



Kafka and Jewish Refugees

Kafka, one of the greatest Jewish writers of the 20th century, died almost exactly a hundred years ago on 3 June 1924. To mark this centenary, the Bodleian Library in Oxford is showing a major exhibition about Kafka and to accompany the exhibition, the library has published a superbly illustrated book of essays, *Kafka: Making of an Icon* by leading Kafka scholars.



Banner from the Kafka exhibition that the Bodleian Library is staging to complement the new book

Most of us have a clear image of Kafka the man and the writer: anxious, preoccupied with his dominating father, someone who wrote dark books about alienation, bureaucracies, which anticipated the totalitarian regimes which were to come, terrible relations between fathers and sons and guilt.

In two essays, the editor of the book, Ritchie Robertson, looks at the importance of Kafka's complex Jewish identity. Kafka's family was not especially religious. They attended synagogue only on the main festivals and on the Emperor's birthday. But Kafka was interested in many different aspects of Jewishness: the new Zionist movement, Judaism and Yiddish theatre. In

the winter of 1911-12, a troupe of actors from Lemberg (then the capital of Galicia) visited Prague to perform plays in Yiddish. Kafka attended some twenty performances and this encounter introduced Kafka to the very different Jewish culture of east Europe, which seemed more alive, part of a living tradition. Kafka also attended three lectures by Martin Buber in Prague in 1909-10 which introduced him to Hasidism. Kafka became increasingly sympathetic to Zionism, took lessons in modern Hebrew and towards the end of his life planned to emigrate to Palestine, but was prevented by his final illness.

What would have happened to Kafka if he
Continued on page 2

A CRITICAL MONTH

As this issue goes to press the UK is on the verge of its 58th General Election. No one knows for sure how it will play out, but there is no doubt that it comes at a critical time for British Jewry and the AJR community, with Antisemitism very much on the national agenda.

This month's issue includes a number of relevant articles, not least Lord Pickles' argument for a National Holocaust Memorial and Learning Centre next to Parliament (p.7). As debates about the best ways to combat Antisemitism continue, it is heartening to read how some football supporters are embracing the cause (p.5).

Here's hoping that the new Government is equally supportive of our community.

AJR News	3
More funding available	4
Chelsea fans on the March.....	5
Letters to the Editor.....	6-7
Art Notes.....	8
Some hope in dark times.....	9
A voice from the past to comfort the present	10-11
Following their adventures and putting the pieces back together	12-13
Orphans of the Holocaust.....	14
AJR Member News	15
Reviews.....	16-17
Obituaries	18-19
Events	20

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

AJR Team

Chief Executive Michael Newman
Finance Director Adam Daniels

Heads of Department

HR & Administration Karen Markham
Social Services Nicole Valens
Education & Heritage Alex Maws
Volunteer Services Fran Horwich

AJR Journal

Editor Jo Briggs
Editorial Assistant Lilian Levy
Contributing Editor David Herman

Kafka and Jewish Refugees (cont.)

had moved to Berlin and not died so young of TB? Would he have been murdered by the Nazis like his three sisters who had stayed in Prague? Or would he have become a refugee like Dora Diamant and many of his close circle of Jewish friends? We often think of Kafka in relation to Prague, but the truth is that many of the most important people in his life became refugees in the late 1930s.

Dora Diamant (1898-1952) was Kafka's last love. He met her in July 1923 when she was working at a summer camp on the Baltic coast and he was staying nearby. She was twenty-five, from a Hassidic Polish family. She had left home to work with children in the Jewish People's Home in Berlin. Soon after they met, Kafka left Prague and moved to Berlin to live with Dora but as his health deteriorated they left. He died a few months later. One of the most moving manuscripts in the Oxford exhibition is her account of sitting by his bedside as he went into his final decline. Dora lost most of her family to the Nazis but was able to flee to Britain and devoted her final years to working in the East End with the Yiddish poet Avram Stendel, also a refugee, whom she had known in Berlin, to preserve the Yiddish language and culture.

Then there was Kafka's circle of friends, many of them writers, nearly all of them Jews. Perhaps the best known was the novelist Franz Werfel (1890-1945). He spent much of his life on the move, from Prague to Berlin, Vienna and, in 1930, Palestine, before returning to Germany. He left for Vienna in 1933, left Austria for France after the Anschluss, and then escaped to America in 1940, settling in LA until he died in 1945.

Hugo Bergmann (1883-1975) was also born and raised in Prague but he and his wife emigrated to Palestine in 1920. He became Director of the Jewish National Library between 1920-35 and he brought Gershom Scholem from Germany to serve as the head of the Judaica Division. He was also close to Martin Buber. He became a professor at the Hebrew University, and later on the dean of the university. He was friends with Kafka, who was a schoolmate of his, the philosopher Felix Weltsch, who later worked at the Hebrew University Library in Jerusalem, and Max Brod, whom he introduced to Zionism before 1910.

Felix Weltsch (1884-1964) lived and worked in Prague until 15 March 1939, and left the city with Max Brod and his family on the last train out of Czechoslovakia. He worked as a librarian in Jerusalem until his death in 1964.

Max Brod (1884-1968) was Kafka's closest friend. They met at university in Prague in 1902. He left Prague for Palestine just before the Germans marched in, taking with him a suitcase of Kafka's papers, many of them unpublished notes, diaries, and sketches. He famously became Kafka's editor and literary biographer, publishing the first edition of Kafka's *Diaries* and influenced many of the early accounts of Kafka's work after the war.

Ernst Weiss (1882-1940) and Willy Haas (1891-1973) were also members of Kafka's Prague circle. Weiss became a physician and writer, moved to Berlin in 1921, returned to Prague in 1933 and left for Paris in 1934. He committed suicide there in June 1940 when the Germans occupied Paris. Haas moved to Berlin, returned to Prague in 1933, left in 1939, and returned to Germany after the war.

As well as Kafka's Jewish friends from Prague, it is worth noting how many of the most influential writers on Kafka were also Jewish refugees. Brod, of course, but also the German-Jewish essayist Walter Benjamin, who committed suicide after failing to escape from France in 1940. Benjamin wrote his famous essay on Kafka in 1934 which was later published in his seminal collection, *Illuminations*. Then there was Erich Heller, a Czech critic who emigrated to England in 1939 and taught at Cambridge, the LSE and in Wales, before moving to America. He is best known for his book, *The Disinherited Mind* (1952) and his book, *Kafka* (1974). Saul Friedländer was born in Prague in 1932, brought up in France where he survived the German occupation, and moved to Israel in 1948. He recently published *Franz Kafka: The Poet of Shame and Guilt* (2013). George Steiner and Gabriel Josipovici are both important writers on Kafka and Jewish refugees. Steiner left Paris for America in 1940 and Josipovici left Egypt for Britain in 1956.

Finally, there was a member of Kafka's family who moved to England, his niece Marianne Steiner, the only relative of his who settled in the West. Her son, Michael, was studying in Oxford where he met Malcolm Pasley, Fellow in German at Magdalen College. Through Michael,

Pasley discovered that Kafka's manuscripts were not all owned by Brod, as was widely assumed, but some belonged to his surviving heirs. Pasley drove to Zurich, checked the authenticity of the papers and drove them back to Oxford in his Fiat. They became the world's largest collection of Kafka manuscripts at the Bodleian Library.

Dora Diamant, Kafka's niece Marianne, most of his close circle of friends in Prague and many of his most influential critics, were all Jewish refugees, who were scattered during the 1930s. Though we associate Kafka with Prague, where he was born and spent most of his life, he dreamed of moving to Berlin and Palestine and refugees have played an enormous role in forming the way we think of Kafka's work, most of it smuggled out of Prague in a suitcase to Palestine in 1939.

David Herman



**LUNCH WITH
ANDY BURNHAM**
MAYOR OF GREATER MANCHESTER

WEDNESDAY 18 SEPTEMBER @ 12PM
IN MANCHESTER



 michalmocton@ajr.org.uk



WHY NOT CONVERT
YOUR OLD CINE
FILMS
AND PUT THEM
ON DVDS
FREE OF CHARGE?

Contact Alf Buechler at alf@buechler.org
or tel 020 8554 5635 or 07488 774 414

SWITCH ON ELECTRICS

Rewires and all household
electrical work

PHONE PAUL: 020 8200 3518
Mobile: 0795 614 8566



HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR DAY

Holocaust Survivor Day is a relatively new addition to the calendar. In contrast to International Holocaust Remembrance Day and Yom Hashoah, which are both essential to honouring the memory of all people and Jewish life killed and forever

scarred by the Holocaust, Holocaust Survivor Day is about celebrating the survivors and everything they continue to teach us. This year its organisers invited organisations from around the world to come together on 4 June to celebrate

their respective survivors. Here in the UK the AJR secured a major feature in the *Daily Mirror* spotlighting the testimonies of AJR members Eva Clarke and Mala Tribich and including AJR commentary and branded imagery.

Thank you volunteers

The AJR marked National Volunteers Week in May by holding its annual Thank-You event at JW3 in Finchley Road.

This year's gathering celebrated our *My Story* project, which brought together volunteers to produce 50 individual life story books capturing testimonies of AJR Holocaust refugees and survivors.

Guests of honour included survivors Manfred Goldberg, Mary Green, Anna Russell, Monique Blake and Kindertransport refugee Bernd Koschland, along with volunteers and AJR representatives.



Five AJR first generation members holding their *My Story* books, all of which were written by volunteers

AJR CEO Michael Newman said: "As we move from living to lived history, the AJR is dedicated to keeping the memory of the Holocaust alive by capturing and sharing the stories of this unique

community with projects such as *My Story*. Our work helps preserve the record of the darkest period of Jewish history and share its lessons, in the hope that it can never recur."

In 2023 the AJR benefitted from the services of over 200 volunteers who directly enriched the lives of over 200 AJR members. To get involved contact volunteer@ajr.org.uk

MORE FUNDING AVAILABLE

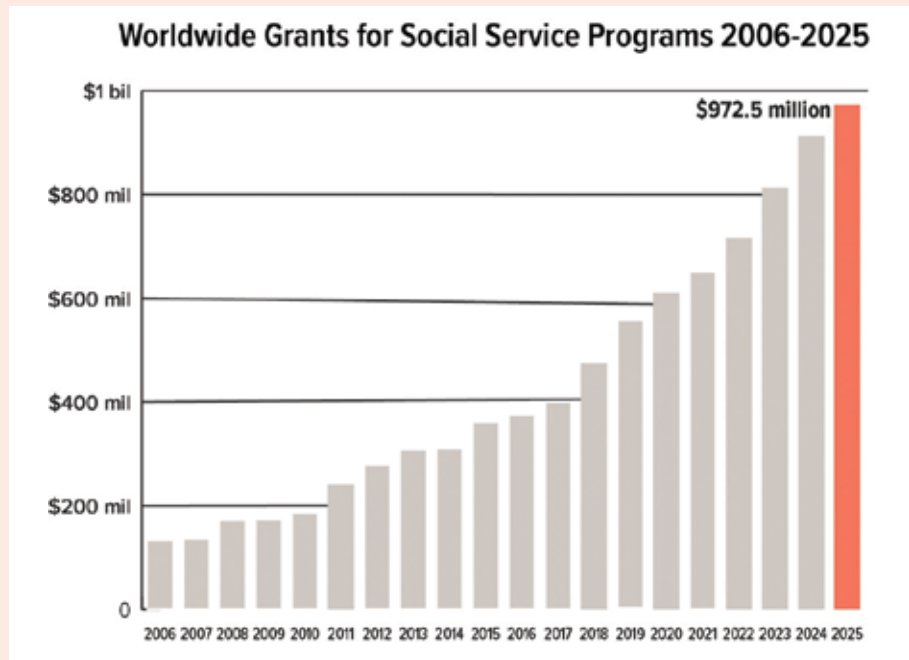
The Claims Conference has announced that funding for social welfare agencies worldwide during the next two years will increase by an additional \$114 million per annum, impacting more than 100,000 Holocaust survivors worldwide.

Although the total number of Holocaust survivors decreases yearly, those who remain alive depend on the expansion and creation of programs that benefit their livelihood. The Claims Conference services negotiates with the German and other governments on their behalf, channeling the resulting funds to the survivors via its network of more than 300 social welfare agency partners across 83 countries.

As the national charity supporting Holocaust refugees and survivors living in Great Britain, the AJR welcomes this announcement. Last year the AJR was responsible for channeling almost £8 million to social, welfare and care services in the UK, funding an astonishing 847,000 hours of care directly to AJR members, but the demand for our support is increasing.

The AJR's Michael Newman said: *"We send grateful thanks to the Claims Conference for another round of successful negotiations. The AJR receives and distributes Claims Conference monies, through Homecare, to hundreds of frail and ageing Holocaust refugees and survivors throughout the country. So, we see first – hand, the life-changing impact this assistance offers and are delighted that this additional support will now provide further critical help."*

Thanks to the increased funds now available, essential home care can now be provided to survivors on a short-term basis while they are in rehabilitation after an accident or injury – a dramatic change that will impact their ability to heal and return to their homes. Also available for the first time will be "transitional care" to assist the transition by survivors from their home to an old age facility.



The total global budget for social welfare services for 2025 will be \$972.5 million USD

This brings the Claims Conference's total annual budget for social welfare services to a total of nearly \$2 billion in funding for 2025 and 2026. Compensation for Holocaust survivors will total approximately \$500 million USD, including survivors who get pensions and those who receive the annual Hardship Fund Supplemental payment. The social welfare services, including home care, and compensation provided through the Claims Conference are essential to this last generation of survivors.

The negotiations also saw a much-needed increase of \$55 million USD for Holocaust education through 2028, bringing the total for Holocaust education funding to \$177 million USD over the next four years. As the memory of the Holocaust fades and we lose our eyewitnesses, Holocaust education is vital in combatting the rising tide of antisemitism and Holocaust denial, distortion and perversion. While recent global Holocaust Knowledge and Awareness Surveys show that knowledge of the Holocaust is fading, all surveys show a strong desire for Holocaust education in schools around the world.

Commenting on the new funding the president of the Claims Conference, Gideon Taylor, said: "As Holocaust

survivors age and their care is more complex, we see a need for increased social welfare services globally. It is imperative that we keep and fulfil the mission of the Claims Conference – that is as relevant now as it was in 1952. We must ensure they are able to live their final years in dignity. We must work to guarantee they have the services and care they require. And, in this time of growing Holocaust denial and distortion, it is critical that we promote Holocaust education to ensure current and future generations alike have access and opportunities to truly understand the lessons of the Holocaust. Only then can we be sure our past does not become our future."


DAY TRIP TO SOUTHEND
 TUESDAY 6 AUGUST 2024



Including return coach travel from London, a fish & chips lunch and free time to explore or relax

 karendiamond@ajr.org.uk

Chelsea fans on the march

When the Chelsea Jewish Supporters' Group were approached by the club and asked if we'd like to join the UK delegation on March of the Living 2024, I was apprehensive. Would the bus solely be people like us, who had personal connections to family members that were murdered during the Holocaust? I doubted it. But instantly, the answer to Chelsea was 'yes'. It couldn't be anything else.

The Football section of the UK delegation was small – around 20 of us – representing Chelsea, Fulham, Manchester City, Watford and Spurs. Over five days, we explored Poland, sites of mass murder of Jews and other minorities, and learned of stories from Holocaust survivors and testimonies found in diaries, and hidden writings, from victims.

As well as visiting the Warsaw and Krakow ghettos, we visited three Death Camps – probably the most well-known across the globe, Auschwitz, as well as Birkenau (Auschwitz 2), and Majdanek, in Lublin. We saw the gas chambers, with marks etched inside, caused by desperate fingernails scratching at the walls, as terror-stricken innocent people realised their fate, crematoria, where the bodies of those murdered were turned to ash, and cells, where people contracted typhus, or starved to death. Some, like Henrietta Marcus, committed suicide before their imminent killing. Others had an ever-dwindling flame of hope, kept alight inside them, until it was extinguished by the Nazis. We saw the Death Wall, by which Jews were executed by machine gun. We saw the hair of Jewish women, which was shaved, or hastily chopped back to the scalp, on arrival to Auschwitz. We saw tens of thousands of shoes, some with heels, of hopeful people who thought they were being transported from the awful ghettos to a place to live in potential peace. And we saw the clothing of babies ripped from their mother's arms and murdered with poisonous pesticides.

Chelsea FC fan Luisa Gottardo and her friend Eric Rubin on the March



We visited a forest in Zwylitowska Góra, where over 10,000 people, mainly Jews, were marched, thrown into deep pits, and then shot in the head, or killed by grenades. It's also reported that young children were swung by their ankles into nearby rocks, to ensure none would survive.

Our week culminated with the March of the Living, where 6000 people from across the globe took part in the three-kilometre death march, from Auschwitz 1 to Auschwitz 2 (Birkenau). We remembered our family members, and we took strength from the fact that we were there by choice, with the ability to walk out of the gates of Auschwitz with our heads held high.

The march was treated differently by various groups of people – some choosing to walk quietly, contemplating the terrors that happened in the vicinity, others opting to mark our freedom in a more celebratory manner. There was singing, tears, important conversations, and an overwhelming feeling of both sadness and hope. Our group was happy to meet ex-Chelsea manager Avram Grant, who took part in the march.

We were joined, as part of the delegation, by seven survivors of the Nazi brutality, ranging in age from 81 to 93. Their stories were painful, yet inspired hope. It was interesting and heart-warming to see the changes that the non-Jewish members of our Football group experienced, as they heard testimonies from our Survivors, and saw the horrors of the Holocaust,

whilst starting to truly comprehend the unimaginable numbers of people that suffered at the hands of the Nazis.

Six million Jews were murdered by the Nazis, as well as many millions of Soviet prisoners of war, Poles, gay people, the Romani community, and other persecuted individuals. The March of the Living 2024 inspired a new generation of people to never forget, and to be important voices to inspire change, fight back against antisemitism, and ensure that the world never allows this to happen again.

And then we left. We went back to the airport, where people were laughing, eating, reading, living. People who will never know what a profound experience so many in close proximity have just had. And it made me wonder: what would they have done in 1941?

Luisa Gottardo

*Chelsea Jewish Supporters' Group
and AJR 3G member*

CHAOS CONQUEROR

Do you need help with decluttering, downsizing or organising and storage solutions?

**Contact Jo Sovin,
Chaos Conqueror**

07905 581 794 jo@josovin.com

www.josovin.com

Impeccable references provided

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.

HUNGARIAN REFUGEES

As (old) children of Hungarian Jewish refugees we were especially interested to read David Herman's article about Tom Keve and his hopefully soon-to-be-published book *A Twentieth Century Childhood*. There seems to have been relatively little written in the *AJR Journal* of the Holocaust in Hungary compared to that of Austria, Germany and Poland, and these fascinating stories should be better known. Tom's descriptions of the sufferings of his family during the nine months of German occupation has many resonances with that of our own families and – as well, of course – with that of almost all the Hungarian Jews. We have known Tom for many years yet had never touched on this subject during our many affable conversations.

Kitty and Gabriel Balint-Kurti, London NW3

AJR OUTINGS

A big thank you to AJR for arranging in every way a truly memorable visit to the Freud Museum, even though coming from south of the river it was a clock-watching journey to try and arrive on time.

We 'out of towners' would be most grateful if in the future, where possible, London based activities could be scheduled to start just half an hour later than at the moment. An 11am start would open up so much more to those of us reliant on train services to get us to London.

However, positively, we would also like to mention the hard work put into organising day trips open to all and the organising of the occasional joining together of small groups for special activities.

June Wertheim, Surrey

CENTENARIANS

It was wonderful to read in the *AJR Journal* that we have 34 members who are 100 years old and above. How have they achieved this great age? I suggest that this may be because they feel that having survived Hitler, there is nothing they cannot survive, God bless them. I am only 89 years old. But for what is happening in Israel life is good.

Peter Phillips, Loudwater, Herts.

GLYNDEBOURNE'S EMINENT MUSICIANS

I was very interested to read David Herman's illuminating article on Glyndebourne (June). However, I feel my step-grandfather, the Hamburg-born composer and conductor Berthold Goldschmidt, merits a mention in the list of other refugees associated with the festival.

Goldschmidt (1903-96) worked closely with both Carl Ebert and Rudolf Bing at Darmstadt from the late 1920s, where he was known as "Eberts rechtes Ohr" (Ebert's right ear). Bing was a good friend and one of the witnesses to Goldschmidt's marriage in 1936, when he wed the non-Jewish Karen Bothe, who had been his singing pupil in Berlin and would perform in the Glyndebourne chorus after the war.

In 1947 Goldschmidt was asked by Bing to step in at short notice to conduct the run of performances of Verdi's opera *Macbeth* given by Glyndebourne at the inaugural Edinburgh Festival. A pirate recording of his acclaimed reading of the work was issued on CD a few years ago; the sound quality is poor but the excitement he generates is unmistakable.

There is also, coincidentally, a link with the article on Mahler (same issue). In the early 1960s Goldschmidt assisted the musicologist Deryck Cooke in completing the composer's unfinished 10th symphony from sketches that Mahler left when he died in 1910. Goldschmidt went on to conduct the world premiere of their "performing edition" of the work at the Proms in 1964.

Nicholas Rose, Wuppertal, Germany

AUSTRIAN CITIZENSHIP?

It is a strange world in which we live – one that in my mother's lifetime (she will be 100 on 18 June) a young girl can have a happy childhood in a period of deep assimilation, and then from the age of fourteen be banned from school, denounced as a Jewess by another child, be condemned to study at home, and then with her family of three face the vicissitudes of Leopoldstadt, Theresienstadt, Auschwitz, Belsen and the munitions factory at Salzwedel. To then walk across Europe to the family's holiday home in Bad Ischl to the great disappointment

of the concierge. To then become stateless but finally reach the promised land – Great Britain. I feel a huge debt to this country and, although entitled to the so-called convenience of an EU passport, I would regard my application as a final betrayal of my mother's story. No, I'm afraid, unlike Julian Lowrie (June), I will not be pursuing Austrian Citizenship.

Anthony Lipmann, Bridgwater, Somerset

I was fascinated by the interview with Julian Lowrie in the June 2024 issue of the *AJR Journal*.

I am also a third-generation member of the AJR and, like Julian, have acquired Austrian citizenship.

My maternal grandparents came to England as refugees from Vienna in March 1939, their surname was Mahler. However, I am almost certain that sharing a family name does not indicate any relationship with the composer Gustav Mahler.

The family of the conductor/composer originated in Bohemia; my maternal grandfather was born later and further east in Galicia, and moved to Vienna with his parents as a child. It is likely that they shared the Austro-Hungarian capital for a few years. I do not expect that the conductor who was an important state official would have any reason to encounter my grandfather who was then a child.

I downloaded from the City of Vienna library a digital copy of a telephone directory dating from the nineteen twenties. Although this was after Gustav Mahler's emigration to the United States and his death, many residents of the city with the name Mahler are listed.

Paul Marrow, Wirral

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL

Journal readers may be aware of the long running controversy surrounding the construction of a Holocaust Memorial and Learning Centre, next to Parliament.

On 24 May, the Commons voted through the Bill to allow this horrendous



**JACKMAN ■
SILVERMAN**

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY CONSULTANTS

Telephone: 020 7209 5532
robert@jackmans.co.uk

development on a protected park. It now goes to the Lords.

One must question whether the Holocaust memorialisation/education endeavour is even credible or is, fundamentally, misconceived given the post 7 Oct situation. For decades Millennials have been bombarded with the message of *Never Again*, and they have responded by unselfconsciously aping the most spiteful, street theatrical, racial hatred straight from the playbook of Nazi Germany in the 1930s. Visiting parties of schoolchildren to Auschwitz-Birkenau museum, in Poland, have not proved to be an effective prophylactic.

Though well intentioned, commemoration and memorialisation programmes have got something terribly wrong in their understanding of the psychosocial phenomenon they're supposed to prevent. Until someone works out how to fix this, the public purse ought not to be funding this kind of public space project, particularly one as ugly as this.

Whatever, eventually, a "denazification" programme of British, bourgeois, GenX-ers and Millennials may look like, I doubt it will be of a form like this. Moreover, with, maybe, a decade of Labour stretching ahead of us, its EDI programme will normalise antisemitic opinion and policy. What, then, shall be the relevance of even the currently well-received curating of Holocaust history in the Imperial War Museum?
Greg Lubinsky, London NW6

FROM THE EDITOR: The above letter from Greg Lubinsky about the proposed Holocaust Memorial and Learning Centre arrived at almost the same time as the article to the right, from Lord Pickles. We'd be interested to hear what other readers think.

A FUNDAMENTAL NECESSITY

**Lord Eric Pickles, UK Post
Holocaust Issues Envoy and
Chair of the International
Holocaust Remembrance Alliance
(IHRA), shares his determination
to build a new Holocaust
Memorial and Learning Centre
next to Parliament.**

No modern state can afford to ignore the lessons from the Holocaust. We must be always alert to the risk of the resurgence of ancient hatred; always aware of the depths of evil to which a modern state can sink.

Recent events – the surge of antisemitism since 7 October – are a chilling reminder that these lessons are more relevant than ever. We are not living in Nazi Germany. But we are living in a country where parents think twice about whether their children should wear clothing that identifies them as Jewish. A country where Jewish students feel less safe on campus. A country where demonstrators will use the symbols and language of the Holocaust to intimidate Jewish fellow-citizens.

Our long tradition of freedom and of fair government provides a strong defence against the rise of intolerance. But we should not be complacent. To keep our defences strong, we should be careful not to forget the lessons of history, and should be watchful for signs that our values are under threat.

That is why we remain determined to build a new Holocaust Memorial and Learning Centre next to Parliament.

Last year, Holocaust survivor and staunch supporter of the project Sir Ben Helfgott died and we know that not seeing the Holocaust Memorial and Learning Centre built in his lifetime was a great sadness to him. Each year we are losing more and more Holocaust survivors. We lost Ziggy Shipper on his 93rd birthday in 2023, and Leeds resident Iby Knill

at aged 98 in 2022, she had been freed from Auschwitz in 1945. Freddy Knoller, who was liberated from Bergen Belsen, died two years ago at 100. Harry Bibring, whose mother was murdered in Sobibor extermination camp, arrived in the UK on the Kindertransport but died aged 93 in 2019, just days after telling *Sky News*: "I don't know whether I'll live to see [the memorial] and I hope nothing goes wrong so I can get a glance before I go."

The time is fast approaching where we will no longer have first-hand witnesses and it is imperative that we all do what we can to ensure that this Holocaust Memorial and Learning Centre is built.

There are many reasons why the proposed national Holocaust Memorial and Learning Centre is clearly necessary, and why it has the support of politicians across the political spectrum. Remembering the Holocaust and seeking to learn its lessons is fundamentally necessary in our collective effort to build and sustain a free, equal, and just society. Placing the Memorial and Learning Centre next to Parliament, the symbol and the home of our democratic government, is key. Parliament is the place above all where the lessons of the Holocaust must be remembered.

With rising antisemitism, Holocaust distortion and denial across the globe, it is all the more important that we stand together in remembrance of those who were murdered in the darkest hour of human history.



**ARE YOU THE CHILD OF A
CAMP SURVIVOR?**

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO MEET
OTHERS AND SHARE THOUGHTS
AND EXPERIENCES?**



caryn@ajr.org.uk

ART NOTES: by Gloria Tessler

Artemisia
Gentileschi, *Self
Portrait as the
Allegory of Painting
(La Pittura)*, (The
Royal Collection)



Over the centuries women have slowly emerged to take their place in the artistic canon. According to Tate Britain's exhibition, *Now You See Us* – it has taken over 400 years for women to achieve full recognition as professional artists. The current show which features over 100 women artists, many forgotten, proves the Tate is determined, in the words of its curator of British art **Tabitha Barber**, to buy more work by women "and make women visible on walls."

And there is quite a galaxy on the walls already, from the early feminist Victorian satirist **Florence Caxton**, who condemned the dearth of opportunities for women, to her contemporary, **Henrietta Rae**, whose sensual *Psyche Before the Throne of Venus*, might well have been painted by a man.

Lovers of the eccentric will be amused by 18th Century artist **Maria Cosway** whose *Georgiana Duchess of Devonshire as Cynthia from Spenser's Faery Queen* (1782) flies through the sky in the guise of a Roman moon goddess.

But the experience of 17th century artist Artemisia Gentileschi, who endured torture in court when she brought a case against a man who raped her, informs much of her work with rare gravitas and depth. Her *Self-Portrait as the Allegory of Painting* conveys most acutely the intent of a serious artist at work.

The show features works by two Jewish women. The 19th century painter **Rebecca Solomon** was from a family of noted

male artists, and her 17th century forerunner, **Catherine da Costa** is considered the earliest known British Jewish artist and the first whose work has survived.

Solomon, whose socialist instincts may have been influenced by her liberal, if wealthy family, overcame prejudice to become a successful artist in mid Victorian London despite being barred from studying at the Royal Academy, unlike her two brothers, Abraham and Simeon. She campaigned with 38 other women against the Academy's prohibition and the first female students were admitted in 1860. Her narrative paintings invite many questions. *The Young Teacher* (1861) portrays a young girl reading a book to her black maid, whose voluptuous features and soulful expression, suggest a Sephardic quality. The painting may reflect the way Solomon herself was accepted into British society.

Solomon successfully promoted her work throughout Britain. A wild party-giver, her

guests included Dante Gabriel Rossetti, Edward Burne Jones, and George du Maurier. In later life Solomon struggled financially and died in an accident in London on 20 November 1886.

The miniaturist painter Catherine da Costa was the daughter of Portuguese Jews who fled the Inquisition and came to London when Oliver Cromwell readmitted them in 1656. She lived in the royal residence of Somerset House, and was named after her godmother Catherine of Braganza, Portuguese wife of Charles II, although given the Jewish name Rachel by her mother. Her father Fernando converted to Christianity when he became physician to Charles II. She studied art under famous miniaturist Bernard Lens III and her work caught the eye of Voltaire, who noted a priest's fruitless attempt to convert her, even though her husband, the merchant Anthony Moses da Costa, did convert.

Her miniatures often betray beatific expressions popular in religious portraits at the time. *The Madonna della Seggiola*, after Raphael, has a pallid luminosity, highlighted by the Madonna's blue robe.

Until 13 October


GAME TIME!

**A MORNING OF SOCIALISING,
BOARD GAMES, CARDS,
KNITTING & CROCHETING**

**THURSDAY 18 JULY 2024
11AM-12.30PM**

**£3 each or £5 per pair
to cover Kosher refreshments**

All welcome but booking is essential!

 julia@ajr.org.uk / caryn@ajr.org.uk

**Write Your Life Story
Record a Family History**

Whether you have begun writing, researched your ancestors, or never put pen to paper, we offer a personalised service to help you preserve your precious memories for future generations.

www.wordsbydesign.co.uk
tony@wordsbydesign.co.uk
01869 327548

Annely Juda Fine Art

23 Dering Street
(off New Bond Street)
Tel: 020 7629 7578
Fax: 020 7491 2139

**CONTEMPORARY
PAINTING AND SCULPTURE**

Some hope in dark times

As a former newspaper journalist, I recognise that good news does not always make the headlines. Yes, we all know that life has changed for Jews worldwide since October 7 and we are only too aware that antisemitism is a light sleeper.

It is heartbreaking that bookings for the play 'Kindness' – that tells the story of Holocaust survivor Susan Pollock – have apparently seen an 85 percent fall. The teachers who have cancelled this play should watch it and see what a peerless educational resource it is.

The charity Generation2Generation and its sister organisation in the north, Northern Holocaust Education Group, NHEG, tell their parents' and grandparents' stories in schools, workplaces, churches, synagogues, adult education and civic groups, remand homes and prisons.

Anita Peleg, G2G Chair, warns against just focusing on the bad in news reporting.

'Together G2G and NHEG delivered 500 presentations over the HMD period. Only five percent of these were problematic. This should be celebrated but all we ever hear is the negative news.'

Ernie Hunter, Chair of NHEG actually reports an increase on last year's bookings. He explained: 'We avoid current conflicts. We are invited to speak about family experiences of Nazi persecutions and the Holocaust and we do not therefore divert at all into current politics.'

Lesley Urbach of G2G also reported more



Judith Hayman speaks regularly about her own family's Holocaust story



bookings this year than last. She also said the charity had more bookings outside the London area.

The impact of a person telling the audience of what happened to their mother or grandfather is enormous. This is reflected in the feedback received. One teacher wrote: 'I think the fact that it was told as a story of a father who survived against all odds was what really resonated with everyone – we were able to connect with him as a person and appreciate the degree of bravery and resilience on multiple occasions.'

Another teacher wrote: 'It was a wonderful presentation in humanising the individuals that the everyday person is so used to seeing in terms of statistics rather than seeing faces and stories.' A teacher summed up the goals of the charities when she wrote: 'Our students were absolutely involved with the speakers whose sincerity, openness, pride and honesty made the testimony live.'

Last week, while speaking to a retired persons group, I was asked why Holocaust education had not prevented the current surge in antisemitism. The truth

is that many schools tick the Holocaust education box on the Holocaust education syllabus by reading *The Boy With The Striped Pyjamas*. This is a work of fiction which sanitises the Shoah and is much disfavoured by Holocaust educators. Children in particular remember when a guest speaker comes into school. As the quotes show, they respond to a live account by a relative.

Nobody can replace a Holocaust survivor but the next best thing is to hear from the second or third generation.

Judith Hayman

MAZELTOV MYRNA

Myrna Miriam Bernard, who retired in January this year after 12 years as a social worker with the AJR, was made BEM in the King's Birthday Honours. During her tenure with the AJR Myrna was a devoted social worker and confidante and remains a compassionate advocate for our members. We are thrilled that she has been recognised for her services to the Jewish Community and to the Disabled in Scotland.





DAY TRIP TO HARWICH
TUESDAY 17 SEPTEMBER



Join us on a day trip to Harwich by train from Liverpool Street. View the historical sites of Harwich and see the Kinder Statue. Lunch and some free time included in the day.

Please note there will be a fair amount of gentle walking throughout the day.

 karendiamond@ajr.org.uk

A VOICE FROM THE PAST TO

Daniel Jager is the great grandson of Frank Henderson, who came to the UK in March 1939 to help prepare Kitchener Camp for the arrival of 4000 men. While researching his great grandfather's story he discovered that the AJR Refugee Voices Archive had filmed an interview with Frank in 2004. Daniel's moving letter, written after watching a video of this interview, shows that he was able to take inspiration and comfort from the words of his great grandfather, in this difficult time in Israel.



Frank Henderson in 2004

My great-grandfather Frank was a kind and gentle soul. As a young child, I mostly remember him offering chocolate bars from a specific cupboard whenever we visited him in Manchester. However, there was a silence about his past, a hidden chapter he kept close. It was a burden he shouldered alone, protecting us from its weight.

Throughout my schooling and even during a university trip to Poland, the Holocaust remained a heavy topic. Questions about Frank swirled in my mind: Where did he come from? What was his life like before the war? Did he lose his family? How did he survive and rebuild? I craved a deeper understanding of his experiences.

Each year on Yom HaShoah, survivor testimonies resonated deeply. There were whispers of a recorded interview with Frank, but it seemed lost, possibly on a VHS tape somewhere in London or Manchester.

My travels to European cities like Rome, Prague, Spain, and Poland became personal journeys. Every Jewish museum and exhibit held a story waiting to be discovered, a connection to be made. A visit to a synagogue-turned-museum in Prague brought a wave of sadness. Were Frank's loved ones among the names etched on the walls? A search at a computer provided no answers – I didn't even know his full name.

Determined, I contacted my family back home. Finally, an uncle provided the missing detail – Frank's family name. With a mix of excitement and trepidation, I

typed it in the search bar. Tears welled up as their names appeared on the screen. Sensing my urgency, another uncle sent a link. There it was, the missing video on the AJR Refugee Voices Testimony Archive! My family's history and the answers to my questions were all at my fingertips.

News of the video spread quickly through the family, generating excitement and curiosity to hear Frank's story. However, I felt a strange hesitation to watch it right away. Why the delay? Perhaps Frank's silence stemmed from a desire to shield us from the horrors he witnessed. Maybe he didn't want the darkness of his past to cast a shadow on our lives.

This wasn't just about watching a video. It was about uncovering a family legacy, confronting a difficult past, and honoring those who perished. It was about finally understanding the man who offered chocolate bars, the man who carried a hidden burden, the man whose story I was finally ready to hear.

All this at a time when Israel had suffered the worst deadly attack on Jews since the Holocaust. The 7 October attacks.

My brother luckily survived the attacks at the desert party. Sitting with him and hearing his story took me over a month. I tried to be strong for him, but I broke into tears.

I couldn't help at that moment, after nights of no sleep, frequent trips to the bomb shelter, hearing my brother's narrow escape, and being glued to the news for desperate updates on the fate of the

hostages, to think that perhaps this was what Frank meant. He wanted us to live with love, dreams, and hope – not with the horrors of the past.

However, I needed to know. Before clicking play, I promised to savour each second and not miss a word. I opened my laptop and began to watch the five-hour testimonial.

It surprised me to see Frank, at 88, finally ready to share his story. Over several hours of interview, I was struck by his vivid memories from nearly a century ago. He recounted his childhood, family history, and even our shared roots, with a surprising number of jokes along the way! What also surprised me was his German accent, something I hadn't noticed before.

His story captivated me, from the warmth of his childhood to the dark turn Jewish life took in Germany. The decision to leave must have been incredibly difficult. It meant leaving behind memories and family for freedom and opportunity.

Learning more about Frank's past filled me with pride and inspiration. He turned hardship into a fulfilling life, one any man could be proud of. I feel privileged to be part of this family legacy.

While reflecting on the interviews, a few things came to mind.

First, I wished I could have met Frank in person. Though grateful to the AJR for facilitating this experience, some

COMFORT THE PRESENT



Frank (centre, and at the time known as Friedrich) with his brothers Rolf and Ludwig in Halle, 1938

questions I have for Frank will remain unanswered.

Second, I found satisfaction in preserving a part of our family history. My children will one day hear Frank's story, which holds valuable lessons – not only about the historical context but also about staying positive, persevering, and taking pride in one's identity.

Finally, the story resonated with today's events. As Jews, we share a collective memory, sometimes painfully close to reality. We must stand strong against antisemitism, not retreat into the shadows,

but be proud of our heritage and ensure such atrocities never happen again.

It's our duty to those who have no voice, a responsibility to remember and never let the past repeat itself. Thanks to the AJR for giving voice to survivors like Frank, who held their stories close for so long.

Dr Bea Lewkowicz, Director of the AJR Refugee Voices Archive, replies: Over the years, I have often provided the recording of a testimony to family members. This always makes me happy, as I know how important it is to have a record of the experiences, the voice,

and the image of a family member who survived the Holocaust. Often, the Refugee Voices interviews enable the family to carry out more research, as in the case of Lord Daniel Finkelstein OBE, who has managed to write down his father's experiences because his father had given a testimony to Refugee Voices. Sometimes, we get requests from grandchildren who had known their grandparents only as small children and now would like to find out more. Daniel Jager was the first great-grand child of an interviewee to contact us and I am grateful to him for sharing his thoughts.

THE HOLOCAUST TESTIMONY UK PORTAL

On 26 June at the IHRA plenary in Glasgow, we soft launched an exciting new project, the Holocaust Testimony UK Portal, an initiative of Lord Pickles, the UK Special Envoy for Post-Holocaust Issues and the Association of Jewish Refugees.

The extended version of the portal will be launched in December at the IHRA meeting in London.

The creation of the portal was announced by Lord Pickles in April 2023 at the AJR's International Forum on Collecting, Preserving, and

Disseminating Holocaust Testimony.

This wonderful new digital resource is thanks to the collaboration of many organisations such as the USC Shoah Foundation and the Fortunoff Archive, the British Library, the UK Holocaust Memorial Foundation, who are all making part or all of their entire collections accessible.

The portal will be an innovative digital signpost and repository, allowing users to access and compare interviews from each collection and interviews given by the same person to different collections. A dedicated page with learning resources will provide information about the history of the Holocaust and present materials relating to the history of testimony collections and teaching with testimonies in the classroom.

Another section of the portal will present interviews with collection holders, that will also provide an insight about their collections and will reflect on the challenges of capturing and archiving Holocaust testimonies.

We hope that the portal will encourage diverse audiences to engage with and learn from the many interviews conducted with the survivors and refugees from Nazism whose lives were radically altered by the Holocaust, who settled and worked in the UK, and who created new families, communities, and identities.

Dr Bea Lewkowicz



FOLLOWING THEIR ADVENTURES AND



Melissa's sister Emily and Kind Ralph Samuel at AJR's Kindertransport concert

In May we welcomed a 40+ strong delegation of Kindertransport generations from America. Melissa Hacker shares some highlights.

In America Mother's Day is a secular holiday, often viewed as a commercial event dreamt up to sell greeting cards. In fact it dates from 19th century American women's peace groups who organised meetings of mothers of sons who had fought in the Civil War, with the intention to reunite families divided by war.

It was thus extra fitting that the Kindertransport Association 85th Year Commemorative Trip started on Mother's Day, May 12, as the descendants of families scattered by persecution and war gathered in London. One Kind and 42 descendants, aged 92 years to six months, met in London, having travelled from 15 US states and from Glasgow.

We came together to honour the parents, grandparents and great grandparents who made the unimaginable choice, before the outbreak of WW2, to send their children away to safety, not knowing if or when they would see them again; to learn more about the Kindertransports; to commemorate; and to share our connected histories.

I arrived in London at 7am on Thursday 9 May, had a coffee with a dear friend whose mother was a Kind from Czechoslovakia, and went to a lovely AJR lunch and screening of my film *My Knees Were Jumping; Remembering the Kindertransports*. I apologise if I was overwhelmed by jetlag in the post screening discussion.



On Monday 13 May the US delegation, together with some UK-based AJR members,

On the Sunday all the travellers met for the AJR's Kindertransport concert at Wigmore Hall and afterwards, over dinner, we began to get to know each other.

Tuesday at the Austrian Cultural Forum, artist Sophie Herxheimer divided us into pairs to talk and listen to our Kindertransport histories, then write down what most struck us. The next week she sent us a poem which creatively weaves together our notes. This is an excerpt:

You go to England. It's an Adventure, we will Follow.

She sees the feathers flying from the duvets ripped from their beds by stormtroopers. We must save her, whispers her mother, and on the train the bread is white, perhaps poisoned? Don't let the little kids eat it.

Father dresses him in lederhosen and a tracht hat. You represent Vienna! He waves him off. His first day in his east end school in such clothes: the worst!

Alone on a train, frozen emotions, what should she feel? It is December and so cold, she doesn't take her coat off for two weeks.

Wednesday morning some travellers went on a walking tour of the Jewish East End, others to 'Finchleystrasse'. I visited the London Metropolitan Archives, where WJR had researched each family. I saw my mother's travel document for the first time, and Ralph Samuel, our 92 year-old Kind, found the answer to a question he had been asking for years. Ralph had flown to England ("I don't remember getting on the plane or leaving my parents, but I do remember wearing a cardboard sign around my neck with my name on it. I arrived in

England like a package.") A few months later Ralph's mother wrote his foster father "explaining that conditions for the Jews were getting very bad, and asked if he needed any help in his home. He hired my mother as a maid and we were reunited. I remember, however, eating my meals in the dining room with the Epsteins while my mother ate dinner in the kitchen. But I had her with me and I was lucky." Ralph had always wondered how his mother had gotten to England, and, at the archive, he found the answer: she had arrived, like he had, at Croydon airport.

We spent Wednesday afternoon at the Wiener Holocaust Library, hearing from speakers including Lord Alf Dubs and Dr. Amy Williams, and then we set out for a reception at the Austrian Embassy, where a surprise concert, *Émigré Cabaret – Songs by Eric Sanders*, a Kindertransport survivor, had been prepared for us. What a treat! And then to a pub around the corner.

Thursday we toured the Imperial War Museum, and far too soon it was time for our farewell reception at the beautiful West London Synagogue.

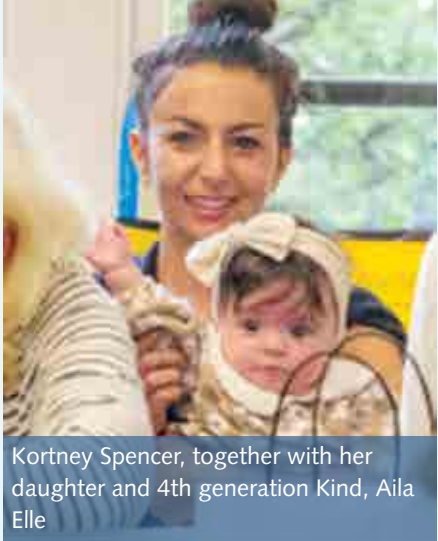
I would like to acknowledge the assistance of the AJR, especially Trustee Danny Kalman, for his steadfast support during our planning and for setting aside the entire week to guide us through London; Bea Lewkowicz for curating the Study Day at the Austrian Cultural Forum; and Susan Harrod and her team for organising our day at Harwich and the farewell reception.

We look forward to returning for the 90th.

Melissa Hacker
Executive Director
The Kindertransport Association

PUTTING THE PIECES BACK TOGETHER

retraced many of their ancestors' journeys, travelling between Harwich and Liverpool Street



Kortney Spencer, together with her daughter and 4th generation Kind, Aila Elle

Kortney Spencer joined the trip to help honour the memory of her much loved grandma.

My grandmother Liesel Spencer was the most positive and happy person I have known, despite her childhood. She was separated from her parents when she was 16, fled Germany to a new country (England). It was suddenly a new language and a new family.

As part of the Jewish community in New Jersey, my grandma volunteered in the Holocaust centre at a community college, helped with clerical tasks at a hospital, and delivered flowers to Jewish patients. She was involved with her reform temple and loved to garden. She drove, cooked, and played games into her 90s. She visited schools and shared her stories with kids and adults alike.

I remember my childhood with my grandma. Lots of loves and laughs, matzo ball soup, gifts, and food. Lots and lots of food. My grandma shared so many stories with me. I was lucky to have her in my life until I was 27 years old. One memory brings me back to age 26. I had broken up with my high school/college boyfriend, and my grandma told me, "I really love JT, he's good for you."

Flash forward to 2024. I am married to JT, and we visited London with our baby girl and the KTA. We walked through Harwich where my grandmother arrived after saying

goodbye to her parents in Germany.

My grandma had such a kind heart that she made excuses for Nazi soldiers and German bystanders. She said they were just worried about keeping their families safe, and that's why they did the things they did. This is despite having to leave her family when she was 16.

A few months later, her brother also joined a Jewish family in England. Their parents survived for most of the war and communicated through censored letters, with help from the Red Cross. But my grandma and her brother never saw their parents or extended family again.

In England, the family fired their live-in nanny and housekeeper within three weeks of my grandmother's arrival. She took care of the kids, cleaned the house, and cooked. And still, she was grateful for her stay. Despite making friends, going out, meeting my grandfather, and having two children, she still felt something wasn't right. My grandma had promised her parents they would meet again one day in America. Although they would not be reuniting, she felt like she had to go to the USA to fulfill their last wishes. She moved her family to the States — and here we are.

I was always interested in the Holocaust as an adult, and I was lucky to be able to ask my grandma questions and hear stories. Hearing it firsthand was so meaningful. As I got older, my interest grew — books, movies, reading, Holocaust museums, and

deepening my Jewish culture.

My brother identified as Jewish earlier than I did. He made his barmitzvah when he was 18 years old; I still have never made mine. He got his Austrian citizenship when he turned 30; I still don't have mine. When he told me about this trip, I thought there's no way I can come with a five-month-old premature baby and my husband. As it got closer, I felt like I was going to miss out on a chance to put the pieces together. I don't think my grandmother could imagine us in England, trying to connect with her brother's family. In Harwich, walking her path. In London, listening and exploring the place she began her new life, speaking her third language.

My grandma passed away peacefully holding mine and my brother's hand in 2017. I didn't know it then, but it was just six months before I was shot with an assault weapon at the 1 October Las Vegas Mass Shooting. It threatened my life, immobilised me for a year, and caused many more years of recovery.

But here in 2024, I have traveled to London with my brother, husband, and baby girl, Aila Elle (for "L" in Liesel). We were all retracing my grandmother's steps and reconnecting with long lost family — and doing so at a time where our Jewish identity is once again being questioned. Even so, I am grateful to have these experiences and make connections with others whose history is brutal and who continue to persevere through the pain.

ORPHANS OF THE HOLOCAUST

The Hungarian Zionist leader **Ottó Komoly** is credited with saving thousands of children during the German occupation of Budapest. He kept a private diary which his nephew, **Tomi Komoly**, has translated and from which we are proud to share some extracts from 1944, providing an eye-witness account of that terrible year for Hungarian Jews.

Sunday 19 March

At 9:30 Holl calls that the Germans entered at Budaörs (János Hunyadi spinning mill) with great force. Telephone Andorka, The Community, (no response from Foreign Affairs); great nervousness at the PIH General Assembly, my speech is short. Afterwards Kasztner (Parizette Café) Szilágyi, Federit, Roth S. Leon. At 4 meeting in KKL, Dr. Polgár is also present. Carry on at László G[rünfeld]. Due to Kasztner's news, I rush home at 8, have dinner and with my air-raid bag back to G.L. News is still confusing – but the situation is definitely serious. I barely sleep for 20 minutes that night.

Monday 20 March

We meet Lila in front of MAHb. At noon meet Mrs. László, discussing the most urgent matters. Visit to And[orka] R[udolf]. He tries to reassure me, but he can't be more specific re. Germans. Negotiations ongoing. In the afternoon I meet with Lea and O. Erzsí Király and Körút. (News about Judenrat [Jewish Council] formation.) Discussion in the apartment of Dr. Újváry S[ándor] (dr.K[asztner], Ros[enberg] M., Szil[ágyi] E., Leon and Mönuch.) We're not joining the Judenrat!

Sunday 15 October

On the way to Mérleg u. I see German soldiers with submachine guns divert traffic at entrance to Váci u. I hear two hand grenades explode. Strong preparedness at the chain bridge as well. News arriving at Mérleg u.: Armored units on Elizabeth Bridge, all tram traffic was stopped. Hungarian soldiers on the Danube bank, ready to fire, and tanks. Váci u. full of German tanks. At 12 o'clock Nádor u. 3.

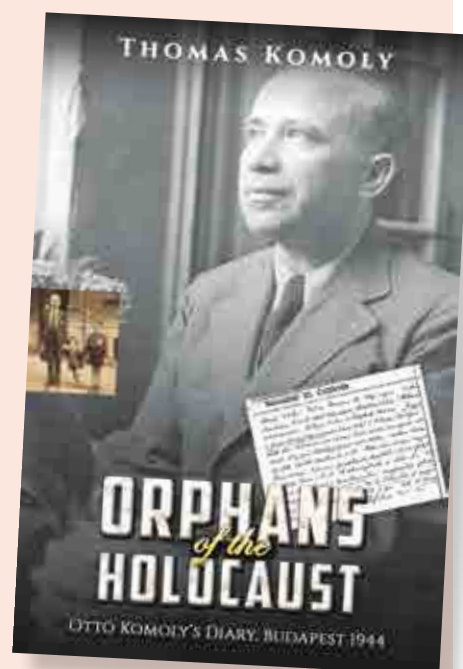
Stern, Wilhelm, Knapp Elek – they know nothing important. At 12.30 Vadász u. meeting about deportees. As I'm leaving I hear the Hungarian radio report that Horthy has requested a truce. In the afternoon we listen at Bársony's to the radio and I cancel my appointments. Phone Stern, I reach Rezső in Pannonia. In the evening we learn that the broadcasting centre was occupied by the Germans; a new government was formed: Szálasi is head of state.

Monday 16 October

Packing. On foot with Lila to Mérleg u. Hardly any officials turned up. Phone Born, Dr. Schirmer: possibility of issuing home protection Red Cross signs. They are permitted – issued approx. 45-50 pcs. Upon arriving at Chain Bridge up-ramp we see a startling picture: people with raised hands are driven by German soldiers toward the Danube; others are chased into the bus station waiting room. Later arrivals report that groups of 'Communists' and Jews were brought to the banks of the Danube and machine gunned and killed and thrown into the river. Born and Schirmer arrive in the afternoon: they are going to Grell at the German embassy, to do something. The news: random evacuation of yellow star houses with brutal activities; Városi Theatre as a place of concentration, locking up of yellow star houses, abolition of exemption from wearing yellow star, obligation to move back to yellow star houses. Evening radio news: the Governor withdrew the ceasefire request, resigned, handed over power to Szálasi. We sleep in the office in makeshift arrangement (in addition to us, 4 chalutzim and 3 from the Born office).

Tuesday 17 October

News about general restrictions (eg only



up to 3 can meet on the streets, after dark only the officials, Jews can neither go out from nor into the buildings, car use restrictions, etc.). Meet here this morning Dr. Károly Wilhelm, then Samu Stern. Later Rezső and Biss Bandi. Around 3.30 Born and Dr. Schirmer. Stern makes several calls – this worries me. He also stays here for the night. Incoming news: yellow star house evacuation continues, some individuals on the run show up; interior minister makes sharply anti-Jewish statements on the radio; unreliable news about the bombing of Kőbánya, and that the Russians are at Monor. Born and Schirmer promise action at the Interior and Foreign Ministry and the PM's office, no success so far at the German embassy. About 24 sleep here tonight. News that some houses on Népszínház Street staged armed resistance, tanks fired at these houses. Bedtime towards 10 (I on my desk, Lili on 4 chairs.)

Tomi Komoly's book *Orphans of the Holocaust*, which chronicles his uncle Otto's lifesaving rescue campaign through extracts from his personal diary, is available from Amazon and other booksellers. Tomi also recently wrote a blog for the *Times of Israel*: <https://blogs.timesofisrael.com/yom-hashoah-reflections-an-overdue-commemoration-of-otto-komoly/>

AJR MEMBER NEWS

300 NOT OUT

The AJR wishes a very hearty mazeltov to three of our members who have each celebrated their 100th birthdays in recent weeks.

John Goldsmith

was born in Oberkassel, Germany. His parents divorced when he was 7 and, after his step-father was murdered by the Nazis in 1933, John and his mother went to live with his uncle in Amsterdam.



In 1937 John's mother, who was a dentist, secured permission to work in Britain and found a position in Cambridge. John attended Leys School but on his 16th birthday in 1940 he was interned. He was first taken to Huyton, then the Isle of Man, and then sent on

the SS Sobieski to Canada. He returned in Jan 1941 and recommenced his schooling. After qualifying in medicine at Guys Hospital he practised as a doctor in Egypt, Birmingham, Great Ormond Street, Central Middlesex, Leicester and Sheffield, where he still lives.

Henry Glanz

was 15 he was put on the last Kindertransport from Germany, on 31 August 1939. He was sent to Gwrych Castle in North Wales where he lived for 18 months, working on local farms. From there he spent a little time in a hostel in Birmingham to be near his sister, who had been sent by Kindertransport a week before him, but then moved to London, staying in Willesden Lane.



After the war Henry worked for the American army in Germany helping with the translation of documents. On

returning to London he met his wife at a function at Dunstan Road synagogue. They were married for 67 years and had two sons, one lives in Buenos Aires and the other in Worthing. Henry worked in the rag trade as a sheepskin cutter.

Henry's sister eventually settled in Australia. His parents and brother were unable to escape Germany and all perished in the camps.

Hanna Reichenstein

came from Berlin. She married Siggy Reichenstein, a fellow German refugee. AJR trustee Miriam Kingsley marked her centenary with a lovely meeting at her home, with AJR CEO Michael Newman. Hanna celebrated her birthday surrounded by well-wishers and visitors and AJR's birthday card is now proudly on display next to the one from the King and Queen!



RAIN ON HER PARADE

The rainy weather could not dull the joy for AJR first generation member Suzanne Rappaport Ripton as she rode in style to a recent garden party at Buckingham Palace where she met, among others, HRH The Prince of Wales.

Suzanne was born in Paris in 1936 and had a happy life until the Nazi occupation in 1940. When her parents were arrested in 1942, Suzanne was rescued by her neighbour. She spent the following years in hiding, deep in the French countryside. She was then brought to England by

the Red Cross and placed with a family in Newcastle, who treated her as a housemaid. At the age of 15, Suzanne managed to save enough money for a train ticket to London. She obtained a job at Selfridges before working at Barkers on Kensington High Street. Suzanne later married and had two children.

In 2023 Suzanne, whose *My Story* book can be read on the AJR website, was honoured with a BEM for her services to Holocaust education.

MEET OUR YOUNGEST MEMBER

Twelve year old Elinor Beard recently celebrated her batmitzvah at Cliveden College in Bristol, where she is a day pupil.

Both of her maternal grandparents are Holocaust survivors, in fact her grandfather was actually born in a camp

in Austria. Elinor has always been fascinated by her heritage, and *Diary of Anne Frank* has been a favourite book since she was six. We are delighted to welcome Elinor as our youngest ever member and are very grateful for the generous donation that she made to the AJR on the occasion of her batmitzvah.



When Elinor was just 9 years old she was invited to speak at the unveiling of a plaque for a tree planted in Anne Frank's memory

REVIEWS

THE KINDERTRANSPORT: WHAT REALLY HAPPENED

Andrea Hammel
Polity Press

The Kindertransport has been the subject of a number of studies, notably those by Vera K. Fast and Judith Baumel-Schwartz, but none has succeeded in giving as clear and concise an overview as does Andrea Hammel of the operation that saved the lives of almost 10,000 mostly Jewish children between December 1938 and September 1939. Her book is divided into ten chapters, each with a one-word title – Escape, Organisation, Placements – that cover the central facets of the Kindertransport. It gives an especially clear picture of the organisation of the operation, from the Jewish bodies in Germany and Austria that registered the children to those in Britain responsible for selecting, transporting, accommodating and otherwise administering them.

Hammel targets what she terms the myth of the Kindertransport, whereby its deficiencies and the unhappiness inflicted on some of the children have been absorbed into a national historical narrative that has transformed it into a shining example of humanitarian endeavour, airbrushing out the darker parts: she begins her account with a Kindertransportee who later committed suicide. Her 'critical history' of the Kindertransport highlights the shortages in funding and support for both the children and their foster parents, the inadequate training of the volunteers on whom the entire process largely depended, the deficiencies in the criteria by which the children were selected, the lack of vetting of placements and the failure to match Jewish children with Jewish homes.

Hammel's criticism is levelled particularly at the British government for its failure to assume responsibility for the children it had admitted, by providing adequate levels of supervision and support. Some might say that it is unfair to expect welfare state levels of child support in a pre-welfare state society. In 1938, child support as we know it hardly existed for British children, as became evident from

the condition of children evacuated from Britain's urban centres after the outbreak of war. There was no Ministry of Education before 1944, and, shocking though it may seem today, until the foundation of the NHS in 1948 many of the poorer members of British society were effectively excluded from basic healthcare.

Hammel's study is strong on detail. She explains how previously existing networks helped expedite children from Germany to Britain, while in Austria the process was made easier by the concentration of Jews in Vienna. She depicts Gwrych Castle and the Czechoslovak State School, the institutions set up to take Kindertransportees in Wales – Hammel is Professor at the University of Aberystwyth – and Millisle Farm in Northern Ireland (though not Whittingehame Farm School in Scotland).

She arguably goes too far when, citing Louise London, she refers to the 'exclusion' of the parents of the Kindertransport children from Britain, which 'sealed their fate'. But these parents were no more excluded from Britain than were any other Jewish refugees. Hammel tones down this judgment later, saying that entry into Britain was 'very difficult' for the parents. It is worth recalling that in the eighteen months between the annexation of Austria by Nazi Germany in March 1938 and the outbreak of war in September 1939, Britain admitted some 60,000 Jewish refugees, including 30,000 from Austria, about one sixth of the entire Jewish population. In November 1958, on the twentieth anniversary of the Kristallnacht, Werner Rosenstock, General Secretary of the AJR from 1941 to 1982, wrote:

"The frontiers of most countries were barred. The United States and Palestine were restricted in their immigration policies by the quota and certificate systems. The only country which really reached [out] a helping hand and which thus lived up to the emergency, was Great Britain. Of the 100,000-150,000 Jews who left Germany between the pogroms and the outbreak of war, about 40,000 found refuge in this island, and in addition a further 40,000 from Austria and Czechoslovakia. One must have experienced what it meant in those days of anxiety if a letter from a guarantor or from a British immigration authority arrived in a Jewish household."

Before emigrating to Britain in August 1939, Rosenstock worked for the Jewish representative organisation in Berlin, in a department dealing with emigration to Britain. He knew what he was talking about.

Anthony Grenville

MORTAL SECRETS: FREUD, VIENNA AND THE DISCOVERY OF THE MODERN MIND

Frank Tallis
Abacus books

When the young mother Amalia Freud was accosted by a peasant woman who declared that, with her firstborn she had brought a great man into the world, she was bursting with pride. She could feel the truth of this prophecy in her bones and her son Sigmund later shared this tale with others. Indeed he became world famous and developed the groundbreaking theory that humans have an unconscious in which repressed sexual and aggressive impulses are in perpetual conflict to surface against our defences. In his masterpiece *The Interpretation of Dreams* he analysed unconscious desires and experiences.

Sigmund was born in Freiberg, Moravia – now the Czech Republic – moving when he was three to Leipzig and the following year to Vienna where he later studied medicine. Soon he became interested in treating hysteria by the recall of painful experiences under hypnosis. After further studies in Paris under the eminent neurologist Jean-Martin Charcot he set up in private practice and took patients for psychoanalysis. This new discipline's ascendancy coincided with Vienna's dazzling golden age in arts and culture from 1890 until the outbreak of the First World War.

The Austrian capital was populated by other Jewish intellectuals including the composers Gustav Mahler and Arnold Schoenberg. It was powered by an unprecedented number of extraordinary people including artists Egon Schiele and Gustav Klimt, thinkers such as Theodor Herzl and fashion icons like the glamorous Empress Sisi. Jewish but non-observant, Freud prospered in this environment and took on fashionable patients including Princess Marie Bonaparte who was later to help him flee to England.

After a long engagement Freud had married Martha Bernays and they produced six children – three sons and three daughters – ensuring many distinguished descendants. It would be good to know more about his close family. But the pages on his youngest daughter Anna, who was herself analysed by Freud and went on to become a leading child psychoanalyst, are very thought-provoking.

Freud worked long hours and was a prolific writer. In 1923 he published *The Ego and the Id* suggesting a new structural model of the mind. He was fond of dogs and took European holidays sometimes with his sister-in-law Minna who lived with the family. He enjoyed being part of the café society as a habitu  of Caf  Landtmann.

Psychoanalytic circles prospered but his friendship with Carl Jung, the Swiss psychiatrist and psychoanalyst and perhaps natural successor, ended in a bitter rift. Freud was slow to see the threat of Nazism but after Anna's interrogation by the Gestapo in 1938 was finally convinced to leave his beloved Vienna, never to return. By then he was a mortally ill, having endured multiple operations since oral cancer was diagnosed in 1923, although he continued working and smoking till the end. The family settled at London's 20 Maresfield Gardens – now the Freud Museum – where he died on September 23, 1939 aged 83, just after war broke out.

Author Frank Tallis, a clinical psychologist and writer, gives exemplary clear explanations of Freud's theories and paints a colourful picture of Viennese life in this powerful and eye-opening account.

As for Freud himself, the territory is already very well-trodden but there are so many other aspects which are fascinating to read about this polymath. There were theories on jokes, compulsive and destructive personalities, classical life and the role of archaeology. The scope is a revelation with many things highlighted by the author in this excellent book as being particularly relevant to modern life.

Janet Weston

AJR
DAY TRIP TO BRIGHTON
 TUESDAY 23 JULY 2024



Please join us for fish & chips on Brighton seafront and free time to wander the Lanes, stroll along the pier, or sunbathe on the beach.
 Coach pick-ups in Edgware and Finchley Road

roshart@ajr.org.uk

AJR
AJ RAMBLERS CLUB



Our next walk will take place on:
MONDAY 22 JULY 2024 at 11am

Meeting at a London underground station

There is no charge to come for a ramble. There will be a couple of comfort stops and an opportunity to have a coffee/sandwich break.

karendiamond@ajr.org.uk

PillarCare
 Outstanding live-in & hourly care in your home at affordable rates



020 7482 2188 | enquiries@pillarcare.co.uk

www.fishburnbooks.com

Jonathan Fishburn

buys and sells Jewish and Hebrew books, ephemera and items of Jewish interest.

He is a member of the Antiquarian Booksellers Association.

Contact Jonathan on
 020 8455 9139 or 07813 803 889
 for more information



KINDER EVENTS
 – for all Kinder and their descendants

KINDER CONTACT PROJECT

THURSDAY 1 AUGUST
 @ 1.30PM



We have been running our Kinder Contact Project very successfully over the last year. We meet once a month on zoom and divide into smaller groups to talk about our shared backgrounds and exchange news and views.

<https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/86115603633>
 MEETING ID: 861 1560 3633

susan@ajr.org.uk



RESIDENTIAL TRIP TO EASTBOURNE

MON 23 – FRI 27 SEPTEMBER 2024



We are delighted to be returning to Eastbourne this September for a 4 night stay at the Burlington Hotel, on the seafront. The hotel is opposite the pier, very close to shops, caf s and restaurants

We will be travelling by coach from North West London and will return before Shabbat

Our stay will include dinner, bed & breakfast, with after-dinner entertainment every night

roshart@ajr.org.uk

JOSEPH PEREIRA

(ex-AJR caretaker over 22 years) is now available for DIY repairs and general maintenance.

No job too small, very reasonable rates.

Please telephone
 07966 887 485.

OBITUARIES

Fr. Francis Anton Alfred Paul WAHLE

Born: 14 August 1929, Vienna
Died: 14 May 2024, London



Margarete STERN

Born: 28 June 1925, Germany
Died: 17 April 2024, London

Father Francis was Jewish by birth but both parents had converted, raising Francis and his sister Anne as Catholic. They only found out their Jewish roots when they were forced to leave their secular school after the Anschluss, and were then sent by Kindertransport to England.

In 2020 Father Francis wrote his autobiography, *'My Story'*, published by the AJR. It makes for compelling reading: "I was born in Vienna in August 1929 to a middle-class family. My father, Karl Wahle, was a judge and my mother, Hedwig Brunner, an insurance actuary..."

Towards the end of the book he writes: "The refugees of today don't need me to say anything to them. They know what they need. They want security, shelter, the possibility of work. But they're not getting it. They're not allowed in. It's not the refugees who need my advice, rather the politicians. There are groups which help child refugees from Syria, for example. That's what I support. If someone is drowning, you don't give them advice".

Francis was baptised eight days after his birth. He became a priest, his sister Anne became a nun, taking the name Sister Hedwig. She died in August 2001. They had escaped the Nazis via a Kindertransport in January 1939, he aged 9, she aged 7. He was taken to a home run by the Catholic Committee for Refugees, his sister to a convent. Although baptised as Catholic, Francis and Anne were legally Jewish because they had four

Jewish grandparents; his father, Karl Wahle, had become a Catholic before Francis was born.

Francis was educated at the Jesuit-run Stonyhurst College in Lancashire and then took a B.Sc. in economics at University College, graduating in 1950. He took employment as an articled clerk and in 1955 joined the John Lewis Partnership to work as assistant to the chief accountant until 1959. But his vocation was in the priesthood, and he was accepted as a student at the Diocese of Westminster and went to the Venerable English College in Rome from 1959-1966. He was ordained to the diaconate at the Church of the Sacred Heart in Rome in 1965 and to the priesthood in the same year. On his return to London, Fr. Francis took up various appointments, first at Westminster Cathedral then at Hammersmith Hospital in East Acton and was an active member of the Council of Christians & Jews. He retired at 75, the usual retirement age for priests.

Among the many services that Fr. Francis gave was a personal ministry to alienated Catholics, people who felt hurt or marginalised by the Church. He was keen to support 'lapsed Catholics' and to accompany them; he said, "We have a duty to reach out and search for those who feel offended by the Church, its teachings, its practices or its representatives". He knew what it was and how it felt to be rejected and excluded, intimidated and persecuted.

Fr. Francis touched the lives of countless Catholics – practising and lapsed – as well as other Christians, Jews, Muslims and people of no religious affiliation, because of his humanity, humility and his love of people.

Mgr. Martin Hayes
Vicar General
Diocese of Westminster

In life, it seems obvious to say that we never know when or what Hashem is going to put in our path or we certainly don't know why. Sometimes you offer to do something for someone and, in the end, they end up doing much more for you than the other way round!

I was very privileged to have been able to visit and make friends with Mrs Margarete Stern during the last few months of her life, via the AJR. Mrs Stern was an extremely special lady who came to this country in 1938, after leaving Germany via Yugoslavia as a refugee in 1933.

It's difficult to put it into words, but visiting Mrs Stern gave me a rare insight into a world gone by, more understanding of our lost generations and an appreciation of a special type of person – one who has survived so much unexpected upheaval, darkness and change early in childhood and only made positive changes to their life and family and those around them. Her smile radiated like that of a child and she was so uplifting – my visits with her quickly became the highlight of my week. I felt as though she had an innate resilience that had stood her in good stead all her life.

Mrs Stern was 98 when I met her and I only knew her for less than five months but each precious hour with her was a journey and a life-lesson in history, religion, language, determination, relationships, humour, love, people and perspective. We talked and talked and listened and listened and often her daughter, Sarah, would join in, too. The love she had for all her family was always palpable but I could see that her daughter, Sarah, her youngest child (herself a grandmother of many BH) with whom she lived in Manchester for the last year of her life, held a very special place in her heart. At 98, Mrs Stern was the matriarch of a very

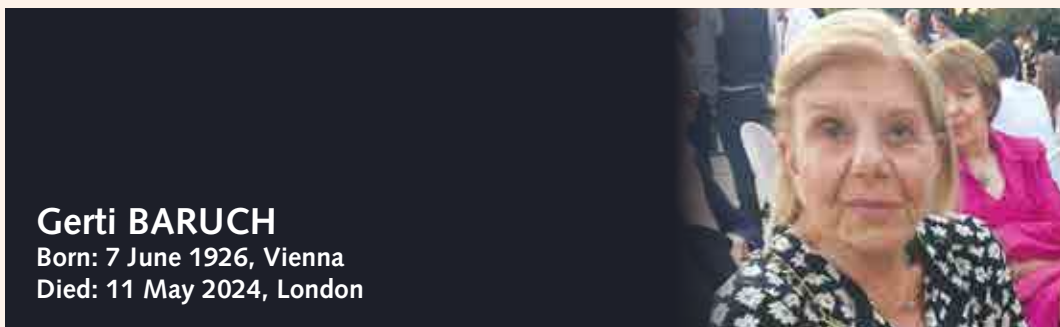


large family, BH, with many grand-children and great-grandchildren all over the world.

Mrs Stern's mind and memory were still absolutely as sharp as a tack and when I would forget the direction of our conversation, if we went off at a tangent, she would pull it right back on track! She was a highly skilled linguist and spoke many languages including her native German, English, Spanish, French and many others. She even taught me a couple of Japanese words and her grandsons told me at the Shiva that family legend had it that she could say thank you in over 30 languages and dialects! We often played Scrabble together and she usually beat me – she certainly had a wider vocabulary than I (and English is my first language...) Her son-in-law, Jeremy, joked with me the last time we met that, next time, we should play in Spanish but sadly, we didn't get the chance.

I will miss Mrs Stern very much and the joy she brought into my life for a short but very important time. May her dear soul rest in peace and may her memory be a blessing.

Natalie Zimmel



Gerti BARUCH
 Born: 7 June 1926, Vienna
 Died: 11 May 2024, London

Gerti was born in Vienna in 1926 to emigrés from Romania. Her early childhood was happy and she especially enjoyed going out all dressed up with her father on Sundays and being treated to ice cream. Her later passion for opera may well be from hearing her father sing popular arias. These serene years were brought to an abrupt end by the Anschluss, when Gerti was 12.

Her older sister, Lilli, left the family in 1939 to work in London. Her father was detained in Dachau until somehow her mother got him out, all the more remarkable as Gerti's mother was a committed communist. He went to Palestine and, with the help of Lilli, Gerti and her mother escaped to England two weeks before war was declared.

There is no doubt that multiple separations, including not being allowed to live with her mother when she was a housekeeper for an English ex-colonial military family, took their toll. One of Gerti's worst experiences was being evacuated alone to a family in Kidlington near Oxford where she couldn't speak the language, either at home or the local school. At the height of the war Lilli, Gerti and their mother were reunited and lived in Belsize Park where her mother earned a living as a dressmaker. Even their nightly trips to Belsize Park underground station to avoid the Blitz were a welcome relief from the strange world of the English family and their even stranger cooking.

Gerti became a talented seamstress, albeit with no formal training. Through the Maccabi youth organisation she met Max Baruch, marrying him in 1947 when she was just 21. Max also worked in the rag trade and Gerti worked alongside him until they started a family in 1951. They had two children: Geoffrey and Susan, who followed three years later.

Gerti and Max loved living in London, not only for the rich cultural life but also for eating out, being warmly welcomed at all their favourite places. They particularly enjoyed clothes shopping and were both incredibly stylish, Gerti's oft repeated dictum being 'dress smartly but with comfort'.

Gerti was known for her strength and resilience, overcoming a serious illness in her late 40s and a bad eye accident. She could be very forceful on behalf of herself and her family whenever it was needed, saying things as she saw them, and arguing her points with anyone brave enough to take her on.

Throughout her life she strived hard to keep herself in good shape. She and Max swam every day at Hans Footers and Gerti continued this even after the shock of Max's death in 1997. She later progressed to exercise biking and was still doing this every single day almost up to her last.

Gerti and Max loved to travel, spending time in Capri and Monte Carlo as well as north and south America after Max retired. Gerti also pursued her love of art, fashion and music throughout her life.

She engendered a fierce loyalty and love from her five grandchildren, who have all written wonderful memories about their Omi. She had wonderful friendships and in later years enjoyed weekly tea parties with friends she made in Sheringham. She also developed a close bond with Ritchie, her main carer, who looked after her till the end, along with her daughter Susan and her son-in-law Roger.

Geoffrey Baruch



In a bid to stay physically and mentally fit during the pandemic AJR member Gerti Blum Baruch, 94, has been spending almost an hour a day on her stationary exercise bicycle. Born in Vienna, Gerti came to the UK with her mother in 1939, a few weeks before war broke out. She is a member of Belsize Square Synagogue and attributes her strength to everything that she has been through in her life.

Gerti as featured in the August 2021 issue of the AJR Journal

IN PERSON EVENTS

DATE	TIME	GROUP	CO-ORDINATOR
Tuesday 2 July	10.30am	Ealing	Ros Hart
Wednesday 3 July	12.30pm	Sheffield	Michal Mocton
Wednesday 3 July	12.30pm	Cambridge	Karen Diamond
Tuesday 9 July	12.30pm	York	Michal Mocton
Wednesday 10 July	12.30pm	North Lancs	Michal Mocton
Thursday 11 July	12.30pm	Broadway	Karen Diamond
Thursday 11 July	All day	Troon Piersland House Hotel	Agnes Isaacs
Tuesday 16 July	12.30pm	Yorkshire	Michal Mocton
Wednesday 17 July	12.30pm	Muswell Hill	Ros Hart
Thursday 18 July	10.30am	Wanstead	Karen Diamond
Monday 22 July	11am	Ramblers Club	Karen Diamond/Ros Hart
Tuesday 23 July	2pm	Edinburgh	Agnes Isaacs
Wednesday 24 July	12.30pm	Edgware	Ros Hart
Thursday 25 July	12 noon	Norwich special event	Karen Diamond
Monday 29 July	All day	Bournemouth group outing	Ros Hart/Karen Diamond
Tuesday 30 July	2pm	South Herts	Ros Hart
Wednesday 31 July	2pm	Hampstead	Ros Hart

CO-ORDINATOR DETAILS

Susan Harrod
Events and Outreach Manager
susan@ajr.org.uk
 020 8385 3078

Agnes Isaacs
Scotland and Newcastle Co-Ordinator
agnes@ajr.org.uk
 Tel: 07908 156 361

Ros Hart
London and South East England Co-Ordinator
roshart@ajr.org.uk
 Tel: 07966 969 951

Karen Diamond
London and South East England Co-Ordinator
karendiamond@ajr.org.uk
 07966 631 778

Michal Mocton
Northern England Co-Ordinator
michalmocton@ajr.org.uk
 07966 886 535

ZOOMS AHEAD

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

Monday 1 July @ 4pm	Ed Horwich – The history of Jews in small communities in the UK https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/81203189139	Meeting ID 812 0318 9139
Monday 8 July @ 4pm	Mary Miller – Jane Haining: a Scot who died in Auschwitz https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/88436993738	Meeting ID: 884 3699 3738
Tuesday 9 July @ 4pm	David Barnett – Jack Cohen: The Man Who Created Tesco https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/88276731576	Meeting ID: 882 7673 1576
Monday 15 July @ 4pm	FILM – The life and work of Marc Chagall https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/85186817902	Meeting ID: 851 8681 7902
Wednesday 17 July @ 4pm	Dan Fox, AJEX – The Beginning of the end: Jews, D-Day and the Road to Victory https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/86781846190	Meeting ID: 867 8184 6190
Monday 22 July @ 4pm	If you are from Burgenland Austria or have connections to the 7 Shive Kohiles this is for you https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/82944138473	Meeting ID 829 4413 8473
Wednesday 24 July @ 2pm	Book Discussion (no speaker) – Homelands: the history of friendship by Chitra Ramaswamy https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/81721182344	Meeting ID: 817 2118 2344
Wednesday 31 July @ 4pm	Peter & Marian Prinsley – The bodies in the Well: the mystery of 17 victims of antisemitism whose bodies were discovered in Norwich https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/81548005407	Meeting ID: 8154 800 5407

KEEP FIT WITH AJR

All AJR members & friends are invited to take part in these online exercise and dance classes throughout the coming month.

Every Mon @ 10.30am	Get Fit where you Sit (seated exercise)	https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/85246889439	Meeting ID: 8524 688 9439
Every Tues @ 11.00am	Shelley's Exercise class	https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/88466945622	Meeting ID: 884 6694 5622
Every Weds @ 9.30am	Dance Yourself Fit with Jackie Turner	https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/86302485494	Meeting ID: 8630 248 5494

SCAN
 HERE TO
 CONNECT
 WITH US



Published by The Association of Jewish Refugees (AJR), a company limited by guarantee.
 Registered office: Winston House, 2 Dollis Park, Finchley, London N3 1HF
 Registered in England and Wales with charity number: 1149882 and company number: 8220991

Telephone 020 8385 3070 www.ajr.org.uk
 For general enquiries please contact: enquiries@ajr.org.uk
 For press enquiries please contact: gemma@ajr.org.uk
 For AJR Journal enquiries please contact: editorial@ajr.org.uk

• Designed and Printed by **FBprinters** | Tel: 020 8458 3220 | Email: info@fbprinters.com •

The AJR Journal is printed on 100% recycled material and posted out in fully recyclable paper envelopes.