



REP PRESENTS

The Voice of the Jewish Representative Council

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Friendship and Solidarity



Youth Standing Together

A Jewish Representative Council initiative, in response to a recognised continuing need following the Manchester Arena attack in May, brought seventy five youth workers and volunteers from across Greater Manchester together in July, reports **Jonny Wineberg, JRC Chair of Executive.**

'Youth Stand Together', was the idea of Esty Bruck, Programme Director of The Friendship Circle and a member of the Representative Council's Youth & Community Working Group. Esty and Jonny Wineberg, who Co-Chairs 'WeStandTogether', brought together a diverse number of groups to support and progress the idea.

With the support of the Greater Manchester Mayor's Office and Councillor Rishi Shori, who leads on youth and cohesion issues, the groups were offered Bury Town Hall's Elizabethan Suite as a venue for their first meeting in June to plan future events, programmes and projects.

The meeting, which was attended by organisations from nine out of Greater Manchester's ten boroughs, focussed on planning local and cross-county initiatives. Councillor Shori gave an opening address and interfaith minister, Rev Fujo Malaika set the scene for the day. The networking element of the day, with many round table discussions, was particularly effective with groups building bridges, making connections and looking to deliver activities in partnerships that will bring young people together from different parts of the community.

Faiths Coming Together

'A unique experience' is how **Filis Rosenberg** describes a meeting attended by representatives of many communities at the **Prestwich Masjid Bilal Islamic Centre.**

Members of the local Jewish and Christian communities in North Manchester joined together to express their solidarity with the members of the Masjid Bilal Islamic Centre on the last Friday of Ramadan.

The initiative for this event came from the Prestwich Mission Partnership of local Anglican churches. It was in response to the concerns of Muslim neighbours after the terror attack on Finsbury Park Mosque at the beginning of that week. For those members of the Jewish community who attended, this reciprocated an act of solidarity ten days earlier, when Mosque representatives had stood with other community leaders outside J.S. Restaurant to condemn the recent antisemitic arson attacks.

Church members brought roses (donated for the event by the Prestwich branch of Tesco) and small cards with the words 'You are Loved' for all present to hand to the Muslim worshippers as they completed their prayers. In a short ceremony during prayers, attended by Superintendent Rick Jackson and representatives from the Christian and Jewish clergy, members of the Masjid Bilal presented a cheque for the charity supporting the victims of the recent attack at the Manchester Arena. Thanks were expressed to Sergeant Hussain for the police presence.



Happy New Year

From all at the Jewish Representative Council

Railing Against Crime

When British Transport Police recently held a National Day of Action against Hate Crime at Manchester's Victoria and Piccadilly Stations, Filis Rosenberg, JRC Executive Member, attended at Victoria on behalf of the Jewish Representative Council. The occasion was part of a police #WeStandTogether national initiative to promote community cohesion and unity. Here she describes how the day unfolded.



l-r: David Davis, Dale Edwards, Rabbi Warren Elf & Filis Rosenberg

During the period I spent at Victoria Station, alongside David Davis of British Transport Police and Rabbi Warren Elf, we handed out 'Challenging Hate Crime' leaflets and cards to numerous passengers. The cards gave details of a British Transport Police text number which can be used on trains if anyone sees a hate crime incident, whether verbal or physical, or if anyone has a personal experience that needs to be reported immediately.

Short precise details should be sent to 61016 and a prompt acknowledgement will be issued in response. Obviously a major incident would necessitate calling 999.

Dale Edwards from British Transport Police was in charge of the proceedings which was attended by representatives from various organisations including MEND (Muslim Engagement and Development) and The Myriad Organisation.

Together, we had some very interesting conversations with the passengers we met from various cultures and religions. However, we made sure that we didn't contribute to them missing their trains!

Arranging an Event?

Reduce the chances of clashing dates by consulting our Communal Diary available at www.jewishmanchester.org. Add events to the Diary by emailing office@jewishmanchester.org or by calling 0161 720 8721.

Jewish Representative Council at Collabor8

On a rainy afternoon in July, members of the Jewish Representative Council attended an interesting event called "Collabor8" at Bury College, reports Jeremy Michelson, JRC Education Officer.

Collabor8 was organised by Bury College, Bury GMP and other emergency agencies with the aim of bringing communities together for a celebration of multiculturalism and faiths. The event included police horses, free driving lessons, make-up demonstrations, martial arts, rap artists, emergency services vehicles, theatre

workshops and stalls from all the different cultures.

Collabor8 provided a fun way for members of different religious groups to get together and ask questions of each other. It also gave young people a chance to find out more about careers in the emergency services helping make them more representative of our local diversity

The JRC stall presented two themes: 'Festival foods' and 'Events in Jewish Life' which included Barmitzvahs, Weddings and Reading the Torah. Many people came to our stall to ask questions, examine the artefacts and eat the tasty treats kindly donated by Yumsh Foods and Osem cakes.

The JRC would like to thank all those who helped out in a very worthwhile day of cross cultural engagement.



l-r back: Jeremy Michelson, David Davis, front: Sharon Bannister, Susan Isaacs & Jay Charara

Cheetham Hill's Big Bash!



l-r: Jeremy Michelson, Susan Isaacs, Linda Jacobs, Jay Charara & Jonny Wineberg

On Sunday 21st May 2017, a number of JRC Executive Members attended the 'Big Neighbourhood Bash' in Cheetham Hill and represented the Community at the Council's stall, reports Susan Isaacs, JRC Officer for Community and Youth.

The occasion was part of a great drive to bring together the different communities in the area; an exercise that was given added poignancy by the terrorist outrage at the Manchester Arena on the following day.

Visitors were able to browse through interactive material about Judaism and other information about the Jewish way of life. Many were attracted to the stall, particularly by the sight of copious amounts of cake which were consumed by a grateful public!



What the Jewish Representative Council Does Best

The Jewish Representative Council (JRC) works for the well being of the Jewish Community of Greater Manchester and Region. Sharon Bannister, President of the Council, talks to JRC Publicity Officer, Clive Moss-Barclay, about the wide range of areas in which the Council is active.

CMB Can you tell me more about the Council's interfaith work?

SB We cover many areas but I would put co-ordinating interfaith work right at the top because in a time of fractured communities, general mistrust and misconceptions about other people's faiths, we have the experience and expertise to make a positive contribution to promoting tolerance. In fact the work we do here counters many of the issues that face the Jewish community today. For example, we're actively involved in providing representation at faith leaders meetings and in educating our community about other faiths, as well as interfaith activities such as joint seminars with the Hindu Jewish Association and the Muslim Jewish Forum.

CMB How do you convey the JRC's message to the Jewish Community and to the world in general?

SB We're living in a society which is media dominated so it's essential that we use both new and traditional media to keep the Jewish community and the wider world informed about all the work we do. Our news publication 'RepPresents' is available in both print and electronic formats, the latter through our website jewishmanchester.org, and we actively use social media to promote and protect the interests of the Jewish community.

We have our own in-house volunteer advisers from the world of public relations and we publish and distribute publications like our widely-read Year Book.



Sharon Bannister, JRC President

CMB You've referred to the many issues that face the Jewish community today. Please could you describe how you liaise with other organisations to educate and inform non Jewish people and institutions about Jewish views, principles and beliefs.

SB We have continuing and active dialogue with the NHS, the Police, North West MPs, MEPs, Councillors and other statutory organisations and we work with affiliates and other organisations to safeguard the interests of our community and to address issues of antisemitism, safety, health, housing, social care and education.

We make sure that the Jewish voice is heard on issues that are important to our community. We lead campaigns for Jewish Rights, for example protecting 'shechita' (Jewish religious humane animal slaughter for food) and 'brit milah' (Jewish religious male circumcision). We recently countered the British Veterinary Association's e-petition calling for the banning of non-stunned slaughter. Our own e-petition elicited more than 135,000 signatures.

We also represent the Manchester Jewish Community at Remembrance Services and we work with Councils in the Greater Manchester area to plan Holocaust Remembrance Day activities.

CMB Is the Representative Council involved in education and training activities?

SB Very much so. We sponsor or co-sponsor major public events, large multicultural activities for families and special occasions and commemorative events like the Hamburger Memorial Lecture, the Community Sherman Lecture, Yom HaShoah and Election Hustings.

We arrange Jewish awareness sessions with schools and community groups and we liaise on training with affiliated and other organisations. We also promote education and engagement for local MPs, MEPs, Council officials and opinion leaders. In addition, we train dozens of activists in advocacy and social media skills in partnership with organisations such as the Zionist Central Council.

CMB Thank you Sharon.

Jewish Hour Says "Thank You"

This year's July Meeting of the Jewish Representative Council was addressed by Jeff Lewis who, since 2008, has been one of the main presenters on the community radio show Jewish Hour, writes Filis Rosenberg.

Originally a BBC show, the Corporation controversially decided to axe Jewish Hour in 2012 despite a prominent campaign, backed



Jeff Lewis with Sharron Bannister at the July JRC Council Meeting

by the JRC, to save it for the community. The programme is now broadcast every Monday evening from 7pm to 8pm on Salford City Radio 94.4FM.

Jeff Lewis began his talk by reminding everyone that it has been four years since Jewish Hour launched on Salford City Radio. The show has had to face various challenges and, as a result, it has been necessary for those involved to look at all aspects of the way it works. Despite those challenges, the quality of the programme is as high as ever and the station has declared that the show is one of its most highly regarded of all its broadcasts.

In addition, in 2016, Jewish Hour was short-listed for an award, reaching the last five in a national competition for "Community Show of the Year". The programme's audience has increased and the programme is repeated on North Manchester FM each week, as well as reaching listeners to Northern Air Hospital Radio at North Manchester General Hospital and on the Talking Newspapers Service. The programme has also created a social media presence, with active Twitter and Facebook pages and its own website.

Importantly, an application for an extension of the station's Ofcom licence has proved successful which means that it is licenced to operate for another five years until 2022. However, said Jeff, financial realities have meant that ageing broadcasting equipment can only be replaced as budgets allow. This has created the need for more volunteers with the necessary technical knowledge of older equipment to assist in bringing the weekly live show to an eager audience.

Jeff concluded his talk with an appeal to anyone wanting to be involved with the programme on the presenting side, and particularly on the technical side, to make contact via the Jewish Representative Council's office. He emphasised that without the hard work of the JRC in 2012, Jewish Hour wouldn't be on Salford City Radio at all, and the show wouldn't have existed for the last four years. He expressed his gratitude to the Council and to the community for its continuing support.

If you would like to volunteer your services to 'Jewish Hour', please contact the JRC by telephone: 0161 720 8721 or email to office@jewishmanchester.org.

Visit to Costa Rica's Jewish Community

Sharon Bannister, President of the JRC, describes a recent visit to Costa Rica and to the impressive Synagogue in its capital, San Jose.

Visitors arriving at the Jewish Centre in San Jose, Costa Rica, are presented with solid steel gates manned by an external armed security guard. The San Jose Jewish Community lives peacefully but it is very aware of the threats from terrorism; hence the very obvious security measures in place around the Centre.

The door was opened to admit us into the external compound and we were escorted through to the inner courtyard to get our first glimpse of the wonderful Centre and Synagogue. There we met Tammy Sredni, the Community Social Director who was happy to show us around.

The San Jose community originated from a village called Yelechov, not far from Warsaw, and now numbers around 2,400 almost all of whom live in or close to San Jose. The community is predominantly 'Orthodox' with Ashkenazi traditions,



Impressive interior of the Shul

although there is both a strong Chabad and Reform presence. Sabbath services regularly attract over 400 congregants.

The Synagogue itself is large and modern with excellent sight lines from all sides and good, comfortable seating. It has a bright and airy feel and must surely be a good place to be when services are taking place.

There is also a smaller Synagogue

that is used daily, a well-stocked library and a shop selling a range of Kosher goods, including meat. There are three well-used mikvot (for ritual washing) and two restaurants, milk and meaty.

The school on the site has around 350 students from kindergarten through to secondary school. Most of the community send their children there, preferring it over the public schools which are predominantly Catholic institutions.

There is a small Museum which tells the story of the community. Its main purpose is to provide an educational resource for the people of Costa Rica, exhibiting many aspects of Jewish history, ways of life and traditions. Local schools are regular visitors to the museum.

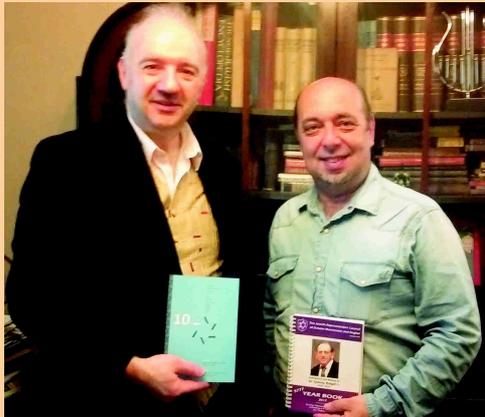
"Sabbath services regularly attract over 400 congregants"

Besides the very impressive Synagogue building itself, my attention was drawn to 'Trees of Life' on two walls, one commemorating those who had passed away and the other filled with names of babies born, alongside a Holocaust Memorial Wall – a very valuable lesson of continuity, community strength and inevitability. There is also a beautiful mosaic in the middle of the inner courtyard in the form of a circle with each of the months of the year represented, together with all the Festivals and other notable dates.

My memories of Costa Rica are of a beautiful country; friendly, helpful people; glorious and diverse wildlife; with a surprisingly vibrant and thriving Jewish Community. Tammy and I had a good chat about our respective communities, shared values, education, security and made comparisons with mainstream Synagogue attendances. We promised to maintain contact between our organisations and I left her a copy of the Jewish Representative Council's Yearbook.

European Jewish Communities

Jonny Wineberg, JRC Chair of Executive, reports on his recent trip to Europe where he met with Representatives of two of Europe's Jewish communities.



Jonny Wineberg with Tomáš Kraus

In Prague I had the opportunity to meet with Tomáš Kraus, General Secretary of the Federation of Jewish Communities in the Czech Republic. The Federation serves as an umbrella organisation for several Jewish institutions in the country. There are ten official Jewish Communities in the Republic, with approximately 3,000 registered members of whom about half live in Prague. However, it is estimated that there are around 15,000 unregistered Jews living across the Czech Republic.

Whilst much smaller than the Jewish community in the UK, they have a very strong source of funding from tourism, as well as rents from properties given back to the community as reparations from WWII. In addition, they have been able to obtain grants, mainly for heritage work, which is a priority. The community is mainly secular but they do have both primary and secondary Jewish schools attended by a total of 200 pupils.

Tomáš and I exchanged copies of our

organisations' publications. I gave him the current JRC Year Book and an issue of RepPresents and I received from him a copy of Revitalisation of Jewish Historic Buildings, a community project showcasing the unique cultural heritage of the Czech Republic. More information on this project can be found at www.10hvezd.cz/en.

In Amsterdam I met with Ruben Vis, General Secretary of Nederlands Israëlitisch Kerkgenootschap (NIK), the umbrella Organisation of Jewish Communities in the Netherlands. The country has a Jewish population of around 30,000, half of whom live in Amsterdam.

We had a wide-ranging discussion around antisemitism, shechita (Jewish ritual slaughter), schooling, interfaith, leadership, our communities and other issues. Ruben shared the particular concerns they have around attacks on shechita across Europe and I was able to tell him of our recent success in countering the British Veterinary Association's call for the banning of non-stunned slaughter. I also presented him with a copy of our Year Book and RepPresents and we both agreed it would be valuable to stay in touch and share initiatives.



Ruben Vis with Jonny Wineberg

A Century of Jewish Liberalism

Jeremy Michelson, JRC Vice-Chair (Education), reports on the 2017 Community Sherman Lecture.

The Community Sherman Lecture takes place annually under the auspices of the Jewish Representative Council, Zionist Central Council and the Centre for Jewish Studies. The lecture this year was delivered in May by Professor Abigail Green at the Manchester Jewish Museum.

Abigail Green is Professor of Modern History at Brasenose College, Oxford University. She is the Arts and Humanities Research Council Leadership Fellow and is currently involved with a new project, "Children of 1848: Liberalism and the Jews from the Revolutions to Human Rights"..

Taking as her subject '1848 – 1948: A Century of Jewish Liberalism', Professor Green offered a panoramic overview of the Jewish contribution to liberal political culture. In 1848, Europe was rocked by revolutions in which Jews played a prominent part. This was partly because the struggle for a democratic Europe was paralleled by the struggle for Jewish emancipation; the right to have equal rights with other European citizens.

A century later, the birth of Israel saw a realignment of Jewish liberals to a more particularist approach based on the Jewish state. Jews were involved in both revolutions, but with very different outcomes. Nevertheless, many Jewish Liberals saw the



Professor Abigail Green

birth of Israel as a fitting continuation to the events of 1848.

The events of World War 2 had shaken their confidence in the ability of European Liberalism to protect the position of Jews in European society. The establishment of the state of Israel, with its Liberal values and its European elite which reflected those values, seemed a fitting vessel for Jewish Liberals to pursue their future political vocations.

Cultivating Good 'Public Relations'

Public Relations, by definition, is cultivating good relations with the public, reports Jay Charara, JRC Vice-chair (Public Relations).

Since the new PR Working Group was formed after the last AGM, we have corresponded with a significant number of local and national press organisations and outside stakeholders as part of routine enquiries, to seek clarification and to inform them of what the JRC does. The PR Working Group has compiled a list of experienced media speakers who can be called upon to represent the community when required.

We have written, on behalf of the JRC, to the Editor of the Lancet thanking him for his change of heart after he visited Israel and for dedicating last May's issue entirely to the Israeli medical sector and to Israel's positive contribution to sciences in general. He had previously harshly criticised Israel for the War



Jay Charara

in Gaza in 2014.

Following the Manchester terrorist attack in May, we drafted a press statement and assisted in disseminating the JRC's response on the day. We encouraged participation in vigils and memorial services, as well as offering practical help and distributing food parcels to the emergency response teams and the NHS. As a result, there were numerous mentions of the JRC in the media and on local and national TV, as well as in overseas reports. Group Members have since met with community leaders, political stakeholders and candidates, as well as with the Communities Minister and others in the aftermath of the Manchester terror attack.

We issued a press statement following the arson attack at the JS kosher restaurant in June and our representatives, together with members of other faiths, were present at the solidarity rally in Prestwich following this attack. On a more pleasant note, we were actively involved in all aspects of public relations and promotion for the successful first Jewish Arts Festival For All (JAFFA).

The new PR Working Group is seeking to expand its membership. If you wish to find out more about what we do and how to get involved please contact us via the JRC Office.

After the Dust has Settled

"The General Election result has meant that out of the 60 MPs I have been liaising with, 50 have been returned to Parliament", reports Marc Levy, NW Regional Manager of the Jewish Leadership Council.

I have now met with, or arranged to meet, with almost all the new intake of Members of Parliament to discuss issues that affect our community.

On a local level, the newly elected Metro Mayors have commenced their roles. The JLC has worked extremely closely with Andy Burnham, introducing him to several communal stakeholders. I am pleased that we already have a meeting arranged to deepen our relationship moving forward. I have also met with Baroness Beverley Hughes who has taken over the role of Police and Crime Commissioner and is well known to many in the community.

The JLC arranged for communal stakeholders to meet Joanne Roney who has replaced JLC Vice President, Sir Howard Bernstein, as Chief Executive of Manchester Council. Following the meeting, Joanne has committed to visiting our communal infrastructure with a view to further engaging with the community.



Mark Levy

I was delighted that the Greater Manchester Combined Authority unanimously adopted the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) definition on antisemitism. This motion was brought about following extensive lobbying by the JLC. The Combined Authority is comprised of the ten largest Councils from the Greater Manchester region.

I have arranged several Parliamentary days to introduce our communal stakeholders to the MPs I have met in the region. These meetings will take place prior to the forthcoming recess, during which it is my plan to meet with several MPs in their constituency offices. I will also be continuing my engagement with the Leadership of several Councils from across the region.

Calling Jewish Volunteers

The Representative Council together with The Jewish Volunteering Network (JVN) are planning a series of events (coffee mornings, coffee evenings) starting this November. These events will focus on volunteer networking, inspiring speakers, question and answer sessions and training.

Hayley Leigh, JVN Coordinator, says, "The aim is to bring together the volunteering community with the aim of adding further value and recognition to their invaluable work in our community." If you are interested in attending these events, please email: office@jewishmanchester.org.

JAFFA dedicated to the memory of the '22' who lost their lives

Over a period of eight days this Summer, our Community was treated to a 'Jewish Arts Festival For All' with a series of events offering something for everyone. The Festival was dedicated to the memory of the 22 who lost their lives in the Manchester Arena Terrorist attack, reports Clive Moss-Barclay, JRC Publicity Officer.

The event was an enormous and challenging, but ultimately successful and gratifying, organisational venture for the JAFFA Committee. The Committee was chaired by Herzl Hamburger and supported by several volunteers from the local community including Jonny Wineberg, JRC Chair of Executive, and other Executive members of the Jewish Representative Council.

The Festival began with a Food, Wine and Art Day on Sunday 2nd July at the Manchester Jewish Museum attended by dignitaries from across the region. They included the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Manchester, Mayor and Mayoress of Trafford, Ivan Lewis MP, Jewish Representative Council President, Sharon Bannister, Greater Police Chief Inspector Umer Khan and Deputy Lord Lieutenant Martin Newman.

They were joined by people of all ages and faiths for a fun-filled day of food, wine, music, art and entertainment. Children played happily outside on a sunny



L - r: Herzl Hamburger, Jonny Wineberg, Sharon Bannister, Jonathan & Diane Coope (Lord Mayor & Lady Mayoress of Trafford)

Mancunian day in the care of Laura Nathan and volunteers from Bnei Akiva. From inside the Museum (the original sanctuary of the Sephardi Synagogue) could be heard klezmer music from L'chaim Kapelye and the engaging sounds of Carol Jason's trio. Visitors were also entertained with informative talks from nutritionist Carmel Berke, Tracy Allweis and Dr. Tony Raynes, artist of the day,

whose paintings were on display in the Museum. His striking pictures evoke a world that entranced the young and brought tears of nostalgia to the eyes of older visitors.

Meanwhile, throughout the day, a marquee in the Museum grounds was packed with stalls, tastings and demonstrations, all coordinated by Marilyn Blank. Sula Leon created delicious dishes, Tomi Komoly served sweetmeats from his Hungarian Grandma's recipes, Ros Livshin enchanted with fruit carving skills and Tova Ellituv, wife of Rabbi Amir, encouraged the children to decorate cupcakes in vibrant colours.

Laughter was the order of the following night when a side-splitting team of Jewish comedians

performed at the Comedy Store. Josh Howie, son of Lynne Franks, whose outrageous character inspired Joanna Lumley's portrayal in Absolutely Fabulous, was joined by hilarious alumni of the Edinburgh Festival Fringe. The stellar line-up of comedians included Bennett Arron, Mark Maier, Sol Bernstein, all introduced by Adam Bloom, former Polygram Award winner for best stand-up at the Edinburgh Festival.

First Manchester JAFFA Arts Competition

JAFFA also encouraged the creative talents of youngsters in school years 3 to 11 by inviting entries to an art competition on the theme 'Jewish Manchester'. The winners of the first Manchester JAFFA Arts Competition, accompanied by family and friends, received their Awards in a



Susan Isaacs and Charles Bloom, QC, with some of the prize winners

moving Ceremony on the afternoon of Sunday 9th July in the Atrium of the magnificent new Stoller Hall at Chetham's School of Music in Manchester. Winning entries included art and drawings by children, some depicting a Star of David and the now famous Manchester Bee, to symbolise Jewish Manchester.

Susan Isaacs, JRC Youth and

Community Officer, organised the competition and highlighted the contribution made by young people to the success of the Festival. The awards were presented on behalf of the JAFFA Committee by Charles Bloom QC who thanked all those who had submitted entries from the various communities across Manchester.

See the artwork on the next page

JAFFA Gala Concert

The Stoller Hall was the perfect showcase for the climax and finale of the Festival - a Sunday evening Gala Concert which brought together two world renowned and celebrated musical talents.

The audience will never forget the experience of hearing Greg Nogradi, whose thrilling tenor voice has earned him the accolade of The Jewish Pavarotti. Sharing the stage - and the limelight - was stellar pianist and composer David Ezra Okonsar.

The stars were accompanied and enhanced by L'chaim Kapelye, the seven-strong ensemble famed for their dance tunes and soulful klezmer in the Yiddish folksong tradition.

The Gala Concert, with Alex Klein taking the lead in its organisation, concluded the first ever Manchester Jewish Festival organised jointly by the JAFFA Steering Committee in partnership with the Jewish Representative Council and Manchester City Council.

There have been plenty of rock, pop, folk and classical festivals to enjoy this summer but none have had the unique, poignant and mesmerising appeal of JAFFA's innovative programme.



JAFFA Gallery

Food, Wine & Art Day at the Jewish Museum

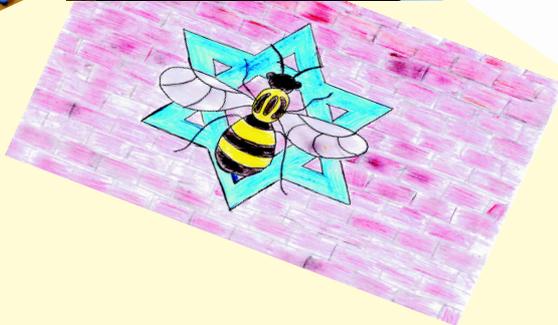
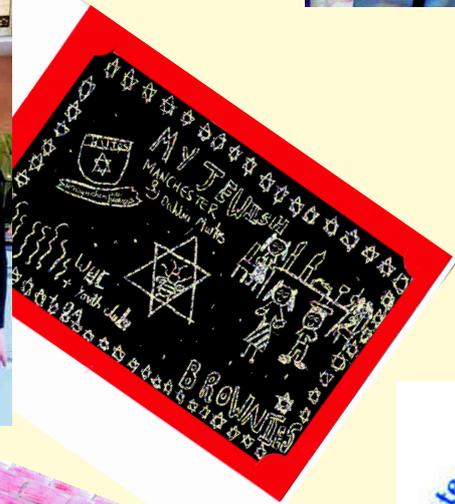


Comedy Night



YOUNG ARTS COMPETITION

The three judges, (l-r) Aimee Banay, Ruth Silverstone & Chava Erlanger, with some of the winning pieces of art.

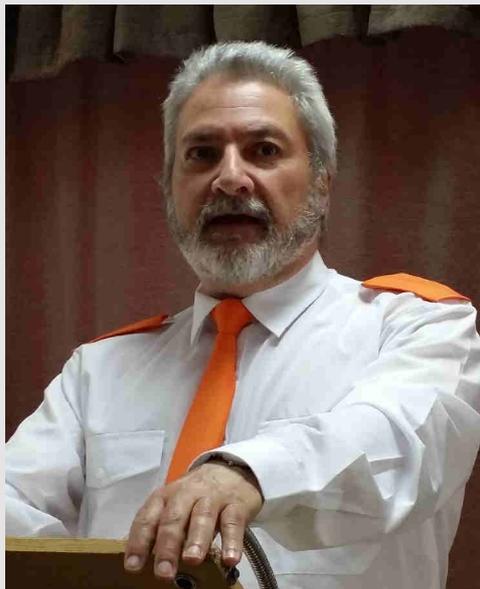


New Charity Aids 'Terror Victims'

Rabbi Dov Ben Yaacov-Kurtzman addressed a JRC Council meeting on the accomplishments of the Charity he has established to help people overcome the trauma aftermath of terrorist incidents, reports Roy Bass.

Israeli expertise born out of generations of dealing with the trauma that follows terrorist incidents resulted in the establishment in December 2016 of the trauma response charity, Heads Up. Its purpose is to administer psycho-cognitive first aid to all those that need it, as well as training first responders on how to react in emergency situations.

Rabbi Yaacov-Kurtzman gave an in



Rabbi Dov Ben Yaacov-Kurtzman

depth, well informed explanation of his organisation's understanding of the complex mechanisms involved in our responses to stress and trauma. Heads Up has created a UK National Emergency Response, Resilience and Treatment Programme for Stress and Trauma. Essentially it operates as two separate units, one which runs a national chain of stress and trauma treatment centres and a second for Emergency Psychological First Aid. The emergency Cognitive Psychological First Aid™ (CPFA) unit is the core business of Heads Up and represents its flagship project.

Rabbi Yaacov-Kurtzman and his colleagues have been helping Greater Manchester citizens affected by the recent Arena terror attack to deal with the psychological after effects. Heads Up opened a pop-up walk-in treatment centre, manned by trained volunteer psychologists. It also trained local Manchester mental health staff and helped to set up a mobile unit. Where necessary, these experts visited affected people in their own homes.

Rabbi Yaacov-Kurtzman's mission is to draw upon the experiences of others around the globe in dealing with the aftermath of terror, particularly top professionals in Israel, and transfer that knowledge and expertise into a working model that benefits communities in the UK. Further details on Heads Up can be found at: www.ma17.org.uk.

50 Years After The Six Day War



Professor David Newman, shown here with Raymond Solomons and Clive Sayers, is a scholar of political geography and geopolitics at Ben-Gurion University and has lived in Israel for over 30 years. He spoke about the changes that are facing the new generation of Israelis at a joint Prestwich Hebrew Congregation, ZCC and Jewish Representative Council event at the Hilton Suite. 75% of today's Israelis were born after the Six-Day War and more than 60% after the war in Lebanon. They have only experienced a strong State and hence their political views of Israel's position in the world are very different to those of politicians of the pre-war era.

Searching for our Jewish Roots

Errol Gross of the Manchester Regional Group of the Jewish Genealogical Society recently spoke about researching our ancestral and religious heritage at a JRC Council meeting, reports Filis Rosenberg, JRC Executive member.

Mr Gross began his highly engaging talk by stressing that two essential ingredients are needed to help start the process of tracing our ancestry – a family name and a town in Europe from which our forebears originated. It helps to talk to family members and close friends who might have anecdotes and memories of names and places that could make the search a little easier. Added to this are our own recollections and notes of conversations with the older generations. A mix of information from sources such as this could be the first step on the road to finding out more about our families.

Other valuable sources of information may be found in official records such as birth, marriage and death certificates, and census and naturalisation archives, as well as Jewish Community Records (JCR) and local synagogue burial records.

Mr Gross cited heritage websites (such as ancestry.com, the National Archives and Manchester Central Library) as possible avenues for further research. The Manchester Regional Group of the Jewish

Genealogical Society has its own library of around 150 reference books, as well as a large selection of files, information sheets and booklets and other research material on many countries including Germany, Poland, Lithuania, Latvia, Ukraine, Argentina and Denmark.

The Manchester Regional Group also possesses a wealth of material on such subjects as Holocaust studies, reading tombstone inscriptions, shipping and immigration, researching local archives,

translating Russian, Polish and German documents, converting Hebrew dates, dating old photographs, DNA testing, organizing family reunions, and applying for copies of birth/marriage/death certificates to ascertain details of parents or grandparents. The Group can help with information on adoption, on Liverpool and Manchester Jewish archives, as well as information on Leeds Jewry. In addition, several experienced members of the Group are available to

advise on the process of researching in Germany and in other Eastern European countries if the need arises.

The Group uses modern technology to access information including a laptop computer and printer with a good selection of databases on CDs, including a complete set of 38 disks covering the 1901 Census for Lancashire. This set also covers parts of Cheshire and parts of the Lake District. Committee Members can provide tutorials on how to work your way through the maze of information. Further details can be found at www.jsgsb.org.uk/manchester-group-0.



Sharon Bannister & Errol Gross with members of the Manchester Jewish Genealogical Society

Arena Solidarity at the Manchester Cathedral

Filis Rosenberg, JRC Executive member and member of the Challenging Hate Forum, reports on a solidarity meeting that she attended at the Manchester Cathedral seven days after the Manchester Arena Attack.

As a member of the Challenging Hate Forum I responded to the Dean of Manchester's initiative to attend Manchester

Cathedral in order that religious, community and civic leaders could stand together in solidarity with one another and with the victims of the terrible terrorist incident at the Manchester Arena on Monday 22nd May 2017.



Filis Rosenberg with Miao Di and Rogers Govender

We heard brief but emotional speeches from the dignitaries present including the Mayor, the Lord Mayor, GMP Chief Constable Ian Hopkins, Rabbi Warren Elf and the Dean. I felt honoured to be asked to share the lighting of the candle in memory of the victims with the Venerable Miao Di.

Finally we were given the opportunity to sign a pledge affirming our commitment as a city to stand together.

Our Response to Terror in Manchester

A week after the Manchester Arena terror attack, which claimed 22 lives, over 400 Jews from all sectors of the community joined the Chief Rabbi in a special commemorative service at the Holy Law Synagogue, reports Clive Moss-Barclay, Publicity Officer.



Chief Rabbi Mirvis at Holy Law

The event was organised by the Jewish Representative Council with local Synagogues and attended by Bury South MP Ivan Lewis, Chief Superintendent Stuart Ellison and Chief Inspector Umer Khan of the Greater Manchester Police. The Council also organised the collection of donated kosher food from shops and individuals and its distribution to Manchester hospitals.

In his address to the community, Chief Rabbi Mirvis stressed that, "To be religious is to respect life; whilst those that murder desecrate it. The perpetrator of this atrocity does not represent any community in our city – he represents evil, hatred and despair. Consideration and love should extend to one and all and that is something we have seen here in Manchester since the attack."

"To be religious is to respect life; whilst those that murder desecrate it."

Rabbi Mirvis warned about "The dangers of people segregating themselves in their communities and emphasised the need to show compassion and consideration beyond our own communities so that we build a society which is harmonious in every way."

Rabbis Shlomo Ellituv, Avraham Singer and Binyomin Singer led the recital of Psalms whilst the memorial prayer was recited by Chazan Zevi Neuman. Rabbi Amir Ellituv spoke about his experiences working as a chaplain at various hospitals after the attack and Jonny Wineberg, JRC Chair of Executive, described how the Manchester community had responded to the atrocity with love, kindness, generosity and togetherness, praising the authorities and emphasising our commitment to unity in the face of adversity.

Money raised on the night was donated to the fundraising appeal for victims of the attack.

Our Manchester - Our Communities Together

Filis Rosenberg was back at the Manchester Cathedral on the 23rd July for an inspiring 'Peace and Unity' event that she attended on behalf of the Jewish Representative Council.

This event brought hundreds of people of all ages from a huge variety of diverse backgrounds to share and enjoy song, dance, food, fun and fellowship. We were welcomed by the Dean of Manchester, Rogers Govender, followed by speeches from the Lord Lieutenant of Greater Manchester, Warren Smith, and Baroness Beverley Hughes.

Bodhi Tree in the Cathedral. Everyone enjoyed the wonderful refreshments which catered for halal, kosher and vegetarian requirements.

The event was organised by the Peace and Unity Planning Group, which comprised representatives from faith groups across Greater Manchester including Manchester

Cathedral, Faith Network 4 Manchester, Muslim Engagement and Development, The Jewish Representative Council, Buddha's Light International Association, Manchester Council of Mosques, The Methodist Church, the Sufi community and



Mike Shaft was the MC for the afternoon, introducing a full programme which included Robin Graham, Sacred Sounds Women's Choir, traditional Sufi circle of dhikr and hadra, Chinese children's Culture Dance, Rabbi Warren Elf and Children's Lion Dance. I had the pleasure of reading out some of the 'Dreams for Manchester' which had been written on leaves and hung on a

representatives from the Sikh and Hindu communities, all in conjunction with Manchester City Council.

"This Peace and Unity event showcased Manchester at its best with both Mancunians and tourists alike enjoying being together and learning a lot about each other."

Arson Attack Brings Faith Leaders Together

Leaders of mosques, synagogues and Jewish organisations in North Manchester met to show their support for the owner of a kosher restaurant targeted by suspected arsonists. Part of the JS Restaurant in Prestwich was damaged by the fire, in the early hours of a morning in June. Police say

that they are treating the attack as an antisemitic hate crime.

Representatives of the local mosques visited the restaurant to offer their support. They said that the attacks must not be allowed to damage the good relations between the area's faith communities.



Sharon Bannister holds the #WeStandTogether banner next to JS Owner, Michael Issler

Tackling Prejudice in Partnership with BOD

The JRC's Education Working Group has teamed up with the Education Team at the Board of Deputies (BOD) to bring knowledge of Jewish life and practice to hundreds of people in Greater Manchester, reports **Jeremy Michelson, JRC Vice-Chair (Education)**.

The BOD's Jewish Living Exhibition is booked to travel all over the country, attracting thousands of school children to its interactive stands. Pupils will learn about the main aspects of Jewish living, getting the

chance to handle Jewish artefacts, blow a shofar and follow the beautifully designed panels.

The JRC will be assisting the BOD to bring the Jewish Living Exhibition to Manchester Cathedral in the second half of January 2018. Manchester Cathedral has long had a history of working with the Jewish community on joint projects and is happy to assist in breaking down barriers of ignorance that can cause prejudice. The large footfall that the cathedral enjoys will bring this exhibition to the attention of many worshippers and tourists.

"Very well presented, easy to follow, understand and self-explanatory. The vibrant colours enhance the explanations. Very, very impressed," said a visitor to the exhibition from Cardiff.

Jeremy said "I am delighted that the increasing co-operation between the JRC and the Board's education team has crystallised in this joint enterprise, which I am sure will aid us in our fight against intolerance and extremism."

JEWISH LIVING



TAKE A JOURNEY THROUGH JEWISH LIFE



Racism and Antisemitism

The Jewish Representative Council of Greater Manchester and Region abhors all hate and racist crime of any nature writes **Jacky Buchsbaum, JRC Treasurer**.

With regard to specific antisemitic crime, we and other communal organisations, particularly the Community Security Trust, work closely with the police and this has led to an increase in prosecutions and punishments for these crimes. We hope that, over time, this will act as a deterrent to those considering such acts. This is something that has been mirrored elsewhere, in particular the sentencing of those who abused Luciana Berger MP on Social Media. Politicians should always look to promote harmony, not division, and deserve to be dealt with severely when they abuse their positions of power.



Jacky Buchsbaum

Despite these efforts there is unfortunately an increase in hate crime and antisemitism in particular. Whilst we deplore those who commit these crimes, we believe better education is the way to combat the ignorance which, in many cases, is at the root of these offences. This includes education about all faiths and cultures. In this regard we undertake work with schools, youth and community groups to eschew myths and increase understanding and respect. We promote the work of the Manchester Jewish Museum which does excellent work educating the wider community about Judaism and the Jewish community. We also work hard with faith, interfaith and other communal organisations within the wider community on projects with this aim.

In recent times, as well as being involved in specific educational projects, we have been involved in cross communal events such as the Big Neighbourhood Bash and Collabor8. We will continue to deliver our work, and develop new initiatives, to forge stronger friendships and unity with our neighbours.

Combating Religious Tension & Intolerance

Jeremy Michelson, JRC Vice-Chair (Education), reports on the work of the Education Working Group which has been operational for the last fourteen years.

The Education Working Group has managed to place Jewish representatives on most SACREs (Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education) in Greater Manchester thereby maintaining good



Jeremy Michelson

interfaith relations and ensuring that Judaism is taught appropriately within the Religious Education curriculum. We have worked in partnership with the Centre for Jewish Education at Manchester University, the ZCC and Manchester Jewish Museum to run the

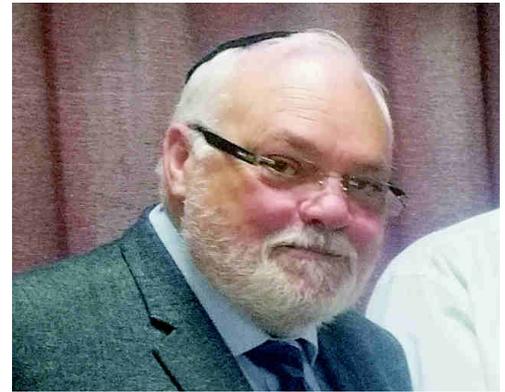
annual Sherman lecture each May and have assisted in the preparation and delivery of programmes for the annual Holocaust Memorial Day every January.

The Working Group has participated in the Board of Deputies (BOD) mapping exercise which is part of a strategy to create a national network of Jewish Ambassadors to go into schools, colleges and community groups. We are working in partnership with the BOD to set up and staff its interactive "Jewish Living Experience" exhibition of Jewish life and practices. This will be hosted by the Manchester Cathedral where it is hoped that thousands of school children and adults will visit and learn from it.

Our aims and objectives include raising awareness among teachers of the threat of antisemitism and to run assemblies on Judaism if asked to do so. We represent the community at various Education forums and inform interfaith councils, SACREs and LEAs of our availability to attend such forums. We aim to monitor the work of SACREs and participate in the review of locally agreed syllabi as well as providing designated volunteers to teach about Judaism at non-Jewish schools. We wish to create opportunities to extend the range of Jewish education in its widest sense (including social and cultural) to as much of the Jewish community as possible. This will be done by bringing groups together to pool resources and offer suitable programmes.

Jeremy says "In this age of religious tension and intolerance towards any religious belief, the work of the Education Group is more important than ever. So come, join us and participate in this important enterprise."

Remembering



Tony Walker z'l

The Jewish Representative Council, and indeed the whole community, suffered a great loss recently with the passing of our friend and colleague, Rabbi Tony Walker z'l.

Tony represented Heaton Park Shul on the Council, was our Vice-President and a key figure in our relations with local Councils and other bodies. He is also fondly remembered for his work as Chaplain to the Pennine Trust hospitals.

Only a few days later we lost much loved, long time Executive member and former President of the Zionist Central Council, Dr Ephraim Jaffe z'l.



Ephraim Jaffe z'l

Ephraim had many roles in the community including Vice-President of Talmud Torah, Provincial Vice-President of Mizrach and President of Crumpsall Synagogue. He also served the wider Manchester community as a GP for over 50 years, including as medical officer for several local organisations.

Both Tony and Ephraim's wise counsel will be missed by those involved at the JRC. We wish Arichat Yamim - Long Life - to both the Walker and Jaffe families.

organised by the Muslim Jewish Forum and Jewish Representative Council Secretary, Michael Rubinstein, was invited to deliver an address there on the subject of Islamophobia. His presentation was made on behalf of the Antisemitism and Human Rights Working Group of the Council.

The full text of Michael's talk can be found on the Council's website at www.jewishmanchester.org

The Council's Annual Community Challenge Quiz 2017

Charity Quiz Evening Open to All Organisations

Substantial Cash Prize For The Winning Team

Light Refreshments

7.30pm Sunday 19th November
South Manchester Venue

Raffle

A table costs £100 for a maximum of 10 participants.

Call 720 8721 or email office@jewishmanchester.org to book your table

A Cause for Hope

The Jewish Representative Council Officers recently attended several Iftars and Open Days put on by Mosques across Greater Manchester.

These events are a great opportunity for our two communities to meet and build understanding and respect for each other. Manchester Central Mosque in Victoria

Park, Didsbury Mosque and Jamia and Khizra Mosques in Cheetham Hill were some of those opening their doors to the wider community. One Iftar at Khizra Mosque was

Association of Jewish Ex-Service Men & Women

Joe Flacks, Manchester Branch Chairman of the Association of Jewish Ex-Servicemen and Women, remembers the Jews who fought and died in both World Wars.

In World War I, 41,000 out of a UK Jewish population of 275,000 served in the Armed Forces and Auxiliary Services. This number rose to 65,000 in World War II. The percentage of Jewish men and women killed on active service during the two World Wars was the highest of any ethnic group;

2000 died during World War I (1914-18) and 3000 during World War II (1939-45).

Jewish Soldiers were awarded 5 VCs, 263 Military Crosses and 329 Military Medals during WW1; and 3 VCs and over 2300 military honours in WW2.

These men and women were our great grandparents, grandparents and parents. They gave their lives so that we all may live today.

"They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old: Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning, we will remember them."

Once a year, on National Remembrance Sunday, we will remember them; will you? Please join us at your local Cenotaph and pay your respects to those who paid the supreme sacrifice for you and your families.



Remember Together

This year there will be a joint initiative between JRC and AJEX Manchester, reports Susan Isaacs, JRC Youth and Community Officer.



People across all generations will be encouraged to attend Remembrance Sunday and place small wooden Magen Davids and Poppies at the Cenotaphs across Greater Manchester. If you, your school or organisation would like to participate in this show of solidarity please contact the JRC office who will be able to advise on how to purchase these items. Any monies raised from this initiative will be donated to the British Legion Poppy Appeal. The community will also still be placing Wreaths at many of the Cenotaphs.

Morris Feinmann Village

Congratulations to the Belong Morris Feinmann Village on bringing their vision to a reality. In June this year, after a 4-year period during which there was no facility on the Didsbury site, the Village opened its doors to new residents after a £12m redevelopment. The new Village is being operated by the charity, Belong.



Located in the heart of West Didsbury, the village centre is open to the public and will provide a vibrant hub for community events, with facilities including a synagogue, function rooms, kosher bistro, hair salon,

exercise studio, therapy room, library and gardens, including a roof garden. The complex includes independent living apartments and specialist households providing 24-hour nursing and dementia care.

RepPresents

EDITORIAL TEAM

Clive Moss-Barclay
Filis Rosenberg & Roy Bass

ADVERTISING RATES

Full Page £400; Half Page £230
Quarter Page £130; Eighth Page £70

**Jewish Representative Council
of Greater Manchester & Region**

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Community Events Diary

- Sunday 15th Oct: **UJIA North West Annual Dinner; 7.30pm**
- Thursday 19th Oct: **Maccabi Presents Strictly Dancing; 7.30pm**
- Tuesday 31st Oct: **National Celebration Event for Balfour 100; All Day**
- Saturday 4th Nov: **Balfour 100 Celebratory Shabbat; All Day**
- Sunday 5th Nov: **JEWISH REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL MEETING; 10.30am - ALL WELCOME**
- **Langdon 25th Birthday Celebration; All Day**
- Wednesday 8th Nov: **The Friendship Circle - Fashion Show; 7.30pm**
- **The Inaugural Chaim Ferster (z'l) Memorial Lecture; 7.30pm**
- Saturday 18th Nov: **Forever Chai - A Night with a Hypnotist; 8.30pm**
- Sunday 19th Nov: **JRC ANNUAL COMMUNITY CHALLENGE QUIZ (South M/cr); 7.00pm**
- Tuesday 21st Nov: **The Fed - Ladies' Lunch and Laughter: 12.00pm**
- Sunday 26th Nov: **The Fed Caring Sunday; All Day**
- **The Muslim Jewish Forum - Twinning of Muslims and Jews: 7.00pm**
- **Holy Law Synagogue Ladies Present a Murder Mystery Evening; 7.15pm**

FOR DETAILS OF ALL FORTHCOMING EVENTS, CONSULT THE COMMUNITY DIARY AT WWW.JEWISHMANCHESTER.ORG
To receive our Weekly Email Digest of Communal Events, email us at office@jewishmanchester.org