

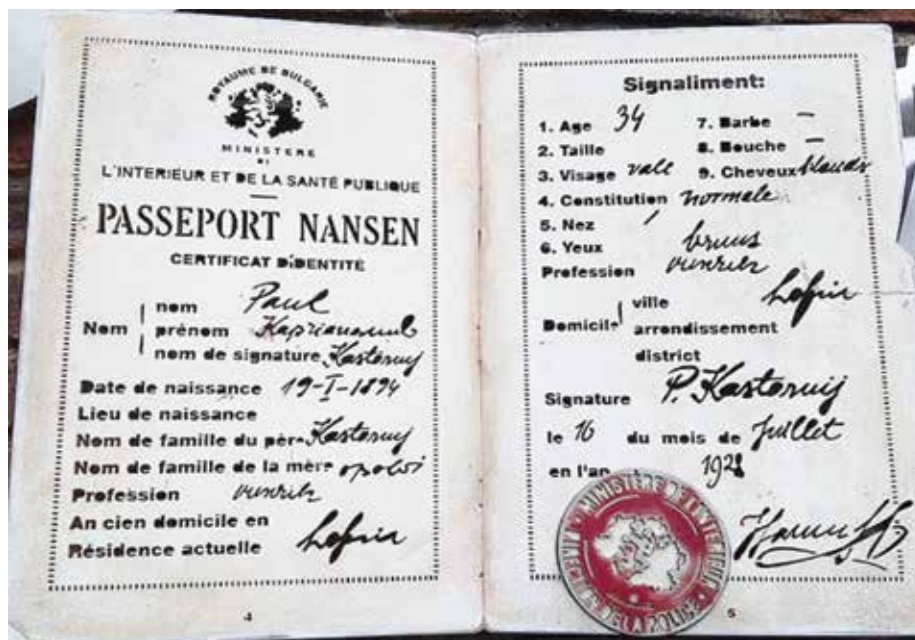


# AJR JOURNAL

The Association of Jewish Refugees

## Centenary of the Stateless Passport

Many first generation AJR members would not have been able to come here without the benefit of a Nansen passport, which provided a lifeline to some half a million refugees between 1922 – 1938.



One of the first Nansen passports

In his heyday, Fridtjof Wedel-Jarlsberg Nansen (1861-1930) was one of the most famous men in Europe. He was an explorer, scientist, diplomat and humanitarian.

In the final decade of his life, Nansen devoted himself primarily to the League of Nations, following his appointment in 1921 as the League's High Commissioner for Refugees. In 1922, he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize 'for his leading role in the repatriation of prisoners of war, in international relief work and as the League of Nations' High Commissioner for refugees.' Among the initiatives he introduced was the "Nansen passport" for stateless persons, a certificate

that was eventually recognised by more than fifty countries. He worked on behalf of refugees until his sudden death in 1930, after which the League established the Nansen International Office for Refugees to ensure that his work continued. It received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1938.

We normally associate the crisis of European refugees with the 1930s, in particular, with the rise of Nazism. But the first great wave of displacement in central and Eastern Europe came between the First World War and the early 1920s. After 1917-18 numerous governments were toppled, and *Continued on page 2*

### AUTUMN DAYS

As the nights draw in the AJR is becoming very busy with our annual Autumn schedule of commemorative events and Services, as well as our usual programmes for meeting and supporting members.

There is coverage of much of this within this month's magazine as well as the first of a new series of articles looking at our different Funding Partners.

We hope you enjoy our November issue and would, as always, be delighted to receive any feedback.

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*Please note that the views expressed throughout this publication are not necessarily the views of the AJR.*

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## Centenary of the Stateless Passport (cont.)

national borders were redrawn, often along generally ethnic lines. Civil war broke out in some countries. According to the historian EJ Hobsbawm, in his book, *The Age of Extremes, 1914-1991* (1994), 'At a rough guess the years 1914-22 generated between four and five million refugees.'

Two particular crises after the First World War, in Communist Russia and in Turkey, drew international attention to the scale of the refugee problem. On 15 December 1921 Lenin's government issued a decree stripping citizenship from nationals who had lived outside Russia for five years and had not been granted new passports from the Soviet Union, those who had left the country after 7 November 1917 without permission, and those 'who have voluntarily served in armies fighting against the Soviet authority, or who have in any way participated in counter-revolutionary organisations.' Suddenly, almost a million Russians found themselves stateless refugees.

At around the same time, in 1923, Turkey confiscated all the property of Armenians living abroad. In 1927 Turkey then stripped nationality from 'Ottoman subjects who during the War of Independence took no part in the National Movement, kept out of Turkey and did not return from July 14, 1923.' These decrees affected hundreds of thousands of Armenians, estimates vary anything between 200,000 and 900,000.

The League of Nations, created by the Treaty of Versailles, tried to deal with this legal vacuum and asked the famous Arctic explorer, Nansen, to serve as 'High Commissioner on behalf of the League' to deal with this problem. Nansen and his colleague Philip Baker had already organised the repatriation of 250,000 Central Powers soldiers still in Siberian POW camps in 1920 and 200,000 Russians POWs still held in Germany. Nansen and Baker, accepted the League's mission and tried to find a way of providing political and legal protection to Russian refugees and to coordinate the efforts of the numerous organisations that had been set up to offer relief services during the chaos that followed the First World War and the Russian Revolution and Civil War. Baker later played a prominent part in trying to resolve the Jewish refugee crisis of the late 1930s.

It was Baker who came up with the idea of

the so-called Nansen passport in 1922. By the end of 1922 it was recognised as a valid international identity document by twenty-four countries and this doubled in just a few years. According to Deborah Dwork and Robert Jan Van Pelt, in their classic study, *Flight from the Reich: Refugee Jews, 1933-1946* (2009), the Nansen Passport 'looked like a passport, was called a passport, was associated with the most noble name of its day, and it worked.'

Nansen was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in December 1922. In 1926 he convened an inter-governmental conference in Geneva to press governments to include the right for Nansen passport holders to return to the country that had issued the document, should the holder travel abroad. In the same year The League of Nations' Organisation for Communications and Transit held a passport conference. In the meantime, the Nansen passport steadily accrued additional rights. By the time Nansen died in 1930, refugees with Nansen passports enjoyed many of the same benefits as nationals. Following Nansen's death in 1930, the passport was handled by the Nansen International Office for Refugees within the League of Nations.

In October 1933, in response to the growing German refugee crisis, an inter-governmental conference sponsored by the League's Nansen International Office of Refugees (IOR) adopted a Refugee Convention that extended even greater rights to Nansen passport holders than they had held before.

Nansen passports, originally and officially stateless persons passports, were internationally recognised refugee travel documents from 1922 to 1938. They marked an era between the international mayhem that followed the First World War and the Russian Revolution and the darkening refugee crisis of the Nazi years.

The Nansen International Office of Refugees was closed in 1938; from then, passports were issued by a new agency, the Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees under the Protection of the League of Nations in London. The Nansen era was over. The UNHCR established the Nansen Refugee Award in his honour in 1954. It is given to a person or group for outstanding service in the cause of refugees.

Approximately half a million refugees travelled with Nansen passports. These included such famous people as the Hungarian-born photographer Robert



Nansen passport renewal stamp; Nansen International Office for Refugees, 1930

Capa, Marc Chagall, Gurdjieff, Jabotinsky, Nabokov, the ballerina Anna Pavlova, Aristotle Onassis and Rachmaninov and Stravinsky, two of the greatest composers of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

In particular, Nabokov frequently wrote about the Nansen passport. One of his greatest creations Timofey Prnin migrates to the United States on a Nansen passport, as did the first wife of Humbert Humbert in *Lolita*. In his famous memoir, *Speak, Memory*, Nabokov calls the Nansen passport 'a very inferior document of a sickly green hue. Its holder was little better than a criminal on parole and had to go through most hideous ordeals every time he wished to travel from one country to another, and the smaller the countries the worse the fuss they made.' In his short story, "Conversation Piece, 1945," Nabokov's narrator has a Nansen passport, 'tattered sea-green,' missing a stamp 'rudely refused' by a French consul.

'It is a fantastic commentary on the inhumanity of our times,' wrote the American activist and journalist Dorothy Thompson, 'that for thousands and thousands of people a piece of paper with a stamp on it is the difference between life and death... But there is no doubt that by and large, the Nansen certificate is the greatest thing that has happened for the individual. It returned to him his lost identity.'

David Herman

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# You don't have to be Jewish

The AJR regularly runs special Jewish Cultural Awareness sessions for volunteers and staff seeking to understand more about what it means to be Jewish.

The September sessions were originally designed for the new young ARSP volunteers from Germany and Poland, whose annual placements with the AJR are so appreciated by us and our members. This year we were also joined by staff from some of our partner organisations, such as the National Holocaust Centre and Museum, Voices of the Holocaust and the National Literacy Trust.

Fran Horwich, Head of Volunteer Services, and Caryn Bentley, Carers Support Coordinator, facilitated the training,

covering many aspects of Jewish life. These included the Sabbath, the daily life of a Jewish person, rites of passage such as marriage and bereavement, and - of course - kosher food, of which there was plenty to be sampled!

A core principle of the session is that participants feel comfortable to ask any question that they might have, and that all questions are answered honestly and candidly. One topic which always prompts interest is diversity within the Jewish community. There is such a wide range of



observance and connection to Judaism, which is reflected in AJR's membership. The attendees found this surprising, and enjoyed learning about how Judaism can mean so many different things to different people.

Fran and Caryn plan to repeat the course early next year over Zoom, thus enabling colleagues and volunteers outside London to attend more easily.

## A WONDERFUL DAY AT WADDESDON

On a lovely, sunny September day 35 AJR members travelled by coach to the magnificent Waddesdon Manor in Buckinghamshire. They were escorted by Karen Diamond who tells us about this special outing.

We arrived to a warm welcome and tea, coffee and homemade biscuits before moving into the Power House for a talk by Pippa Shirley, Director of Collections, Historic Properties and Landscapes. Pippa discussed the history of the Rothschilds at Waddesdon Manor, its design and various additions over the years, and its special collections. She also told how Lord James and Lady Dorothy de



Rothschild had sponsored 30 boys and girls from Frankfurt to come to the UK on the Kindertransport. These children were housed in the local village, in Cedar House, and became known as 'The Cedar Boys'.

We were then invited into the restaurant for a delicious lunch of wild mushroom risotto and cheesecake, after which we went into the main house for a free-flowing tour, where everyone could visit the rooms at their own pace. Every room had a friendly and knowledgeable guide stationed at the entrance to answer any questions. It was a very relaxing way to visit such a grand house! One room after another was filled

with elegant décor, one-of-a-kind pieces of furniture, chandeliers, exceptional paintings and other original pieces of artwork.

We then made our way into the stunning gardens to see the beautiful trees, fountains and sculptures and the aviary, which houses rare birds and takes part in important conservation breeding projects of endangered species. We stopped to admire the two oak trees planted by Waddesdon Manor as part of AJR's own '80 Trees for 80 Years' initiative. These trees were sponsored by the children of two of the 'Cedar Boys' – Jack Spier and Helga Brown - and they are thriving.



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# A VIEW OF OZ

## The refugee quandary in 1938

A new book provides fascinating insights into attitudes towards Jewish refugees 'down under'. Here is an extract, specially selected for us by the book's author **Paul Bartrop PhD**, Professor Emeritus of History at Florida Gulf Coast University.

Throughout 1938 British representatives in Europe began suggesting policy implementation to their Australian colleagues in Canberra. One such initiative came from the British passport control officer at Budapest, V.C. Farrell. In a letter dated 29 March 1938 to the Secretary of the Department of the Interior, he offered a few observations regarding immigrant applications from Hungary which, he believed, 'may be of interest' to the Commonwealth authorities.

In the first place, he noted, some '99% of the applications are from persons of Jewish race.' His next statement must surely have raised eyebrows: 'Whilst desiring to be fair-minded, I feel it my duty to state that events in Central Europe at the present time are providing ample proof that large Jewish colonies are not readily assimilated into countries of Aryan population. Indeed, the present wave of antisemitism in Central Europe may be attributed very largely to the tendency of Jews, where possible, to unite among themselves in unceasing clannish endeavour to oust Aryan enterprise whenever it appears in competition with Jewish interests.'

He then proceeded to outline the professions in which such immigrants usually engaged ('medicine, architecture, salesmanship, [and] shopkeeping') and drew the conclusion that 'This type of immigrant ... does not as a rule give the impression of ever being likely to become a loyal and creditable pioneer in the Dominions.'

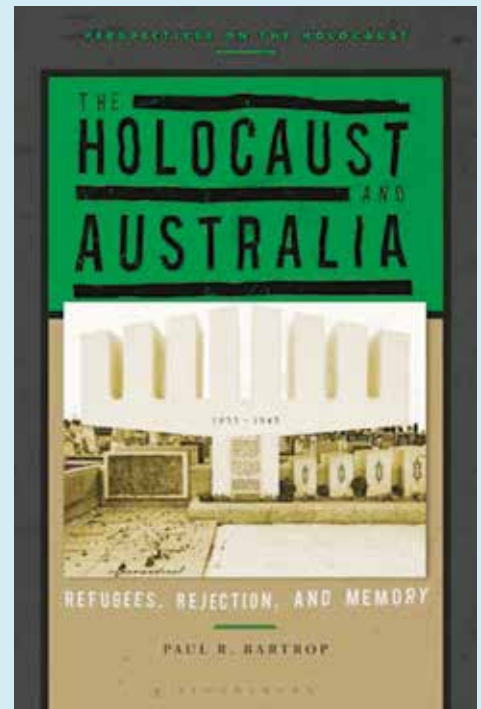
Coming from a member of His Majesty's Foreign Service, the document gave those in the Australian government departments something to think about. Farrell's authority could not be questioned; he was, after all, a specialist in

passport matters, the man on the spot, and the officer designated by the British government to represent Australia's migration interests in Budapest.

Further, he suggested that the Australian government could improve its immigration process if application forms were only issued to prospective migrants from a British passport control officer 'of the country in which the immigrant is domiciled'. This would disqualify Jews moving from country to country seeking permanent admission to British territories. Once an application form had been completed, 'it should be accompanied by a letter giving the views of this officer on the case submitted.' Although Farrell's suggestion was not taken up, handwritten notations indicate that his ideas were considered by the Department of the Interior.

British policy was opposed to any direct interference in Dominion affairs. This was spelled out most clearly in London, in a letter from the Secretary of State for the Dominions, Lord Stanley, in May 1938. He stated that 'the question of Jewish migration to Australia is one entirely for the Commonwealth Government and it is for them to decide the numbers of migrants who can be admitted and the conditions with which each migrant may be required to comply'. It was not, he said, a matter on which the British government could intervene. Indeed, any such intervention might do more harm than good.

A few days later, as if to highlight the point, an official in the Dominions Office minuted that it would be 'best for us, while helping unofficially in any way in our power, to keep out of anything which looks like intervention with the Dominion Governments'. The British and Australian governments thus found themselves in a curious relationship. While the Australians



Paul Bartrop's new book provides a fascinating insight into the attitudes to Jewish refugees 'down under'.

sought guidance from Whitehall from time to time, the British government was conscious that too much assistance might be viewed in Canberra as interference.

Australia's relationship with Britain throughout this period was dominated by concern over appeasement. Should Australia follow the line pursued by British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain? Should it seek to influence Britain in concert with the other Dominions? Or should it retreat into a policy of isolation which, while leaving the country vulnerable, would nonetheless not find itself chained to Downing Street's position, the outcome of which was uncertain? Where matters relating to immigration were concerned, moreover, the Australians found themselves in a further quandary. Acknowledgement of a person's status as a refugee is a judgement being passed on the regime from which the person comes. Every time Australia used the term refugee to describe those fleeing Nazi Germany—whether Jewish or not—the government was, arguably, intruding into the rights of another sovereign state. In this way, immigration policy and foreign affairs bisected, a situation the leery Australians would unquestionably have preferred to avoid.

# LETTER FROM ISRAEL BY DOROTHEA SHEFER-VANSON



## LETTER FROM ISRAEL



The first thing that hits you as the plane starts the descent towards the airport in Israel is the difference

in the colours on the ground. If you have just left one of the countries of Europe there is a noticeable difference in the shades of green that meet the eye. The brilliant emerald green of the fields of Europe, even in the summer of 2022 when temperatures rose to unprecedented heights and there were restrictions on water usage, remains in one's visual memory, only to be erased (or at least put in the shade) by the greys, browns and dusty dark greens of the Holy Land. And, of course, the ever-present white of the stone buildings.

It's always good to be home again, to be back in one's own comfortable abode, in the bosom of the family. What was really heart-warming was to find a note on our door left by our kind neighbours welcoming us and inviting us to come and get the basic provisions they had bought for us. Who could wish for a better welcome?

The change put a strain on our adaptability as almost in one bound we left the tranquility of under-

populated rural France, where the villages are few and far between, the roads are wide and relatively empty, and drivers are almost invariably courteous and considerate, to find ourselves in seemingly endless traffic jams, hounded by anxious, stressed-out drivers who tootle their horns with glee whenever the fancy takes them.

After not having driven for two months, I managed to drive to the supermarket, buy some provisions and return home more or less unscathed. It may be pathetic, but I consider that to be no mean achievement.

One of the great consolations of life in Israel is the presence of friends and family. And also the cultural, especially the musical, life. We were fortunate enough to be able to attend a grand performance of Mahler's monumental second symphony (The Resurrection) soon after returning, and that alone was enough to fill our spiritual and cultural batteries for some time to come. And of course, throughout the year there are the usual concerts, whether symphonic or chamber music, as well as operas, to look forward to. Where else, other than in the major capitals of the world, can one enjoy a similar array of musical riches? In addition, there are our traditional Friday evening family meals when we're able to catch up on the comings and goings of our children and grandchildren.

While we were away we were more or

less cut off from the news media, apart from the weekly French newspaper and interminably boring French politics, but it so happened that the news of the passing of Queen Elizabeth reached us when we were visiting relatives in the south of France. It was interesting to see the involvement of the French media in the event as one TV programme after another focused on the life of the Queen and developments in the Royal Family. It enabled us to exercise our French and share in what was happening in England and elsewhere.

In Israel we're enveloped by the news media, whether printed, broadcast or telecast, and the effect on one's nerves is unavoidable. Add to that the approaching election, with the constant barrage of information about political parties coalescing or dividing, individual politicians bombarding us with news and views and TV channels giving their predictions of election results, and it's goodbye to tranquility.

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# Letters to the Editor

The Editor reserves the right to shorten correspondence submitted for publication and respectfully points out that the views expressed in the letters published are not necessarily the views of the AJR.

## IMMIGRATION TO BRITAIN

I was interested in the recent correspondence on the subject of immigration to Britain in the '30s and '40s by Jewish refugees from Austria and Germany. In this connection, my own family's experience may be of interest.

We were granted refuge in Britain in September 1938 in an unorthodox manner which may exclude us from the statistic that Anthony Grenville quotes (October).

After numerous failed attempts in Vienna to obtain visas to various countries, my father finally managed to procure tourist visas to Australia and purchased tickets to Sydney on a ship sailing from Southampton, enabled by British transit visas. We travelled overland by train from Vienna to Düsseldorf airport, whence we flew to Croydon. By the time we arrived at Croydon, I had caught whooping cough diagnosed by an MO at the airport, and was judged unfit to board a ship on a long voyage.

We were promptly permitted to remain on British soil with periodic extensions of our transit visa. The rest is history.  
*Emil Landes, London N6*

I am a first generation member who looks forward to reading every *AJR Journal*. In the October edition there was an item on the immigration of Jews into Britain by Anthony Grenville. I would like to point out an important omission in this letter. It intimated that in the few years prior to 1939 (I quote) ... 'The only country which really held out a helping hand and thus lived up to the emergency was Great Britain'. The important omission was the city of Shanghai in China. From the beginning of 1938 till late 1939 Jews could go there with no visa, passport or any other documents. 20,000 Jews were saved in this way.

I am aware of this little-known story as my parents, my brother and I were saved

in Shanghai thanks to the Japanese who were in occupation of half of Shanghai. We arrived there on 28 August 1939 - the last boat to Shanghai before WW2. This is a very short outline though I know the full story of how this all came about; perhaps I can elaborate on this at some future time.

*Kurt Wick, London NW7*

## JEWISH REFUGEES & THE BBC

I would like to add a couple of names, both with a family connection, to the list in David Herman's highly stimulating article *Jewish refugees in and on the BBC* (October).

The Hamburg-born composer and conductor Berthold Goldschmidt, longstanding partner of my grandmother Margot Rosenkranz, spent the war working in the BBC German Service, where he was responsible for selecting and presenting music by Nazi-banned composers and musicians for broadcast to Nazi Europe. It was during this time that he came into contact with Martin Esslin, who wrote the libretto for Goldschmidt's second opera *Beatrice Cenci* written in 1949 and joint-winner of the Arts Council competition to mark the Festival of Britain two years later. Later Goldschmidt became a good friend - and musical sparring partner - of Hans Keller until the latter's death in 1985.

A briefer, but more prominent, role in the war years at the BBC was played by the Berlin-born cabaret artist Annemarie Hase (1900-71). She voiced the character of Frau Wernicke, a fictional Berlin housewife, in a series of satirical monologues commissioned by the German Service and aimed at underground listeners in Nazi Germany. It enjoyed considerable popularity there because of the fun it poked at Nazi propaganda. In her spare time Hase helped my other grandmother Lotte Ackerman make chocolates and other Continental treats in the kitchen of her flat in Thurlow Road, Hampstead. This was the beginning of the well-known

Ackerman's Chocolates business whose later shop in Goldhurst Terrace was to count a good number of the refugee community as its customers.  
*Nicholas Rose, Wuppertal, Germany*

May I suggest that you add Walter Goehr to the list of distinguished Jewish refugees who contributed to the BBC? In the 1940s he was conductor of the BBC Theatre Orchestra (now the BBC Concert Orchestra). His son Alexander is mentioned by David Herman in the list of contributors to BBC talks because Alexander Goehr was a Reith lecturer and is also a distinguished, world-renowned composer whose works were regularly performed on Radio 3. In 1975 he was appointed Chair of Music at the University of Cambridge where he remains music Emeritus Professor.

Walter's wife, Leila Goehr, was a distinguished photographer as well as a musician. They were our neighbours in Amersham, Buckinghamshire, during and after WW2. I remember that their home was a lively, vibrant hub for a diverse group of refugees - not only musicians.  
*John Farago, Deal, Kent*

## RUBIN KATZ

Readers may be sad to learn that Rubin Katz passed away last month. He was 91 years old. He and his wife Michele had been living in Israel for many years.

We first met Rubin in 2006 on a memorable AJR trip to Berlin and had occasional contact with him ever since, including visiting him in Israel.

While living in England he was an active correspondent in the *AJR Journal*. Both Rubin and his sister bravely and skilfully managed to evade the Nazis in Poland and he wrote a book recounting his experiences. He was a kindly person, someone whom we would describe as a 'Mensch', and he will be sorely missed.  
*Anthony Portner and Janet Clarke, Chertsey*

# LOOKING FOR?

## MEETING THE QUEEN

I was a Kindertransportee who arrived at Central Station, Glasgow, by Royal Scot on 5 May 1939, aged 15. Since then, I have made wonderful Scotland my home.

I had the great honour to be awarded the MBE by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II at an Investiture at her home in Scotland, the Palace of Holyrood House, Edinburgh, in July 1999. What a marvellous experience - one steps forward, Her Majesty fastens your medal on one's jacket, one shakes hands and has a short conversation with The Queen. For me it was a very special day, with my wife Ingrid and daughters Hilary and Gillian all watching the unique and unforgettable ceremony.

My MBE was in recognition of my role as Chief Skibob Instructor for BLESMA (British Limbless Ex Servicemen Association) helping as part of their programme for the rehabilitation of limbless ex- soldiers from the British Army.

I am very proud of having the opportunity to ski with several groups of courageous young men and women in the Alps for many winters. Their attitude to danger and their commitment to being better than able-bodied skiers is inspiring. It is so wonderful to see them regain their confidence and self-esteem.  
*Henry Wuga, Glasgow*

## THANK YOU

I put in your October *Looking For* column a request for information about Eva Geigner. Within a day an AJR member, Peter Lobbenberg, came up with a host of information about Eva Geiger and her family. The museum in Kolín is delighted to be able to fill in a gap in their research into the former Jewish community of their town. Thank you!  
*Rabbi Dr Andrew Goldstein*

## MA HIRSCH

Ma Hirsch and Shoot-Up Hill might sound like names from Chicago during Prohibition, but in fact they belong to a story that is now developing much closer to home.

Readers may remember that our October 'Looking For' column included a notice from Agnes Grunwald-Spier, who was seeking information from anyone who remembers 68 Shoot-Up Hill in Kilburn in the 1950s.



A loyal reader responded to her with a copy of this advertisement. It was taken from the January 1957 issue of this very Journal, and repeated quite frequently until the mid-1960s, during



Eugenie Grunwald in London 1955

an era when society was clearly far less 'woke' than it is today.

Agnes has now also shared with us this lovely photograph of her grandmother, which she believes was taken outside the residence c.1955, and also the photo of her grandmother's death certificate (below), on which the name 'Ma Hirsch' is written under 'Informant'.


Ma Hirsch's address is shown as 45 Princes Court, NW2, and Agnes would love to know more about her and her relationship to Eugenie.

Registration District HAMPSTEAD									
1957 DEATHS in the Sub-District of HAMPSTEAD NORTH in the Metropolitan Borough of HAMPSTEAD									
Column 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
No.	Where and when died.	Name and surname.	Sex.	Age.	Occupation.	Cause of death.	Signature, description, and address of informant.	When registered.	Signature of Registrar.
111	First 12 December 68 Shoot-up Hill, Kilburn, Hampstead	Agnes GREENWALD	Female	68	Formerly the wife of J. Greenwald, a Journalist	Coronary Thrombosis	Ma Hirsch, 45 Princes Court, NW2	12 Dec 1957	U. G. Grunwald

Death certificate for Eugenie Grunwald

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# ART NOTES: by Gloria Tessler

Are there actually any new perspectives of Lucian Freud, as the National Gallery claims in its current exhibition of his work? I have always marvelled at the change of perspectives the artist has employed throughout his working life. Included here are his lovers and children, a few commissioned portraits of powerful men like Baron Thyssen looking down, his strong hands placed on his knees, or a reflective Jacob Rothschild, with hands folded, plus the everyday faces you might see on the tube and some blatantly massive nudes, among his favourites, Leigh Bowery or Sue Tilley, the benefits supervisor.

But from the get-go the perspective was already changing. Freud's early portraits had blank faces, painted in a uniform pale monochrome, like his 1947 depictions of an almond-eyed brunette clutching a rose or a kitten by the neck (which looked as though she were strangling it). But even then there was a tension to the mouth which foretold of the painterly eruptions that would follow in his grim self portraits in which the flesh seemed to be already eating the soul.

Among the 60 works at the **Credit Suisse Exhibition, Lucian Freud, New Perspectives**, the first major exhibition of his work in ten years, we see the artist's progression from bewildered young man beside a hyacinth pot, (1947), the pungent smelling flower perhaps suggesting hope of new things, to the nudes, painted in ferocious, sweeping brushstrokes. These early faces with their spectral, Modernist pallor would become

HM Queen Elizabeth II sitting for Lucian Freud in 2001



naked and tortured, all painted with the same sallow, pinkish yellow tones. Not every face or body has the same colour or texture, but Freud decided otherwise. His nudes are so blatant that you could sometimes recoil from them, while in the portraits you see the ravages of time and inner turmoil.

His painting of Queen Elizabeth, a small work occupying a large space in the gallery, has the same firm mouth and averted look present in Freud's later self-portraits, but this royal portrait lacks a human touch. Perhaps by presenting her with metallic art deco curls and that truculent mouth, he did personally view the monarch as a figurehead without a common touch, at least in his universe.

Lucian Freud (1922-2011) came to Britain in 1933. He was fortunate, compared with his fellow Jews who did not see the writing on the wall in that dangerous epoch. The grandson of the great psycho-analyst Sigmund, he must have been more aware than most of his position as an outsider, the plant uprooted from its native soil, as has been implied in some of his work. The brunette squeezing a young rose in one painting and a kitten in another, might both be metaphors for this uprooting. The fleeting connection with his subject is evident in his sensitive painting of Caroline Blackwood, *Girl in Bed* (1952).

In the self-portrait, *Reflection With Two Children*, (1965) he creates an unusually distorted pose by looking up at himself from a mirror on the floor. In *Paddington*, his young daughter lies semi-nude on the floor beside a

towering pot plant, whose disjointed perspective suggests that the plant is the subject, not the child, again perhaps a metaphor for growth and yet containment. Behind her, his coat hangs on a wall and the floor is paint-spattered. In *Two Irishmen in W11* (1984) two suited men look deep into themselves, the younger one appears terrified, the older seated man resigned to some fate or other, while the turmoil of their inner lives is reflected in the coarse brushstrokes on the wall. Similarly in his 2002 self-portrait, that personal *angst* in his face is reflected in his tortured hands and the way the paint is thumped onto the background with thick impasto brushstrokes. There are shades of Picasso in earlier works, and in the later Freud steals an idea from one of his main influencers, Titian, by throwing rugs out of perspective as background props.

Freud is an artist of deep introspection, a tortured soul you might say, apart from rare images of pure joy, like *Girl in Bed*, which speak of an innocence free from layers of anguished brushstrokes.

**Lucian Freud: New Perspectives is at the National Gallery, London WC2 until 22 January.**

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**CONTEMPORARY  
PAINTING AND SCULPTURE**

# The first Jews in England

**While residency in Britain for AJR members dates back to WW2, the British welcome extended to Jews dates back much further, as David Dobson explains.**

Jews were invited to England by William the Conqueror in 1070 when Jewish merchants from Rouen came to finance the building of castles and cathedrals. Initially given significant freedom, separate waves of antisemitism occurred until in 1290 Edward uniquely, banished all Jews.

On 5 February 1906 a banquet was held in London organised by the Anglo-Jewish Historical Society to celebrate the 250th Anniversary of the readmission of Jews to England. The event was the idea of Lucien Wolf, the Society's founder, in honour of two men: 'Cromwell, the great-hearted Protector and Manasseh ben Israel, the devoted Jew.'

In 1653 Cromwell became Protector and there were discussions in Parliament that: 'the Jews might be admitted to trade as well as in Holland .... But there is nothing yet done therein.' It is little known that most Puritans believed that Jews were God's eternal people and shared a divine providence. They also believed the Christian bible reduced the Jewish context of Jesus and needed a fresh interpretation needing a knowledge of Hebrew. Puritan representatives, clerics and scholars were sent to Holland, a protestant state, to meet Jews and learn Hebrew. A few Hebrew language scholars such as John Sadler, a friend of Cromwell, did exist and recommended, 'making Christians more aware of what Jews believe and practice which would also make Jews less offensive to Christians'.

Of course, the introduction of Jews who were successful merchants trading in many faraway places would also be invaluable and hopefully open up new markets.

In 1654, a leading Sephardic Jew living in Amsterdam, Manuel Martinez Dormido came to London accompanied by Samuel



Bevis Marks Synagogue in London's Aldgate was built in 1700 and is the oldest, continuously used synagogue in the world

Manasseh, the son of Rabbi Manasseh ben Israel, to meet Cromwell and pave the way for the readmission of Jews to England. It helped that Manuel had, almost certainly, secretly helped Cromwell with intelligence during the recent Anglo-Dutch war.

Two prominent Jews had a major influence on Cromwell. Antonio Fernandez Carvajal and Rabbi Manasseh ben Israel. Since 1640 a small colony of Sephardic Jews had lived in London, passing as Spanish or Portuguese merchants. Their leader was Antonio Fernandez Carvajal who escaped the Inquisition in Portugal and later the Canary Islands and arrived in about 1635. In 1649 the Council of State appointed him one of five merchants to provide the army with corn during the Civil War.

Now we come to a surprising fact. In 1655 Carvajal and his two sons were granted English citizenship by Cromwell. On 4 February 1657 Cromwell told Carvajal that Jews could stay and about thirty Sephardi families emerged. Carvajal has been called the First English Jew.

Carvajal's death in 1659 was noted in Samuel Pepys' diary. 'Being this morning at the Jewish Synagogue in London I heard many lamentations by Portuguese Jews for ye death of Fernandez ye Merchant who was lately cut by the same hand with my selfie of ye Stone'. It refers to Carvajal and

Pepys suffering from gallstones, being operated on by the same surgeon but only Pepys survived.

After Cromwell's death and the restoration of Charles II in 1660, more Jews returned from Holland, but their presence was resented by some who lobbied for much stricter control. This resulted in a unique historical situation: Charles and Cromwell agreeing on a policy, that Jews were welcome.

The simple proof is that in 1664 when London Jews had to petition Charles II for protection he personally wrote on their paper, 'they may enjoy the same favour as before, as long as they demean themselves peaceably and obey the rules.' An eminent historian, James Parkes, wrote, 'surely the simplest charter of settlement in all Jewish history!'

The evidence of growing Jewish confidence was the building of the beautiful Bevis Marks Synagogue in Aldgate by a Quaker master builder, Joseph Avis in 1699 – 1701 which was openly attended by London Jewish families and the grandeur of the building was much admired. It is the oldest, continuously used synagogue in the world and is lit by 240 candles for services, despite electric lighting introduced in 1928.

PHOTO © BRENDA GOLDBLUM



Agricultural Trainees at Thaxted c.1952

PHOTO © ADAM SOLLER



Danny Handler, co-sponsor of the AJR tree at Thaxted

PHOTO © KATIE POWER (PARKES INSTITUTE, SOUTHAMPTON) / CRAIG WILLIAMS



Michal Barkan speaking at the event

**The AJR, through its 80 Trees for 80 Years project, was centre stage at an exciting event, attended by some 90 people (11 from Israel), at the site of the former Bachad Farm Institute, Thaxted on Sunday 18 September. The event was masterminded by Verity Steele, a former Thaxted girl who is now completing a PhD about Bachad at the University of Southampton.**

Between 1944 and 1962, the Institute provided agricultural 'hachsharah' (training) to over 1,000 Jewish youth, many of whom were refugees from Nazism. A significant proportion had come to the UK via the Kindertransports and from the postwar group known as 'The Boys' – survivors of the concentration camps.

The AJR, through its 80 Trees for 80 Years project, was centre stage at an exciting event, attended by some 90 people (11 from Israel), at the site of the former **Bachad Farm Institute, Thaxted** on Sunday 18 September. Between 1944 and 1962, the Institute provided agricultural 'hachsharah' (training) to over 1,000 Jewish youth, many of whom were refugees from Nazism. A

significant proportion had come to the UK via the Kindertransports and those from the postwar group known as 'The Boys' – survivors of the concentration camps.

The man behind the vision for purchasing a farm to train youth for *Aliyah* was Bachad's CEO at the time, the late **Arieh Handler** (1915-2011). His son, Danny, who co-sponsored the AJR tree together with his brother, Gabriel, paid tribute to his father's achievements: "The reason for planting the tree here is to commemorate the refugees, young kids, who made use of this facility. It was one of the many aspects of my father's work – an achievement of which he was extremely proud. It was to become a model, both here and later in Israel."

The farm project came about as a natural development of Arieh Handler's vast experience in helping young adults in 1930s Germany and his being in the right place at the right time. Following *Kristallnacht* in November 1938, his work in Germany came to an abrupt halt. Fortunately for him, he was in Jerusalem when news reached him of the pogroms and was warned not to return on any account. One of his many influential contacts, Youth Aliyah chief in Jerusalem, Henrietta Szold, stepped in and instructed him to 'Go to London and continue your rescue work there!'

From early 1939, Arieh's office in Woburn House became a busy hive of activity as he helped secure further visas for youth. His

flair for networking and organisation came into its own through setting up *hachsharah* centres throughout the UK, along the lines of Bachad's centres in Germany. If youth were physically fit and prepared to work hard on the land, their life together in these small communities was a much preferable option to their adoption as lone individuals in non-observant homes. However, the first centres (Thornham Fold Farm, Millisle, Whittingehame and Gwrych Castle and others) frequently entailed employment with non-Jewish farmers. The solution was for Bachad to own a farm it could run autonomously. This Arieh achieved through forming the **Bachad Fellowship**, a group of London-based businessmen who became guarantors of the farm project, advised and raised funds.

The farm was home to an average of sixty young Jews at any given time and gained a worldwide reputation, drawing trainees from over twenty countries, mostly from Europe, but also North Africa, India and Australia! But by the mid-1950s, Bachad was encountering recruitment difficulties. Standards of living had begun to rise, along with expectations of Jewish youth, many of whom preferred other career options to working on a farm. Also by this time, more appropriate agricultural training was on offer in Israel. Very reluctantly, the farm was sold in 1962, almost exactly 60 years prior to the September event.

Until now, the memory and significance of its history had all but vanished from the locality, with a few exceptions such

# Thaxted



The event speakers in front of the tree



Verity Steele with the information board

PHOTO ©ADAM SOLLER



The AJR's Debra Barnes

as 90-year-old Bruce Munro, who shared what little he had known with the gathering on 18<sup>th</sup> September. But for those Bachad members present who had trained at Thaxted and their descendants, a completely different picture emerged:

Michal Barkan, daughter of former Bachad Farm manager, Max Kopfstein (1925-2021) - a Kindertransport refugee from Berlin to the UK in early 1939 - spoke movingly of her father's life-long gratitude for the opportunity to pursue a new way of life and for the training which prepared him for his future career (Israeli Ministry of Agriculture). "At the age of 19 my father joined a group of young men and women at "The Lodge" right after the purchase in 1944. Five years later he became the manager of the farm, following in the steps of his mentor, Kulli Landau, from whom he had learned a lot: agriculture, management, finances, leadership, tenacity, finding solutions to any problem. My father wrote: "The Thaxted *hachsharah* farm was a serious enterprise in terms of its educational impact in general and farming in particular". Michal went on to detail the legacy of her father's experiences, in particular growing up with very close connections to a host of Bachad and Bnei Akiva friends from whom they received mutual support in times of both joy and sorrow. The concept of 'kibbutz' living was also influential: "Even today, I am still drawn to spiritual and intellectual pursuits, to learning, and to ethical issues - far more than to material things. And I try to emulate the values of true friendship and solidarity that our parents instilled within us."

Three former Thaxted trainees were at the event: Vivienne Riffkin (originally from Dublin), Shlomo Manns and Shully Berkowitz – both originally from Australia. All three had brought with them family members and were absolutely thrilled to be back at the farm to participate in the tree-planting. Their history had come back to life for them and they felt the event and the research behind it has helped to put Thaxted back on the map!

Other contributors were Aviv Handler (Arieh's grandson), Alan Philipp, grandson of the late Oscar Philipp, former Bachad Fellowship Chairman, whose legacy continues today through The Jewish Students' Aid Trust and Daniel Avner, son of the late Yehuda Avner (formerly Gubby Haffner) who after his training at Thaxted pursued a career in Israel's diplomatic service, serving as Ambassador to the UK (1983-88) and other places.

The tree planting itself was ably introduced by the Cambridge-based researcher Mike Levy, with live music by Cantor David Rome and the Oysland Klezmer Duo, followed by the blowing of a Shofar by Gidon Schwartz (National Director, Bnei Akiva UK), and the unveiling of an information display board next to the tree.

Michael Culkin, Chairman of the Thaxted Society, expressed the hope that it would serve as a permanent lesson

and reminder of the farm's Jewish past. Danny Handler's brother, Professor Gabriel Handler (co-sponsor), wrote from Jerusalem that the tree and board would attest 'to the amazing undertaking of Bachad's Thaxted chalutzim and to my father's inspired leadership for years to come.'

The AJR's own Debra Barnes concluded by saying that this had been one of the most special tree-planting events she had attended, made all the more poignant for being held the day before the Queen's funeral, but nevertheless an example of the terrific response nationwide to the AJR's project.

The event has already sparked considerable interest, especially in Israel, but naturally could not have taken place at all without the wholehearted support of the Magness family, farmers and current owners of Lodge Farm, Thaxted.

Verity Steele writes: I am really delighted with the way the event was received by the former Chalutzim and family members who attended. I hope to produce a book about Bachad – and to that end, would be grateful for any information or memories AJR members may be able to offer. Please email me at [v.l.steele@soton.ac.uk](mailto:v.l.steele@soton.ac.uk) or via the contact form on my website: [www.bachadresearch.com](http://www.bachadresearch.com)

**Verity Steele**

# #LastSeen

## UNKNOWN HOLOCAUST PHOTOS

**A new photo-based project is helping researchers recover lost stories and is providing a tool against Holocaust denial.**

**Wolf Gruner, Chair in Jewish Studies and Professor of History at the University of Southern California, explains.**

Although the Nazis deported hundreds of thousands of Jewish men and women, for many places where those tragic events happened, no images are known to document the crime. Surprisingly, there's not even photographic evidence from Berlin, the Nazi capital and home to Germany's largest Jewish community.

The lack of known images is important. Historians now agree that photographs and film must be taken seriously as primary sources for their research. These sources can complement the analysis of administrative documents and survivor testimonies and thus enrich our understanding of Nazi persecution.

As a historian originally from Germany and now teaching in the U.S., I have researched the Nazi persecution of the Jews for 30 years. I have to admit that I – along with many of my colleagues – did not take visual evidence seriously as a primary source and rather used it to illustrate my publications.

During the past decade, scholars have

realised how pictures can contribute to our understanding of mass violence as well as the resistance to it. Some can provide the only evidence we have about an act of persecution – for example, a photograph of anti-Jewish graffiti. Others will reveal additional details, as in the image of a court proceeding against anti-Nazi resisters.

Photographs are now in some cases the sole objects of scholarly inquiry. They are used to identify perpetrators and victims in specific cases, when other sources would not reveal them.

One such example is this image of uniformed Nazis standing in front of a passenger train filled with German Jews in Munich on 20 November 1942. Who were those men? More importantly, what are the stories of the barely recognisable victims behind the windows in this image?

To make pictures of Nazi deportations accessible for research and education, a group of university, educational and archival institutions in Germany and the Dornsife Center for Advanced Genocide Research at the University of Southern California launched the #LastSeen Project — Pictures of Nazi Deportations .

The project has three main goals: first, gathering all existing pictures. These images will then be analysed to identify the victims and perpetrators and recover the stories behind the pictures. Finally, a digital platform will provide access to all the images and unearthed information, both enabling a new level of study of this visual evidence

and establishing a powerful tool against Holocaust denial.

Within the first six months of the project we received dozens of unknown images, more than doubling the number of German towns, from 27 to over 60, where we

©CITY ARCHIVE MUNICH



Two Jewish girls awaiting deportation in Munich on 11 November 1942. Their identities are not known.

now have photographs documenting Nazi deportations.

Many of these photos had collected dust on shelves in local archives in Germany, and some were found in private homes. To locate more photos, we are counting on the help of ordinary citizens, researchers, archivists, museum curators and survivors' families.

The identities of deportees and perpetrators in the images are often unknown. Most photographs show groups of victims whom project staff aim to identify so they and their stories can be acknowledged. This is very difficult, since there are seldom close-up shots.

Even in a photograph clearly showing two Jewish girls, we do not know anything other than that the Gestapo deported them to Kowno with the same transport depicted in the image showing Munich Jews being deported (see photograph below). The nearly 1,000 deportees from Munich were shot soon after they arrived at their destination in Nazi-occupied Lithuania.

This is but one example of how scholars desperately need the public's help to recover the stories of countless unidentified victims of the Nazis.

If you have a photo to share with the #LastSeen project or would like to know more about this project please contact [cagr@usc.edu](mailto:cagr@usc.edu) or look at <https://dornsife.usc.edu/cagr-news/news/2022/04/33261-center-searches-photographs-nazi-mass-deportations-part-lastseen-project>

*With grateful thanks to The Conversation, which this August published the original version of this article.*



The deportation of Munich Jews to Kowno in Nazi-occupied Lithuania, 20 November 1942

# The perfect space for Ben Abeles

**Ben Abeles arrived by Kindertransport from Prague in July 1939 and went on to become a renowned space physicist. His widow, Helen Abeles, has just donated his personal archives to the University of Southampton, where Tony Kushner is James Parkes Professor.**

**Helen writes:**

The wedding photo shows a radiant bride and an impossibly handsome groom, the word 'Jude' emblazoned on their chests - this is Prague, 1941 and within months they will be separated and murdered in Nazi concentration camps.

This picture, of Ben's sister Mary and brother-in-law Jan, sat in our flat in Leicester, alongside a photo of his also murdered parents smiling at the wedding, and the last picture taken of Ben and his mother in 1939. These photos, plus many others from both before and during the War, were left along with other family documents with Christian friends when Ben's family were transported to the Terezín concentration camp.

Throughout his very long life in four countries Ben carried the contents of this box with him, along with the letters his parents sent to him in England. These start on regular paper and end as very brief form letters sent via the Red Cross. They are



Helen & Tony looking at one of Ben's photo albums in Southampton

heart-breaking, urging him to study and always wash his socks, and later including pleas to help get them out.

Ben died leaving me with these precious and intensely personal items. I knew I wanted them to go to an institution where they would be preserved, as did his children. But the process leading up to donating them was far from straightforward for me emotionally. The practical task of sorting through and organising everything became part of the intense grief at losing him – the person that was Ben reduced to boxes of inert paper. Was the meaning of these things lost now that Ben's living bond with them had gone?

This meant that handing the boxes over was an emotional experience. But I was also hugely moved by the story of these items and their journey from the Austro-Hungarian Empire (in the case of some of them) to their final resting place in the University of Southampton Special Collections. There they will be cherished, and used by researchers, students and others seeking to understand and interpret the Holocaust.

**Tony writes:**

When my university friend Helen (we were at Sheffield) approached me about finding a suitable place to donate Ben's papers, I suggested Southampton as a possibility. This was not simply because the facilities for cataloguing and conserving the collections are truly exceptional. Ben Abeles' papers will be at home and an exceptional feature of our Jewish refugee holdings which include those relating to many key organisations and individuals. Indeed, Southampton is the repository for one of the largest Jewish archives in Europe, building on the collections of James Parkes, Christian clergyman and the first in the democratic world (as early as the 1920s) to recognise the threat posed by Nazism. Parkes fought hard in his own Church of England and in the wider world on behalf of European Jewry, bringing over and housing many Jewish refugees,



Ben's sister and brother-in-law on their wedding day

and campaigning during the war for the British government to save the Jews. Alongside the Parkes Library, they are part of the work of the Parkes Institute and its extensive teaching, outreach and research work.

I should add that being with Helen when she handed over Ben's papers was also a deeply moving experience for the archivists and myself. Here was Ben's life, and that of his family, many of whom were murdered in the Holocaust, already neatly contained in folders and boxes. At Southampton we will ensure that Ben's memory and significance is kept alive. As a first step, we will host a public event announcing the arrival of the archive, featuring contributions from Helen on Ben's life; from the University's physics department outlining his unique scientific contribution; and from members of the Parkes Institute specialising in the history and memory of the *Kindertransport*.

Whilst it is a sad and inevitable fact that we are fast losing the young refugees from Nazism, it is reassuring that their records are now treasured and made relevant to a younger generation, as they are at Southampton – including those now of the remarkable Ben Abeles.

Ben's archives are available to view on [www.southampton.ac.uk/archives/index.page](http://www.southampton.ac.uk/archives/index.page) and his memoir, *If not for the Kindertransport* is available digitally from Amazon and in paperback (2 volumes) from [www.lulu.com](http://www.lulu.com).

# TECHNOLOGY WORKSHOP

In these days of fast paced technological change, who can keep up with their own devices? Many of us have smart phones, but feel the phones are smarter than we are! But don't despair - the AJR can help.

In September a number of our members were treated to a technology workshop, devised and hosted by Clemmy Littleton. Clemmy chose to create this session as a part of the community work she has undertaken for her upcoming Bat Mitzvah.

Clemmy looked at three aspects of using technology:

- Communicating and keeping in touch
- Learning new skills



Happy AJR members at the end of their Technology Workshop in September

- Community – finding your people

Clemmy, who is only 13, did such an excellent job and members all felt they had learned something new, from creating a WhatsApp group, to turning on audio descriptions for Zoom

meetings. Members really enjoyed the opportunity to learn from the younger generation!

If this is something you would like the chance to take part in, do please contact [fran@ajr.org.uk](mailto:fran@ajr.org.uk)

## 2nd GEN SUPPORT

- In our October issue we reported about a new group being set up by Wendy Davis, which will run for 12 weekly therapeutic sessions. We can now reveal that the 12 sessions will commence on Thursday 12 January, from 7.00 - 8.30 pm at the Sobell Centre in Golders Green. Please contact Wendy on **07962 262 081** or at [wendymdavis21@gmail.com](mailto:wendymdavis21@gmail.com)
- Separately, JW3 is hosting a Being Second Generation workshop on Sunday 13 November, facilitated by psychologist and AJR Trustee Gaby Glassman. See more details on <https://www.jw3.org.uk/search?for=being+second+generation>

## Claims Conference

### SUPPLEMENTAL HARDSHIP FUND PAYMENTS

If you received a one-off payment from either the Hardship Fund or the BEG (original West German government compensation) in the past and have NOT applied for/received the Supplemental Hardship Fund payment of 2 x €1200, please contact one of the following asap as the fund is closing on 31 December 2022:

**Rosemary Peters:**

**020 8385 3088 / [rosemary@ajr.org.uk](mailto:rosemary@ajr.org.uk)**

**Melanie Jawett:**

**020 8385 3072 / [melanie@ajr.org.uk](mailto:melanie@ajr.org.uk)**

Please note that recipients of certain reparation pensions are ineligible for these payments. Completed application forms should be returned to the AJR so that we can submit them securely to the Claims Conference.

## ASK US NOW

Earlier this year we published our first anthology of poems written by AJR members and their spouses. The title of the collection, *Ask me again in November*, took its name from the response that our former Head of Volunteer and Community Services, Carol Hart, gave to our Memory Loss Volunteer co-ordinator, Julia Baker, when she proposed the book. Knowing she herself was unwell, Carol replied: "It is a lovely idea but ask me again in November." Poignantly Carol passed away in November 2021 before

discussing the book again.

We are sure that Carol would be delighted to know that, one year on, we now have a book and that our volunteering activities are going from strength to strength, offering support and friendship to hundreds of our members and running regular poetry, knitting and technology-based activities.

To get involved in any way please contact [fran@ajr.org.uk](mailto:fran@ajr.org.uk) or call the office.



## KRISTALLNACHT SERVICE 2022



Wednesday 9 November at 2pm  
Belsize Square Synagogue

To book your place in person please email [susan@ajr.org.uk](mailto:susan@ajr.org.uk) or call the office on **020 8385 3070**

The event will also be available to view live via <https://synagogue.org.uk/services/live/>

## AJR PARTNER

## Voices of the Holocaust

Welcome to our new series of articles looking at the different organisations which receive grant funding from the AJR in support of their educational and commemorative projects. This first article looks at **Voices of the Holocaust**, a unique charity which uses theatre in education.

The charity's core objective is to ensure that the voices of the Holocaust remain a present and powerful educational force in UK schools. Since 2013, thanks to support by the European Jewish Congress and Fund, it has impressed students, teachers and academics alike with its pedagogically sensitive and artistically powerful work that allows young people access to the stories and testimonies of this most challenging period in human history, using theatre and drama as a form of mediated testimony.

"There is a big discussion about the ethics of making the Holocaust into art, a thing of beauty. Voices of the Holocaust shows how it can be done; not simply as entertainment but as historically researched, no holds barred reflections. You cannot attend without thinking deeply about the Holocaust and what it is to be human," says Darius Jackson, Centre for Holocaust Education, University of London.

Voices is founded on many years of academic study and work by its Artistic Director, Cate Hollis, described variously as "a force of nature" and "an inspiration". She believes that theatre can be a powerful surrogate human voice for those unable to tell their stories and that the arts, if navigated in pedagogically sound ways, can engage young people in a personal yet intellectually challenging way.

Voices is currently touring UK schools with its ground breaking verbatim play *Kindness: A Legacy of the Holocaust*, based on the life story of Susan Pollack MBE and written in partnership with leading educational playwright Mark



Over 10,000 pupils at hundreds of schools around the UK have so far watched a performance of *Voices' Kindness* or participated in related activities

Wheeler. Susan has been heavily involved throughout the five-year development period because, as Cate Hollis says, "it is essential that this play, that tells her and her family's story, represents their lives and experiences as accurately as possible."

Other stories and aspects of Holocaust history and philosophical ideas are woven throughout the play, providing the springboard for complementary educational workshops and education guides covering a number of different curriculum areas. Schools can also undertake additional projects, including a Mitzvah Project launched this Spring in honour of Susan's legacy.

Over 10,000 students have experienced *Kindness* and its related programmes since its January premiere, with impressive feedback. Alice Mitchell of Kingsbury Green Academy reported "It was an incredibly important and moving day which will stay with our students forever," while Alex Littlejohn of Hemel Hempstead school said, "I was absolutely blown away by the performance of *Kindness*. It was not only moving, but incredibly pertinent for our GCSE Religious Studies students as well as teaching essential Holocaust education to our year 9s. It ensures that students think not only historically but humanistically."

Partnership with the AJR is funding a full academic research study into the efficacy of Voices' approach as a means to engage young people in Holocaust education in the absence of being able to interact in person with survivors and their testimony. Schools within the programme will not only receive the production of *Kindness* and related education programmes but will also, with the guidance and support of the Voices' team, develop their own mediated

testimony productions for Holocaust Memorial Day 2023. The nature and quality of students' understanding will be monitored as well as the effect and impact of their own pieces on the rest of their school when they present their work at the end of January.

Cate explains: "The AJR's funding and partnership means the world to Voices. We lost everything, as did many small companies and charities, to Covid. This gives us a chance to rebuild, to grow and to hopefully evidence that what we do is a valid alternative form of mediated testimony compared to what the larger Holocaust education organisations are doing. We reach hundreds of students a day with this work when we have the funding to do so. Sadly, in this climate schools just can't afford to bring us in, so we are currently looking for further partnerships and funding sources to increase the number of schools involved and reach even more students."

As Alex Maws, Head of Education and Heritage, said when he attended the premiere of *Kindness* at Harrow Arts Centre in January; "Depicting the Holocaust on stage can be incredibly challenging and it often goes wrong in spite of good intentions. Voices of the Holocaust has done a remarkable job bringing Susan Pollack's unforgettable personal story to new audiences with sensitivity and emotion whilst never veering from historical facts and complexities. It is quite an accomplishment to strike such a delicate balance."

To read more about the work of this unique charity or to donate to help them reach more schools, please visit [www.voicesoftheholocaust.org.uk](http://www.voicesoftheholocaust.org.uk)

# REVIEWS

## THE GLASS PEARLS

**Emeric Pressburger**  
Faber Editions

In 1967 the playwright Michael Frayn was taken by Michael Powell to meet his longtime collaborator, Emeric Pressburger. It was, Frayn said, 'as if Crosse were introducing one to Blackwell'.

Powell and Pressburger were one of the great partnerships in the history of cinema. Between 1939 and 1956 they wrote and directed seventeen films, including masterpieces like *The Red Shoes*, *The Life and Death of Colonel Blimp* and *Black Narcissus*.

Powell was quintessentially English. Pressburger was a central European Jewish refugee. He was born Imre Josef Pressburger in Miskolc, Hungary, in 1902. In 1920 his part of Hungary became part of Romania. According to his biographer (and grandson), Kevin Macdonald, 'Imre was now a Romanian - a foreigner in his own country.' He never lived in Hungary again and spent the rest of his life as an émigré.

He spent the next fifteen years on the move, studying in Prague and then in Stuttgart. In 1926 he moved to Berlin where he became a screenwriter and then in 1933, after the rise of Hitler, he moved to Paris and then London, where he changed his name to Emeric. In 1938 he met Michael Powell and they began their famous collaboration. They broke up in the mid-1950s. It was a terrible time for Pressburger. His attempts at making films on his own were unsuccessful and his first screenplays were rejected. Worse still, he went through a crisis of identity.

He then turned to writing novels, *Killing a Mouse on Sunday* (1961), later filmed by Fred Zinneman, and *The Glass Pearls* (1966). Both are about foreigners abroad. *Killing a Mouse on Sunday*, set during the aftermath of the Spanish Civil War, tells the story of a tired old man living

in exile, who returns to Spain to visit his dying mother.

*The Glass Pearls* was Pressburger's second and last novel. It is set in London in the summer of 1965 and Pressburger captures the sense of place and period perfectly. Karl Braun is a German refugee who escaped from Germany after Hitler came to power, spent some time in Paris, and then came to England and found work as a piano tuner. He is a deeply cultured man, a violinist, who used to play in a chamber quartet, and regularly goes to classical concerts.

The novel begins with Braun moving into a small flat in Pimlico. The other tenants are also central Europeans: Leslie Strohmayer and a Jewish Czech refugee, Jaroslav Kolm, who works for a nearby chemist. There's a fascinating conversation early on when Kolm asks Braun what made him come to England. 'I had no choice,' Kolm says. 'I *had* to come. But *you* are not Jewish.'

We soon learn that Braun is not who he seems. He is not a political refugee and he is certainly not Jewish. He is a Nazi who has spent twenty years on the run and is worried that after Eichmann's trial, Nazi-hunters will track him down and prosecute him for his medical experiments in a concentration camp. One of his orderlies is on trial and Pressburger quotes from the transcripts of the orderly's trial. It is time for 'Braun' to move on, perhaps to Argentina, where Eichmann and Mengele both sought refuge.

What is fascinating about the novel is that Braun is not a one-dimensional villain. Pressburger, who lost his mother and many cousins, aunts and uncles in the Holocaust, presents Braun as a deeply sympathetic and interesting figure. It is an extraordinary feat and it is not hard to see why the book has received such acclaim.  
*David Herman*

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## IN THE BLOOD

**Anna Fodorova**  
Arachne Press

When picking up a book the reader never knows where a story will go or

end and with this novel author Anna Fodorova is past master at keeping you guessing. The fictional narrative is set against the background of real historic events, namely the collapse of communism in Eastern Europe. It tells of the central character Agata's search for family lost in the wake of the Holocaust and the traumas and mysteries uncovered.

Agata Upton is now an artist in her forties living in London. She lives with her English husband Richard and daughter Lily but stays in very close contact with her mother Doris Weiss from Prague, where she herself also grew up. Although Agata – an only child of Czech/Jewish parents – was told all her maternal relatives perished in the war, she discovers the astonishing news that this might not be quite the case: some might even be living in England. Ever inquisitive and determined, Agata sets off on a sometimes restless journey to discover more, despite resistance both from Doris and the new connections she finds. Her obsession also fuels opposition from her own small family unit.

The account starts in August 1988, twenty years after Russian tanks rolled into Prague, the brutal invasion which shocked the world and altered Agata's fate. We hear of Doris's difficult imprisonment and the loneliness it meant for her little daughter as well as hardships it brought her family. But life is changing rapidly – at first when Agata goes back there are prolonged and trying border controls – whereas later even passports are hardly inspected.

This book is mainly about the interaction of people and the truth revealed in photographs – which never lie – and tell their own story. Even telephone directories play their part. But then there is everyday life like school events, family mealtimes and Christmas celebrations. It is also evocative of its era: music, eau de cologne and the hospitality and food that Jewish connections enjoy. Behind the scenes lie families fractured by war. Ever present is the anguish of loved ones lost in the dark shadow of Auschwitz.

There are poignant scenes with a visit to Theresienstadt and the charade of propaganda with filming showing inmates enjoying almost idyllic lives. Familiar themes include shockingly long lists of victims, Sudeten Jews, and the Gestapo.

Psychology – with a nod to Freud – plays an important part, and the trauma facing descendants of victims is explored, including one with a Nazi background. Agata's bewilderment at everyone's efforts to prevent her from discovering what she believes is a hidden secret holds true to life, especially efforts at obfuscation. Her psychotherapy adventures are interesting as is her liaison with others of similar background.

Set in London, Prague and Munich the action also takes in the fall of the Berlin Wall as the tale speeds towards its culmination. So many books disappoint with their ending but this one is a cliff hanger right till the last.

*Janet Weston*

## LEADERSHIP: SIX STUDIES IN WORLD STRATEGY

**Henry Kissinger**  
**Allen Lane**

During his long and distinguished political career Henry Kissinger came to know world leaders very well and has thrown the spotlight on six of them whose work he admired. Born in Fürth, near Nuremberg, Kissinger fled the Nazis in 1938 settling in the USA. He was world famous as National Security Advisor and Secretary of State under Presidents Richard Nixon and Gerald Ford, giving him a bird's eye view of the world stage. Afterwards he followed current affairs closely and amazingly writing aged 99 has described the impact of these leaders, the challenges they faced and their effect on history.

Personalities include Konrad Adenauer, Charles de Gaulle, Richard Nixon, Anwar Sadat, Lee Kaun Yew and Margaret Thatcher and he writes about the combination of character and circumstances which shaped their regimes. All faced tough political decisions on the international stage

and Adenauer, de Gaulle, and Sadat had been imprisoned, with Lee narrowly escaping execution by wartime Japanese. Thatcher is the only woman featured. Their lives spanned from Adenauer's birth in 1876 to her death in 2013.

Kissinger met Adenauer "ten or so" times, respecting his personality combined with dignity and strength. Adenauer became the first Chancellor of West Germany from 1949 – 1963 after being Lord Mayor of Cologne pre-war but was dismissed in 1933 for opposing Hitler. Adenauer considered reparations to the Jewish people a moral duty, legislating for compensation for the Holocaust's surviving victims.

De Gaulle was an outstanding soldier, intellectually brilliant and a charismatic leader although his behaviour could be challenging. As under-secretary of defence in 1940 he resisted the German invasion, fleeing to Britain to lead the Free French. After being his country's Prime Minister he was French President from 1959 – 1968 remaining always fiercely protective of national identity.

Kissinger of course worked closely with Richard Nixon – one of the most controversial presidents in American history – during the Cold War. Nixon faced tough overseas decisions particularly in Vietnam. He was effective in a crisis, often at his best under pressure, had an enormous appetite for information and would talk without notes. The author speaks surprisingly well of his former boss who resigned after the Watergate scandal.

Egyptian President Anwar Sadat won the Nobel peace prize shared with Israel's Prime Minister Menachem Begin in 1978 for jointly negotiating peace between the two countries. Of Sadat –later assassinated – the book explains "No other contemporary figure in the Middle East has professed comparable aspirations or demonstrated the ability to realise them".

Singaporean leader Lee Kuan Yew's

chapter is entitled : "The Strategy of Excellence". Kissinger speaks glowingly of the leader's talents and success in heading the country for more than three decades. He became Prime Minister in 1959 when the city gained autonomy in the twilight of British rule. Stamping down on corruption, he transformed Singapore into a developed country with a high income economy.

Although a most unlikely leader Margaret Thatcher defined the era in which she governed. Admitting he originally underestimated the British premier, he believes Thatcher's greatest resource was her "unique approach to leadership", with personal fortitude lying at the heart of her successes. He examines the Falklands conflict, negotiations over Hong Kong, and her eventual downfall.

Kissinger is good on analysis, brilliant at explaining foreign policy, examining world order and threat of major players particularly on nuclear aspects. His book is very interesting particularly the human aspect and the beginnings of each chapter. These are preceded with a black and white portrait of each subject.

*Janet Weston*

## ANNUAL ELECTION MEETING

The Annual Election Meeting of The Association of Jewish Refugees (AJR) will take place at 3pm on Tuesday 13 December 2022 at AJR, Winston House, 2 Dollis Park, London N3 1HF. Anyone wishing to stand for election must be nominated by at least ten associate members of the AJR together with a notice signed by the nominee indicating their willingness to serve as a trustee should they be elected.

This must be duly received in writing by **Monday 21 November 2022** at the AJR offices. If you wish to attend please contact Karin Pereira on **020 8385 3070** or at **karin@ajr.org.uk**

# OBITUARIES

## ROBERT ALFRED SHAW

Born: 2 November 1924, Vienna

Died: 23 July 2022, London



**In January 2015, our father gave a Holocaust Memorial lecture at the University of Wolverhampton. During the Q&A, he was asked “Do you feel British?”. He gave an emphatic “Yes!”.**

He was first and foremost a British scientist and was hugely proud to be British. Britain became his home and his roots grew deep. He was always grateful to Britain for saving his life.

He was the only son of prosperous secular Jewish parents – Walter and Lily Schlesinger. His parents hadn't been to university, but had high hopes of educating him in the best schools. A bright, happy and charming boy, he did well in his studies until the Anschluss. Excluded from school at 13, he endured discrimination and abuse, being beaten up and humiliated, whilst watching his friends turn against him. He vividly remembered the violence and destruction of Kristallnacht and how his maternal grandmother, Rosa Plahner, led him past lines of Nazi thugs through the shattered glass.

She, along with five other members of his family, perished in the concentration camps. His life was only saved by his mother, who organised his evacuation via the Kindertransport, departing on 5<sup>th</sup> July 1939 with two suitcases, only a basic command of English and less than £1 to his name.

After landing in Harwich, he worked on the farm of his guarantor in Suffolk for 18 months as a farmyard boy, before joining his mother in London, working as an errand boy during the Blitz, and later as a lathe-turner for the war effort.

He restarted his own education reading up to ten non-fiction books a week, before volunteering for the army and serving in India, Burma, Thailand and Singapore.

Whilst serving, he decided to study Chemistry, having never studied it before. He completed the University of London matriculation by correspondence and accepted a place at the University of Leicester, where he studied for his BSc and PhD.

In 1954, he became assistant lecturer at Birkbeck College, which remained his academic institution for life, focusing on Phosphazene chemistry. He became lecturer in 1956 and by 1960 had increased his research group from two to 23 PhD students with large amounts of external funding. In 1965, the University of London conferred on him a full personal professorship, which became Emeritus in 1990 on retirement.

In 1969 he became the first university invitee under the Commonwealth Education Co-operation Scheme to visit India, resulting in a 10-year collaborative research project. This was the beginning of his hugely successful international and interdisciplinary scientific research collaborations, resulting in honorary doctorates from the University Paul Sabatier, Toulouse (1978) and Gebze Technical University, Türkiye (2005).

He supervised over 80 PhD students from 17 countries, over 120 post-doctoral students and published over 350 academic papers. He nurtured each of his students, academically and pastorally, with more than 40 becoming full professors.

His successes led to an invitation to become a UNESCO Consultant. On a mission to Türkiye to advise the Government on the establishment of new

science faculties, he met his soulmate, the great love of his life, our mother, Leyla: *“Cupid's arrow struck deep and remained embedded in my heart ever since.”* They were married for over 42 years, yielding scientific collaboration as well as a family, resulting most recently in his grandson Robert Behnan, who brought great joy to the last six months of his life. He used to say *“The Nazis had destroyed my Schlesinger family in Vienna. Leyla and I have created our Shaw family in London”*

His third honorary doctorate was from the University of Vienna (2018). Although honoured by this, its acceptance prompted in him considerable soul-searching. His experiences of the Anschluss and Kristallnacht left him traumatised with deep scars. He always described that period as the worst time in his life and for many years refused to visit these memories until our mother encouraged him to write his life story. He never forgot, nor forgave his then compatriots, nor the current Austria for refusing to return his inheritance, stolen by the Nazis. The General Settlement Fund offer was hugely inadequate. This, he declined without signing any waiver, leaving the route open to pursue the recovery of his inheritance.

Our father had a strong sense of justice. He was thoughtful, considerate and hugely honest. He valued love and friendship greatly. Both tolerance and respect were very important to him. He had love in abundance from us all and admiration from his students and co-workers. He was a dedicated husband and father, involved in every aspect of our lives. He contributed hugely to the people we have become. We are enormously proud of him and miss him very much.

**Robert H Shaw (son) and Lily B Shaw (daughter)**



**EDITH LENI WHYATT**  
(née Wertheimer)  
Born: 29 July 1923, Frankfurt-am-Main  
Died: 9 December 2020, Leeds

**Edith Whyatt was born during the German hyperinflation (a fact to which Edith attributed her lifelong facility with mental arithmetic.**

Her father Otto Wertheimer was a fashion accessories wholesaler who had a passport and managed to get out of Germany after Kristallnacht. In May 1939, Edith and her mother Erna (née Schwarzhaupt) joined him in London. Edith's brother, Ernest, made his own way.

The family moved to Nottingham where they had links in the rag trade. Edith expected the English people to be sympathetic to their plight; instead they seemed more interested in football and she found it difficult to come to terms with English jokes about Hitler, but on the whole "The British people were very kind".

Classed as enemy aliens, Edith and her mother were held in Holloway before internment on the Isle of Man, where Otto was in a different camp. On release in 1942 the family stayed with relatives in Birmingham. Edith said "They took us all in, including my grandparents and other family members who came over on the last train before the War. The house must have had rubber walls."

Edith trained as a midwife, practising in South London and - for 18 months - in Israel, before returning to Nottingham to help run her parents' clothing factory. She also became a devout Christian.

Edith met Ken Whyatt, a technical engineer, on holiday in Bournemouth. They married and moved to Leeds in 1956. As a full time housewife Edith raised two children, Esther and Peter, both now musicians in London. These years were chequered with both lifelong loving friendships and challenges; Edith sometimes found difficulty fitting into her surroundings.

After Ken died in 1982 Edith moved to the Harehills, a multi-cultural district where she volunteered as a teaching assistant. After developing glaucoma which affected her sight she joined in sight loss, missionary and prayer groups. She was a big radio fan and enjoyed talking newspapers services. She also enjoyed creative writing; her wry poems reflecting her views, philosophy and history.

**Esther Whyatt and Peter Whyatt**



**BARBARA ANN WINTON**  
Born: 23 October 1953, Taplow, Bucks  
Died: 20 September 2022, Herefordshire

**The AJR deeply mourns the passing of Barbara Winton, a passionate refugee rights campaigner, who has died at the age of 68 after a battle with cancer.**

She was the daughter of Grete and Nicholas Winton and made it her life's work to carry on her father's legacy by being a strong advocate for refugees: she established the Sir Nicholas Winton Memorial Trust, of which her son Laurence is also a trustee. He says "Our family is very proud of our mother and the work she has done to continue our grandfather's legacy."

Barbara spent her childhood in Maidenhead, Berkshire, studied homeopathy at the London College of Homeopathy and earned a Masters in Nutritional Therapy from the University of Worcester.

She devoted much of her time to her father, accompanying him on his trips, especially to the Czech Republic. As a result of Esther Rantzen's *This is your Life* programme, it became general knowledge that in 1939 her father was instrumental in saving the lives of 669 mostly Jewish children by making it possible for them to escape from Nazi-occupied Czechoslovakia. Barbara took an active role in all the commemorative events linked to this deed and helped to maintain contacts with the "Winton children." Her book *If It's Not Impossible...* not only describes what happened but also explores what motivated her father.

Barbara was always a vocal advocate for human rights and refugee action groups and just last year attacked the government for its plans to reform Britain's borders system, calling them unfair to those seeking refuge.

Tributes to Barbara have been posted by international charities and politicians. Czech diplomat Libor Sečka said: "I have not met many people in my life with such a clear moral compass, sense of justice and love of freedom as Barbara Winton. She was determined to uphold high principles but full of compassion for those in need."

Barbara died at St Michael's Hospice in Herefordshire with her husband Stephen Watson and children Laurence and Holly by her side.

**Adapted from other obituaries and biographies.**

## IN PERSON EVENTS

DATE	TIME	IN PERSON MEETING	CO-ORDINATOR
Tuesday 1 November	10.30am	Edgware	Ros Hart
Thursday 3 November	11.00am	Book Club Glasgow	Agnes Isaacs
Thursday 3 November	2.00pm	Pinner	Ros Hart
Monday 7 November	2.00pm	Hampstead	Ros Hart
Thursday 10 November	12 noon	First Generation Lunch Glasgow	Agnes Isaacs
Tuesday 15 November	12 noon	Wembley	Karen Diamond
Thursday 17 November	10.30am	Hendon	Karen Diamond
Thursday 17 November	2.00pm	Muswell Hill	Ros Hart
Thursday 17 November	tbc	Outing to Glasgow Art Club	Agnes Isaacs
Thursday 24 November	10.30am	Ealing	Ros Hart
Thursday 24 November	2.00pm	Bushey	Karen Diamond
Monday 28 November	12.30pm	Manchester and Liverpool	Michal Mocton

## CO-ORDINATOR DETAILS

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**Susan Harrod**

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## ZOOMS AHEAD

Details of all meetings and the links to join will appear in the e-newsletter each Monday.

Tuesday 1 November @ 2pm	<b>Bob Sinfield - George Chisholm, Gentleman of Jazz</b> <a href="https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/83825551511">https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/83825551511</a>	Meeting ID: 8382 555 1511
Wednesday 2 November @ 10.30am	<b>Online Dance Class with Jackie Turner</b> <a href="https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/86302485494">https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/86302485494</a>	Meeting ID: 8630 248 5494
Wednesday 2 November @ 2pm	<b>Alistair Hodgson – The life and aircraft legacies of Sir Geoffrey de Havilland</b> <a href="https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/84905622106">https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/84905622106</a>	Meeting ID: 8490 562 2106
Thursday 3 November @ 11.30am	<b>Kinder Contact Project</b> <a href="https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/81609542320">https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/81609542320</a>	Meeting ID: 8160 954 2320
Monday 7 November @ 10.30am	<b>Get Fit where you sit</b> <a href="https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/85246889439">https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/85246889439</a>	Meeting ID: 8524 688 9439
Monday 7 November @ 4pm	<b>Margaret Mills - The Bronte Family</b> <a href="https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/81297155273">https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/81297155273</a>	Meeting ID: 812 9715 5273
Tuesday 8 November @ 2pm	<b>Lesley Urbach - Trevor Chadwick: a hero of the Kindertransport</b> <a href="https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/87182903946">https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/87182903946</a>	Meeting ID: 8718 290 3946
Monday 14 November @ 10.30am	<b>Get Fit where you sit</b> <a href="https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/85246889439">https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/85246889439</a>	Meeting ID: 8524 688 9439
Monday 14 November @ 4pm	<b>James Stebbings - The Legend that is Irving Berlin</b> <a href="https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/84509475901">https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/84509475901</a>	Meeting ID: 845 0947 5901
Wednesday 16 November @ 10.30am	<b>Online Dance Class with Jackie Turner</b> <a href="https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/86302485494">https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/86302485494</a>	Meeting ID: 8630 248 5494
Wednesday 16 November @ 2pm	<b>AJR Book Club Discussion (no speaker) - The Man Who Died Twice by Richard Osman</b> <a href="https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/86510580800">https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/86510580800</a>	Meeting ID: 8651 058 0800
Monday 21 November @ 10.30am	<b>Get Fit where you sit</b> <a href="https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/85246889439">https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/85246889439</a>	Meeting ID: 8524 688 9439
Monday 21 November @ 4pm	<b>November Quiz</b> <a href="https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/85021430059">https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/85021430059</a>	Meeting ID: 850 2143 0059
Wednesday 23 November @ 2pm	<b>Dr Rachel Blumenthal - Starting Over: Jewish Refugees in Postwar Upper Austria and Salzburg</b> <a href="https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/83465600682">https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/83465600682</a>	Meeting ID: 8346 560 0682
Monday 28 November @ 10.30am	<b>Get Fit where you sit</b> <a href="https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/85246889439">https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/85246889439</a>	Meeting ID: 8524 688 9439
Monday 28 November @ 4pm	<b>Jill Culiner - The Lost Jewish Villages</b> <a href="https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/87056776322">https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/87056776322</a>	Meeting ID: 870 5677 6322
Tuesday 29 November @ 2pm	<b>Jonathan Bergwerk - The fascinating life of Leonard Bernstein</b> <a href="https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/87948756957">https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/87948756957</a>	Meeting ID: 8794 875 6957
Wednesday 30 November @ 10.30am	<b>Online Dance Class with Jackie Turner</b> <a href="https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/86302485494">https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/86302485494</a>	Meeting ID: 8630 248 5494
Wednesday 30 November @ 2pm	<b>Irene Kyffin - Yiddish Theatre: Out of the Pale</b> <a href="https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/87239895645">https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/87239895645</a>	Meeting ID: 8723 989 5645

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