

The Bristol Jewish Recorder



EDITORIAL COMMITTEE:

HAROLD SEYMOUR
BETTE BURKE
SAM SILVERMAN

All communications to

59 The Dell,
Westbury-on-Trym.

Published on the 1st of every
month. Material to arrive on the
24th of the month preceding.

SEPTEMBER 1968

ELUL 5728

BRISTOL HEBREW CONGREGATION THE SYNAGOGUE, PARK ROW, BRISTOL

Synagogue Services:

Friday Evenings 7.30 p.m.
Saturday Mornings 10.0 a.m.

Minister:

Rev. M. Modell,
66 Harcourt Road,
Bristol 6.
Tel.: 40615

Hon. Sec. Dr. S. Curwen,
77 Parry's Lane,
Stoke Bishop,
Bristol 9.
Tel: 69-3033

Talmud Torah Classes - Sunday
Mornings 10.0 a.m. - 12.45 p.m.
Hon. Sec. A. Elliman,
12 Paulton Drive,
Bristol 6.
Tel: 41022

Bristol Jewish Women's Guild,
Hon. Sec. Mrs. C. Culank,
113 Nags Head Hill,
St. George, Bristol 5.

Bristol W.I.Z.O. Group,
Hon. Sec Mrs. B. Burke,
4 Downs Cote View,
Westbury-on-Trym.
Bristol.

Both Ladies Organisations hold
regular meetings and functions
throughout the year.

for your diary . . .

Mon. Sept 9th 1968
Women's Guild Evening
Meeting 7.30 p.m.

Tues Sept 17th 1968
W.I.Z.O. Morning Meeting
10.30 a.m.

MESSAGE FOR NEW YEAR 1968/5729

We are again at the threshold of a new Year in our Jewish Calendar. The month of Ellul with its daily sounding of the Shofar concluding with the Selichot days are regarded in our Jewish Literature as a time of recording our life in the past year. As it is the practice in many business establishments to carry out a "stocktaking" of all the goods in possession, so we have a similar act in our spiritual life.

Unfortunately, as the spiritual balance sheet in our community here in Bristol has shown a considerable decline in our attitude towards our Jewish way of life at home and especially in our attendance at the services in our Synagogue, what can we expect from our young generation if we do not show an example and inspire our children? Let us make a new resolution and bring back to our homes the old traditional way of life.

The Jewish Year 5728 has shown a continuation of the steadfast determination of the Jewish People in the State of Israel to defend its conquered territory during the six days war, in spite of terrorist activity.

We hope that the nations of the World will see in Israel a State working not only for the benefit of the Jewish People in the World, but for peaceful co-operation with mankind. Let us approach the solemn season of the High Festivals of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur with the famous words of Psalm 27 which we are now daily reciting: "WAIT FOR THE LORD; BE STRONG, AND LET THY HEART TAKE COURAGE, YEA WAIT FOR THE LORD."

With these words I would like to extend to the Hon. Officers and Members of the Bristol Community, our best wishes for a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year.

LESHANAH TOVAH TIKATEVU

Rev. & Mrs. Moddel & Susan

Yahrzeits

Wednesday 4th Sept	Dr. Howard	Elul 11
Sunday 8th Sept	Mr. A. Malin	Elul 15
Wednesday 18th Sept	Mr. H. Campbell	Elul 25
Thursday 19th Sept	Miss P. Nathan	Elul 26
Tuesday 1st Oct	Mrs. Culank	Tishri 9
Wednesday 2nd Oct	Garcia Bros.	Tishri 10

KADDISH WILL BE SAID THE PREVIOUS EVENING

The Memorial Prayer (El Mole Rachamim) will be recited by the Minister, during the Reading of the Law, on the Sabbath prior to the Yahrzeit, in the presence of the bereaved.

COMMUNAL NOTICES

We congratulate Philip Meisbeiser who has attained the degree of B.Sc Honours in Microbiology and is now to read for his Doctorate of Philosophy at Cambridge University.

We congratulate Michael Howard, son of Dr. and Mrs. H.I. Howard, who has obtained an Honours Degree in Jurisprudence at Oxford University. We wish him every success in his future career.

Mr. E. Kolson of Sunderland will be "Ba'al Musaf" during the coming High Festivals to assist Rev. Modell.

The July Lottery was won by Mrs. Kate Lever.

Mr. & Mrs. Henry Springer are pleased to announce the Barmitzva of their younger son, Glen, on Saturday 7th September. All members of the community are cordially invited to take Kiddush with them after the service.

We are very sorry to learn that Mrs. Bertha Rosenberg has recently had an operation at the Homeopathic Hospital. We wish her a full and speedy recovery.

Mazeltov to Mr. & Mrs. Alfred Gee who have recently celebrated their Ruby Wedding Anniversary and also to Mr. & Mrs. J. Ginsberg who have also celebrated their Ruby Wedding Anniversary.

The Council recently discussed ways and means of improving Synagogue attendance. The action taken resulted in the following correspondence between the Hon. Sec. Dr. S. Curwen and Rev. Modell. We print it in its entirety for the Community as a whole to read, mark and digest.

7th July 1968

Dear Reverend Moddel,

The Council are deeply concerned at lack of attendance on Friday evening and Sabbath morning services. After considerable discussion at today's meeting, they have asked me to write you instructing you to call on certain members of the congregation. You are asked to bring this serious state of affairs to the notice of the congregants and to inform them that unless we get a regular minyan on Friday evenings and Sabbath mornings, the Council will be obliged to consider cessation of services altogether.

In the first instance, I send you the names and addresses of twelve members and I should be grateful if you would kindly report progress in three weeks time.

Would you kindly acknowledge receipt of this letter.

Kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

S. CURWEN

10th July 1968

Dear Dr. Curwen,

Thank you for your letter dated the 7th instant. I wonder sometimes what I could do to bring our Congregation not only to the Service but also generally closer together. You sent me a list of Congregants you selected to be visited by me. I can assure you that I have visited some Congregants at all times. Naturally, I have gone to those I thought mostly in need of a visit and those who would welcome a visit by me. I do not think it is so important to visit those who are attending Service or are active in the Congregation, but those who are ill, infirm, or have lost contact with us.

You say in your letter that the Council is considering cessation of Services altogether. I do not think that you or any other member of the Council could support any such proposal or thought, as any person supporting such motion, would go down in the Jewish History of Bristol in a way none of you would like to be remembered as. No person will go to a Service because they have been visited by the minister, but attendance should come from the most inner desire to worship God, to live a full Jewish life. It is rather expecting something from any Minister to inject this spirit in grown up people, who never had any close aspect of a religious life, when it is so difficult to put this spirit into young children even when they come to Cheder, where one only can teach of Judaism, but the really religious spirit comes from the parents, the home and the example set by their elders. This is in every family the case, your children will be what they have seen and been brought up to at home, the same applies to any Congregation.

The Officers and Members of the Council are, in fact, the parents of the Congregation. I am not criticising, but it is my honest opinion that if our Officers and members of the Council would only set the example to the Congregation by regular attendance, it would not take long for others to follow their example, and from there we could then go further to get the real Jewish home life, the rest would come all by itself, and in ten years time, we would have a congregation as we have long dreamed about.

No Synagogue should ever be closed, the doors of the House of God should always be open to those who wish to enter for prayers. It is not a theatre or cinema with notices House Full, it is not a place for performance or public entertainment, but a place of worship and prayer for those who have the religious need and desire to do so.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

M. MODDEL

BRISTOL WIZO GROUP

New Years Greeting Brochure

We are once again producing a New Years Brochure with messages of greetings. The minimum charge is 10/6d and all those who wish to be included should communicate with Mrs. Curwan or Miss Blohm as soon as possible.

Autumn Jumble Sale

Our coming Jumble Sale will be held on Wednesday 23rd October. We should be glad to have as many helpers as possible to ensure that this one makes more money than the last. All jumble should be delivered to Synagogue House.

Please note that the September 17th Tuesday meeting will now be a morning meeting at Mrs. Lever's, 27 Reedley Road, Stoke Bishop at 10.30 a.m.

BETTE BURKE
(Hon. Sec.)

THE BRISTOL JEWISH WOMEN'S GUILD

The opening meeting of the new season will take place on Monday evening, September 9th at the home of Mrs. Sacof, 4 Rocklease.

This will be a 'Bring and Buy', and we shall look forward to seeing all our members and also welcoming new members.

Mrs. C. CULANK
(Hon. Sec.)

BRISTOL TALMUD TORAH

Classes will re-commence on Sunday 8th September. We are sorry to announce that Miss Jacky Charles will not be resuming teaching duties she has carried out so ably, owing to the fact that next year she is studying for her 'O' level examinations.

She has been an able and well-liked teacher. Her children will miss her, as will we of the Committee, and take this opportunity to thank her very sincerely for her past services, and to wish her the best luck with her examinations.

H. SEYMOUR
(Chairman)

THE BRISTOL JEWISH BURIAL SOCIETY

The annual memorial service will be held at Ridgeway Cemetery on Sunday September 15th at 3.00 p.m.