

NUMBER 40

"THE BROOK"

THE MAGAZINE OF
THE HAMMERSMITH & WEST KENSINGTON
SYNAGOGUE

ANNUAL REPORTS

תש"כז

APRIL 1967/5727

HAMMERSMITH & WEST KENSINGTON SYNAGOGUE

BROOK GREEN, W.6.

Secretary's Office: Noble 1405

Synagogue Hall: Noble 5238

Minister: Rev. S. VENITT, B.A.

Reader: Rev. SAMUEL FORSCHER.

Emeritus Reader: Rev. B. PALETZ.

Secretary: Mr. M. FRIEDMANN

Wardens: Mr. J. NISNER Mr. M. A. AMIAS.

Financial Representative: Mr. B. J. BENZIMRA.

Board of Management:

| | | |
|------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Mr. J. BRAND | Dr. L. FREEMAN | Mr. L. LEVY |
| Dr. M. D. CAPLAN | Mr. F. J. GERTLER | Mr. A. TURNER |
| Mr. J. DICKMAN | Mr. M. GODEL | Mr. D. H. VELLEMAN |
| Mr. G. EVNINE | Mr. J. L. GODFREY | |

Representatives at the Council of the United Synagogue:

| | | |
|---------------|----------------|------------------|
| Mr. B. DAVIS. | Mr. H. SHARPE. | Mr. J. G. SILVER |
| Mr. S. GROSE. | | |

Representative at the Board of Deputies:

Mr. H. BAYES.

Hammersmith & West Kensington Synagogue Classes Committee

| | | |
|-------------------|------------------|----------------------|
| Mr. J. BRAND | Rev. S. FORSCHER | Mr. H. SHARPE |
| Mrs. M. D. CAPLAN | Dr. L. FREEMAN | Dr. F. TYSH |
| Mr. G. EVNINE | (Chairman) | Rev. S. VENITT, C.A. |

Combined Charities Fund:

Chairman: Mr. H. SHARPE.

Treasurer: Mr. B. DAVIS.

Secretary: Mr. J. HALFIN.

Editorial Board:

| | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| Mr. M. A. AMIAS | Rev. S. FORSCHER. | Mr. H. SHARPE. |
| Mr. J. BRAND. | Dr. L. FREEMAN. | Rev. S. VENITT, B.A. |
| Dr. L. COLLINS. | Mr. S. GROSE. | |

Representatives at the London Board of Jewish Religious Education

| | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| Mrs. M. D. CAPLAN. | Dr. L. FREEMAN. |
|--------------------|-----------------|

Representative at the Standing Conference of the Welfare Committee of the United Synagogue:

Mr. L. LEVY.

Representative at the U.S. Bequests & Trusts Committee:

Mr. M. A. AMIAS

Representative at the U.S. Burial Committee:

Mr. D. H. VELLEMAN

Representative at the U.S. Building Committee:

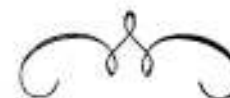
Mr. J. DICKMAN.

Representative on the Kasbrus Commission:

Mr. S. GROSE

Representative on the Kosher School-Meals Service:

Mr. L. LEVY.



ANNUAL REPORTS



Hammersmith & West Kensington Synagogue

ANNUAL REPORT

Your Honorary Officers have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report of the Synagogue for 1966/67.

Mr. B. H. Busky. Special mention must be made of the distinguished service given to our Community by Mr. B. H. Busky, who retired from the post of Choirmaster after almost 15 years of service. This followed many years of service in other communities. A special Kiddush to mark the occasion was given after the Sabbath Service on June 25th, when several speakers spoke in glowing terms of Mr. Busky, stressing his geniality, humanity and great musical knowledge and talent.

J.P.A. The grand total for J.P.A. in 1966 was the record one of £5,190. Over £4,000 of this sum was raised at a function held in the Synagogue Hall on Sunday, 1st May. This was once again under the Chairmanship of Dr. L. Freeman, ably supported by Mr. J. G. Silver, Mr. B. Davis and Mr. J. L. Godfrey, and a small hard-working committee.

Functions Committee. This year there was a departure from the usual fund raising Ball for Combined Charities. Instead, a Gala Film Show was organised for Saturday, 28th January, producing a net profit of some £700. Thanks are due to Mr. Benzimra and his hard-working committee for achieving this result, and making the evening such a success.

Ladies' Guild. As in past years, the Ladies' Guild continued to carry out their various synagogal activities, such as decorating the Succah so tastefully and beautifully, seeing to floral decorations on Shavuot, maintaining the appurtenances in a good condition, and being generally helpful in so many different ways. The synagogue is most grateful to them, as indeed to all those who generously provide the means for carrying out these varied functions.

Sub-Committees. The sub-committees of the Board of Management have worked hard during the year, although very often the amount of result is not commensurate with the great effort put in to achieve it. Our sincere thanks are due to the House Committee (Chairman: Mr. Leslie Levy), the Membership Committee (Chairman: Rev. S. Venitt) and the Youth Committee (Chairman: Mr. David H. Velleman).

Chasan Torah & Chasan Bereshith. The choice of Chasanim this year was a particularly happy one, and the great interest taken in the festivities indicated the warmth and affection of the congregation for the two people concerned. The Chasan Torah, Rev. Samuel Forscher, entering his Barmitzvah Year of Service to our

Community, & Mrs. Forscher, have greatly endeared themselves to all during the time they have been with us and have proved a tremendous asset in all branches of communal life. The Chasan Bereshith and his dear wife, Mr. and Mrs. George Evnine were likewise very popular guests of honour. Their work in the field of synagogal activity and general charitable endeavour is well known.

The Annual Simchat Torah Reception was a great success, the Ladies' Guild once again supervising and helping with the arrangements.

Services. A unique and outstanding feature of the services this year was the arrangement whereby on three special occasions the Youth, the Young Adults and the Adult members of the congregation respectively took part in the Sabbath Services, sharing in particular, the Reading of the Law. Rev. S. Forscher is to be congratulated on his efforts in connection with the organisation and personal supervision of those taking part. Undoubtedly, as a result, the interests of all the participants in the conduct of the service was greatly increased, and for some, the revision has proved of immense value. It is hoped that participation will continue during the coming year.

It is also very gratifying to note that the daily Morning Minyan has been restored, thanks to the ready response of a number of congregants to Rev. Venitt's appeal. Services are now held regularly on Sunday at 8.30 a.m. and Monday to Friday at 7.30 a.m.

The congregation can look forward in the next few months to a special service to be held in connection with the presentation of a new Sefer Torah, an event to be witnessed perhaps once in a generation. Everybody will be given full details of this momentous event in due course.

It is very satisfying to note the large proportion of youth who attend our services, and the extent to which they participate. Rev. Forscher has trained a group of boys to form a choir, which has already functioned on several occasions most creditably. It is also a joy to hear the renderings of the Haftorahs which so many of our youth can perform at very short notice. It has also become a noticeable feature of our synagogue life that boys so willingly help as Shamoshim.

Classes. The classes continue to function under the able chairmanship of Dr. L. Freeman. However, the designation of Western Area Regional Classes no longer applies, as Shepherds Bush have seceded from the group. We have now reverted to our original title of Hammersmith and West Kensington Synagogue Classes. The Annual Prize Distribution was held on March 26th, when Mr. and Mrs. Moss A. Amias were guests of honour. Congratulations to John Simmonds and Karen Beth on passing the Senior Examination of the London Board.

Synagogue Office. Will members please note that the office has now been transferred to the house at the back of the synagogue, approached down the left-hand path. The House Committee intend to convert the original office into a Bride's Room.

Music Month. In connection with Music Month, a lecture on "Composers and Interpreters of Synagogue Music" with illustrations was given by the Rev. Reuben Turner, Chairman of the Association of Chazanim, and Reader of the Brixton Synagogue on Tuesday, February 28th.

Lectures. The Autumn Series of Lectures under the auspices of Jews' College roused a great deal of interest and was well attended throughout. The lecturer was Rabbi Dr. J. J. Ross, Deputy Principal of Jews College, and his theme was "Judaism and the Modern Man." This proved a most successful series both in content and presentation.

Inter-faith Relationships. A number of groups from all denominations of the Church have paid visits of inspection to the synagogue. These have included student teachers from Maria Grey Training College, young Catholic children from Stevenage, and most outstanding, some 120 members of the Holy Trinity Church in Brook Green came to hear a talk and explanation of the synagogue, its history, rituals and various appurtenances. Many letters of appreciation arrived subsequently, all stressing the importance of enlightenment in other people's beliefs and worship.

Barnitzvahs. We congratulate most heartily all those boys who were Barnitzvah during the year.

Once again, the Hon. Officers and Board of Management place on record their warm appreciation of the hard work put in by our officials: Rev. S. Venitt, B.A., Rev. S. Forscher, Mr. Martin Friedmann, the members of the Choir, and Mr. L. W. Short, our caretaker. They all serve the congregation with sincerity and devotion.

The Hon. Officers wish to tender their thanks for the following generous gifts:

Mrs. Netta Coen, Mr. Laurence Coen: Sefer Torah Mantle in memory of their husband and father, Maurice Coen.

Mr. Samuel Hyams: Sefer Torah Mantle, in memory of his wife, Dora Hyams.

In conclusion, the Hon. Officers wish to express their thanks and appreciation to all their colleagues on the Board of Management for their ready co-operation and help during their term of office.

M. A. Amias J. N. Nisner B. J. Benzimra

HAMMERSMITH SYNAGOGUE LADIES' GUILD

The past year has been quite an active one for the Guild.

In *April* the Guild played the usual prominent part in helping to ensure a good local collection for the blind. In spite of the very bad weather that day, £142 was collected. Mrs. Wynbergen took charge of the arrangements. Arrangements for the floral decorations for the Shool on Shavuot were once again attended to by members of the Guild.

In *May* the Guild held its first coffee morning at the home of Mrs. B. Parker. This was well attended and £33 was raised.

After the holiday recess, the next function of the Guild was the decoration of the Succah. A large number of Guild members and their husbands came to help with the preparations. Members attended on roia to see to the cakes and drinks at each Kiddush. There was much praise for the improved decoration of the Succah this year, which was enhanced by the addition of floral arrangements. Thanks to all the people who helped.

The climax of the year was the Simchas Torah celebration. An enthusiastic group of Guild members spent part of the Sunday helping with the preparations for the evening function. This proved to be most enjoyable.

A very successful Card Evening and Supper was held in *November* as a result of which £107 was raised.

As in previous years, the Guild entertained the Standard Bearers of Ajax to tea, after their Annual Parade in *November*. Over 100 visitors were present.

On *February 8th* our second coffee morning was held at the home of Mrs. J. Caplan and as a result £42 was made.

In answer to appeals, donations have been given to various institutions and charities. We have distributed funds to the best of our ability and have answered many appeals.

We have purchased 6 additional card tables.

Additional crockery and cutlery have been presented to the guild by two members in celebration of joyous occasions.

During the year parcels were sent to the Mental Hospital on four occasions. The cost of one set of parcels was defrayed by Mrs. Apfel. Many thanks to the ladies who kindly made up the parcels and delivered them to the Hospital.

There has been a monthly check up of Synagogue appurtenances by a small group of Guild members, and where necessary, repairs have been carried out.

Thanks are due to all the committee who have supported the various projects undertaken by the Guild.

Thanks are also due to the Honorary Officers and Board of Management of the Synagogue for use of the Hall and rooms for our meetings and functions.

HAMMERSMITH & WEST KENSINGTON SYNAGOGUE RELIGION CLASSES

Following the secession in October, 1966, of Shepherds Bush Synagogue from the Western Area Regional Classes, we decided to revert back to our original designation as the Hammersmith and West Kensington Synagogue Religion Classes. Despite our independent status, Wimbledon Federation Synagogue is continuing to send its children to our classes, and the Putney (United) Synagogue is retaining its primary class for the time being in affiliation with our centre. It is our privilege to provide Hebrew and Religious Education for all Jewish children irrespective of synagogal affiliation.

A reorganisation of the classes under the supervision of Reverend S. Venitt has now taken place. We are glad to welcome to our teaching staff, Mr. S. Cohen, who is imbued with a traditional Jewish approach and able to impart religious knowledge to our children with a spirit of youthful idealism and invigorating orthodoxy.

The annual Chanukah Service under the expert direction of Reverend S. Forscher was held in the synagogue on Sunday, 11th December, 1966. Our juvenile officiants gave an excellent rendering, the Mincha Service being taken by Ian Tysh and the festival melodies intoned by John Clark, Graham Verby, Richard Brown and David Marks. Readings from the Psalms and the historical records of the Maccabees were given by Angela Hodes, Adrienne Arram, Susan Williams, Lorraine Smith and Norma Neufeld.

We are proud to announce that John Simmonds and Karen Beth, our two entrants for the senior grade examination of the London Board in March, 1967, were both successful, John additionally winning a valuable book prize. Incidentally we are delighted to note that Malcolm Venitt has won the Ellis Franklin Memorial Prize and Ruth Forscher a book prize in the same senior examination.

The Annual Prize Distribution took place on Sunday, March 26th, 1967, in the Hammersmith Synagogue Hall. Our Senior Warden, Mr. Moss Amias, together with Mrs. Amias were the guests of honour. With piquant phrase and priceless anecdote, Mr. Amias enlivened the Purim spirit of the occasion. He made a fervent appeal to parents in the crowded audience to participate in all religious pursuits and synagogal activities in order to encourage their children on the highway of traditional Judaism. He stressed the outstanding facilities for the acquisition of Religious and Hebrew knowledge available now for the children of our generation compared with the difficulties of the past.

THE HAMMERSMITH SYNAGOGUE PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

Our Parents' Association (although diminishing in numbers) still continues with the worthwhile cause of arranging teas, functions and entertainment for the benefit of the children of our community.

During the past year we have had several functions: On the 3rd April, 1966, the Model Seder was held, in which most of the children participated. The few parents who took the trouble to attend agreed that the children did it very well. On Sunday, 11th December, 1966, a Chanukah service was held, followed by a tea for the children, then the children presented a play called "Chanukah Gelt." This was extremely well done, and our thanks to Mrs. Williams for all her hard work. (Her reward was being elected the new chairman of our Association.)

Once again our annual outing was held in the winter, and a party of 35 children were taken to see "Sleeping Beauty on Ice." This was extremely successful.

This year we celebrated Purim with Prize-Giving. Tea was arranged for the children after the prize distribution, and then the children gave an impromptu concert.

More Parents are urgently needed to join our Association, which meets about nine times a year, so if you would like to join, please contact our Chairman or Secretary.

RITA VERBY. RENown 3731.

SOLOMON WOLFSON JEWISH SCHOOL

Strong efforts are being made to enable children in the Western Area of London to attend the Solomon Wolfson Jewish School, and to enjoy the benefits of a Jewish Primary Day School.

The school caters for infants and junior (ages 5 to 11). The present roll of the school is 270. If you are interested, will you please contact Rev. Venitt (who is one of the managers).

It is hoped that all who have children within the age group will attend a meeting to be held at the Ealing Synagogue on Tuesday, May 16th, at 8.15 p.m. One of the main items to be considered will be the possibility of running a coach service. The Headmaster of the school has indicated that he will be present at the meeting to answer any questions that may be raised.

JUDAISM AND THE CHIEF RABBINATE

(LECTURES 1966/67)

The brilliant series of lectures given during the autumn of 1966 by Rabbi Dr. J. J. Ross served the distinctive purpose of crystallising the tremendous truths and the affirmation of our faith. The title for the course, "Judaism and the Modern Man," was culled from a book of the same name by the modern Jewish philosopher, Will Herberg.

Rabbi Dr. Ross was able to give us a penetrating insight into some of the outstanding issues of Judaism, with illuminating extracts from the great Jewish sages, Saadia Gaon, Jehuda Halevi, Maimonides and others. His lectures on Revelation, the Torah, Kashruth, the Sabbath, the Hereafter, were particularly scintillating and revealed facets of Jewish knowledge which could hardly be appreciated at an early stage of one's life and which strengthened our recognition of our great spiritual heritage. The happy and purposeful life can be achieved by the fulfilment of the precepts of the Torah and this is the supreme task of man in his approach to an understanding of God.

The historic event of the induction of our new Chief Rabbi, Dr. Immanuel Jacobovits, on 11th April, 1967, has aroused the interest of world Jewry and in particular the Jewish inhabitants of Great Britain. His elevation to high Rabbinic office takes place at a time of great Jewish challenge. There are many problems relating to Jewish tradition and usage which must be resolved so that we can go forward into the future with courage and optimism.

Three centuries have now elapsed since the return of Jewry to these shores. During this period of time, the relationship between the Sefardim and Ashkenazim, and the ecclesiastic control of their respective communities in this country, have played a significant role in the religious and cultural development of the Anglo-Jewish community.

We are privileged to present a series of two interfestival lectures by outstanding exponents on so topical a subject:

Tuesday, May 16th: "The Office of the Haham" (by Mr. Edgar Samuel, Fellow of the Jewish Historical Society).

Tuesday, May 23rd: "The Chief Rabbinate" (by Mr. S. S. Levin, Vice-President of United Synagogue).

All congregants and friends are warmly invited to participate in these informative and historic addresses.

YOUTH COMMITTEE

The principal event connected with youth work in the community during the past year, has been the forming of a sponsoring committee to organise the building of a Jewish Youth Centre in West London. In the September issue of "The Brook" a long article was published setting out the objectives and enumerating the progress made.

Since then the sponsoring committee has been recognised as a charity and registered as such with the Department of Education and Science. Several Borough Youth Committees have promised to participate in a building grant, in the event of the Department of Education and Science accepting the application. These Borough Youth Committees include: Hammersmith, Kensington and Chelsea, Paddington, etc.

During November, 1966, a Launching Party was held in our Synagogue Hall. There were over 180 people present and the evening was a great success, socially, financially and in terms of public relations. On March 19th last, a Gala Variety Show was held at the Acton Town Hall. A number of well-known professional artists gave their services free. Nearly 900 people attended and over £1,000 was raised for the project. However, this function was not only a financial, but also a social success and it was unanimously agreed that it was a wonderful show. A large number of our community were present and the Guests of Honour were Mayors and Mayoresses of six West London Boroughs.

This large and unique project has every symptom of becoming a reality in the not too distant future. For all those who would like to know more about this Youth Centre, please contact me at telephone number 373-7171.

During the early part of 1966 the Wessix Jewish Youth Club closed its doors. This was the only youth club based on this Synagogue. A thorough investigation was made in order to find the reasons for closing down this club. A management committee was formed consisting of the Rev. Venitt, Mr. Stuart Soloway, Mr. Andre Douek and Mr. David H. Velleman, all of whom are experienced youth leaders. It is hoped that before the end of this year a new and strong Wessix club will again be functioning in the Community. The committee are preparing a management scheme for the club and are endeavouring to find some possible leaders. A new sports, social and cultural programme will be discussed during the next few weeks. It is the intention to open the club again during next September at the end of the summer school holidays. Some progress has also been made with negotiations which were commenced some time ago, with a few small youth clubs in the area, in order to merge them with Wessix, thus making this a really substantial club. In any event the date for a Grand Opening of the new club will be announced to all young people in the area, in due course.

Those wishing for more information, should contact any of the above named gentlemen. The age group served will be from approximately 14-21.

This club could in time well form the nucleus of the new Youth Centre, but in the intervening 3 or 4 years should serve the need of our youth in the area.

DAVID H. VELLEMAN, Chairman, Youth Committee.

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Our 15th Birthday was celebrated with a combined birthday and Chanucah party. Among the guests were representatives from the Ladies' Guild and neighbouring Clubs. Rev. Venitt gave a short address and Rev. Forscher kindled the Lights. Every member received a Chanucah gift.

The weekly meetings are fully attended and members continue to enjoy a variety of activities including quiz sessions, Bingo, entertainment, outings to the theatre (at reduced rates) and to the seaside.

Two outstanding events took place. We had a surprise visit from Mrs. Ingram of the B.B.C. Television Service to talk to members informally and to consult them on their views about the programmes. She expressed her praise for the lively and interesting contributions made and at a later date some of the members took part in the B.B.C.2 "Late Line Up" programme. The other event was when members of the European Jewish Community Services for the elderly visited us. We were very proud that our Club was chosen. The delegates were extremely impressed by the impromptu programme put on for them and very grateful for the reception they received.

Visiting the sick is a regular routine feature which is greatly appreciated.

Our sincere thanks to the Board of Management who so readily place the Synagogue Hall and amenities at our disposal.

MILDRED LEVY, Chairman.

The Sponsoring Committee of the West London Jewish Youth Centre has arranged a Dance at Greenford Synagogue on Sunday, 18th June. Tickets from Mr. D. H. Velleman or Committee.

WEST LONDON ZIONIST SOCIETY

During the year two film shows were given, but the highlight was undoubtedly a Brains Trust with a very distinguished panel. The guests were Miss Beatrice J. Barwell, Mr. Chaim Pinner and Dr. Ben Bard, with Mr. Harry Bayes as question-master. The evening proved both entertaining and instructive.

WEST LONDON YOUNG ZIONIST SOCIETY

The past few months have been full of activity for West London Young Zionist Society (18-25 years). The regular Monday meeting has been varied and interesting. Highlights have been a lecture with slides on Massada by the Chairman of the Massada Volunteers Society, a brains trust, and a talk by Mr. Sidney Shipton, LL.B., an Honorary Vice-President of the Federation of Zionist Youth (to which West London Y.Z.S. is affiliated), on the problems currently facing Israel.

Apart from this the Society has held a very successful education weekend at the David Eder Farm in Sussex, and also became the winners of the F.Z.Y. 1966-67 Quiz. Undoubtedly the most important event was the Folk Concert at the Royal Festival Hall on Sunday, 8th January, in the presence of His Excellency the Israeli Ambassador. This charity concert which was a tremendous success starred Robin Hall and Jimmie MacGregor, and was compared most amusingly by Alfred Marks. Together with a Souvenir Brochure and a national F.Z.Y. Raffle nearly £2,800 was raised towards the F.Z.Y. project in Israel—a children's library in Eilat.

New members to West London Young Zionist Society are always welcome, and should contact Ros at RIC 6867 for further details.

WEST SIDE HAFINJAN

This Youth Zionist Society caters for the 14-17 group. They have been meeting regularly on Sundays at 7.30 p.m., for lectures, debates and socials. Apart from this, they have engaged in a wide range of activities. They assisted greatly in the promotion of the Folk Concert at the Festival Hall. In December, they held their own Weekend Educational Seminar at Seaford. They also succeeded in winning the Debating Contest of the Federation of Zionist Youth, their representatives being Joshua Rozenberg and David Diamond. Members usually transfer to the West London Young Zionist Society on reaching the age of 18. The present Hon. Sec. is Miss Julia Lynn (WAXlow 4123), to whom enquiries should be made. Her address is 31 Jeymer Drive, Greenford, Middlesex.

WEST LONDON JEWISH YOUTH STUDY GROUP

A part of the nation-wide Jewish Youth Study Groups, West London is only six years old but the movement dates back to the last war.

There are twice yearly schools at Carmel College with study and lectures as accentuated as the social activities. There are reunions and inter-functions also arranged but otherwise West London is on its own.

It meets on Sundays at 5.15 p.m. in the Herbert Samuel Hall near Queensway Station. The meeting is split into two halves. The first half is a study course for the term. Last term there were also Hebrew lessons. This term we intend to take the book "This Is My God," as a rough basis for study.

The second half is a varied programme including a social, debates, discussions and guest speakers. We have had such names as Mrs. Ruth Winston-Fox, Rev. W. W. Simpson, Mr. Moshe Davis, speakers from various embassies, Mr. H. Meyer from AJEX, Rev. Venitt and many others, too numerous to mention. Also, we learn Hebrew songs and dances, and the Ruach in that alone is well worth coming for.

The group is led by the youth with a small committee; but no adults. The meetings recommence on May 7th and I hope to see some new faces.

CLIVE A. LAWTON (Chairman)

HAMISHMERET HATZEIRA

A few months ago an organisation was formed in Manchester and in several areas in London to stimulate interest in Jewish affairs among the over 18s. A small discussion group was formed in the West London area in January, and meets once a fortnight. Each meeting is informal, and free discussion is encouraged on the subject proposed. Topics included so far have been "Our Beliefs," "The Story of Purim," and "The Shabbat."

The groups combined recently for a seminar at Carmel College. Over fifty attended.

For details of future meetings and activities please contact Mr. Leslie Venitt (603-4938), Chairman.

"JEWISH WOMAN"

I feel that it is most appropriate at the end of Jewish Book Week, to draw the attention of all Jewish women readers to the publication of a new monthly magazine.

With the appearance of the first issue of "Jewish Woman," the great need for a family magazine has been satisfied, and I want to emphasise the word "family," for much of the flavour, and content is of interest, not only to we women, but to our husbands and children also.

This venture is the brain-child of two former members of our Community, Sydney and Cynthia Goodman, who have, for a long time, felt the need for such an innovation, and have now put their ideas into practice. They have managed to gather together a team of expert advisers, and contributors, whose names are well known in the Anglo-Jewish Community. These men and women are all well qualified to write about the many facets, and trends of Jewish life today, coming as they do from a wide cross-section of Anglo-Jewry. As the Magazine's Editorial points out, its policy has no political bias, whether it be National or Religious.

Up to the present time, Jewish magazines have been confined either to local communities, or to a section of the community whose opinions they wish to represent. Alternatively, they have been affiliated to charitable organisations whose cause they are meant to further. Even the "Jewish Chronicle" has been unable to provide at most, more than a couple of pages, weekly, of particular interest to women.

Now, at last, for the very first time, the thousands of Jewish women within this country, have a magazine of their own, containing not just a page or two of recipes, or reports about meetings and coffee mornings, but a magazine full of a wide variety of features, including fiction, fashion, health and beauty care, educational articles, and interviews with famous Jewish personalities, as well as travel, cookery, and even a crossword puzzle, and this is by no means the full extent of the first issue which runs to 32 pages, with an attractive cover, and lay-out.

I look forward with great interest to further issues, and I consider that the 2s. per copy, or the annual subscription rate of 35s. is money well spent. I understand that the Magazine will be on sale at most bookstalls throughout the country, but to be sure of a regular copy, you can apply to the Circulation Manager, 32, Crossways, Sutton, Surrey.

I feel that this is another step in the right direction for the emancipation of Jewish women, and furthermore, I feel that we should ensure the success of "Jewish Woman" by making it the voice of each and every one of us, and this we can do by giving it our complete and wholehearted support.

JEAN H. CAPLAN.

THE HAMMERSMITH NORWOOD ORPHAN AID SOCIETY

The Hammersmith Norwood Orphan Aid Society has a long and honourable tradition in raising funds to assist the Norwood Homes for Jewish Children (The Jewish Orphanage). The Committee of the Society under the able Chairmanship of Dr. M. D. Caplan has had to cease its activities owing to the many other communal commitments of its members. It would indeed be tragic if financial support from Hammersmith for Jewish deprived children were to cease and yet this is inevitable unless another Chairman can be found who would reform the nucleus of a new Committee.

On behalf of the children of The Norwood Homes, therefore, I appeal to someone to volunteer to fulfil this important function.

The Norwood Homes maintain and care for about a thousand Jewish children (residential and non-residential). Children from broken homes—whose parents have been charged at Court with cruelty or neglect, children virtually abandoned by their parents, illegitimate children, children whose mothers are in hospital suffering from incurable diseases—all these, the innocent victims of circumstances beyond their control, look to the Community for a chance in life which is their due. The children arrive psychologically battered and bewildered by being uprooted from what they imagined was the security of their home, but once installed into the calm Jewish atmosphere of one of our family houses and under the care of a devoted Housemother, their sense of security is restored and they face the future with anticipation rather than with apprehension.

Wherever possible we render financial assistance to enable the parent to keep the child at home because, as devoted as our Housemothers are, there is really no substitute for a natural mother.

When a child leaves one of our homes, every assistance is given for further education to University level. For those who enter employment at school leaving age, we find them jobs suitable to their capabilities, foster homes if they have no home of their own to which to return, and we supplement their earnings until they become self-supporting. In this connection an Annual Report of about eighty years ago included the following: "It is not envisaged that children leaving the Institution can aspire to anything other than tailoring or cabinet-making for the boys or domestic service for the girls." How different is the picture today when among our former scholars we find so many who have succeeded in business, University Professors, authors, playwrights and a Member of Parliament.

In 1964 Norwood assumed financial responsibility for the children previously maintained by the Jewish Welfare Board, thus avoiding the duplication of effort and money which had been taking place. The result is a considerable financial deficit for Norwood consequent on the large increase in our "family" with the

enormous compensation to the Community of the creation of a fully comprehensive welfare service for deprived Jewish children briefly described in this article.

On behalf of the Norwood Homes, I thank Dr. M. D. Caplan and his Committee for their untiring efforts in aid of our children for so many years and I repeat the hope that a successor will volunteer and contact me to discuss the matter.

BEN MOSS, Secretary, GIPsy Hill 5818/9.

HAMMERSMITH & DISTRICT BRANCH OF AJEX

The Hammersmith and District Branch of the Association of Jewish Ex-Servicemen and Women has had a most successful year. Membership has grown steadily, together with an increased interest in cultural, communal and social activities.

Under the active Chairmanship of Mr. C. Hyams, the Branch participated in several Civic Parades, sent a large contingent to the Annual Remembrance Parade at the Cenotaph and provided many volunteers to assist in several hospitals at Christmas.

The Branch assisted financially a number of charities during the year, including donations to the AJEX Charitable Trust and to the Star & Garter Home, Richmond.

The year culminated in the Annual Dinner and Ball, when members and friends had a most enjoyable evening.

The Branch is looking forward to providing an even better programme for the forthcoming year.

At the A.G.M., Mr. Cecil Hyams was re-elected Chairman.

Any ex-serviceman or woman who has not yet become a member of AJEX should contact the Hon. Sec., Norman A. Mann, 61 Clifford Avenue, East Sheen, S.W.14. PRO 3049.

AN INTERESTING DISCOVERY

Rummaging in the safe the other day, the Secretary came across an object of great historic value to the synagogue. It was a gavel in ivory with this inscription:

"Presented by Henry Worms to the Hammersmith and West Kensington Synagogue Kislew 21st 5656—December 8th, 1895."

The day it was found was Kislew 21st!

The gavel is now used regularly at Board Meetings.

ORGANISATIONS

Hammersmith Synagogue Ladies' Guild. Meets first Tuesday evening in the month in the Communal Hall. For information Tel.: 603 4938.

Hammersmith Synagogue Parents' Assn. Hon. Sec.: Mrs. S. Vorby, 45 Ranelagh Gardens Mansions, S.W.6. Tel.: REN 3731.

Hammersmith Friendship Club. Meets every Wednesday in the Communal Hall. Chairman: Mrs. H. M. Levy, 212 Goldhawk Road, W.12. Tel.: 743 3276.

Hammersmith and District Women's Zionist Society. Hon. Sec.: Mrs. L. R. Longhorn, 24 Linkenholt Mansions, Stamford Brook, W.6. Tel.: RIV 8577.

Hammersmith, Shepherds Bush & Chelsea District Defence Committee (under the auspices of Board of Deputies of British Jews). Enquiries at: Jewish Board of Deputies, Woburn House, Upper Woburn Place, W.C.2.

Hammersmith and West Kensington Branch of the Norwood Charity Trust. Hon. Sec.: Miss R. Longhorn, 24 Linkenholt Mansions, Stamford Brook, W.6. Tel.: RIV 8577.

West London Jewish Youth Centre, Sponsoring Committee, Hammersmith, representative, Mr. D. H. Velleman, 125a Earls Court Road, S.W.5. Tel. 01-373 7171.

West London Jewish Youth Club. Enquiries to Mr. D. H. Velleman, 125a Earls Court Road, S.W.5. Tel. 01-373 7171.

West London Zionist Society. Enquiries to Hon. Sec. Miss R. Longhorn. Tel.: RIV 8577.

West London Young Zionist Society. Enquiries to Chairman, Miss Rosalind Bayes, Tel.: RUC 6667.

West Side Halutzim. Enquiries to Hon. Sec., Miss Julia Lynn, 31 Jeymer Drive, Greenford, Middx. Tel.: WAX 4123.

Hamishmeret Hatzeira—Forum for Discussions on Jewish Topics for the Over 18's. All enquiries to Mr. Leslie Venitt. 603 4938.

Jewish Lads' Brigade—Hammersmith Coy. All enquiries to Brigade Secretary: Woburn House, Upper Woburn Place, W.C.1. Tel.: EUS 5148.

Association of Jewish Ex-Service Men and Women (Hammersmith and District Branch). Hon. Sec.: Councillor Norman Mann, 61 Clifford Avenue, S.W.14. Tel.: PRO 3049.

Hammersmith and West Kensington Synagogue Library. Hon. Sec. and Librarian: Miss R. Longhorn, 24 Linkenholt Mansions, W.6. Tel.: RIV 8577.

TIMES OF SERVICES

WEEKDAYS

Morning 7.30 a.m.
Evening By arrangement.

SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

8.30 a.m.

SABBATHS AND FESTIVALS

Evening 15 minutes after the commencement of
Sabbath.
During Summer Months, 7.0 p.m.
Morning 9.30 a.m.

Hammersmith Synagogue Religion Classes

(Supt.: Rev. S. Venitt, B.A.)

Classes meet every—

| | | | | |
|----------|-----|-----|-----|-------------------------|
| Sunday | ... | ... | ... | 10.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. |
| Tuesday | ... | ... | ... | 5.00 p.m. to 6.30 p.m. |
| Thursday | ... | ... | ... | 5.00 p.m. to 6.30 p.m. |

The Secretary can be seen any Sunday morning between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. and by appointment.

The Ministers can be seen by appointment.

Rev. S. VENITT, B.A., 69, Brook Green, W.6.
603 4938.

Rev. S. FORSCHER, 70, Brook Green, W.6
603 8565.