



BRISTOL HEBREW CONGREGATION
THE SYNAGOGUE PARK ROW, BRISTOL

Synagogue Services
Saturday Mornings, 10.am

Minister :-
Rev. M. Modell.
President :-
Mr. R. Emanuel
Tel. 739669.
Hon Sec :-
Mrs. M. Kushner.
11. Julian Court.
Julian Road.
Sneyd Park.
BS9 1LA
Tel. 687654
Talmud Torah Classes.
Sunday Mornings
10. am to 12-45.
Hon Sec :-
Mrs. E. Levy.
3. Solent Way
Thornbury.
Tel Thorn. 415342.

BRISTOL JEWISH LADIES GUILD

Hon Sec :-
Mrs. E. Levy.
3. Solent Way.
Thornbury.
Tel. Thorn. 415342.

BRISTOL W.I.Z.O. GROUP.

Hon Sec :-
Mrs. S. Tobias.
23. Pentland Avenue.
Chiltern Park.
Tel. Thorn. 412831.

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

NAT SMITH
SAM SILVERMAN
GERALD GEE.

All communication to:-
160. Cranbrook Road Redland.
36. Oakdale Court. Downend
10. Oakhurst Road. Bristol 9.

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FOR YOUR DIARY

JULY 1987

TAMMUZ 5747

Wednesday July 1st
Exhibition at City Museum
"The Nature of Israel"
10.am to 5pm.

Monday July 13th. 8pm.
Ladies Guild A.G.M.
17. Abbey Rd. Bristol 9.

Tuesday July 21st. 8pm.
Council Meeting.

Wednesday July 22nd. 7.30.
Lecture Re. Exhibition
Bristol University
Chemistry Dept.
Woodland Road.

YAHZITES
.....

FRIDAY JULY 10TH. Mr.T.Gordon	TAMMUZ 13
WEDNESDAY JULY 15th.Fam.of Mr.D.Strimer	TAMMUZ 18
SATURDAY JULY 18TH.Mrs.M.Goldman(London)	TAMMUZ 21
WEDNESDAY JULY 22ND.Mr.C.Epstein	TAMMUZ 25
WEDNESDAY JULY 29TH.Mrs.N.Silverman	AV 3

COMMUNAL ANNOUNCEMENTS
.....

COUNCIL MEETING The next Council Meeting will be on Tuesday, July 21st.

LOTTERY. This months Lottery was won by Mrs.H.CAPLAN

CHANGE OF ADDRESS. MIN & IKE KUSHNER are now at 11 Julian Court, Julian Road, Sneyd Park BS9 1LA. Tel:687654.

EVE & ARNOLD LEVIN and FAMILY will be at 61 Westbury Road, Bristol 9 (from JULY 1st.) Telephone no.to be advised (if changed)

BARMITZVAH. JACOB BAUM on Shabbat JULY 18th.(see Social & Personal)

THE "WEST QUEST". WEST QUEST II. As a sequel to the memorable event held at Park Row over a year ago, WEST QUEST II will again provide the opportunity of meeting fellow Jews from small communities in the South West of Britain for a day of Social and Cultural activity. This time the event will take place at the country mansion of JULIUS SILMAN in CORSHAM, WILTS., thanks to his generous hospitality. Once again REV. MALCOLM WEISMAN will be participating, with the assistance of JONATHAN GORSKY of YAKAR in London whose Seminar on Jewish History at Park Row has been such a success.

The programme which will be announced next month and circulated with the "Recorder", will include entertainment, a talk by GEOFFERY PAUL, Editor of the J.C. and a series of group workshops with a discussion session. Lunch and Tea will be provided, and the cost will be less than £10. Since accomodation must be limited to around 75, you are advised to book early. The date is SUNDAY, 13TH. SEPTEMBER from 11 A.M. to 4.30P.M., so make a date in your diary.

Further information from JOHN ADLER 303212(work) 41766(home)

STOP PRESS:
..... The GARDEN PARTY held at the home of LINDA and ROBERT HURST, and co-hosted by SONIA & SAM SILVERMAN raised £118 for WIZO funds. A little rain did nothing to prevent an excellent attendance or mar the enjoyment of the occasion. The nosh was FABULOUS! Thanks folks, you did a grand job.

S O C I A L A N D P E R S O N A L

We are pleased to hear(after the event!),that SHEILA TOMIAS is recovering well after being involved in a one-sided argument with a 12 ton lorry.Glad to report that SHEILA is mending quicker than the car! T'was a nasty "do".

Sorry to hear that young MARK LEVY has fractured his collarbone in a fall. We wish him better.We don't know if he fell off a skateboard or out of a tree.

Congratulations to SIMON BLACKSTEIN(son of MICHELLE & PAUL) who has passed the entrance exam for Westminster Public School.

Well done to LINSEY GORDON who performed in a CHINESE ACROBATIC GROUP at Weston-Super-Mare Playhouse Variety Show in aid of Cancer Research.

Mazeltoy to JACOB BAUM who will be BARMITZVAH on Shabbat July 18th.,and to parents ANGELA and DAVID,who invite all those who will be present to join them in a celebratory KIDDUSH in the Frank Cohen Hall after the Service.

Once again we have cause to say a very hearty "thank you" to all our friends for their cards and good wishes,invitations and generous help which made our recent move so much easier.We consider ourselves very fortunate to have such caring friends. MIN & IKE KUSHNER.
(Many happy years in your new abode!-Eds.)

We are sorry to hear that LEN GOULD has been hospitalized,and as a result, has unfortunately had to cancel a holiday abroad that he and RUTH had planned.We wish him a speedy recovery,and hope they will make up for it later.

Mazeltoy to SIMON BLACKSTEIN who will be BARMITZVAH on Shabbat,August 8th. at Edgware United Synagogue,and to parents SHELLEY & PAUL,from all their old friends in the Bristol Congregation.

We wish EVE & ARNOLD LEVIN health and happiness,with their family in their new home.

A member of our Community,MARGO MACE has started a Radio-Controlled Taxi firm.They have a fleet of London style cabs,with facilities for the disabled,and their aim is to provide a genuine service to the customer. So if you need a cab,phone MARGOT at AVON CHAIR TAXIS on 743754 and travel in comfort.

BRISTOL WOMENS GUILD
.....

We would like to thank KATE LEVER and GOLDA SEYMOUR for the beautiful floral arrangements in the Synagogue over SHAVUOT.

We were sorry to hear of SHEILA TOBIAS's car accident and delighted that she is now feeling better.

Nominations are invited for the Officers and Committee members of the Guild, which will be open for re-election at the A.G.M. Could these please be sent to the Hon. Sec. EVE LEVY, 3 Solent Way, Thornbury, Bristol BS12 2XD, before the A.G.M. on MONDAY 13TH. JULY. This will be held at 17 Abbey Road at 8 p.m.
PLEASE MAKE A SPECIAL EFFORT TO ATTEND.

The talk on "HYPNOTHERAPY" (June 22nd.) was well attended, and was found fascinating and most interesting by all those present.

EVE LEVY
HON. SEC

BRISTOL WIZO
.....

JEWISH WOMENS WEEK
..... The CAPTAINS of WOMENS WEEK, LINDA HURST and KITTY BALINT-KURTI would like to thank everyone who helped to raise the magnificent sum of £800 for this most worthy cause.

NEW YEARS BROCHURE
..... The time for organising our NEW YEAR BROCHURE has come round again. Please contact me on THORNBURY 412831 if you wish to have an insert this year. The charge will be £3.50 per insertion. Wonderful value for money!

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
..... This will take place on TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 1ST. at 9.p.m. at RUTH CURWEN's 77 Parrys Lane.

SHEILA TOBIAS
HON. SEC.

EXHIBITION..... "The Nature of Israel"

A unique exhibition featuring the work of some of Israel's best nature photographers. Come along and enjoy these brilliant personalized views of the stunning and enchanting flowers, birds and animals of Israel.

at

The CITY MUSEUM and ART GALLERY, QUEENS ROAD, BRISTOL

JULY 8TH. - AUGUST 1ST.

10 A.M. - 5 P.M.

MONDAY - SATURDAY

.....
To compliment the exhibition, MR. MAGNUS CARTER of GWR RADIO will give an illustrated lecture on "THE NATURE of ISRAEL" in the small lecture theatre of BRISTOL UNIVERSITY CHEMISTRY DEPARTMENT, CANTOCKS CLOSE, WOODLAND RD. at 7.30 p.m. on WEDNESDAY JULY 22nd. Admission 50p.

Report on the Meetings of the BOARD of DEPUTIES
held on February 15th. and March 22nd. 1987

1. PERDITION-the actions of the Board of Deputies to prevent the performance of this notorious play were explained. There has been accusations of giving publicity to an inaccurate antisemitic and anti-zionist work, of no artistic merit, and promoting "censorship". Deputies were unanimous in supporting the actions of the Chairman and his officers.
2. SOVIET JEWERY-Although a few leading figures have been released, the conditions of Jewish prisoners of conscience remains dire. The human chain of protest between the Israeli Embassy and the Soviet Embassy held on 8th. March 1987 served to underline the concern, not only of the Jewish Community, but of many non-Jews interested in basic human freedom. Dr. Vlamer Brodsky, a former prisoner of conscience, is in the U.K this week, and is addressing various meetings. A meeting with Mrs. Thatcher has taken place in which she was given a memorandum on Soviet Jewry. The Chairman noted with thanks the sympathetic understanding and time the distinguished Jewish delegation received from her.
3. A video was shown highlighting the sophisticated literature and pressure salesmanship techniques which are being practiced by the "Christian Ministry amongst the Jews". The targets are Jewish students and youth, plus other lonely and vulnerable Jews such as those who have suffered bereavement or divorce. Rabbi Arkush has promoted a response as "Operation Judaism". He is anxious that Jewish students have access to a Jewish Chaplain at each University or Poly.
4. NAZI WAR CRIMINALS-resolved unanimously to press for swift and responsible action by HM Government to ensure individuals guilty of war crimes are brought to justice. The actions of the parliamentary committee to this end (and its problems) were presented by Mr. Ivan Lawrence MP and Mr. Greville Janner MP. It was noted that the Times and the Daily Telegraph had scurrilous leaders suggesting that Jewish search for vengeance (as opposed to Christian forgiveness) was responsible for a witch hunt. Fortunately, the best reply to this came in a letter from Dr. Coggan, former Archbishop of Canterbury, who claimed no such moral superiority. It was also noted that there is no statutory time limit in the UK for murder. However, Jews should not associate Ukrainians, Latvians and Lithuanians with war crimes.
5. The Board wishes to honour the Chief Rabbi to commemorate the twentieth anniversary of his accession as the Public Chief Rabbinical Authority and Chief Rabbi to those who recognise him.
6. The book "Jews in Arab Lands" by Gilbert is available for schools.

Other matters included sechita and the Treasurers Report.

Report of Deputies meeting 25.4.87

The President began by defending his visit to South Africa and mentioned precedents such as Dr. Brodetski's visits to Latvia and Nazi Germany. He had taken advice from various senior Deputies but felt that limited publicity was preferable to openly discussing Plans for the visit of a B.O.D. meeting. The purpose was to visit African Jewish Communities and prevent their isolation. He visited Nairobi, Harare, Cape Town, Pretoria and Johannesburg where he met Jewish leaders and addressed meetings.

Needless to say certain voices were raised that were strongly critical of his judgement in making the visit. Others passionately defended him.

The main event was the visit of the Israeli Ambassador, YEHUDA AVNER for the meeting taking place closest to Yom Hazmaut. He referred to the profound and agonised moment of the Holocaust Memorial-made vivid by recent vandalism. He described the event in Israel where traffic stops and everything stops. We grapple with the death of 2 in 5 Jews, 3 in 4 European Jews, 1.5 Million Children-and no individual graves.

He described Israel's Independence as a ray of divine radiance in Jewish History. But Israel does not live in a good neighbourhood. Israel is NOT so young at 39-there are now 100 YOUNGER countries!

Other matters discussed were the question of ethnic origins in Town Council employment, and developments in Soviet Jewry.

Ron. Greenbaum
Bristols Rep. to the B.O.D.

The BRISTOL "MIKVEH

What will no doubt prove to be Englands oldest, and only, pre-Expulsion(1290), MIKVEH, was recently discovered in Bristol. It may pre-date the one discovered in 1956 in Cologne which dates from c1170 and has so far been considered to be Medieval Europe's oldest.

The TEMPLE LOCAL HISTORY GROUP (named after Temple (Church) Parish), has been investigating Bristols medieval water courses and decided to use the opportunity of the rebuilding of the former HOTWELLS Police Station bicycle-shed as a furniture restoration workshop, to discover whether this contained the spring presented by EDWARD III to the City in 1371, known as JACOBS WELL. As the result of the lowering of ground level during the alterations, a small opening was enlarged which was found to contain sludge and old cycle batteries. After a partial excavation a chamber entered by descending steps was revealed, which filled with clear water issuing from a fissure in the rock, leaving from another opening feeding a conduit, but apparently originally by an overflow. After this confirmation that this was indeed JACOBS WELL, the opening was covered by a retaining wall, built to support the hillside into which the chamber is cut. One of the workmen had noticed that there were "hieroglyphics" on the front of the lintel supporting the superstructure and it was decided to re-open the concrete wall to investigate. A member of the Temple Group recognised the inscription as HEBREW, not surprising as the site is near "JEWS ACRE" or the "JEWS CHURCHYARD", the site of the pre-Expulsion Cemetary, now covered by QUEEN ELIZABETH'S HOSPITAL SCHOOL, also on JACOB'S WELLS ROAD, but both at some distance from the Medieval Jewry.

At this point I was called in and deciphered the inscription as reading CHET LAMMED YOD (final) MEM, as CHALIM, meaning "healthy", a term once commonly used for the now more familiar BRIUT. This would also appear to be the only Medieval Hebrew inscription yet found in England. The stonework is 11TH. Century, so that the MIKVEH, as it no doubt is, was established following the arrival of Jews in Bristol, during the reign of WILLIAM RUFUS (1087-1100). At the Expulsion, all Jewish property reverted to the Crown, no doubt accounting for EDWARD III's gift of it to the City. The water has a constant temperature of 53°F, not as warm as the 76°F of the now lost HOT WELL nearby, the once famous Spa, which gave its name to the district. This spring was considered to have had theraputic powers. So, was JACOB'S WELL, a JEWISH SPA, or a MIKVEH, or BOTH, and was JACOB a MEDIEVAL MIKVEH-KEEPER of BRISTOL?

R.R. EMANUEL