

The Bristol Jewish Recorder



JUNE. 1977.

SIVAN 5737

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

Bette BURKE

Nat SMITH

All communications to
160, Cranbrook Road, or,
12, Great Bockeridge.

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month. Material to arrive on
the 24th of the month preceding.

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. Meddel,

66, Harcourt Road,

Bristol 6.

Tel:- 40615

Talmud Torah Classes:- Sunday mornings.
10.00 a.m. to 12.45 p.m.

Hon. Sec. Mrs. K. Balint-Kurti
42, Kewstoke Road,
BRISTOL 9.

Tel: 681714

Bristol Jewish Ladies Guild:-

Hon. Sec. Mrs. L. Springer.
"Midfields"
Frome Road,
Writhlington, Avon. Tel: Radstock 3440.

Bristol W.I.Z.O. Group.

Hon. Sec. Mrs. S. Tobias.
23, Pentland Avenue,
Chiltern Park.
Thornbury.
Bristol.

Tel: 93412831

FOR YOUR DIARY -----

Sunday, June 5th.

Talmud Torah - Half Term.

Tuesday, June 7th.

JUBILEE GARDEN PARTY

"Midfields". Writhlington. 3.00p.m.

Wednesday June 15th.

JUMBLE SALE.

Thursday, June 16th.

ZIONIST MEETING.

32, Downs Park East.

8.00 p.m.

Monday, June 20th.

WOMENS GUILD.

7, Chartley.

2.00 p.m.

Tuesday, June 21st.

COUNCIL MEETING.

8.00 p.m.

Sunday, June 26th.

CAR RALLY.

2.p.m.

DR. SYDNEY CURWEN C.B.E.

Mrs. Ruth Curwen and Family wish to express their sincere thanks to all the members of the Congregation for their many kind expressions of condolence she received in her sad bereavement. In particular she is grateful to Rev. Moddel for so ably and movingly conducting the Service, to Gerald Gee for his letters on behalf of the Bristol Association of Jewish Ex-Servicemen, and of the J.I.A. Committee, to Irene Springer for her message of sympathy on behalf of the Bristol Jewish Womens Guild, and lastly to the Bristol Chevra Kedusha for their kindness and help.

Mrs. Curwen would also like to thank the members of the Bristol W.I.Z.O. for all that they did to comfort and sustain her in her hour of grief.

If we were to misquote a line of verse from YIGDAL and say that there will not rise again in the Bristol Community a man like Dr. Sydney Curwen, the Congregation might at first think that this is a gross exaggeration. But let us consider what Sydney (as he was to everybody) meant to this community. He held every office on the Council except Treasurer, he taught in the Cheder in his last year of Presidency, when he knew his days were numbered.

As President, Sydney and Ruth always searched out any new-comers to Bristol, entertained them, and made certain that they were introduced to the members of the congregation as soon as possible.

As if this were not enough, Sydney was always available for medical advice and encouragement. Many have been the patients of our congregation who received just that much more attention because Dr. Curwen had visited them. I am certain that Sydney made these visits with this in mind because he was universally liked and respected in all hospitals.

So to return to my first point. Who could replace as complete a congregant as Sydney? His only regret, and great source of disappointment for him, was the lack of support for Shabat Minyanim which was, every time he was President, his fondest hope and ambition.

I feel that I cannot end here without some mention of Ruth Curwen. What Ruth suffered mentally and physically this last 12 months we shall never know. Let no one be deceived by the tough exterior that Ruth shows to the world. I might say now that I was relieved and delighted that Ruth has decided to stay with us for a few years. Perhaps I and the congregation will be able to repay her for Sydney's and her unselfish service to the congregation. Both never rationed themselves - never did I hear either say "I am doing this job let somebody else do that one". Everything was possible as long as the time was there. No! we will never replace Sydney Curwen.

Finally Ruth, may you live for many more years with joy with your growing family and grand daughters, and may we see that enjoyment.

Ike Kushner.

Cont'd...

DR. SYDNEY CURWEN. C.B.E.

May we on behalf of the Joint Israel Appeal Committee in Bristol extend to Ruth and all the family our deepest condolences on the tragic loss of our 'Sydney'.

Dr. Curwen served on the committee as our President for the past 8 years, and it was only through having to leave Bristol that he very reluctantly gave up the post. His work for the State of Israel was an inspiration to us all. At Committee Meetings his leadership was unassailable, his knowledge and advice were there for the asking, and his smile and wit will be sadly missed by us all.

His memory will I am sure inspire not only our Committee but all his friends to make greater efforts on behalf of the State of Israel and we know that in spirit he will still be with us.

Gerald Gee.
Ernest Lever.

25 Years ago I was introduced to a jovial, round-faced character who had moved to Bristol with his wife and family, while I was in the R.A.F. doing my National Service.

Sonia and Arnold Elliman (who are now in Sheffield) were producing a play in the Shool Hall for Purim. I was asked to play one of the parts, and I was introduced to Sydney Curwen who would take another part. Ruth Curwen was to be the musical director - with the aid of the piano. I came away that night with the knowledge that I had made a new friend who had the greatest sense of humour such as I had never met.

During the 25 years I grew to admire Sydney, not just for his humour and his acting ability, but for his great quality of leadership.

The Annual Parade for Jewish Ex-Servicemen in London was an occasion that Sydney was always proud to attend. He led us as Contingent Commander many times. Sometimes out of step, sometimes taking his hat off when it should have been left on, and sometimes marching so far ahead of us that he almost joined the Battalion in front, but he was loved by everyone on Parade and there was not a person who did not respect him. The Shool and it's welfare was always in the front of his mind, and last year I was fortunate enough and honoured to be Vice President to his Presidency. Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur sitting next to Sydney in the Wardens box, was an experience I shall never forget, and his guidance and help during the year is a memory I shall always have with me.

Council Meetings with Sydney in the chair making his witty little remarks were pleasant ways of spending an evening once a month. Behind the scenes Sydney was also very active doing many jobs that few people ever knew about.

Continued on next page.

DR. SYDNEY CURWEN. C.B.E.

I think the best way to end this tribute to Dr. Sydney Curwen is to quote the words from the opening quotation to all the British Legion meetings. Words that Dr. Curwen quoted many times as Chairman of the Polack Branch.

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old.

Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.

At the going down of the sun, and in the morning, WE
shall remember them.

Dr. Sydney Curwen - You will be remembered.

S.Silverman.

I was shocked by the news of the unexpected illness and passing of Sydney Curwen, who was taken before he had an opportunity to enjoy his retirement. Sydney, in his capacity as President and other offices, was a tower of strength to the Community, and his "Churchillian" deliverances, when the occasion warranted it, were most stirring. I was very proud to serve on Sydney's J.I.A. Committee, but what stands out most in my memory is the occasion when, just prior to my Aliyah in June 1975, Sydney honoured me with the presentation of a certificate that the Zionist Society had purchased trees in Israel in my name. I have always treasured that Certificate, but now it has added significance.

May Ruth and her Family have "Long Life", with the knowledge that her dear husband's spirit remains on this earth, amongst them, and all those who knew him. No one will surpass the service given by Sydney to the Bristol Jewish Community.

Len Hart,
21/31 David Marcus St.
YAHUD.
Israel.

A man with a great community spirit, an immense sense of duty, an impish sense of humour, a depth of kindness and quiet consideration for others. All these, and many other qualities, that was "our Sydney". The Congregations conscience and "anchor man" in, and out of office. His support was never lacking - personal or communal.

That he will be sadly missed is obvious. That the Bristol Hebrew Congregation maintain it's continuity and sense of purpose would be his memorial.

N.b.B.

YAHZITES.

| | | | |
|-----------|-----------|---|----------|
| Wednesday | June 1st. | Family of late Mrs. L. Strimer. | SIVAN 15 |
| Sunday | June 5th. | Mrs. Tonkey. | SIVAN 19 |
| Tuesday | June 7th. | Mr. A.E. Morris. | SIVAN 21 |
| Thursday | June 9th. | Mr. I. Kushner. | SIVAN 23 |
| Monday | July 4th. | Family of late Mr. D.Strimer. Mrs. B. Meisbiser. | TAUZ 18 |

COMMUNAL NOTICES

COUNCIL MEETING

The next Council Meeting will take place on Tuesday, June 21st at 8.p.m.

LOTTERY.

This month's Lottery winner was Mrs. Kate Lever, who will be receiving a cheque for £10.

TALMUD TORAH

There will be a Half Term break on Sunday June 5th. Classes will resume on June 12th.

PROTOCOL

To avoid embarrassment to our Minister, who is our chief representative of Jewish Orthodoxy, Rev. Moddel would be relieved if he were not invited to outside functions on Shabbat.

Ike Kushner.

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

Dr. Harold and Ann Handel invite the Congregation to celebrate with them the Barmitzva of their younger son Jeremy, who will read Maftir and Haftorah on Saturday, July 2nd. Ann & Harold invite members to join them in Kiddush after the service in the Shul Hall.

It is with great regret that we have to announce the departure from our midst of that popular couple David & Miriam Goldman & family, who will leave Bristol for pastures new on July 4th, to work and live in that already overcrowded village called LONDON. They will be sadly missed by their many friends here, as well as by the various organizations. Both Miriam and David have served long stints on the Synagogue Council. Miriam has served many years on the Committees of the Womens Guild and WIZO, and is currently Chairlady of WIZO while David has been one of the stalwarts of Bristol's J.P.A. and later J.I.A.

SOCIAL & PERSONAL. Continued.

appeals Committee and a strong supporter of AJEX. We wish them much luck and happiness in their new home. Certainly Miriam and David will never altogether lose their ties with Bristol, and we hope to hear privately, and perhaps through the Recorder, of their impressions in the "Big City", after more than two decades of residence as "Bristolians".

Stuart Nirenberg would like to thank relatives and many friends for their visits, enquiries, and many cards during his recent stay in Hospital. We are pleased to say that Stuart is recovering well at convalescence in Bournemouth.

A fond farewell (part 2) to Paul & Renee Davidson & Family, who leave Bristol for the wilds of Leeds on June 28th. As friends will know, Paul went ahead to "blaze the trail" some time ago. We wish them all the luck, Health and Happiness in their new home, and hope that they will not lose touch with the many friends they made in the Bristol community.

Miss Rachel Lazarus would like to thank Rev. Moddel for officiating on the occasion of the consecration of the Memorial Stone for her dear sister Miriam, and also to thank her Sister in law, nephew and niece and many friends whose words of condolence and sympathy have been greatly appreciated on her sad loss.

Congratulations to Michael Davidson, who has passed the final part of the Law Society's Examination (Part 2).

Mazel tov to Paul & Shelley Blackstein (London) on the birth of their daughter Sarah Ann, born May 26th, a sister for Simon. Congratulations also to grandparents Minnie & Ike Kushner.

BRISTOL JEWISH WOMEN'S GUILD

Our most grateful thanks to Ruth & Len Gould, for the lovely Sherry morning they provided on Sunday 15th May. The occasion raised £26.25p. The next meeting will be on Monday 20th June at 2.p.m. at the home of Mrs. Roberts, 7 Chartley, The Avenue, Sneyd Park.

JEWISH WOMEN'S WEEK. 24th APRIL - 1st MAY.

We would like to thank all the Jewish women of Bristol who have kindly donated to this most worthy cause. To date we have collected £224. Receipts will be given if specifically requested.

We would be most grateful if the ladies who have not yet sent off their contributions would please do so as soon as possible, as we are anxious to complete our drive.

Irene Berkovitch
(Captain)

Rosina Smith
(Vice Captain).

"THE PRINCE OF PARK ROW"

We are planning to attend a performance (see letter and handbill below) on Wednesday, July 13th. Would interested parties please contact us by Sunday, June 19th.

Irene Springer.

THE PRINCE'S OF PARK ROW

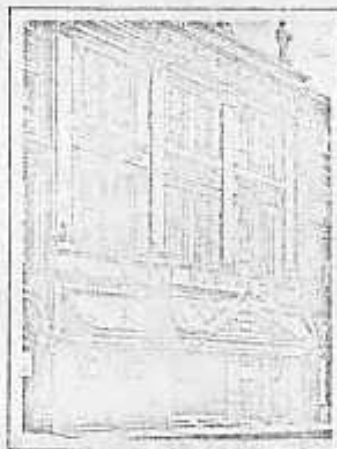
A New Musical Entertainment based on the
History of Bristol's best-loved Theatre.

Directed by
DON CARLETON

MONDAY-SATURDAY

11-16 JULY
at 7.30 pm

TICKETS £1



Musical Director
GEOFF WICKHAM

SATURDAY MATINEE

16 JULY
at 3 pm

TICKETS 50p

SEASON TICKETS FOR BOTH PRODUCTIONS £1.50

For bookings and details of party concessions contact any member of the Mercury Players Company, or the Business Manager: Bob Matthews. Tel 669023 (evenings please).

MERCURY PLAYERS

Business Manager: Mr.R. Matthews,
37 Chessel Street.
BRISTOL. BS3 3DP.

18th May. 1977.

Dear Mrs. Springer,

As you can see from the attached leaflet the Players are staging a history of the old Prince's Theatre which stood in Park Row from 1867 until it was blitzed in 1940.

From research I find that for a great number of years a feature of the Theatre was the annual attendance of the Jewish Community - an evening of great occasion.

When a couple of articles appeared in the Bristol Evening Post about the Players show - last February it created great interest and one or two suggested that the Jewish Community in Bristol may well like to repeat once again one of the special Prince's evenings by visiting one of our performances at the Little Theatre. It was suggested that I approach the Jewish Board of Governors. Alas my research of 1867 is rather more fruitful than my research of 1977 - for I can find only reference to the Bristol Jewish Womens Guild, and according to the records in the Central Library, you are listed as the Secretary, which is why I am now writing to you.

In the event of this letter requiring the attention of another person, I would be glad if you could pass it on. If however it is something you can deal with I look forward to hearing from you.

I shall be happy to let you have any further detail should you require it.

Yours sincerely

(Signed). R. Matthews.

BRISTOL W.I.Z.O. GROUP

A most enjoyable meeting was held on Tuesday, May 17th, at the home of Mrs. I Berkovitch. Mrs.R. Gillman spoke about her trip to Russia last year, and described her meetings with Soviet Jews. Everyone present was most interested. Many thanks to Mrs. Gillman for her most interesting talk.

On a sadder note, we must express our sorrow at the sad loss to Mrs. Ruth Curwen, our past Chairman, of her husband Dr. Sydney Curwen.

The Jumble Sale will be held on Wednesday, June 15th at St. John's Parish Hall.

S.Tobias.
Hon. Sec.

BRISTOL ZIONIST GROUP.THURSDAY. 16TH JUNE. at 8.00 p.m.AN ISRAELI HAWK

DR. A. SHALOM, an Israeli at present working at the Department of Theoretical Chemistry at the University of Bristol, will give a talk entitled "WHAT DOES AN ISRAELI EXPECT FROM ZIONISTS?". This strikes at the very core of our existence and we expect this will provoke a dynamic discussion for as the speaker has said:-

"The contribution of Jews to Western civilisation has been tens of times higher than their proportion to the population; the same applies to their sufferings. Zionism has not remedied the abnormality since it seems that Zionists have not been cured from the wrong assumptions and attitudes that prevented Jews from fighting antisemitism effectively".

Hilary & Archie Kay. 32 Downs Park East. Westbury Park.
Bristol.6. (off North View).

THURSDAY 7TH JULY. at 8.00 p.m.A GUEST FROM JERUSALEM

LUCIEN HARRIS is the Head of the Information Division of the Hadassah Hospital in Jerusalem. He is looking forward to a meeting with the Society at -

Eva & Arnold Levin, 66a Hill View, Henleaze, Bristol

S.O.S. S.O.S. S.O.S. S.O.S. S.O.S. S.O.S. S.O.S. S.O.S.

SPORTSDAY! I never realised that we were so athletic - I must admit Tony Gordon's profile left much to be desired (desired?) - as for Alan's knees - Ike's sweater (I've got my eye on it first - hands off!) - Arnold's Track Suit? - and somebody else's ankle, I suspected it was going to be worse than the Keystone Cops, but the girls, and the more responsible parents made up for it - especially the young adults who were superb particularly Barry Kushner who raised £15, David Silverman who raised £8, Ian Pannell who raised £5 (that man's going to go places), Robert Jason who raised £5.40, and several others who did very well. A special mention to Steven Greenwood - you can stop running now! I must say Alan Tobias excelled himself in raising over £43. It really was great fun, and was clearly enjoyed by one and all.

I was a little disappointed that more of you didn't attend, although regrettably a chicken pox outbreak didn't help - I hope you are all better. YOU raised over £100 (nett) for the Shul.

Well done - and those of you who didn't come - try to make it next time. We need you, and besides, you'll enjoy yourselves.

Continued on next page.

DON'T FORGET!!! JUNE 7TH. FROM 3.00 P.M.

THE GRAND JUBILEE
GARDEN PARTY

AT THE HOME OF

Mr. & Mrs. Springer, "Midfields", Frome Road. Writhlington.
Radstock. Nr. Bristol.

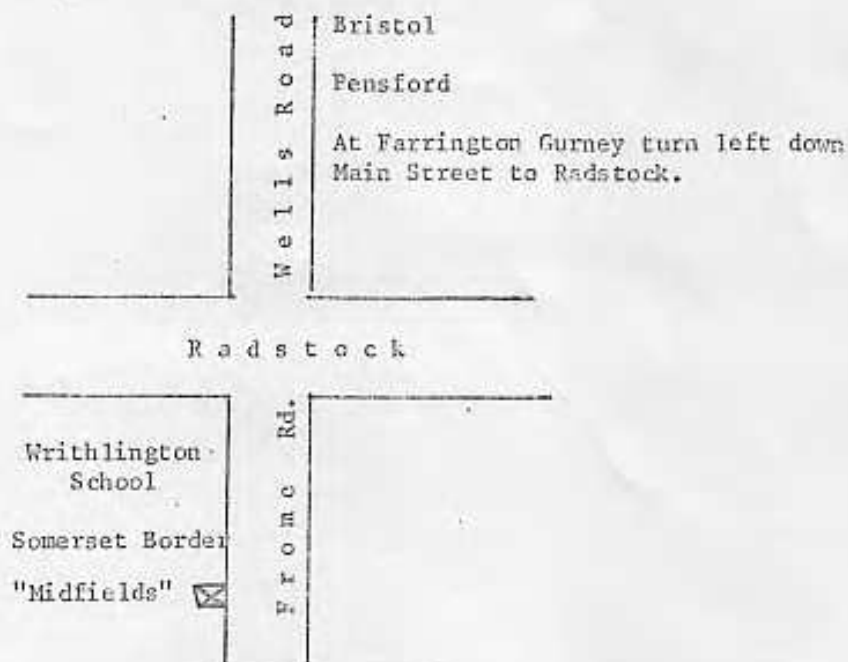
ALL ARE INVITED.....BRING YOUR RELATIVES AND FRIENDS.

THERE WILL BE

SWIMMING - TENNIS - MINIATURE GOLF - SIDE SHOWS -
SOUVENIR STALLS - AND MANY OTHER SURPRISES.

75p. for ADULTS. 25p. for CHILDREN.

HOW TO GET THERE



Telephone: READING (0734) 53978

773

KOSHER BUTCHERS READING

Licensed Kosher Butchers and Poulterers

62, BEDFORD ROAD,
READING.

In order to avoid waiting about we suggest you place your order for Thursday, 26th May, well in advance.

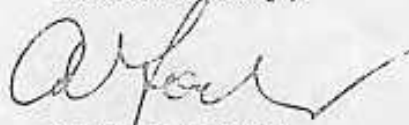
| | | |
|-----------------|--|---------------|
| Wed. June 1st | 11.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m.) | (Normal week) |
| Thurs. June 2nd | 10.30 a.m. - 3.00 p.m.) | |
| Wed. June 8th | CLOSED (No fresh meat or poultry because of Bank Holiday). | |
| Thurs. June 9th | 11.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. | |

And again to avoid waiting about we suggest you place your order well in advance for Thursday, June 9th.

Thereafter, from Wednesday, June 15th we shall again be open every Wednesday from 11.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. and every Thursday from 10.30 a.m. - 3.00 p.m. until further notice.

Assuring you of our best service at all times and wishing you a Happy Yomtov.

Yours sincerely,


.....
E. Fachler

7 Frognal Gardens
Hampstead,
London NW3 6UY

2nd May, 1977

Mr. S. Silverman,
36 Oakdale Court,
Downend,
Bristol

Dear Sam,

British Legion

I was very sad to read in the Recorder that the Polack Branch is being disbanded and would thank you for the very kind remarks about my late father, Simeon Jacobs.

My father, as you would know, had not only the Bristol Jewish Community at heart, but also that of the British Legion, and became County Chairman. He received from them their Certificate of Merit and had a plaque installed to his memory at the Legion Headquarters in Weston-Super-Mare, where I had the honour of participating in the unveiling ceremony.

The Jacobs family has now no ties in Bristol, with the death last year of Rosie Jacobs, but I am pleased to say the "in-laws" are still thriving through the Sacof family. There is, however, a tie still remaining by my representation of Bristol on the Board of Deputies.

The disbandment of the Polack Branch seemed to me to signal the end of an era in Bristol, and a happy one, which I remember as a boy. I do hope that the community will try to keep the same spirit, that then existed, in the years to come, as I do believe that there is a struggle to keep the community together.

Yours sincerely,



Dennis Jacobs

JEWISH OLD AGE HOME. CARDIFF.

Mrs. Marion Woodman is at present collecting for the Old Age Home. She asks that you give as generously as you are able for this worthy cause, bearing in mind the effect of inflation on the gathering of funds, which is becoming increasingly difficult.

Don't forget the Old Age Home Garden Party on JULY 10th.

POETRY SHMOETRY.

Hey diddle diddle,
Fortunate Yiddel
His Daughter is marrying soon,
When he counts the expense,
He hopes they'll have sense,
and elope by the light of the moon!

Three blind mice
See how they run
They all ran down to the grocery store
A regular trip that they've done before
Now there's no Green Shield Stamps they don't run any more
Three blind mice.
