



United Synagogue—קי קבטת ישראל

BUSHEY & DISTRICT AFFILIATED SYNAGOGUE

NEWSLETTER

Number 37

Rosh Hashanah

5739 - 1978

editorial

Many of the regular shul-goers will sympathise with the "opinion" elsewhere in this Newsletter and apart from the tidiness and cleanliness, any improvement in the general dignity of the services is the responsibility of the worshippers. Reasons invariably become excuses but as any Board member will tell you if one item has been discussed more than any other it is the physical look of the Synagogue.

Discussion is obviously useless. Action is what is required so perhaps 5739 will bring it about.

Nevertheless, it is the degree of intensity with which one prays, the disregard for all around the worshipper while he or she tries to communicate with his or her Maker that is important and not necessarily a speck of dust or two. No matter where one prays it must always come from the heart but it certainly helps if those around are trying to reach the same plain.

Colin Fink

תשס"ט תשרי כ"ט
HAPPY NEW YEAR



from the wardens' box

On Monday, September 25th, at 8.30 p.m. Dayan Kaplan of the London Beth Din will be visiting Bushey Synagogue to talk to the community about the meaning of the High Holydays. Dayan Kaplan is one of the newest members of the Beth Din and we are delighted that he is to speak to us. We hope that you will come to this talk, not just because of the respect which is due to so distinguished a visitor, but also because whenever we have heard Dayan Kaplan speak we have learnt a great deal and enjoyed the warm and friendly way in which he shares his knowledge.

Whilst the board of Management was most reluctant to split the community, pressure of numbers and the need to ensure everyone's safety compelled us to organise a second service on the high Holydays. We are very grateful to the Bushey branch of the British Legion for allowing us to use their hall in Melbourne Road. Wherever you are davening, we wish you a very happy New Year.

There can be no better medium for the announcement of our Chatanim than this Newsletter, since the evidence of all their hard work for the community is abundantly present within it. Colin Fink, who produces the Newsletter, is our Chatan Torah and Henry Saunders, our Chatan Beresith, always urges us to support the functions he organises in its columns. We wish them and their families mazeltov.

Philip Skelker

news & views

SOLD OUT

Sorry to all of you anticipating the announcement of the kindergarten Rock'n'Roll dance in the summer edition. Apologies all round. The previous "Stop Press" Notice proved sufficient to ensure a sell-out for the function before Bobbie Coffey and her committee had time to advertise. Although it will not compensate, a full report is promised in the next Newsletter.

SABBATH OBSERVANCE EMPLOYMENT BUREAU

Are you looking for Employment where Shabbat and Yom Tovim are readily granted? Then contact The Sabbath Observance Employment bureau, Woburn House, Upper Woburn place, London, WC1, tel: 387 3036/7.

Employers seeking staff in any capacity or age group are invited to place their requirements with the Bureau.

FOOTBALL

The now to be expected good start to the season resulted in a fine 5-2 win in the opening game, followed up by a 3-3 draw. Hopefully the good fortune will continue.

Larry Koxon is this season's Captain and we wish him a very successful season.

The Football Club's Annual Car rally was held on Sunday 27 August and the few competitors who took part found it interesting and very enjoyable.

Alas, yet again, this annual event, which is always good fun, failed to jolt members and their families from their apathy.

However, congratulations to the organisers and winners, and thanks to the ladies for the excellent tea afterwards.

PASSED!

Following the recent London Board of Jewish Religious Education examinations taken at Bushey and Stanmore, these children gained certificates:-

Preparatory

Rachel Atkins
Tracy Bernitz
Suzanne Coleman
Paul Green
Simon Herman
Nicola Kraines
Heloise Lampert
James Liebert
Debra Levene
Gerald Seymour
Mark Silverman
Anthony Trenton

Junior

Stuart Fink
Jeanine Kaye
Jonathan Kraines
Yolande Silverstone

Intermediate

Peter Wilson

LADIES GUILD

Forthcoming events:-

Rev. G. Shisler, Chazan of Kenton will talk about Jewish Music on 6th NOVEMBER at the home of Mrs. L. Finkelstein, 1, Ash Hill Close, Bushey at 8.30 p.m. All members of the Shul are welcome.

Other than this, the Ladies Guild are planning a cookery demonstration for Chanukah and the date for this will be announced shortly.

Details of the Chanukah party will also be announced shortly.

The next meeting of the Guild will be on Wednesday 4 OCTOBER at the home of Mrs. B. Segalov, 1, The Lake, Bushey Heath.

social and personal

MAZELTOV

-to Gillian and Michael Fielding on the birth of a daughter, Davinia, a sister for James.
-to Sandra and Jeffrey Zane on the birth of a daughter, Claire, a sister for Nina
-to Yvonne and Clive Zane on the birth of a son, Michael.

BARMITZVAH

Congratulations to Philip Nathan, grandson of Mr. & Mrs. Pollard, on the confident manner in which he read his Maftir and Haphtorah.

REFUOH SHELAYMOH - GET WELL

We wish a speedy recovery to Mrs. H. Shulman who has recently been in hospital and hope that she will be returned to good health.

TOMBSTONE CONSECRATION

The Memorial Stone for the late Mrs. Betty Jacobs will be consecrated on Sunday 19 November at 12.30 p.m. at Bushey Cemetery.

NATIONAL YAD VASHEM COMMITTEE IN THE U.K.

LEST WE FORGET

It is our duty to ensure that all names of those who perished during the Holocaust are perpetuated in the HALL OF NAMES at the YAD VASHEM, JERUSALEM. A separate PAGE OF TESTIMONY, an eternal visible memorial for each and every one of the Jewish Martyrs is being kept. If you had relatives in Nazi occupied territories who were victims of the Holocaust, and whose names are not already registered with Yad Vashem, you are urged to apply for the requisite number of forms to Mrs. Ursula Webster, The Board of Deputies of British Jews, Woburn House, Upper Woburn Place, London, WC1H OEP.

Functions Committee

As promised our Diary of Events is full and varied. Please support your Shul by contacting the various people below for tickets, jumble, tombola gifts, etc.

SUNDAY 29th OCTOBER, 1978

As I told you in the previous edition of the Newsletter, we have been able to secure seats for the latest Agatha Christie film, "Death on the Nile", starring David Niven, Peter Ustinov, Maggie Smith, Mia Farrow, Bette Davis and a host of other well-known stars. Tickets at £3.50 each are obtainable from Barbara Kaye, 950 2450. Please hurry as we are limited to the number of tickets available to us.

"A film well worth seeing"
Bushey & District Affiliated
Synagogue Newsletter.

JUMBLE SALE

After the financial success of the Jumble Sale held in July, we have decided to hold another one in December ready for the end-of-year holidays. So, if you have any toys, clothes, books, in fact anything suitable for a Jumble Sale, please contact Yvette Herman, 950 1006, or any other member of the Functions Committee and we will arrange to collect your items.

SATURDAY 3rd MARCH, 1979

Our grand Annual Dinner and Ball will be held at the King David Suite, Gt. Cumberland Place, London, W1. Dancing to the fabulous Johnny Howard Singers and Swingers.

Tickets at £15.00 each, inclusive of wines, are available from:-

Lionel Finkelstein 950 1008

Tables can be arranged to seat 10 or 12 people.

Raffle

We will be having a super Raffle drawn on the evening with a First Prize of a MICROWAVE OVEN. Raffle Books are available N O W from any member of the Functions Committee. Don't wait to be contacted - CONTACT US.

Tombola

As I am sure those of you who support our functions know, the committee endeavours and always does give real value for money. Our tombolas are no exception.

So, in order for us to continue our record, we are asking YOU to let us have gifts for our Tombola. Gifts that we can utilise to make a tombola that everyone will talk about for weeks afterwards.

To arrange collection of your gifts, please call, Barbara 950 2450, Jackie 950 4290, Suzie 260 3133 or Frances 950 5662.

Brochure

As is usual at our Dinner & Ball, we shall have a Brochure.

As last year's was our most successful to date, this year we have a record to beat.

Brochure Forms are available from Laurence Trenton 260 3133 and rates are still as competitive as ever:-

Gold Page	£60.00
Whole Page	£40.00
Half Page	£25.00
Quarter Page	£15.00
Childrens' names	£ 1.00
etc.	

As Chairman, I hope that the majority of you will be able to support some of the functions set out above, if not all. Should you have any suggestions or comments please do not hesitate to contact us.

Henry Saunders

HIGH HOLYDAYS 5759/1978

Rosh hashanah	1st day	MONDAY 2 OCTOBER
Rosh hashanah	2nd day	TUESDAY 3 OCTOBER
Yom Kippur		WEDNESDAY 11 OCTOBER
Succot	1st day	MONDAY 16 OCTOBER
Succot	2nd day	TUESDAY 17 OCTOBER
Hoshanah Na'abah		SUNDAY 22 OCTOBER
Shemini Atzeret		MONDAY 23 OCTOBER
Simchat Torah		TUESDAY 24 OCTOBER



THE PENITENTIAL SEASON

The Penitential Season in the Jewish year falls into four phases. From the New Moon of Ellul the Ram's horn is sounded in the Synagogue during the week-day morning services. Several days before New Year extra prayers known as "selichot" (prayers for pardon) are included in these morning services. The days between New Year and the Day of Atonement are known as "The Ten Days of Penitence" and finally the Penitential season culminates in the Day of Atonement.

The Day of Atonement has been referred to rather dubiously as "The Black Fast". Nothing could be further from the truth both literal and metaphorical. The Cantor, and in some places the Congregation, don the traditional flowing white robes (kittel), the Synagogue desks and the Ark are draped in white, and every available light is turned on. It is an occasion of solemn and sober joy, a reflection of the Jew's confidence that his Maker will not reject "a humble and a contrite heart".

THE FEAST OF TABERNACLES



The Feast of Tabernacles celebrates the fruit harvest in Israel. The ancient Jewish farmer would often travel far from home during the harvest and live in some temporary abode in the vicinity of the orchards.

Hence the custom of erecting a tabernacle or booth to celebrate the fruit harvest festival. In tradition, The Feast of Tabernacles commemorates the days of wandering in the wilderness when the ancient Israelites lived in booths which were easily erected and dismantled. From a religious point of view the festival is meant to contrast the permanence and security of the house with the flimsy and temporary structure of the Sukkah. By reflecting on this contrast we are meant to think of the ephemeral nature of the material aspect of life and to concentrate on matters of deeper spiritual significance. Other symbols connected with the festival are the Lulav and the Ethrog.

THE SEASON OF THE REJOICING OF OUR LAW



The last two days of the Feast of Tabernacles constitute a separate festival. The eighth day is known as Shemini Atzeret

or the Eighth Day of Holy Convocation and the last day as Simchat Torah, which celebrates the conclusion of the reading of the Law. In the Synagogue the readings come from the end of Deuteronomy and the beginning of Genesis. All the Scrolls of the Law are carried round the Synagogue seven times and it is an occasion for much rejoicing.



ב"ה

INTRODUCING

BNEI

AKIVA

for youngsters
aged 7 to 13
meeting at



Bushey Synagogue
Shabbat Afternoons
3pm — 5pm

For further details ring

John Blank	950 3780
Richard Segalov	950 3485
Richard Galloway	950 1654
Janet & Yvonne Goide	950 3269

New Year Greetings

ABRAHAMS

Susan, Laurence and Melanie would like to wish all the community a very happy New Year and well over the Fast. 15, Hollygrove, Bushey Heath.

ARDEN

Laura and Lionel wish all their friends in the community a healthy and happy New Year. 12, The Four Tubs, Bushey Heath.

BAUM

Jenny, Malcolm, Rachel and Spencer wish all their family, friends and customers and healthy and happy New Year. 16, Caroline Court, The Chase, Stanmore.

BLANK

Sharyn and John with Rachel and Abigail send best wishes to all their friends in the community for a happy and health New Year and well over the Fast. 4, Koh-i-Noor Avenue, Bushey.

DAVIS

Martin, Josie, Hayley and Elliot wish their friends in the community a happy and healthy New Year and well over the Fast. 9, By-the-Wood,

EPSTEIN

Shirley and Paul, together with Jeffrey, Murray and Alison, wish all their friends in the Bushey community a healthy, happy and prosperous New Year and well over the Fast. 7, Coldharbour Lane, Bushey.

FINK

Sylvia, Colin and Stuart wish all their friends and neighbours a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year.

FINKELSTEIN

Elisabeth, Lionel, Daniel and Deborah wish all their friends a Shanah Tovah and well over the Fast. 1, Ash Hill Close, Bushey.

GASSON

Hilary and Jeremy, together with Angela and Mandy, wish all their friends in the community a healthy and happy New Year. 7, The Comyns, Bushey Heath.

GRAHAM

Jenny, Alan and Caroline send their best wishes to all their friends in the community for a healthy and happy New Year and well over the Fast. Apartment 16k, 1675, York Avenue, New York, N.Y.10028, U.S.A.

GRUNTHAL

Susan, Peter, Nicola and Wendy send their best wishes to all their friends in the community for a healthy and happy New Year and well over the Fast. 11212, Fall River Court, Potomac, Maryland, U.S.A.

HOCKLEY

Carol, Stephen and Elise wish relatives, friends and neighbours in the community a very happy and healthy New Year and well over the Fast. 1, Beechtree Close, Stanmore.

HORNICK

Jackie, David, Samantha and Victoria wish all their friends in the community a healthy and happy New Year and well over the Fast. 21, Sherwoods Road, Watford Heath.

LEVY

Laurel and William with Andrew and Nicholas wish all their friends in the community a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year and well over the Fast. 3, Claybury, Bushey.

JACOBS

Louis, with Hazel, send best wishes to their friends in the community for a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year and well over the Fast. 6, California Lane, Bushey Heath.

JOSEPH

Sheila and Leonard with Jacalyn, Ryan and Marshall, wish family, friends and community a very happy, healthy and peaceful New Year and well over the Fast. 220, Hempstead Road, Watford.

MARCUS

Harold and Shirley with Steven and Linda wish all their family and friends a very happy New Year. 7, Downalong, Bushey Heath.

MATTEY

We wish the Wardens, members of the Board, congregation and all our friends, a healthy and happy New Year and well over the Fast. Myreen and Jeffrey Mattey and family. 114, Aldenham Road, Bushey.

NASH

Bonny and John, with Leah and Benjamin, wish all their friends in the community a healthy and happy New Year and well over the Fast. 59, Little Bushey Lane, Bushey Heath.

NEAD

Janette, Richard, Caroline and David would like to wish their family and friends a happy New Year and well over the Fast. 3, Shaw Close, Hartsbourne Road, Bushey Heath.

OLIVESTONE

Melanie and Tony with Adam and Elliot, would like to wish their friends in the community a happy and healthy New Year and well over the Fast. 4, California Lane, Bushey Heath.

PAYDON

Wishing our friends, neighbours and Bushey United Football Team good health, happiness and luck for the coming year. Helen and Barry Paydon with Robbie, Richard and Marc. 10, Dunsmore Way, Bushey Heath.

לשנה טובה תכתבו ותחתמו

PRESS

Frances and Irving Press with Melanie, Natalie and Daniel wish everyone a healthy and happy New Year and well over the Fast. 10, Downalong, Bushey Heath.

SAUNDERS

Jackie and Henry with Lisa and Emma wish all their friends in the community a happy and healthy New Year and well over the Fast. 1, Sparrows Way, Bushey Heath.

SCHENK

Hazel and Laurie, together with Katie and Warren, wish their family and all their friends in Bushey a very happy and healthy 5739.

SEGALOV

Leshana Tovah Tikatevu - Shenat Shalom, Haztlacha U'geulah. We wish you all a very happy, healthy and peaceful New Year. Betty, David, Richard and Rebecca Segalov. 1, The Lake, Bushey Heath.

SEYMOUR

Annette and Jeffrey with Suzanne, Andrea and Gerald, wish all their family and friends a happy New Year and well over the Fast. Parknasilla House, Hive Close, Bushey Heath.

SILVERMAN

Pat and Brian with Tracey and Mark send best wishes to all their friends in the community for a healthy and happy New Year and well over the Fast.

SKELKER

Anne and Philip, with Jonathan, Ben and Ruth, send best wishes to all their friends in the community for a healthy and happy New Year and well over the Fast. 13, Rudolph Road, Bushey.

TENENBAUM

Linda and Melvyn, together with Rayna wish the President, all Honorary Officers and members of the Board of Management and their families, as well as their friends and families within the community, a healthy, happy and prosperous New Year and well over the Fast. 5, Warren Road, Bushey Heath.

TRENTON

Suzy and Laurence and their children wish all their friends and the community a happy New Year and well over the Fast. "Tova", Park Avenue, Chorleywood, Herts.

WILSON

Jerrard, Marion, Peter, Mark and Samantha wish a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year to all their family, friends and neighbours. 12, Dunsmore Way, Bushey Heath.

SAGER

Louise, Aron, Joel and Richard wish everyone a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year and well over the fast.

WINTERMAN

Rochelle, Ivor, Jennifer and Alexis wish all their friends in the community a happy and peaceful New Year and well over the Fast.

GAN AVIV KINDERGARTEN

The Board of Management, Parents Association and Staff of Gan Aviv Kindergarten wish members of the community a happy and healthy New Year and well over the Fast.

LADIES GUILD

Betty and Shirley wish all members of the Guild and their families a healthy and happy New Year and well over the Fast.

NEWSLETTER

The Editor and his staff wish all members, their families and other readers a prosperous, healthy and successful New Year and a comfortable Fast.



Invitation.

The Chatan Torah & The Chatan Bereshit
and their wives
(Mrs & Mrs Colin Fink & Mrs & Mrs Henry Saunders)
request the pleasure of your company at a
Kiddush
after the service on Simchat Torah.
(Tuesday the 24th October 1978)



Two Prayers Explained.

KOL NIDRE describing in exalted language the heavenly procedure on the day of judgment, is said to have been published by Rabbi Kalonymus ben Meshullam of Mayence, one of the most eminent payyetanim of the eleventh century. This stirring poem has been the subject of a popular story, the oldest mention of which is found in the thirteenth century work *Or Zaru'a* by Rabbi Isaac of Vienna. The story runs as follows:-

Rabbi Amnon, a wealthy scholar of noble descent, was repeatedly but fruitlessly pressed by the rulers of Mayence to change his faith. On one occasion he evasively asked to be given three days in which to consider the matter.

Upon reaching home he would neither eat nor drink; he was sad at heart and wept bitterly because he had given the impression that he might renounce his belief in one God. When, at the end of the three days, he failed to appear before the tyrants, he was arrested and compelled to plead guilty.

As a punishment, his hands and feet were cut off.

On New Year's Day, Rabbi Amnon was brought to the Synagogue at his own request. When the Chazan was about to recite the *Kedushah*, Rabbi Amnon asked him to pause. Dying from his wounds, Rabbi Amnon then recited the prayer-poem which had come to him by inspiration. No sooner than he had finished the prayer when he died.

Three days later he appeared to Rabbi Kalonymus ben Meshullam in a dream and taught him this prayer to be introduced to all congregations.

KOL NIDRE the Aramaic formula for the dispensation of vows, is more than a thousand years old. It refers to vows assumed by an individual for himself alone, where no other persons or their interests are involved. Though the context makes it perfectly obvious that no vows or obligations toward others are implied, there have been many who were misled into believing that by means of this formula all their vows and oaths are annulled. In the eleventh

century, Rabbi Meir ben Samuel (Rashi's son-in-law) changed the original wording of *Kol Nidre* so as to make it apply to the future instead of the past, that is, to vows one might not be able to fulfil during the next year. Support for his emendation was provided by a talmudic statement which reads: "Whoever desires that none of his vows made during the year shall be valid, let him declare at the beginning of the year: May all the vows which I am likely to make in the future be annulled".

On account of its great solemnity, Yom Kippur was chosen for the recital of *Kol Nidre*, though the Talmud mentions Rosh Hashanah in this connection. The Hebrew version of *Kol Nidre*, found in the ninth century *Siddur* of Amram Gaon, still contains the original reference to vows contracted in the course of the year that has passed. This will partly explain the confusion in many a translation of this passage in the *Mahzor*.

Kol Nidre is chanted 3 times so that latecomers may hear it. According to *Mahzor Vitry*, the Chazan chants *Kol Nidre* very softly the first time, like one who hesitates to enter the king's palace and fears to come near him with a request for a favour; the second time he chants somewhat louder, the third time he raises his voice louder and louder, like one who is accustomed to being a member of the king's court. *Kol Nidre* is chanted before sunset because dispensation from a vow may not be granted on Sabbath or on a festival.

The law regarding vows is plainly stated in the Torah: "When you make any vow to the Lord your God, you must pay it without delay....If you refrain from making a vow, that is no sin for you; but you must be careful to perform any promise you have made with your lips." (Deuteronomy 23:22-24). Since one runs the risk of either breaking or delaying to fulfil the vows he makes, we are frequently advised to refrain from rash vows even if they are motivated by pious devotion.

Kol Nidre acquired intense significance particularly during the period of persecutions in Spain, where some hundred thousand Jews were forced to forswear their faith and adopt a new religion. Many of these attended the synagogue in secret at the risk of their life and used the Kol Nidre text as a form of renouncing the vows imposed upon them by the

Inquisition. At the beginning of the sixteenth century, a Chazan in Germany composed the stirring tune which expresses fear, impassioned pleading and hope for ultimate deliverance. This plaintive and touching melody, adopted by the Ashkenazim throughout the world, is not used by Sephardic and oriental Jews who recite Kol Nidre in the manner of a simple prayer.

BUSHEY BNEI AKIVAH

This is the season to ring out the old, or more aptly, blow in the new. In keeping with the Jewish tradition, a new Tochnit for BBA is about to commence.

Having no other similar Jewish youth group in the area, it is difficult to put into perspective exactly how successful BBA was in its first few months. But, have no fear, we are here to stay, and our impact on both Bushey and Bnei Akiva was such that the full extent of the damage has still to be uncovered!

In the 12 meetings we enjoyed an immense variety of games, songs and dances; the themes ranging from "To be a Jew" to "The Israeli Army" and "The Effects of Fasting" to "A Day in the Life of a Kibbutznik".

Old favourites were called for each week such as "fruit baskets" and "Goosey, Goosey" (a la Bushey), and the weekly discussion from the older group on sedras and other areas of Jewish concern proved very fruitful. There were numerous quizzes and plays, much fun and a few tears. Literally hundreds of ideas suggested by chaverim and madrichim were tried and tested; we learnt a great deal, and all this points to the renewal of a great B.A. group.

But this is not just a 2 hour per week group (Shabbat, 3 p.m.-5 p.m.). We had three major outings, each a great success.

On one of the few sunny days, some thirty-five of us spent an afternoon in a local park on a scavenger hunt and both the madrichim and the park-keeper were amazed at how highly the chaverim scored.

A few weeks later ten members of the older group were invited to stay over Shabbat as guests of Edgware Bnei Akiva. You only have to ask those who went to discover how much we all enjoyed it. - Thanks again to Edgware B.A.

Just prior to the summer break, we had an outing to Knebworth House and adventure playground. Although not supported as well as we had expected, those who went returned, at the end of a very busy day, exhausted but happy. Our thanks to Jeffrey Blumenfeld, who made a good day a great one.

Finally, I would like to thank all those who have made BBA what it is. The parents who have helped with planning and transport, and especially the chaverim for their support.

SEE YOU ON SHABBAT, SEPTEMBER 30
ELLUL 28

RICHARD SEGALOV
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A

HOLOCAUST



Hitler and his Nazi thugs used the concentration camps to inspire terror in the German people. As the Germans subjected Europe to their tyranny more and more camps were set up. Their inmates - the Jews, Gypsies and anyone classed as 'undesirable' Amid all this bestiality six names stand out: the extermination camps which systematically murdered 8,000,000 in a little more than three years

Did the Holocaust really happen?
 Yes. That is the simple answer. The proof is in the toll of human life. For, according to the most accurate estimates, some 5,900,000 Jews perished during the Holocaust - the vast majority killed by the Nazis, others by disease and a campaign of forced starvation. Of this total figure, about 5 million victims died in the concentration camps, in mass executions and in the thousands of 'Aktionen' carried out by the Nazis and their henchmen in Poland, the Baltic States, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Rumania, and German-occupied Russia. The remainder perished in Holland, Norway, Belgium, France, Luxembourg, Italy, Yugoslavia, Greece and Germany.

The number represents about one-third of all the Jews who were alive and half of all those living in Europe, in September, 1939.

In recent years there has been a mounting campaign throughout the world to prove the Holocaust to be a hoax, a big Jewish lie. It would have been an easy matter to discredit this propaganda, had exact records of the Holocaust existed, however the detailed files once kept in Adolf Eichmann's office were destroyed. But a painful computation has been made by careful area by area analysis of the losses. In some cases, such as mass deportations to the extermination camps from Western Europe, detailed records were found. It was only in the assessments for Poland and Russia that any difficulties arose, because of the massive number involved and the cross-border migrations between these two countries. The final figure of just under 6 million is, indeed, on the conservative side.

But, are the scars and the testimony of the survivors insufficient evidence?

If all the signs were there, why didn't the Jews escape?
 Tens of thousands of Jews did try to escape, but it was really the old problem. Where could they go? Almost any country you could care to name maintained a strict quota policy for the admission of Jewish refugees from Europe. Perhaps the situation was best summed up by the Australian delegate at the Evian Conference of 1938 (called to discuss the problem) when he said: 'It will no doubt be appreciated that as we have no racial problem, we are not desirous of importing one'. Britain was moderately responsive to the plight of Europe's Jews and accepted 65,000 refugees. America took in 190,000 but imposed strict quotas after 1941. Strangely enough, Nationalist China accepted more Jews - mainly into Shanghai - than were accepted by Canada, Australia, New Zealand and India combined.

Of course, Palestine would have been the obvious refuge, but the restrictions on immigration slammed that door shut. But nevertheless about 120,000 Jews were able to get to the 'Promised Land'. And as a total figure, about 800,000 Jews did manage to escape the Nazis - a figure equivalent to one-in-seven of those who perished.

'In a world where humans are free to do right and to do wrong there will always be evil actions. If the Holocaust is to teach us anything it must be the realisation that one has to speak out against evil. Even a limited, uncertain, anguished fight against the darkness is better than surrendering to the evils of the past and the present day.'

Rabbi Albert Friedlander

Are the records and the admission of the Nazis unacceptable? What then? Recently, the author and Holocaust survivor, Elie Wiesel, issued the conclusive challenge: 'Where have the people disappeared? Where are the 3 million Polish Jews? What happened to the Jews of Germany? What happened to the Jews of my town and the other towns in Hungary, Estonia, Lithuania, Greece, Holland and the Ukraine? Where are the more than a million Jewish children in hiding? If there was no Holocaust, where have they vanished?'

SOVIET JEWRY



Why not send a post card and a New Year Card to the Chernobilskys and one to Anatoly Sharansky, and be ready to sign the Olympics petition. The addresses are:-

Anatoly Sharansky

USSR
RSFSR 600020
VLADIMIR
Uchr. OD/L ST/2
SHARANSKY ANATOLY

and

(CENTRAL ADDRESS)
USSR
RSFSR,
MOSCOW
p/ya 5110/1
OD/1 ST/2
SHARANSKY ANATOLY

Chernobilsky family

USSR
RSFSR
MOSCOW 107/207,
URALSKAYA 6/3 Apt. 25,
CHERNOBILSKY BORIS

Sharyn Blank



Whatever one felt about the presentation of the TV film "Holocaust" the facts spoke for themselves. The horror and brutality can never be wholly imagined by those of us fortunate not to have been there.

How frightening it is then to hear of refuseniks in Russia comparing those early days in Germany with their situation now.

Anti-semitism is part and parcel of everyday life. Young Jews are being denied places in higher education and people are taunted everywhere they turn.

Amidst this news the 35's have, with many other individuals, launched their campaign to have the 1980 Olympics removed from Moscow. Their argument counters the view that this will be an ideal opportunity for the world to meet refuseniks and to see their situation. They are convinced by the view of Russian Jews who fear greatly that by 1980 Moscow will be cleared of all Jewish and human rights activists.

When American statesmen have visited the USSR people have conveniently been imprisoned for several days. This time they believe the authorities will see that people they do not want to demonstrate or meet Western journalists will be far away from Moscow. The recent trials and sentences of Sharansky, Begun, Slepak and Ida Nudel, have begun this task. The Soviet authorities hope that by 1980 these names and many others will be forgotten. It is imperative that we do not allow this to happen. We must write continually to these people so that they do not disappear.

TODDLERS GROUP

It is now intended to commence the Toddlers Group shortly after the Yomim Tovim.

To enrol your child, please contact IMMEDIATELY either Susan Bennett, 954 0857 or Laurel Levy, 950 4182 to obtain an application form.

Opinion

What has happened and is happening with our synagogue? Nine years ago the known Jewish residents were circularised and invited to a meeting just before the New Year at which, at present, has become our place of worship. It became known that the building had been purchased and it was to become a synagogue affiliated to the United Synagogue.

Talk and discussion took place and then and there it was agreed that one of the first priorities was to get the place cleaned up in order to hold the forthcoming services. A number of us got together and cleaned and scrubbed the building in preparation for the High Holydays.

What have we attained since then? Apart from a coat of paint and some other necessities - nothing.

As one who attends the services fairly regularly I have opportunity to observe and what is there to be seen - black cobwebs that have been there at least 6 or 7 years, dirty windows, curtains covered in dust (they have hardly, if ever, been brushed since they were hung).

I appreciate that a fair amount of money has been used for the Beth Hamedrash and I accept this priority but what happens when most of these children attending the classes grow up and move away; are their parents and grand-parents to be left with the dowdy building that we now have? Money does not have to be spent on a great re-building plan, or refurnishing operation, but at least the place could be made clean.

What can be done about the decorum? I admit that at times I am a party to ill manners talking during the service but in recent months the Shabbat service has been getting steadily worse. There are those who do come for a spiritual uplift but how can you relate to your Maker when the discipline amongst some members is negligible?

I dread to think what is going to happen during the coming Yomtovim, the hall is small, the congregation getting larger and it seems uncontrollable. I would like to hope that during our forthcoming services, members will try and concentrate on the davening and show some respect to those good enough to lead us in our prayers and that the members don't treat these services as a morning coffee clutch.

Some months ago it was explained to us by Mr. Johnny Back that whenever the priests stood in front of the Ark and prayed it was not necessary for the congregants to turn and stand with their backs towards them. This was a superstition that was possible to dispense with. Well, what about Yizkor? It is absolutely stupid for the mass exodus of those who, thank G-d, have parents alive, to act as though their coat tails are alight with the very devil after them and wish to get out quickly. It is quite in order that those not taking part should remain quietly seated (what a hope) and listen to the beautiful prayer that is recited for the departed. But, no, everyone congregates in the street chattering and shouting not only disturbing those praying but the local residents. These people are alien to our way of life and it must, I am sure, cause a great deal of dislike and irritation towards us as Jews. Wouldn't it be possible for us to respect these people also.

I am not personalising this complaint but I would like to think that we all look at ourselves and ask is it possible that I, or we, or us, will make the forthcoming services appreciated. If there are those amongst us who cannot read Hebrew, let us read the English translation and we will know why we have come to attend the service and what it is about.

Rose Mitchell.

timetable

FRIDAY/SHABBAT	SIDRA	SHABBAT COMMENCES	FRIDAY EVENING SERVICE AT	SHABBAT AFTERNOON SERVICE AT	SHABBAT ENDS
13/14 October	HAZENU	5.58	6.00	6.00	6.54
20/21 October	—	5.43	5.45	5.45	6.39
27/28 October	B'RESHIT	5.29	5.30	5.30	6.26
3/4 November	NOACH	4.16	4.30	4.15	5.14
10/11 November	LECH LECHA	4.04	4.15	4.00	5.04
17/18 November	VAYERA	3.54	4.00	4.00	4.55
24/25 November	CHAYE SARA	3.46	4.00	3.45	4.49
1/2 December	TOLEDOT	3.40	3.45	3.45	4.44
8/9 December	VAYETZE	3.37	3.45	3.45	4.42
15/16 December	VAHISLACH	3.36	3.45	3.45	4.42
22/23 December	VAYESHEV	3.39	3.45	3.45	4.45
29/30 December	MIKETZ	3.44	3.45	3.45	4.50
SHABBAT MORNINGS		9.30	SUNDAY MORNINGS		8.30
SHABBAT CHILDREN'S SERVICE 10.45 APPROX.					

Rosh Chodesh

Cheshvan: Tuesday 31 October and Wednesday 1 November.
 Kislev: Thursday 30 November and Friday 1 December.
 Tevet: Shabbat 30 December and Sunday 31 December.

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(Office open Sunday 10a.m. - 1p.m.)

WARDENS

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Philip Skelker - 950 7203

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Lionel Finkelstein - 950 1988

COVENANTS OFFICER

Leon Mitchell - 950 5496

MEMBERSHIP

Howard Goodman - 428 2819

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Aron Sager, Secretary - 950 7123

Parents Association

Bobbie Coffey, Chairman - 950 5489

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House Committee

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Development

Johnny Back - 950 1327

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Colin Fink

FUNCTIONS COMMITTEE

Henry Saunders - 950 4290

YOUTH & EDUCATION including Talmud Torah.

John Blank - 950 3780

KASHRUT OFFICER

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Shirley Epstein - 950 5217

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Leon Mitchell - 950 5496

B'NEI AKIVAH

Richard Segalov - 950 3485
Richard Galloway - 950 1654
Janet & Yvonne Goide - 950 3269

OTHER LOCAL COMMITTEES NOT UNDER BOARD OF MANAGEMENT AUSPICES.

1973 TRUST FOR ISRAEL

Johnny Back, Chairman - 950 1327

LEAGUE OF JEWISH WOMEN (Watford & District)

Rose Mitchell - 950 5496

SOVIET JEWRY COMMITTEE

Sharyn Blank - 950 3780

The views expressed by the editor and other contributors are not necessarily those of the Synagogue Board of Management.

ANATOLY SHCHARANSKY



"... I AM HAPPY THAT I CAN BE A WITNESS TO THE REDEMPTION OF THE JEWS IN THE U.S.S.R. ..."

In March and April 1977, during the preliminary interrogations, those conducting the investigation warned me that, in view of the position taken by me during the investigation, the one which I have maintained during the course of this trial, I will be likely to be given the death sentence or, as a minimum, 15 years of confinement. I was told that if I agreed to collaborate with the KGB in order to destroy the Jewish emigration movement, then I would be given a short sentence, quick release, and even the possibility of joining my wife.

Five years ago I applied for a visa to Israel, but now I am further than ever away from the attainment of my dream. It might appear that I must have regrets about what has happened. But this is not so. I am happy. I am happy that I have lived honestly, in peace with my conscience, and have never betrayed my soul, even when I was threatened with death. I am happy that I have helped people. I am proud to have known and worked with such honourable brave people as Sakharov, Orlov, Ginsburg, they who are continuing the finest traditions of the Russian intellectuals.

I am happy that I can be a witness to the redemption of the Jews in the USSR. These absurd accusations against me and against the whole Jewish emigration movement will not hinder the liberation of my people. My relatives and friends know how very much I wanted to exchange the life of an activist of the Jewish emigration movement here for a life in Israel with my Avital. For more than two thousand years my people have been scattered throughout the Diaspora, but wherever Jews were they have repeated each year: 'Next Year in Jerusalem — LeShana haba'a b'Yerushalayim.' Now that I am further than ever away from my people and from my Avital, and I am expecting many hard long years of confinement, I say again, speaking to my people and to my Avital: 'LeShana haba'a b'Yerushalayim—Next Year in Jerusalem.'

Anatoly Shcharansky's statement to the court at the conclusion of his trial on the 14th July, 1978

WILL YOU HELP TOWARDS THE REDEMPTION OF THE JEWS IN THE U.S.S.R. ?

The following organisations are affiliated to or associated with the National Council for Soviet Jewry:

Board of Deputies of British Jews
All Party Parliamentary Committee for the Release of Soviet Jewry
Anglo-Jewish Association
Architects & Engineers and Building Industries Committee
Association of Baltic Jews
Association of Jewish Ex-Servicemen & Women
Association of Jewish Journalists
Association of Jewish Scientists & Organisations
Association of Jewish Youth

British Birth
British Naval (Prisoner Welfare)
Chief Rabbi's Cabinet
Child Resettlement Fund
Committee for the Release of Soviet Jewish Prisoners
Conscience
Federation of Synagogues
Federation of Women Zionists
Hebrew Movement (UK Branch)

Joint Israel Appeal
League of Jewish Women
Local Organisations
London Friends of Shalom
London Students & Academics Committee for Soviet Jewry
Medical & Scientific Committee for Soviet Jewry
Mizrachi Federation
National Youth Council for Soviet Jewry
Dubno Interdenominational Committee for the Release of Soviet Jewry

Polish Zion
Polish Jewish Ex-Servicemen's Association
Regional Representative Councils in the U.K. and Ireland
Retro-Synagogues of Gt. Britain
Spanish & Portuguese Jews' Congregations
Union of Jewish Students
Union of Liberal & Progressive Synagogues
United Synagogue
Women's Campaign for Soviet Jewry (UK)
Zionist Federation of UK



National Council for Soviet Jewry
of the United Kingdom and Ireland
183-189 Finchley Road, London NW3 6LD Tel.: 01-624 0181

I We wish to make a donation of £ _____ towards the Charitable Trust for Soviet Jewry

I We wish to make an annual donation under deed of covenant of £ _____ towards the Charitable Trust for Soviet Jewry

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In Moscow — a mother's despair