

TEVETH. 5738

DECEMBER 1977.

EDITORIAL COMMINTEE SAM SHVERMAN

NAT SMITH

All communications to 160, Cranbrook Read, er, 36, Oakdale Court, Downend.

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

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BRISTOL HEBREW CONGREGATION THE SYNAGOSUE, PARK ROW, BRISTOL.

Synagogue Services:

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

Minister:

Rev. M. Moddel. 60, 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, Chewstoke Road. BRISTCL.9.

Tel: 681714.

Bristol Jewish Ladies Guild: -

Hon. Sec. Mrs. I. 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

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

FOR YOUR DIARY

Thursday. December 1st.

Letter Writing Group. 7 Woodfield Park.

8.00 p.m.

Sunday, December 4th.

Bristol Zionist Society. WIZO Chanukah Social. 25, Pentlands Avenue.

8.00 p.m.

Monday, December 5th.

B.U.J.A.I.S. Chanukah Party. University Union. 8.00 p.m.

Tuesday December 6th.

Bristol Zionists. 27 Reedley Road.

2.00p.m.

Wednesday, December 7th.

Talmud Torah (Committee Meeting) 42 Chewstoke Road. 8.00 p.m.

Thursday December 8th.

Bristol Zionists. Talk by Jane Moonman. 21 Redland Grove.

8.00 p.m.

Sunday December 11th.

Talmud Torah Chanukah Party. Synagogue Hall. 3.00 p.m.

Wednesday December 14th.

Bristol Womens Guild. Committee Room.

7.30 for S.p.m

Sunday, December 18th.

Council Meeting.

10.15 a.m

YAHRZITES.

Friday, December 2nd.	Messrs. Meyers Bros.	KISLEV 22
Sunday, December 4th. ,	Mr.G.Geller.	KISLEV 24
Thursday, December 8th.	Mr. A. Elliman (Sheffield)	KISLEV 28
Thursday, December 15th.	Mrs. Tuchband	TEVETH 5
Saturday, December 17th.	Mrs. Tuchband	TEVETH 7
Thursday, December 22nd.	Mr. G.Geller.	TEVETH 12
Thursday, December 29th	Mr. D. Cohen.	TEVETH 19
Monday, January 2nd.	Mrs. B. Rosenberg.	TEVETH 23
Wednesday January 4th.	. Mr. A. Elliman (Sheffield)	TEVETH 25
Thursday, January 5th.	Messrs. J.Burke & G. Berkovitch	TEVETH 26

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Your S.O.S. Third Annual Dinner & Ball has once again been pronounced a resounding success!

Nearly 100 people ate, drank, danced, and generally made the evening go with a swing, right to the end.

You will be pleased to know that the nett proceeds will total approximately £1,100, all of which goes to help support your Shul. For those of you interested in statistics the Tombola made £94, the "Special" Novelty Bingo £74, with by far the greatest profit coming from the sale of Brochure Advertising and ticket sales.

A vote of thanks should be publically extended to the hard working Committee chaired by Tony Holt, along with the Greenwoods - Gordons - Tobias's - Levys, et al, not forgetting the support of our worthy President Ike Kushner and his good lady, Prize contributors, Advertisers, helpers, Mr. Benjamin, Catering Manager of the Mayfair, but most of allYOURSELVES!!

Let's do it again next year only BIGGER and BETTER!!

Look out for further announcements during the year.

COMMUNAL ANNOUNCEMENTS.

COUNCIL MEETING

The next Council Meeting will be held on Sunday, December 18th at 10.15.a.m.

LOTTERY.

This month's Lottery Prize was won by Mr. R. Meisbiser.

COMMUNAL ANNOUNCEMENTS. Cont'd.

TALMUD TORAH.

The Chanukah Party will be held in the Synagogue Hall on Sunday, 11th December at 3.p.m. All children are welcome.

Classes will break for the Holiday from end of lessons on December 18th and start again on Sunday 22nd January.

A Committee Meeting of the Talmud Torah will be held on Wednesday, 7th December at 8.p.m. at the house of Mrs. K. Balint-Kurti, 42 Chewstoke Road, Bristol.9.

Members of the Congregation are reminded that the Festival of CHANUKAH will be celebrated from Monday 5th December until Monday 12th December. The first Chanukahlight should be kindled on Sunday 4th December at nightfall.

Members of the Congregation are also requested to attend the Service on Shabbat, the 10th December, which is also Rosh Chodesh Tebet. It means that three Scrolls of the Torah will be taken from the Ark. I sincerely hope that all who can come to the Synagogue will make a special effort to do so.

Rev. Moddel.

MESSAGE FOR CHANUKAH 1977/5738

When darkness is surrounding us in the midst of the winterseason, we Jewish People are celebrating this very popular Festival of CHANUKAH. Looking back to the historical event of the celebration of this Festival it brings back to our mind the well expressed words spoken by G'd to Zerubbabel:

"LO V'CHAYIL V'LO V'CHO-ACH KI IM B'RUCHI AMAR HASHEM Z'VA-OT"

"NOT BY MIGHT, NOR BY POWER, BUT BY MY SPIRIT SAITH THE LORD OF HOSTS."

When Jacob Israel saw that his life was threatened by his brother Esa he was afraid, according to the comment of Rashi, that he might be killed and he regeetted that he might have to kill. The horror of bloodshed was so strongly involved that they never believed that war was a solution. The Jewish People were called the People of the Book. Those who investigated the life of the Jews on the banks of the Jordan found instead of swords - books, instead of treasure - scrolls, parchments in earthen pots containing a wealth of wisdom.

But when Antiochus, the King of the Syrians, tried to extinguish the light of the Altar, to destroy even the last candle so that darkness could rule undisturbed, then the old Matityahu and his children put aside the book and took up the sword. They too, like their forefather Jacob, were afraid and full of regret because there would be mourning and suffering for others. But then came the miracle "RABIM B'YAD M'ATIM" "THOU DELIVEREDST THE MANY INTO THE HANDS OF THE FEW". Those who believed in the supremacy of the spirit proved to be right.

It was Yehuda HAMACCABI who led the hosts of those peasants in Jerusalem. No arch of triumph was built to honour the great hero. No military parade accompanied the great victory, the miraculous salvation is symbolized not by the victorious weapon, but by the eight-armed lamp, the lightgiving MENORAH. They again took up the book, returned to the House of G'd and lit the light Antiochus had tried to extinguish. Greater than heroism on the battlefield is heroism for the enlightenment of hearts and mind. This is the meaning of the celebration of Chanukah.

Considering the recent events in the Middle East let us hope that Israel will be able to look forward to celebrate this beautiful Festival of CHANUKAH in peace and security with their Arab neighbours and the world at large as we find it well expressed in the words of the prophet Isaiah

"ARISE, SHINE, FOR THE LIGHT IS COME AND THE GLORY OF THE LORD IS RISEN UPON THEE, AND THE GENTILES SHALL COME TO THY LIGHT AND KINGS TO THE BRIGHTNESS OF THY RISING"

> WITH CHAG SAMEYACH REV. & MRS. MODDEL & FAMILY.

BRISTOL WIZO GROUP

The Luncheon held on Wednesday, November 9th, at the home of Mrs. H. Caplan raised £29 for our funds. Many thanks to Mrs. Caplan and Mrs. Curwen, who were our hostesses at this most enjoyable function.

A joint WIZO/Zionist Chanukah Party will be held on Sunday, December 4th, at 23 Pentland Avenue, Thornbury, at 8.p.m. (75p per person).

The next meeting of the group will be held on Tuesday, December 6th, at the home of Mrs. K. Lever, 27 Reedley Road, at 2.p.m. Please make every effort to attend these meetings.

S. Tobias. Hon. Sec.

CHANUKAH SOCIAL.

WINE - FOOD - AND FRIENDS AT 8.00 p.m. SUNDAY DECEMBER 4th.

SHEILA & ALAN TOBIAS.

23, PENTLAND AVENUE.

SIBLANDS.

THORNBURY. (Tel: Thornbury 412831)

75p per head inclusive. (Students 50p).

WIZO. BRISTOL ZIONIST SOCIETY. ERISTOL ZIONIST SOCIETY.

BRISTOL ZIONIST SOCIETY.

THURSDAY DECEMBER 8TH AT 8.p.m.

An exceptional treat is in store for us, no less than Jane Moonman, wife of Eric Moonman, Chairman of the Zionist Federation of Great Britain and Ireland, and a noted Member of Parliament, is making a special journey to Bristol to speak on "THE CHARACTER OF THE ANGLO-JEWISH COMMUNITY".

Mrs. MOONMAN is a Justice of the Peace in her own right. She is a Graduate of London University in English, and in Sociology at the L.S.E. She has published books and contributes many articles to magazines and journals. Her Host for the evening will be

Mavis & Peter Hyams. 21 Redland Grove. Redland. Bristol.6.

BRISTOL UNIVERSITY JEWISH & ISRAEL SOCIETY (BUJAIS)

Monday, December 5th at 8.p.m.

FOLK EVENING & CHANUKAH PARTY

In

SHORT BAR - UNIVERSITY UNION. 2ND FLOOR.

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL.

Irene and Colin Berkovitch would like to thank relatives and friends for their many kindnesses during their daughter Deborah's recent stay in St. Mary's Hospital.

"Wish you better" to Deborah Berkovitch and Miriam Gordon, who were both recently in Hospital at the same time, in the same place. Both are now home and recovering well.

Gerald Gee, together with his mother, Mrs. Mollie Gee, wish to thank Rev. Moddel and all their friends for their kindness, visits and letters of sympathy following the sad loss of their dear Husband and Father Alf.

Dr. Geoffrey Culank wishes to thank Rev. Moddel, the Council of the Bristol Hebrew Congregation and all their kind friends and members of the Community who have sent me messages, etc, of good wishes for a speedy recovery following my recent operation. These good wishes from so many people have assisted me and my wife enormously during the past few very trying weeks.

LADIES GUILD.

The next meeting of the Guild will be on Wednesday, December 14th at 7.30 p.m. The earlier time has been arranged so as to have a short meeting before the Burbrook Fashion Show, which has been arranged for 8 p.m. Please make every effort to attend as this should prove to be a very entertaining evening. Many items supplied by Marks & Spencers, British Home Stores and other leading stores will be on sale. So get your husbands in a good mood prior to the evening and perhaps he will treat you to a new outfit for Chanuksh.

Many thanks to Mrs. Eve Gordon for her cake decorating demonstration at our last Guild meeting. It was a great success and now all the ladies are truly proficient in the art of icing cakes.

FUTURE FUNCTIONS. Wine and Cheese Evening at the home of Mrs. G. Roydon on January 15th.

Card and Social Evening at the home of Mrs. H. Caplan on February 26th.

Irene Springer.

LETTER WRITING GROUP FOR SOVIET JEWRY.

There will be a meeting of the above group on Thursday, December 1st, at 8 p.m. in the home of Mrs. Rosemary Gillman, 7 Wedfield Park.

LONDON PARADE

On Sunday, November 20th, four men good and true travelled to London to support to A.J.E.X. Parade for Jewish Ex-service men and women.

The Parade took place at the exact time that President Sadat was talking to the Israeli Parliament in the Knesset. The Chief Rabbi gave special prayers for it's success.

What a pity that Bristol could only muster 4 members that were interested enough in what happened in Two World Wars to make the pilgrimage to the Cenotaph. We all threw out our chests and tried to look like a decent sized contingent. Let us hope that next year more members will join the faithful four and make Bristol proud of the size of it's contingent.

Sgt. S.Silverman.

281 Harrogate Road, LEEDS. IS17 6PA.

Dear Editor,

This may not be up to Denis Nordon, but you are getting it at the right price.

I've sweated over it with grinding teeth, not feeling particularly humourous, and just hope I don't get it back with a rejection slip! I am NOT enclosing an s.a.e.

It it isn't suitable, you can have one of my other epics; but really wanted you to have something "custom made". No expense spared!

Best wishes

(Signed) Joan Gordon (Tony Gordon's Mum)

HAPPY DAYS!

When you have two or more Jewish families in one shtetl, you are also sure to have some fund-raising going on. This is a useful, clean occupation, and keeps everybody happy. The gentlemen love it because it proves to be a splendid diversion from their absorption with the lighter side of life - income tax - VAT returns - and the state of Bristol football.

The Ladies also thrive on fund-raising, especially when it's in conjunction with their husbands. It gives them a chance to see what they are up to, for a change.

Left to their own devices, the girls would probably organize simple coffee-mornings, or jumble sales guaranteed to clear the house of surplus junk. But give the chaps their head, and what do we get? a Dinner Dance! The girls don't need much persuading - it makes a good excuse for a new dress. Too late the husbands realise this will treble the cost of the tickets.

HAPPY DAYS. Continued.

But first, we must form a Committee which will meet frequently in each other's homes. A very popular move with the wives, as this enables them to vet thoroughly each other's carpets and curtains, and whether the Gordons are still living on a bomb site.

Drawing up the agenda for the first meeting is easy. Not so choosing a Chairman. There are twelve applicants, all power-drunk. No one wants to type the letters. No one wants to sell raffle tickets either. But what about the tombola? Agreed! This is the last unanimous decision to be made for several months.

Who will volunteer to collect the tombola goods and store them? Dead silence. There are several questions like this about to rear their ugly heads, evoking such a deathly hush as to make them seem merely rhetorical. Finally the Chairman (picked for his brawn as well as brain) glares hard at the fellow with the biggest feet to put round the door. He's elected chief shnorrer. Unanimously.

It's as well for the Chairman to have a whistle and a cosh when it comes to deciding on the band. Victor Silvester for the nums - or a disco and earplugs for the oldies?

These little problems should keep everyone visiting each other and off the streets for a good 6 months. As fast as one decision is made, the Chairman comes back from Brighton and vetoes the lot, and we're back to square one again. Not forgetting the menu! Shall we be served in comfort and relax, or queue up for sandwiches and a bigger profit? Milkich or fleishik?

Maybe somebody at sometime will be truly adventurous and organize bingo-and-beanson-toast.

It takes at least three months, in some communities, to decide on Chicken or Mushroom Soup. Not to mention the midnight oil spent debating the respective nicities of Chopped Liver or Herring, Melon or Grapefruit.

It needs Soloman! Instead some half-starved committee member is sure to throw a spanner in the works by demanding the gantz: 9 courses at £1.50 a head.

When he is allowed to emerge, cowering, from behind the sofa, it has all been settled in true democratic fashion. The chap with the loudest voice has won.

All that remains is to sell all the tickets and pray that everyone arrives on "the night" in a jolly and generous mood which of course they will!

The best of luck to the venture, and here's hoping that the Shul's funds are healthier as a result.

After this Dinner Dance there'll be no difficulty finding suitable worthy causes for future fund-raising.

There's always the J.I.A, W.I.Z.O, Ike Kushner's next car, or Tony Gordon's building fund.....

JEWISH OLD AGE HOME

Mariona Woodman would like to hear from anybody who would be willing to collect donations for her Jewish Old Age Home in Cardiff.

She has done this herself for many years, but is now unable to continue.

Please contact the Editors with offers.

POETRY SHMOETRY.

When Sadat was asked for his views On events which were making the news He replied with a smile -"I've said all the while, some of my best friends are Jews!".

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An enthusiastic young Rabbi from Pinner Missed his Shabbas by nacht chicken dinner It's considered opinion He discovered a minyan Now he's spiritually uplifted - but thinner!

GAZINK.
