

EDITORIAL

◇ FROM THE DESK OF THE LITTLE GUY WITH THE BEARD

I hope you all enjoy this issue of "RepPresents," the second since I took over as Publicity Officer.

Our Editorial Team, (me), Ed Moss, Filis Rosenberg and David Marks, have worked very hard on this.

In particular, a huge thank you must go to Ed Moss, for his fantastic new design and all the extreme hard work he has put in doing the layout. We greatly appreciate this.

I can't believe how quickly my first year in office is going. It has been an honour being an officer of The JRC and being involved in many interesting and worthwhile ventures, representing our wonderfully vibrant Manchester Jewish community.

I will always be in debt to my dear, late good friend, Rabbi Tony Walker ZL, who got me involved and has given me such a rewarding way to remember him by.

The highlight of the last few months, for me, was attending The Prince of Wales's Jewish Community Reception, with several other Manchester delegates, in December.

Having been involved with The Prince's Trust for 16 years, in the past, it was the third time I have been to Buckingham Place and the eighth time I have met His Royal Highness.

At the Reception, I was able to enlist his help, in getting me involved with The Prince's Trust again in Manchester and he kindly helped arrange this for me.

This added to the amazing evening for me, when it was a real humbling privilege to be a delegate of our fabulous community.

As I always tell my students, "everything always takes longer than you think" and I again thank our Editorial Team for the hours of work they put in, to bring this Pesach issue to you.



We all hope you enjoy it !!!

Together with all my colleagues, I wish you a happy and kosher Pesach !!!

**R. Graham Gordon
Publicity Officer**

Wishing all our readers a very Happy Pesach



Seder photo courtesy of Phil Goodwin

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The Manchester Jewish Community Awards 2019



Some 400 guests attended the Manchester Jewish Community Awards, a joint initiative between the Jewish Representative Council, Jewish Telegraph and JVN, the Jewish Volunteering Network.

It took place on Tuesday 3rd December 2019 at the Hilton Suite, Prestwich. The event was originally the brainchild of Barbara Goldstone during her time as President of the Council.

Acknowledgement was given to Barbara by the President, Russell Conn during the evening. It was felt that she would be extremely proud how this event has developed since then.

Prior to the main event, guests attended the Market Place, an opportunity for many communal organisations to promote their roles and recruit volunteers.

Guests were welcomed to the hall by A-level music students from King David High School under the guidance of teacher Olivia Shields,

who played a selection of welcome music, as well as entertain the guests later in the evening.

Angela Epstein was once again host for the evening. She welcomed Jewish Telegraph managing editor Paul Harris, who delivered the welcome speech.

Rabbi Daniel Walker from Heaton Park Synagogue read out a message on behalf of Chief Rabbi Ephraim Mirvis.

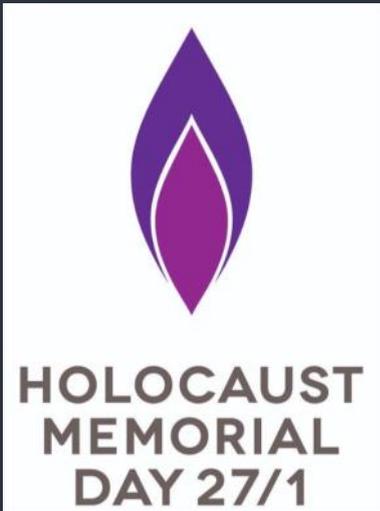
Chair of the judging panel, David Berkley QC, then explained the judging process and thanked the judging panel.

Thanks were given to the young volunteers from the 401st Scouts, Guides and JLGB who helped meet and greet guests and escorted all the winners onto the stage.

Russell Conn gave a vote of thanks and invited all the nominees who did not receive an award but were shortlisted, to come onto the stage to be presented with their certificates by Russell and Paul Harris.

The award winners are featured on pages 4 and 5 of this edition of RepPresents.

**Holocaust Memorial Day
27 January 2020**



Filis Rosenberg reports on the GMCA's recognition of Holocaust Memorial Day 2020

The combination of music played by a Royal Northern College of Music quartet, and the wonderful voice of Cantor Avrom Aronson, added to an already emotional atmosphere at the Greater Manchester HMD event held at The Goulburn Suite, at Manchester Hall.

The audience was welcomed by the High Sheriff of Greater Manchester, Mr Mark Adlestone OBE DL. and addressed by The Mayor of Manchester Mr Andy Burnham, and Rabbi Daniel Walker.

They sat enthralled when Holocaust Survivor Icek Alterman told them of his experiences.

There were readings honouring those who had suffered in such places as Srebrenica and pledges were made to 'never forget' and to take responsibility to continue to educate and to fight these evils.

Much appreciated refreshments followed what was naturally a very moving experience.

**REMEMBRANCE
SUNDAY SALFORD**



It was an honour to represent the community at Remembrance Sunday in Salford, writes **Jay Charara**.

Over two thousand people attended this moving ceremony including the Queen's representatives, all the armed forces, veterans, faith leaders, politicians, police and emergency services and many, many members of the public.

The JRC President was in Manchester, our Chair in Bury, and Officers and executives represented the Council across Greater Manchester.

Susan Isaacs was in Unsworth, Graham Gordon and Jeremy Michelson in Prestwich, Sandra Stewart in Hale Barns and Michael Rubinstein in Whitefield.

THE JRC REPRESENTED THE COMMUNITY AT 14 of the HMD EVENTS HELD in GREATER MANCHESTER



Russell is seen here with Sir Ben Helfgott one of the Windermere Children and Gillian Merron, CEO of the Board of Deputies of British Jews, at the HMD event held in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. Israeli Ambassador Mark Regev spoke and introduced Dominic Raab Foreign Secretary. Eva Shloss a survivor told her story. It was without doubt one of the best of the five HMD events I have attended. *Report by Russell Conn*



EUROPEAN CANTORS in Hannover

... with Alex Klein, Convenor

We became and grew into the position of non-political Jewish Ambassadors throughout our trip.

We sang for VIPs and both the Jewish and non-Jewish world embraced and applauded us.

The natural and unnatural Mitzvot we undertook with open hearts will always remain in our minds.

Now admittedly, it's difficult for others to understand, especially in the UK. We "achdut"; we were on an unbelievable emotional roller coaster



ride .

But we have broad shoulders. (I had already said to my executive that it was my responsibility, my vision and that I would accept the blame if it didn't work.)

But work it did. Even better than we could imagine. Everyone on the same page, praying to the same G-d. A truly outstanding success.

We have now been asked to return to Hannover. And we have been asked to hold our Convention in at least three major cities.

However, the UK, with its "movers and shakers" yet remains our biggest obstacle .

They seem not to get it. So if **you** get it, please do email me!

Alex Klein - Convenor

Alex with some of the Cantors



"The hole in the roof is part of the design and not an accident"

So said **Rabbi Daniel Walker** as the guests walked in to the succah as part of the Jewish Representative Council interfaith succah dinner.

For many years now members of the Jewish Representative Council have been invited to events celebrating the festivals of other faiths, and the officers felt that it would be particularly appropriate in this, our centenary year, to reciprocate.

The problem is that on most festivals it is forbidden to work which means that those days are not ideal for hosting an event. This left just Chol Hamoed Pesach or Succot; because of the limitation of food on Pesach, Succot was chosen.

So we ended up having an interfaith succah dinner on Chol Hamoed Succot in the beautiful succah at Heathlands village.

Guests from all different religions were given a superb three course meal catered by the Heathlands' team whilst Rabbi Walker explained to the assembled guests the significance of the succah and the arba minimum .

The evening also provided an opportunity for members of the different faiths to socialise with one and other in a relaxed atmosphere showing that that we had more in common than separated us.

At the end of the evening **Rev Roger Govender MBE** Dean of Manchester gave a speech of thanks to the hosts on behalf of the guests. One indication of how successful the event was, could be seen by the fact that most of those invited stayed on long after the formal proceedings had ended.

The Representative Council is hoping that there will be similar events in future years.

Report by Jacky Burchsbaum, Chair of the JRC

MANCHESTER JEWISH COMMUNITY AWARDS 2019

Lifetime Achievement Award - Mr Frank Baigel

An individual who has made an outstanding and lasting contribution to the Jewish community, who is still actively involved and who has, over a sustained period of time, shaped the communal sector through their actions, leadership or intellect. Has had a significant impact and demonstrated a long-term commitment for 40 years or longer.



Young Volunteer of the Year - Hannah Filton Barrett and Oliver Radivan (under-18 joint winners), Hinda Perez (18-25 winner)

A young individual under the age of 18 who is not only actively involved in the voluntary sector, but who has also excelled in a leadership role as part of their involvement in the Jewish voluntary sector, inspiring their peers and acting as a role model for other young people involved in volunteering.



Communal Employee of the Year - Beverley Rubin (Fundraising and Marketing Manager, The Friendship Circle); Highly Commended - Juliette Pearce (The Fed)

An outstanding employee and inspiration to colleagues, going beyond the terms of their job description in the delivery of services to beneficiaries, making a significant impact and demonstrating clear achievements.



Friend of the Community - Dr Girdari Bhan (Co-chair of the Hindu Jewish Association)

An individual who has helped or supported the community in an exceptional manner but who is not themselves a member of the Jewish faith. Someone understanding and appreciative of the needs of Jewish institutions, organisations and individuals, recognising the value the Jewish community adds to wider British society, playing an important role as a supporter and an advocate of all it has to offer.



Volunteer of the Year Award - Rosemary Taylor Highly commended - Marvyn Dytch, Vikki Goldstein, Rebecca Abeles and Howard Sternberg

An individual actively involved and has made an outstanding contribution to the Jewish voluntary sector with one or more organisations or individuals and is an inspiration not only to the volunteers whom they work with but to their peers and service users. An 'unsung hero/heroine', who volunteers their time and commitment willingly to a charity or charities, or to individuals who might simply need a helping hand.



MANCHESTER JEWISH COMMUNITY AWARDS 2019



Special Recognition Award - Richard Walker, Linda Jacobs, Zena Sneddon, Dov and Elaine Hamburger, Mr Louis Rappaport, Sonny Warner MBE; Highly Commended - Victoria Cooper and Dina Weinberg

An individual, group or organisation perhaps not qualifying for any other category but deserving special recognition for an outstanding contribution to the Jewish community.

Building Bridges Organisation - League of Jewish Women, North West

An organisation that has built bridges between the Manchester Jewish Community and other faith communities or has undertaken inter-community work to bring different strands of the Manchester Jewish community together. For example, building a project that removes barriers and encourages mutual understanding; for facilitating dialogue and cultural exchange; for social action activities; or for supporting an interfaith initiative.



Building Bridges individual - Michael Marks. Highly commended - Rabbi Robyn Ashworth Steen

An individual who has built bridges between the Manchester Jewish Community and other faith communities, or, who has undertaken inter-community work to bring different strands of the Manchester Jewish community together. These awards may be for building a project, which removes barriers and encourages mutual understanding; for facilitating dialogue and cultural exchange; for social action activities; or for supporting an interfaith initiative.

Volunteer Team of the year - My Voice Volunteer Team, The Fed Highly Commended – The Fed Drop-In Mental Health Volunteer Team and The Supper Club

A team's volunteering effort working on behalf of and/or within one organisation. We are looking for a group that has demonstrated good teamwork, which works together to fulfil the aims of the organisation and their specific role.



A History of Jewish philosophy



As a 17 year old student one of the first things anyone asks me, whether family or friend, butcher or baker, is "what A-levels are you doing?" At which point I have that awkward silence where one forgets the one thing that's on the top of their tongue. However, there is one subject I tend not to forget: philosophy. There are many reasons for its evergreen presence in my mind, probably the first of which is its inherent connection to my Judaism.

The history of Jewish philosophy is rich and multifaceted. As Jewish philosophy possibly has the oldest origins of all philosophies studied today, by virtue of it stemming from Judaism (whose contested definition is not worth getting into now). Arguably the oldest Jewish philosopher is Abraham himself, being the first person in the Torah to switch from polytheism (faith in many deities) to monotheism (faith in one G-d). The Tanach (Bible) is surprisingly empty when it comes to philosophers in the modern sense of the word, but the actions and beliefs from the Tanach branch out and have affected all corners of philosophy. So if the Written Law's philosophy is hidden, philosophy certainly doesn't hide itself in the Oral Law, Talmud. Yet this philosophy is strictly Jewish, almost unknown to the secular world.

So then the question arises, who is the first Jewish philosopher of secular standing? In terms of who are generally seen as the first great classical philosophers, Socrates, Plato, Aristotle and the like, the first Jewish voice is Philo the Jew. He lived around year 0 and is often referred to as a Hellenist philosopher due to his interest in the only philosophy outside of Judaism he had access to, Greek. But like most Jewish philosophers in the non-Jewish world, he impacted lots of things but left

no mark on rabbinic Judaism (probably due to his allegorical reading of the Torah).

Now we fast forward 1100 years for the first Jewish enlightenment, supported by the Islamic golden age, and enters the exception to the rule, Maimonides (Rambam in Hebrew). I say exception because Maimonides managed to influence both secular philosophy and rabbinic Judaism. Maimonides is such a giant that one of his books, 'Guide for the Perplexed' is studied in both secular universities and yeshivot (rabbinic colleges). He is possibly most noted for his integration and acceptance of science in terms of religion, seeing them not as a dichotomy but as a duality.

Although accepted today, this caused his books to be burnt with Ashkenazi Rabbis denouncing him. Despite this, the Jewish golden age led to an exponential growth in influential Jewish philosophers.

This next philosopher, like Maimonides, was also of Spanish and Portuguese descent. Baruch Spinoza is often referred to as one of the three great Rationalists (an understanding of knowledge) of the 17th-century enlightenment. Living in Amsterdam, his secular ideas were so controversial that by the age of 23 he had been excommunicated (charem) from the community and his family. His impact on the philosophical world was so powerful that he influenced some of the great modern philosophers, including Nietzsche, Schopenhauer, Hegel and many more.

Sadly he died at the age of 44 in 1677, 30 years before the next great Jewish philosopher: Moshe Chaim Luzzatto (Ramchal in Hebrew). He is generally lesser known to secular philosophy.

Albeit relatively controversial in his home of the Italian Jewish community, a claim of having a revelation with an angel led to those around him becoming cautious of him. He left Italy to the relatively tolerant Amsterdam, where he wrote his most well known work, Derech Hashem (Path/Way of G-d), a codification of Jewish theological metaphysics, now accepted as the go-to start for any budding Jewish philosopher.

A great learner of Kabbalah (Jewish Mysticism) he moved to Acre in Israel for the end of his life. Arguably if it was not for him the Musar (Jewish Self-development) movement in the next

Quincy Barrett (of Manchester Grammar School, and a JRC Publicity Working Group member) explores the history of Jewish Philosophy from biblical claims to modern day rabbis.

century would never have kicked off.

Scanning over Mendelssohn (kickstarter of the Haskalah, Ashkenazi Jewish enlightenment), Marx (creator of communism) and Herzl (father of Zionism), we come to sit comfortably with the modern Jewish philosophers which include a range of people covering all areas of philosophy, along with my own favourite philosopher Franz Rosenzweig at the turn of the 20th-Century. He, after having chosen to convert to Christianity, went to one final Yom Kippur service and rediscovered his Jewish faith going on to write his 'Star of Redemption' becoming the 'father of Jewish existentialism' (study of the place of oneself in the universe). After he died at the young age of 42 in 1926, Germany, that had been the centre of modern Jewish philosophy, went Nazi leaving a short gap in modern Jewish philosophy.

Within orthodox rabbinical philosophy there is an interesting thought experiment called the 4 Rabbi experiment. It imagines what each of the 4 greatest philosophical minds of the last rabbinic age would have responded to the Shoah (Holocaust). The 4 were, Rav Kook, Rav Soloveitchik, the Lubavitcher Rebbe and Rav Shach. Their answers are too complex for this article but the fact is that each one represents a different influential rabbinic philosophical movement in the last 100 years.

Modern Jewish philosophers range from all aspects but arguably the most well-known today is emeritus Chief Rabbi Lord Sacks.

One problem with Jewish philosophy is the sheer size of it. I have tried to stick to mainstream Jewish philosophy but I have not been able to discuss many things including the influential Chasidut movement (a split off from mainstream orthodoxy where joy in belief in G-d was stressed) nor the different types of Zionism that grew from Herzl, and remember the 1100 year gap left out earlier in this article, it was by no means empty. As I come to the modern day, the big question is, what and who will be the next major movement in Jewish philosophy. Given that we are a nation with more opinions than people, I'm sure it won't be too long until the next major philosophical breakthrough.



PRESIDENT'S REPORT with Russell Conn

By the time you read this, the JRC Centenary year will be over.....
.... and what a year it has been.

It launched with our centenary dinner on the 14th March with Guest of Honour the Chief Rabbi Ephraim Mirvis and not one but two High Sheriffs, the then current Sheriff Rabina Shah, and the incoming Sheriff Mark Adlestone OBE DL who would be installed in April, as well as dignitaries from out of town.

We were also privileged to host the Regional Weekend of the Board of Deputies and were delighted that many of the HO's of the BOD attended our dinner.

Our next significant event was the Succah event held at Heathlands Village where over forty people from the wider non Jewish community had a taste of Succot and they mixed very convivially with members of the JRC.

Sadly, the Quiz which usually is held in November had to be deferred and a new date confirmed as soon as possible.

We did host a very successful Community Awards ceremony and the Hilton Suite was packed with recipients of the awards, nominees and their families and as the report elsewhere states everyone who was there was impressed with the whole evening.

The President, Chair, officers and executive members work tirelessly on behalf of the community.

Whether it's on Memorial Sunday, Chanukah candle lighting ceremonies, HMD events, flag raising, a plethora of committees which deal with matters close to the community's heart, as well as engaging with local politicians whether it's MPs, Lord Mayors or council leaders and councillors.

For my own part I have been fortunate to be invited to Buckingham Palace in

December and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office in January. Both events will live long in my memory.

I am really grateful for all the assistance I have had from the officers, the executive, Marc Levy of the JLC and Past President, Sharon Bannister. They have enabled me to fulfil my role as President, as the community would want and deserve.

So, as we say farewell to the events of 2019 and the Centenary Year, we can look forward with great confidence to an exciting future for your Communal Body.

DIARY DATE

**Monday 18th May
The Sherman
Community
Lecture**



Dr Miri Freud-Kandel, Fellow and Lecturer in Modern Judaism at Oxford University, will speak on an aspect of modern Jewish thought. Venue tbc. She can be found on YouTube and is clearly an exciting and thought provoking speaker.

GEMMA RICE

Address to JRC
Council meeting on
CPS issues



**RepPresents
editorial
team
member Filis
Rosenberg,
herself a
member of
the Crown
Prosecution
Service
Religion and
Racism
Scrutiny
Panel**



reports on a recent meeting of the JRC which was addressed by Gemma Rice (CPS Inclusion and Community Engagement Manager).

Gemma delivered an in-depth account of the various aspects of The Crown Prosecution Service and the role it plays within the Criminal Justice system in The UK.

Since June 2018, the CPS have developed a refreshed Inclusion and Community Engagement Strategy.

Through this initiative they are developing a programme of community conversations with local groups from different communities in the North West.

This programme allows The CPS to meet with members of a community, listen to their concerns, establish relationships and open dialogue on matters of importance.

For any further information on The CPS and their Inclusion and Community Engagement Strategy please check www.cps.gov.uk

CAUGHT SNAPPING



Sajid Javid with Marc Levy



European Cantors (see page 3 for report and more photos)

MARC LEVY

... on the political landscape

The political landscape changed dramatically following the 12th December general election. Westminster will be a different place where a hung Parliament has been replaced by a huge Conservative majority.

There have been numerous theories levelled as to why the Labour Party performed so disastrously.

Whilst many will understandably point to their position on Brexit, I have heard first hand from numerous MPs and candidates that the issue of antisemitism was regularly mentioned on doorsteps right across the region.

With numerous MPs announcing that they would not be seeking re-election, it was always expected that I would start 2020 by arranging to meet with new representatives.

However, it was a shock when polls started predicting that the Tories could take seats that they had never previously held like Leigh and Heywood and Middleton. This was ultimately made inevitable when the exit poll dropped.

Labour majorities plummeted across the region and further losses were experienced in Bury North and Bolton North East.

The seat of Bury North is now the most marginal in the country with James Daly beating the incumbent James Frith by 105 votes.

In Bury South, longstanding Jewish MP Ivan Lewis has been replaced by Conservative Christian Wakeford. He beat the Labour candidate Lucy Burke in an



Christian Wakeford, MP for Bury South



The diversity of the attendees at the FODIP event

incredibly tight race by 402 votes. I have enjoyed regularly engaging with Christian whilst he was on the campaign trail.

He has already committed to further engagement with the community by visiting Heathlands Village where he will also meet with CST and the Representative Council.

In addition to meeting new MPs, I will also be continuing to assist our members with their political engagement.

Naturally, as an organisation we are at the forefront of dealing with all serious issues that affect our community like combatting antisemitism and the ongoing attempted delegitimisation of Israel.

However, we are also keen to showcase the fantastic work of our member organisations.

When we meet MPs either in Westminster or the regions, we establish their areas of interest and expertise.

Our membership comprises of charities who lead on a diverse range of issues and I am always keen for them to benefit from the relationships we are cultivating.

Moving forward through these challenging times, the community should rest assured that we are advocating at the highest levels of Government on all the prominent issues.

Discussing the Israeli-Palestinian dispute in Manchester classrooms

Filis Rosenberg reports on a November 2019 Manchester meeting organised by *Solutions not Sides*, and hosted by *FODIP (*Forum for Discussion of Israel and Palestine)

Those present, who were given the opportunity to listen to Israeli and Palestinian speakers, included representation from the Jewish, Muslim and Quaker communities.

Jess Brandler Europe Director for SNS, advised that The Solutions Not Sides programme returned to Manchester in order to spread its message in secondary schools and colleges all over Manchester.

'What makes SNS unique is that they bring an Israeli and a Palestinian, side-by-side, into classrooms and interfaith spaces in order to hold constructive and candid conversations about the Israeli - Palestinian conflict.'

'During a week in which tensions between Islamic Jihad and Israel rose to breaking point, we were able to hear from two peace activists and hold a civil conversation about society and solutions. This was deeply important and special.'

The Israeli speaker had participated in programmes such as the Geneva Initiative, and has worked with Israeli politicians to persuade them to get the conflict back on the political agenda. The Palestinian speaker had participated in joint programmes with Israelis in Cyprus, Amsterdam, and Kenya, and works in refugee camps across the West Bank.

Both were completely taken aback by the diversity of Manchester and the harmony in which people from so many different backgrounds exist together and pledged to continue their work for conflict resolution back home.



*FODIP is a registered charity set up in 2008 to enable positive and sensitive conversations in the UK between Jews, Christians, Muslims and people of other faiths and of none, on the Israeli/Palestinian situation.

FODIP is run, governed and supported by Jews, Christians and Muslims.

It takes no political position, other than a concern for the rights and well-being of all the people of the region of Israel and Palestine and promoting understanding empathy and respect between individuals and communities, valuing our common humanity.

Previous projects have included community dialogues, conflict resolution training, work with young people, a women's project, Study Tours and educational resources.

BRINGING IT ALL TOGETHER TO ENERGISE THE EDUCATIONAL POTENTIAL OF GREATER MANCHESTER JEWRY

These really are exciting times for anyone interested in improving relations between communities and combatting antisemitism through education.

The Education Working Group (EWG) of The JRC exists to act as a shadchan, bringing together the many talented people that there are in our community, educators and potential educators in order that their talents are used to the greatest benefit of the community.



His Excellency, Israeli Ambassador Mark Regev with David Berkeley and Jacky Buchsbaum 02 Oct 2019

HOLOCAUST EDUCATORS' GROUP

For years there have been a number of people beavering away teaching about the Holocaust to non-Jewish adults and children.

Few of them knew about the existence of the others. Recently we contacted them, we organised a meeting and out of this emerged the Holocaust Teachers' Group (HEG).

With Ernie Hunter as the Chair they are embarking on an exciting programme of linking up with national agencies such as the Holocaust Education Trust.

While still pursuing their individual programmes, they are also ascertaining how much they can work together on joint projects.

There is also a programme of sharing resources, particularly excellent online educational websites.

VOLUNTEER TEACHERS' PROJECT

For years well meaning volunteers have been visiting schools teaching about Judaism. However, it was impossible to verify how knowledgeable they were and how well they were able to relate to children. So, the EWG has set up a volunteer teachers' group to go into schools when asked to do so by teachers.

This is part of a national volunteer teachers' strategy organised by The Board of Deputies.

The volunteers have all undergone training, even though some of them are retired teachers and they are aware of the needs of children.

We have contacted hundreds of schools in Greater Manchester and we have had a tremendous response. If you are interested in joining in this project, we need:

- More teachers
- More secretarial support to cope with the great response from schools.

Contact jeremy@jewishmanchester.org for more information. Jeremy Michelson Vice Chair JRC and Chair of the Education Working Group.

COMMUNAL DIARY

19 April - Public Meeting with Former Member of the Knesset

21 April - The JRC/Second Generation Yom Hashoah event

22 April - Sam Herwald JNF Wednesday Club welcomes writer John Cowell

Maccabi Supper Club - work of Bolton Mountain Rescue Team

23 April - Club Thursday – the Life of a Rebbetzin

27 April - UJIA Yom Hazikaron Event

28 April - Martin's & Celia's Away Days 2020 – Lion Salt Works WIZO Yom Ha'Atzmaut Celebratory Lunch

Sam Herwald JNF Wednesday Club – 'Fabulous Women in Beautiful Paintings'

30 April - Young Jewish Leadership Academy Graduation Ceremony

Club Thursday – Barbara Silverstone, Tony Brunner

3 May - WIZOUk Jewish Women's Week

Seed Manchester Dinner

4 May - The Great Kosher Cake Off – Junior Edition for Chai Cancer Care

11 May - A Week for Chai

'The Last Jewish King in Jerusalem', Professor Martin Goodman

12 May - Maccabi and L'Chaim Lag B'Omer funfair

17 May - Muslim Jewish Forum Iftar

18 May - CST Event

The JRC, ZCC and Centre for Jewish Studies presents The 2020 Sherman Community Lecture

19 May - Martin's & Celia's Away Days 2020 – Wedgwood Tour

20 May - Maccabi Supper Club – 'Betsy, the Parlour Maid' – A hilarious interactive experience

31 May - Murder Mystery Evening in aid of MJCC

7 June - Maccabi Football Festival

11 June - UJIA Women Ladies' Lunch with Keynote Speaker Rachel Riley

14 June - Muslim Jewish Forum presents Immigrants' Stories

16 June - Martin's & Celia's Away Days – Jodrell Bank

17 June - Maccabi Supper Club – Mark Ilewelin: A humorous look at Granada TV and Corrie Tales

18 June - The Friendship Circle Fashion Show

21 June - Broughton Jewish Cassel Fox Primary School Garden Party

The Fed Yorkshire Three Peaks Challenge

25 June - Chai Cancer Care Manchester Fundraising Dinner

1 July - UJIA Sports Quiz

5 July - MJCC Annual Telethon

The Friendship Circle/Manchester Maccabi Fun Day

7 July - Martin's & Celia's Away Days – Southport

12 July - The Fed Farm Day

21 July - Brookvale AGM

4 Aug - Martin's & Celia's Away Days

6 Sept - trek4thefed 2020 Sea to Sea Ladies Charity Hike in Israel

8 Sept - Martin's & Celia's Away Days 2020 – Anderton Boat Lift and Cruise

9 Sept - Chai Tee Up for Chai Golf Event

24 Sept - Manchester UJIA Dinner

Further details available from www.jewishmanchester.org

PLEASE CONSULT AND ADD YOUR DATE TO THE COMMUNAL DIARY PRIOR TO ANNOUNCING AN EVENT DAY YOURSELF
EVENTS MAY CHANGE DUE TO COVID 19 UNCERTAINTIES



**WHAT WE DO? . . .
 . . . SO MANY THINGS!**

Here are summary details from our constitution:

- a) To provide through the Council opportunity for collaboration and co-ordinated action on the part of Jews of Greater Manchester and Region.
- b) To protect Jewish interests in Greater Manchester and Region and to make and carry out such arrangements as may be deemed desirable to that end.
- c) To co-ordinate the activities of Jewish Institutions in Greater Manchester and Region whenever for common purposes the same be desirable and practicable.
- d) To co-operate in the furtherance of Jewish interests elsewhere than in Greater Manchester and Region in so far as may be deemed advisable.
- e) To do all things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above objects, or any of them, or as may seem best calculated to advance the interest of the members.
- f) To receive, hold and distribute funds for the benefit of Jewish and other charities.
- g) The Council may from time to time receive monies for distribution to Jewish or other charities, or hold monies on trust for Jewish or other charities on such terms or conditions as the Council shall in each case deem appropriate, and the Council may enter into trust deeds and appoint members of the Council to act either by themselves or with other persons as trustees.

For further details of the activities of the Manchester Representative Council, please visit our Facebook page **Jewish Manchester** as well as our website www.jewishmanchester.org

The Officers and Executive of The JRC are often asked: **“What exactly does the Council do?”**

In future editions of RepPresents we have decided to feature examples of the many varied meetings and events which we all attend representing, as we do, the Manchester and Region Jewish Community. Here are headlines of some of our recent concerted (voluntary) efforts.



DIVERSITY in the COMMUNITY event



Carl Montlake, Jay Charara, Pauline Sergeant and Raymond Solomon

What is fresh and new? Jews teaching about our history, religion, and what our roles on this earth are, to the Black community in Manchester for a whole afternoon; then celebrating this bonding by holding hands and dancing together to Israeli folk music; thus setting a course of action for future events across the North West to knock down the barriers of antisemitism and racial prejudice.

On Sunday 22nd September the Jewish Rep Council

representatives led by our PR group and **Carl Montlake** joined together with MAV a predominant black charity in Moss-Side and Hulme for an afternoon called "**Diversity in the Community**".

Bringing communities with different cultures, Ethnic backgrounds and religions together to fight antisemitism and racial prejudice.

To set the atmosphere, Jewish folk songs were played and people were offered soft drinks.

The afternoon began with **Jeremy Michelson** who

spoke passionately about our Jewish history, Talmud, and how we are expected to run our lives in the service of G-d. Judaism Judah, via Latin and Greek is the ethnic religion of the Jewish people.

The talk lasted for over 45 minutes and was well received by the many non Jews who attended. The session finished with a Q and A.

Following Jeremy was **Michael Sharpe** from the new Holocaust Museum in Leeds who told us about his connection to the Holocaust and that now there was a North Western Holocaust museum at the University of Huddersfield where the Holocaust Exhibition and Learning Centre is based.

At the public exhibition at the University of Huddersfield there is a powerful warning note about the perils of antisemitism and all forms of racial prejudice by telling and illustrating the story of Nazi persecution of the Jews, culminating in the Holocaust.

It is based around the stories of survivors who made new lives in the North of England and includes evocative artifacts from the camps.

Moving on, the floor was now handed over to **Joy Wolfe MBE** who patiently touched on modern Israel and today's distorted views from the BBC and the United Nations.

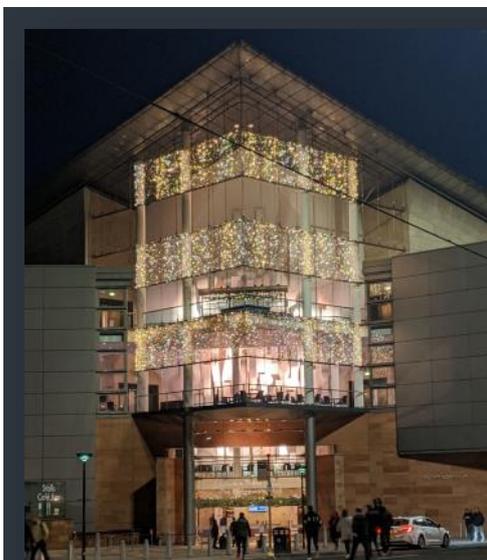
Joy told us all the wonderful things that Israel has given the world such as the mobile phone, and many other technologies that we take for granted, along with major breakthroughs in medical sciences for many major illnesses such as Cancer and MS.

Today one in four medicines that are taken daily are manufactured by Israeli owned companies.

After refreshments we were privileged to have a professional Israeli group entertain us for nearly an hour. They were joined by a local children's dance group who shared in the Israeli dancing.

To finish of this wonderful afternoon of the integration of communities a young black dance group took to the floor and entertained us with their movements.

The chair of MAV and Jay Charara, PR Officer from The Rep Council closed the proceeding with a vote of thanks.



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YOM HASHOAH
21st APRIL 2020
8.00pm
BRIDGEWATER HALL
MANCHESTER

Yom HaShoah Manchester is the annual commemoration for Greater Manchester and the North of England.



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SAYING KADDISH AT THE PALACE

A very special reception was hosted by HRH The Prince of Wales, on Thursday 5th December, one week before the election and just over two weeks before Chanukah



By Russell Conn, JRC President

Over 400 people, predominately Jewish, from all walks of life and from almost every corner of the kingdom arrived by car, tube and taxi at the main entrance to Buckingham Palace. Once through the security having shown our identity, we proceeded through the main gates and across the gravel entrance, through the main archway into a giant quadrangle and across more gravel to the main entrance where countless

generations have alighted, be they prime ministers, visiting dignitaries, or members of the royal family themselves.

Up the stairs, at every turn, the Palace staff, impeccably turned out, all with the utmost courtesy, pointed us in the right direction.

We were shown to a large table which had hundreds of name tags on them. As well as the name, it had a number, and if you had a number, you filed through the right-hand door and if not it was the left-hand door.

The number of people quickly became more apparent, as there were more staff with a sign to a "mustering" station so to speak. These were the groups who would be presented to HRH The Prince of Wales.

The kosher champagne flowed and the kosher canapes were handed

round whilst we waited for HRH to arrive.

Right on time he entered and spoke extremely warmly of the immense contribution the Jewish Community has played and continues to play in the life of this great kingdom of ours.

He mentioned events and individuals stretching back to the restoration under Oliver Cromwell and was particularly pleased that the prayer for his family is recited in every Synagogue.

After he spoke, various groups were presented to him, and it really was an honour to bring greetings from the Manchester Jewish Community and endorse so much of what he said and be able to tell him that he had no more loyal subjects than the Jewish Community of our fair city.

Then it was time to spot and speak to so many famous people from such a diverse spectrum.

Journalists like Lord Daniel Finklestein, Emma Barnett (Salford born and bred) Hugo Rifkind, Jonathan Freidland, Robert Peston, Simon Schama, Simon Seabag Montefiore (whose ancestor was obviously mentioned) Nigella Lawson, Tracy Oberman. There were also politicians Lord John Mann and Lord Eric Pickles and authors like Howard Jacobson

(another Manchester son).

A plethora of Rabbonim from Rabbi Pinter of Stamford Hill to Danny Rich, through Klausner Janner, our own Chief Rabbi of course, as well as the Sephardi Chief Rabbi Dwek .

Simon Johnson, formerly from Manchester, had Yahrzeit for his late father and an impromptu minyan was assembled right next to where the investitures are carried out and I suspect for the first time Maariv including Kaddish was recited.

Then it was time for the staff to very discreetly invite us to step backwards, it quickly became apparent that the Royal protocol dictates that guests are politely encouraged to vacate by asking them to step back closer to the exits. We are truly fortunate that whilst we have a Royal Family the Jews of this great nation will always have a safe haven and will be respected, sadly if the day ever dawns when they are no longer here then this country may no longer be as tolerant and our security not assured.



The Prince of Wales speaking with Russell Conn



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