading the Service explaining the nature of the prayers being recited, their background, origin and the traditional rituals being observed.

After the Service, and following the Brachot over the wine and bread, there will be the Kiddush with a wide range of "Jewish-style" foods. There also will be opportunity to look around the Synagogue, talk to those members present and examine the Ark, Scrolls and other artefacts. Please feel free to invite guests, both Jewish and non-Jewish to this interesting event, but please contact Audrey on (01482) 563835 with numbers to enable sufficient catering.

HULL DOES LIMMUD

The following up-date was sent to us by Heather Harris, who along with Sarita Robinson, is co-chairing the working group to create a Limmud event during the City's Year of Culture.



I'm sorry to have to report that the Hull 2017 Creative Communities panel did not approve our application for part funding for our event. We were very disappointed as we made an excellent case and considered making an appeal, but then news of the 600+ applications and only 60 approvals was circulated so we know the rejection was nothing sinister or discriminatory, it was just one of those things. Nevertheless it would have been wonderful to have been one of the 10% who got a 'yes'!

We were hoping to put the funding to good use by heavily subsidising the ticket cost to attend and to be able to hire a prestigious city centre venue. We will soon discuss the situation with Limmud Head Office to understand their offer to underwrite what we do, and then we will re-group to re-think how to mount a version of what we envisioned now on something of a shoe-string budget. We convened a meeting of the working group in late September before the haggim to discuss the best way forward, however, I invite and welcome all ideas and suggestions from anyone and everyone in the community... please speak to me or email me here : heather@redresource.com. This disappointment is by no means a disaster - please keep the date of **Sunday, May 14 2017** in your diaries and plan to be there.

All expressions of interest, support and assistance are very much appreciated and welcomed, so please email me at [**heather@redresource.com**](mailto:heather@redresource.com)

TWO QUICKIES

The groom, upon his engagement, went to his father and said, "I've found a woman just like mother!" His father replied, "So what do you want from me, sympathy?"

It's not true that married men live longer than single men. It only seems longer.

HULL DOES AUSCHWITZ & BIRKENAU

23-25 September 2016

The following article is a personal account of the recent Northern MRJ weekend trip to Krakow for the guided tour of Auschwitz & Birkenau and an opportunity to experience the local Jewish history on which the film "Schindler's List" was based. On behalf of the group, I would like to thank Sarita and Aimi for all their organisation in making an idea of a trip into a reality.

I've been told on many occasions that a visit to Auschwitz and Krakow was not an experience to be taken lightly and that the experience was unlike any you have ever done before or will ever do again.

For the above reasons, I had been putting off such a trip for many years. I'd always felt that it was something that I needed to do, but I always found some excuse not to do it. I knew that I couldn't do it alone and it wasn't until Aimi suggested booking onto a guided tour of Auschwitz & Birkenau that I thought, 'this is the way to do it'.



Aimi mentioned it to Sarita. Sarita then suggested that we find out if people not only from Ne've Shalom, but also from other MRJ Shuls in the North would be interested in coming with us. We sent out an invitation and, after a few weeks, we had 15 confirmed bookings (8 from Hull) for our weekend journey to Auschwitz & Krakow.

I must admit that even at Doncaster airport, I still had some trepidation, but travelling with Aimi, Sarita and Henry meant never a dull moment.

We arrived at the Krakow hotel at about 3.00am on Shabbat morning and our coach was picking us up at 7.00am for the guided tour. Luckily, breakfast was available from 6.00am, as the hotel had very kindly packed us individual breakfast 'bags' containing sandwiches with a variety of interesting 'fillings' and other foodstuffs.



Arriving at Auschwitz, I was amazed at the number of tours and multi-nationality of the people on those tours all taking pictures. If I was being honest, it felt more like a tourist attraction than a place of Jewish historical significance.

Walking through those gates, however, with that over-arching sign reading "Arbeit Macht Frei", promising that "work sets you free" took the phrase 'living museum' to another level. In fact, walking down **that** street with a group of other Jews really brought home the horror of the place.

Much of the camp retained its original buildings, accommodation and 'facilities', but being a 'living museum', there had been some additional redesigning to accommodate the exhibitions and display of artefacts. Regardless of this, I felt that every building, every exhibit and every picture made some connection with me and the horrors that my ancestors experienced in that place having been transported there from all over Europe.

There was a huge glass display case filled with hair cut from the heads of an estimated 140,000 victims. The hair appeared to be deteriorating badly, and most of it had turned the same shade of dark gray. This was a truly disgusting sight and one that many of us there won't soon forget.

Another huge glass case contained a display of shoes which was taken from the victims on arrival. The shoes seemed to be deteriorating and were mostly the same dark gray colour, except for a few women's or children's shoes that were made of red leather. To me, the red shoes stood out from the rest in a similar manner to the red coat worn by the little girl in Schindler's List.

A further display case, contained the suitcases brought by the Jewish victims to the camp. The Jews were instructed to mark their suitcases for later identification and I could still see the names written in hope on the leather cases in large letters.



We walked through many other exhibitions. The enamelware dishes brought to the camps by the victims, as well as display cases of eyeglasses, brushes and even a display of the lids from cold cream jars and flat cans of shoe shine wax. The blue and gray striped uniforms worn by the prisoners. A typical day's ration of food: a chunk of coarse whole grain bread the size of four thick slices and a large, red enamel bowl of gray looking soup.



One of the buildings, Block 7, depicted a typical barrack consisting of three-tiered bunks crammed together, warmed by a small stove. The floors in the barracks were made of concrete and the stairs of granite had been worn down by the footsteps of those who had walked on them over the years.

Eventually, we arrived at the part of the camp I was dreading. Apparently, the original gas chamber had been converted by the Germans into an air raid shelter in September 1944 and the gas chamber we entered was a re-construction, but used the original walls on which I could see the nail scratchings of those trying to escape their fate. Being there and seeing that brought it to life and when we moved out of the chamber and into the oven room, where they cremated the dead bodies, I just 'died' inside. How could they?

We all walked back to the gate in a sombre mood. Some were crying, some vented their anger, some tried to lighten the atmosphere, some locked in their own thoughts. It certainly wasn't an experience to be taken lightly.

The next part of the tour took us to Birkenau, or Auschwitz II, which could best be described as Auschwitz on an industrial scale.

The camp could accommodate over 200,000 and there were four gas chambers. The majority of Jews arriving by train, who were deemed unsuitable to work, were marched straight to the gas chambers. It had been estimated that some 1,500,000 Jews were killed at Birkenau alone.



Due to its size, Birkenau had a different atmosphere to Auschwitz. What was striking however, was the lack of birdsong. There was an eerie silence about the camp and I felt a completely different emotion to that of being in the gas chamber.



We walked around the camp, seeing very similar exhibitions, but on a much bigger scale.

When we arrived at the site of the gas chambers, which had been destroyed by the fleeing German guards, there was a series of memorials written in Polish, English and Hebrew. The inscriptions read as follows:

"To the memory of the men, women and children who fell victim of the Nazi genocide. Here lie their ashes. May their souls rest in peace."

This location seemed the obvious place to light the six yahrzeit candles that we had brought with us and to recite some prayers. Sarita had put together some short appropriate poems and readings which was read by members of our party. In the deafening silence that followed, I had the honour of singing the *"Eil malei rachamin"*, the memorial prayer, following which we said a communal Kaddish. Sarita's comment about 'reciting the Kaddish for those who no longer have anyone left to say it for them', struck a chord with everyone who has ever heard this said during the Erev Shabbat Service.

We had just spoken the last "amen", when we heard a lone birdsong piercing the silence, as if to say, there is always hope.

I've been to Yad Vashem in Jerusalem and to Beth Shalom, near Lincoln, but the emotions I felt being there in Auschwitz, following in the footsteps of the innocence going to their death will live with me forever.

Yes, it was experience unlike any I had ever done before or will ever do again.

CELEBRATING 250 YEARS OF JEWISH LIFE IN HULL 1766 - 2016

This year has seen a number of local events to celebrate 250 years of Jewish life in Hull. Our roving reporter, Jackie Lukes, has been out and about and looks back over the year of celebrations.

At the end of a year of celebrations it's a good chance to look back and reflect on both past and future. "A laugh, a tear, and a song" - that's the traditional recipe for Yiddish entertainment, which was accidentally but delightfully followed at the 6 June Hull History Centre conference. Then came 26 June's Thanksgiving Service held at Pryme Street Orthodox Synagogue, and last, the scholarly and sombre talk given by Dr David Lewis on 10 October to Hull Civic Society at the Royal Station Hotel where, he noted, Queen Victoria came at the invitation of Bethel Jacobs for the 1853 annual meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, which he brought to Hull.

Apparently 250 years of continuous Jewish settlement here is a unique achievement in the free world. Medieval Spanish communities lasted longer, but were not free. How has it come about? There was a clue in Dr Nick Evans' 6 June talk about migration and transmigration, refugees arriving at Hull docks with some staying and some moving on when they found it wasn't New York. Nick launched what proved to be a recurring theme song.

He described how the Jews staying in Hull were tremendously active in raising charitable funds for their co-religionists, the waves of penniless immigrants landing 'wretched, homeless, tempest-tossed' from the Baltic. They'd be given a loan to buy a Singer sewing machine and start a business or to start whatever shop or trade they could, or to move on, so they wouldn't be a burden on the community. Nick said this philanthropy wasn't entirely selfless: it was self-interested to make them self-supporting as fast as possible, so they wouldn't come back asking for more.

David Lewis vividly described how these poor and needy migrants would be given a few trinkets by settled Jews, to sell as hawkers. The old pictures he showed were of ragged Jewish peddlers and hawkers raising fingers to show a price, as they didn't speak English. David's sources included Victorian magistrate court and police records as these immigrants kept breaking the law, selling without a hawker's licence or fighting with each other over 'turf and territory'. Some transmigrated to Australia as convicts or to Workhouse treadmills here.

Jewish pawnbrokers and uncles giving new arrivals a loan for a start included Duveen's in-laws in Hull. Silversmiths and jewellers in Hull's 19th century census occupations, David added, were not craftsmen but hawkers and later, retailers selling trinkets.

We heard how many of these start-ups became flourishing Hull shops over time, and how their following generations became professionals. The philanthropy continued and expanded to embrace the city, with Jewish councillors and mayors serving as Guardians of the Poor, on School Boards, opening orphans and widows homes and ones for the elderly, starting schools, classes, Dispensaries for the Sick and a Prisoners' Aid Society, as well as the city's Mechanics Institute for the Study of Science and Arts, and its School of Art and Design. The non-Jewish community set up numerous charities too, like Newland Homes for Hull Seamen's Orphans, and still does, like Emmaus for the city's homeless rough sleepers. Not just Hull's Jewish world but its context, unusually stable, close-knit and caring, was illuminated.

What about the laughs, tears and songs at the 6 June 2016 event? Joyous melodies of song came from the "oohs" and "aahs" greeting the mention of familiar shops, Calmen Rosen's shoe factory, Segal's fabric shops, Goldstone's department store, fondly remembered. Long-gone butchers bakers fish shops tailors; and even more, from the sighs and cries greeting nostalgic old photos of much-loved faces and families. There's aunty, granddad, us at school, me at a dance, our Cheder class!

A tear was shed in Ian Vellins' talk about the Kindertransport of 10,000 refugee children from Hitler's Germany. As the government would not pay a penny, he said, the money to bring them and sponsor each child with a Hull family was raised by us. Saddest were the faded photos of these children saying goodbye at the station to their parents, never seen again. A faded sepia childhood photo of Bob Rosner, who was taken in by Leo Schultz's family and became an architect, was touching. Pride and pain came with the photos.

Prof Howard Cuckle gave a much-anticipated talk on "Notable Hull Jews". Laughter was uncontrollable when, having combed the internet for every possible link with Hull, he mentioned famous people who might have gone through Hull but did not (or even come near it, his "intuitionist logic" letting him down) crowning his research with Pat Albeck "Queen of the Tea Towels".

But the best laugh of the day was when one of the History Centre archivists asked: is there anyone still alive who remembers anyone in this photo? showing the Hull Judeans. There was a chorus of "Audrey, stand up!" and there she was, in the audience and on the screen.

That occasion was a mirror of the community. The final event, David Lewis's October talk, provoked reflections of another sort. At the end someone asked him: why isn't there still a Hebrew School, the last one, for girls, having closed in 1945? "Because there are no children", he replied. "It's an ageing community". Then he added: "there are some children at the Reform Synagogue." 250 years of survival were celebrated by a community which has almost vanished.

THE JNF LUACH APPEAL

We have been asked by Mike Westerman to bring the following to your attention.

An appeal letter, from JNF's London Head-Quarters, was recently mailed to every home. We hope everyone will respond as generously as you are able, by returning your donation in the pre paid envelope. or, if more convenient, handing your donation to me.



Almost every member of this Community, as well as many non-Jewish supporters, of the State of Israel, has planted trees in Israel, through the JNF.

Now it is up to you to ensure the completion of the Hull Jewish Community Grove of 1,000 trees. Please ensure that your donation states that it is for Hull's latest Project, the **Hull Jewish Community Grove**, if that is what you wish.

Everyone who responds to the JNF appeal will receive a JNF luach, in appreciation of their support!

I look forward to yours and the Community's continued support.

ENGLISH YAHRZEIT DATES WHICH CORRESPOND TO THE HEBREW DATES FOR RELATIVES OF MEMBERS OF NE'VE SHALOM - THE HULL REFORM SYNAGOGUE

Rita Kelly	30 Oct. 2016	Boris Furman	10 Nov. 2016
Annette Segal	30 Oct. 2016	Myer Peysner	11 Nov. 2016
Aubrey Silver	31 Oct. 2016	Ivor Winetroube	15 Nov. 2016
Dora Rose	2 Nov. 2016	Mary Gordon	19 Nov. 2016
Lee Winetroube	3 Nov. 2016	Gillian Mendoza	21 Nov. 2016
Maurice Segal	3 Nov. 2016	Sam Winer	22 Nov. 2016
Harry Bransky	5 Nov. 2016	Domini Highsmith	24 Nov. 2016
Harold Bermitz	6 Nov. 2016	Clara Winer	25 Nov. 2016
Chaim Raphael	6 Nov. 2016	Max Albeck	29 Nov. 2016
Israel Bermitz	10 Nov. 2016	Janos Lusztig	30 Nov. 2016

Traditionally, Jewish Yahrzeits are remembered on the Hebrew date, which means that there might be some variation in the English date each year.

If the Hebrew date is observed, it must be remembered that the Yahrzeit starts the evening before.

Memorial prayers for the deceased will be recited during the Friday Night Service for those Yahrzeits which fall during the coming week. If a Yahrzeit falls on a Friday Night, please remember that the prayers will usually be recited during the Friday Night Service the week before.



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FORTHCOMING SERVICES AND EVENTS

Date	Time	Leader	Refreshment Rota
Friday 28 October	7.00pm	Geoff Annis	Lesley Annis Jannette Dubb
Friday 28 October (Council Meeting)	8.00pm	Ian Sugarman	N/A
Friday 4 November	7.00pm	Aimi Sugarman	Helen Jackman Andy Harbert
Shabbat 5 November	10.30am	Ian Sugarman Tony Sevilla-Harland	Marija Guilas Gillian Smith
Shabbat 5 November (Torah Workshop)	12.15pm	Tony Sevilla-Harland	N/A
Sunday 6 November (Hebrew Reading Class)	10.30am	Deborah Wrapson	N/A
Sunday 6 November (Conversion Class)	11.30am	Ian Sugarman	N/A
Friday 11 November	7.00pm	Sarita Robinson	Ann Bush Jackie Lukes
Friday 18 November (Open Service)	7.00pm	Ian Sugarman John Friend	Audrey Sugarman Lesley Annis Elaine Winetroube Gill Drummond
Sunday 20 November (Hebrew Reading Class)	10.30am	Deborah Wrapson	N/A
Sunday 20 November (Conversion Class)	11.30am	Ian Sugarman	N/A
Friday 25 November	7.00pm	Peter Altoft	Joanne Kearsley Veronika Keczes
Friday 2 December	7.00pm	John Friend	Helen Jackman Andy Harbert
Shabbat 3 December	10.30am	Ian Sugarman John Friend	Marija Guilas Gillian Smith
Shabbat 3 December (Torah Workshop)	12.15pm	Tony Sevilla-Harland	N/A
Sunday 4 December (Hebrew Reading Class)	10.30am	Deborah Wrapson	N/A
Sunday 4 December (Conversion Class)	11.30am	Ian Sugarman	N/A
Friday 9 December	7.00pm	Tony Sevilla-Harland	Ann Sevilla-Harland Deborah Wrapson
Friday 16 December	7.00pm	Geoff Annis	Lesley Annis Jannette Dubb

If you are unable to take your turn on the **service rota**, please arrange for someone else to take your place.

If you are unable to take your turn on the **refreshment rota**, please arrange for someone else to take your place and **inform Audrey Sugarman** on **(01482) 563835** to ensure that sufficient refreshments are available.

MEMORIAL BOARD

The Synagogue Council would again like to inform members that there is still space available on the Memorial Board for members to purchase a plaque in memory of their loved one(s).

For further details, please contact Henry Goldstone on (01482) 667258.

KIDDUSH SPONSORING

During the year, you might want to mark that special occasion in a unique, yet innovative manner. In order to help you solve your dilemma, the Synagogue Council has agreed to allow the sponsoring of Kiddushim.

If you would like further details, or wish to reserve a particular date, please contact Aimi Sugarman on (01482 835864) or a.sugarman@hotmail.co.uk

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POTENTIAL NEW MEMBERS



If any members of the Synagogue are aware of, or are contacted by, potential new members, hoping to join our Synagogue, please advise them to contact our Secretary

Joanne Kearsley on 01724 340506
or at joannekearsley@yahoo.co.uk

who will provide them with further information and the necessary application forms.