



Kindertransport

A special interest group of the
Association of Jewish Refugees
SERVING HOLOCAUST REFUGEES AND SURVIVORS NATIONWIDE



JUBILEE HOUSE, MERRION AVENUE, STANMORE, MIDDLESEX HA7 4RL
Telephone: 020 8385 3070 Fax: 020 8385 3080 Email: kt@ajr.org.uk www.ajr.org.uk

**Contact: Andrea Goodmaker at AJR,
Jubilee House, Merrion Avenue, Stanmore,
Middlesex HA7 4RL
Tel : 44 (0) 20 8385 3070
Fax : 44 (0) 20 8385 3080
e-mail: andrea@ajr.org.uk**

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EDITOR:
Rev. Bernd Koschland
nisraf@compuchange.co.uk
Chairman:
Sir Erich Reich**

**Previous issues may also be viewed at:
www.ajr.org.uk/kindertransport.htm**

Dear Kinder and Friends



From the Editor's Desk

I did not need to worry about material for this edition – an original 14 pages had to be compressed into 10. Items have come from the USA, Israel and Uk – keep up the flow. I already have pieces for the next edition! As a result of contact with the Holocaust Museum in Washington, I have sent the last Newsletter there. A new item is Help for Dissertations, as quite frequently requests are coming in to AJR and then passed to me. Please help if you can. No Newsletter would ever appear without the terrific work of Andrea. Thanks Andrea. I wish you and your families *Shanah Tovah* and *Chag Sameach*.

Bernd.

Hi Fellow Kinder

I hope you are managing to enjoy our rather damp summer and of course revelling in the successes at the Olympics.
Just to give you advanced warning we are planning to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the decision by parliament to let us in to this country, on Sunday 23 June at J.F.S. It seems to us better that we have the celebration in Summer rather on the actual date in November. Hopefully the weather will be more amenable at that time of the year.. So please save the date for you and your off spring. The programme has not been finalised but we will keep you informed and up to date.

Meanwhile I wish you and your families in advance Shana Tova and Chag Sameach.

Chairman

Save the date!

Calling all Kinder. The AJR Kindertransport Committee is delighted to announce a special reunion to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the Kindertransport which will take place on Sunday 23 June 2013 at the JFS school in North West London. The reunion, which will include contributions from Kinder, JFS pupils and guest speakers, will be a unique opportunity for Kinder and their families to re-connect, socialise and pay tribute to their fellow refugees and to the British government for offering them a safe haven.

In the coming months we will be publishing further details about this, and other special events, we will be organising to mark the 75th anniversary, in the KT Newsletter, AJR Journal and on the AJR website.

Synergy

David Jones, a ceramic artist, is a second generation Kind, whose mother, family name Stimler from Leipzig came on the Kindertransport. He and his cousins recently organised a ceremony in memory of their grandparents who were murdered in the Shoah. He has been invited to present an art proposal for the Leipzig Shalom Week 2013. He wants to propose a piece about fire, in synergy with the crematoria. He is interested in making contact with other people in a similar relationship with the Shoah.

Symbols of Hope

No Shofar, no long service, no tickets for seats – instead “Go, eat choice food, drink sweet drinks...send portions...do not be sad....make great merriment...” (Nehemiah 8:10-12) No, this is not Purim, but Rosh Hashanah in the 5th century BCE!

The ‘sweet things’ of Ezra’s instruction feature much over the Festival as we know and practise it today. It is a solemn but not sad occasion as we stand before the Divine Judge. Whatever our record before Him, we hope for a good outcome by being inscribed in the Book of Life.

To encourage ourselves in our trust for the right outcome, we express our hopes through symbolic actions. The most notable one is the dipping of foods into honey, especially the apple, accompanied by the prayer that “may it be Thy will.... that the coming year be good and sweet.” Depending on traditions, other foods are eaten to act as symbolic pointers for a good year ahead. Examples are: carrots, the head of a fish and fish generally (symbol of fertility), the head of a lamb (in some parts of the Jewish world), pomegranates, leek, dates, sugar in place of honey; the Talmud has many more.

Each food has a specific reason, carrots, for instance, in Yiddish are *meeren* linked with the idea of *mehr*, ‘increase’, the eating of a head – to be at the head of things not at the tail.

“Symbols are vehicles for the conception of objects, so that symbols mean not the thing but the conception.” (*Oxford Dictionary of World Religions*) Thus the apple and honey are the concept of what we hope the year ahead will be.

The symbolic foods fall into four categories:

1. The composition is the symbol, e.g. honey a sign of sweetness.
2. The name is symbolic, as carrots (see above)
3. The shape suggest the symbol, such as the head of a fish
4. Anything that opposes the concept of a good and sweet year, such as pickled (acidic) or bitter foods. Nuts are included under this heading because the Hebrew for ‘nut’ (*egoz*) approximates through *gematria* (adding up the value of the letters) to the Hebrew *chet* (sin).

Other symbols connected with Rosh Hashanah are the use of white, e.g. the fabrics in Synagogue as white is a sign of purity, the wearing by some of the white *kittel*, which, as the clothing of the dead, also is a reminder of our mortality on this Day of Judgement. The *Tashlich* (‘casting’) ceremony by a stream symbolises the ‘casting of sins into the depths of the sea’, based on the final verses of the prophet Micah (7:19).

Whatever the symbol, may you be inscribed for a good year in health and tranquillity of spirit and in true peace, as symbolised by Micah, “*May each person sit under their vine and fig tree and no one will make him afraid.*” (4:4)

Bernd Koschland

Reviews



Gordon Thomas, *Operation Exodus*, JR Books 2010

Gordon Thomas has written an extensively researched book about the *Exodus 1947*. He details the organising of immigrants ships, Aliyah Bet, in the United States and elsewhere and the various problems connected with this, e.g. the raising of funds, the attitude of British MI% and 6, the and the British Government, whose Foreign Secretary was Ernest Bevin, the deployment of the British Navy to prevent immigration and so on. In discussing the events in Germany and elsewhere in 1938 and 1939, he relates the beginnings of the Kindertransport and attributes it to David Ben Gurion and Chaim Weitzmann using “*their political skills to bring out children from Nazi Germany. It was the birth of what became known as the Kindertransport.*” He further refers to Churchill leading the campaign. In Germany it was Magda Goebbels, wife of Joseph Goebbels, “*who convinced her husband to persuade the Fueher that letting the children go would show the ‘caring side’ of the Reich. Hitler finally agreed and 10 000 children would be allowed to travel to Britain.*” Whatever the accuracy of this account of the origins of Kindertransport, the author makes no mention of the activities here in Britain: the work of MP’s such as Noel Baker and the pressure of other groups to allow free entry of children. It is a pity that Gordon Thomas did not check his facts fully. Kindertransport apart, the book makes very interesting reading regarding the whole story of the *Exodus*, tracing every detail from the beginning to the final arrival of the last shipment of *Exodus* passengers to Israel on 17th June 1948

A book just received and to be reviewed in a future issue:

Deborah Dwork & Robert Jan Van Pelt, *Flight from the Reich, Refugee Jews, 1933-46*, Norton 2009.

BK

Bloomsbury House and the Jewish Refugee Committee

This building, its name and activities are familiar to so many of us. Susanne Medas worked there for a while as she writes: “ I stayed with the Jewish Refugee Committee for a while after they moved Summer Place in South Kensington, but the organisation was winding down and I was very glad that Alice Goldberger(a refugee from Germany and a close friend of Anna Freud) spotted me during her many visits to Bloomsbury House, to beg for money, clothes, musical instruments, etc. for the children in her care. She invited me to become her secretary and also do crafts with the children in Lingfield House in London. This group of survivors, whose foster mother she was, had come from the camps and went to Windermere, then to Lingfield in Surrey and finally to Lingfield House”

Susanne Medas

Editor’s note: further details in *The Boys* by Martin Gilbert, especially p. 285 and footnote 118 referring to Love despite Hate, a book which speaks of these children. There is an interesting article on Bloomsbury House – Google *Bloomsbury House* and then *Arrival in Great Britain*.

Hostel Experiences

I would like to add my hostel experience. The hostel was located on Woburn Rd. in Croydon. I was there only from the middle of July until the beginning of September when we were evacuated. It was sponsored by a London Jewish congregation, but I do not recall the name. The person in charge was Rabbi Lehmann from Vienna. There were 20 boys and I was the oldest, age 14.

I did not go back after evacuation since I had joined my mother at the Women's Internment camp on the Isle of Man.

Kurt Goldberger (KTA)

I attended the hostel in Hackney, London, on Victoria Park Road, was sponsored by B'nai B'rith. Mr. Harry Watts was one of the main committee persons at that time who frequently came to the hostel to check out whether all of us were well taken care of. Even after evacuation he visited us in the country, usually bringing much needed clothing items, i.e. Wellingtons. The matron was Miss Kohn, a former teacher at an orthodox Jewish school in Berlin. The hostel was bombed during the Blitz. Most of the girls had been evacuated to Norfolk and only a few of them were left at the hostel. Nobody was hurt, but the place was no longer liveable.

The second hostel, also sponsored by B'nai B'rith, was located at 40 Teignmouth Rd, Willesden. I attended this hostel from late summer 1941 (after returning from evacuation) until May of 1944. The two committee ladies who visited frequently and made many decisions for the girls were Mrs. Heineman and Mrs. Epstein. (I can almost see them in my mind now!) They were very stern.

Margaret Goldberger (KTA)

KINDERTRANSPORT CONFERENCE
Orange County, California, November 2-4, 2012

The Kindertransport Association invites all Kinder and your families: children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, cousins, extended, and foster family to attend our next conference: Kindertransport Conference 2012 – Generation to Generation; Honoring the Legacy, Transforming the Future.

The organizing committee, KTA and AJR members of the first and second generations, has been working to create a wonderful conference. As we are based in New York, Philadelphia, Washington DC, southern California, San Francisco, London and Reading, UK, scheduling our planning meetings has been a bit of a challenge.

The weekend-long conference will feature speakers, workshops, films, and time to socialize, and will be an opportunity for Kinder, adult children and grand-children to join together in celebrating and honouring the legacy of the Kindertransports and considering the continuity of the history and lessons of the Kindertransport into the future. We are looking forward to an engaging, interesting, and enjoyable weekend.

Stephen Smith, the Director of the Shoah Foundation, and the founding director of the UK Holocaust Centre, will be the opening keynote speaker on Friday evening, and in honor of the California location, Professor Vincent Brooks, author of "Driven to Darkness: Jewish Émigré Directors and the Rise of Film Noir" will speak Saturday night on German and Austrian Jewish émigré filmmakers in Los Angeles and their involvement in film noir.

Saturday morning, Andrea Hammel, Professor at Aberystwyth University and Co-Director of the AHRC Network 'Holocaust Writing and Translation' will present new perspectives on Kindertransport research with a special focus on the post-war years. She is interested to meet with Kinder throughout the weekend.

There will be time for reuniting with old friends, and for KT2 and KT3 to meet Kinder who were in a school or hostel with their mother or grandfather, aunt or uncle, and the chance to learn more about their family history.

Our closing speaker, on Sunday morning, will be Michael Berenbaum, former Director of the US Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington DC.

Airlines that fly into John Wayne Airport:
AirTran Airways, Alaska Airlines, American Airlines, Delta, Frontier Airlines, Southwest Airlines, United Airlines, US Airways. The hotel provides a free shuttle from John Wayne airport.

If you prefer to fly to Los Angeles (LAX) a super shuttle to the hotel will cost approximately \$38 each way. If you want to fly into Long Beach airport the approximate Super Shuttle cost is

\$43.

Registration forms can be downloaded on the “events” page of the Kindertransport Association website: www.kindertransport.org. AJR Members receive the KTA Member discounted rate.

I look forward to seeing you in November!

Melissa Hacker
Vice President for the Second Generation, KTA
KINDERTRANSPORT CONFERENCE
Orange County, California, November 2-4, 2012

Greta Burkill – Cambridge Refugees Committee

Any German Jewish refugee who happened to start a new life in Britain was more than fortunate to do so in Cambridge. Greta Burkill, German by birth, married to a British mathematician, a young mother with three young children and a menagerie, of animals in the garden, opened her home to all of us, men and women who had been allowed entry to this country, only as domestic servants, gardeners or chauffeur, as well as a large number of children and teenagers.

She soon realised that most of the latter came from families who had high hopes for their children, who had been sent to grammar schools in their home town, or who had been given a chance to become musicians, artists, doctors or lawyers. She was determined that these children and young people should get the best education in Britain at a time when the school-leaving age for most was 14 or 15 years of age. She knew everyone in the academic world, staff in a teacher training college. She had access to two of the best Public School. She worked tirelessly to place her young charges where they could continue their education; there will be many who know that without her help this would not have been possible.

But I want to remember her as the uniquely kind and good listener, who had time for us all. The front door of her house in Chaucer Road was never locked; we just entered and then heard her high-pitched voice from the kitchen or the nursery or the garden, “Come in, I will be with you in a minute.” Then she was there, followed by a dog or two, with or without apron, chatting away to make us feel at ease: cups of tea, home-made cakes or biscuits and then FULL attention to whatever we had come to say. I was one of the teenage girls; when I told her that I was not happy with my foster parents, she found a new family for me. When I pleaded that I did not want to go to school but to try to earn my living as soon as possible, she got me accepted at a teacher training college – although I was too young, did not have the required School Certificate and at first knew no English. She comforted young women who were unhappy slaves in households; she took up their causes and never thought of herself. It was said that her husband, a brilliant academician, had forbidden the word ‘refugee’ to be mentioned in the privacy of their bedroom. I am not sure whether she was able to keep to that!

Many years later, when her husband had retired and the couple were living in Peter House, a Retirement Home, I had a chance to visit her. She had not changed a bit and insisted on reeling off a long list of scientists, researchers, doctors, etc. who had passed through her hands in those early years; she was proud of them. A few years ago, when I happened to be at the Imperial War Museum for the Holocaust Exhibition, something told me to pick up a telephone receiver attached to the wall; here was her voice, so charming and warm, with all the memories of 1939-1941, talking about her work and that of her colleagues of the Cambridge Refugees Committee. I won’t forget her and nor will so many other people who had the good luck to come under her care.

Susanne Medas

Greta Burkill was heaven sent to every student she befriended- entry fee, refugee status. During my time at Cambridge (Newham College, 1946-49), she guided me through small and not small problems. A boyfriend invited me to a College Ball, which I could not attend, because I had nothing suitable to wear. (On learning this) she lent me an evening dress of her

own and even had it altered in time. She kept an eye on me, and others, by giving us tea once a month, bearing in mind that food was severely rationed. She was unstuffy, uninhibited and she laughed a lot, rare qualities in a senior Don's wife in those days. I remember her with affection. I hope this small vignette will give some idea of the person she was.

Renée Payne (née Halm, Vienna, Kindertransport 8 June 1939)

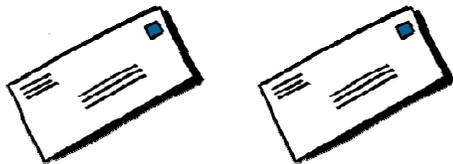
Greta Burkill was of Russian origin and NOT German. She was indeed the moving spirit in helping the Kinder in Cambridge. She met my sister and myself, I can't recollect if there was anyone else, at Liverpool Station on 20th April 1939 and accompanied us to Cambridge, to settle us with Miss Rickard, who had previously agreed to give us a home. She called to make sure that we were settling in during the first few weeks in Cambridge. She was an extremely kind-hearted person. I had hoped that I had kept her obituary notice, but alas it is no longer where I thought it was stored!

I was extremely interested in the note from Dr. Hans Kaiser, since I was born in Kempen in the Rhineland, may be you will forward him my e-mail address.

My late husband, L. Alfred Moritz, a classicist studied at Merton College, was well acquainted with Brian Sefton and Thomas Braun, and for 2 years was on secondment to the University of Ghana in Accra.

During that period he was appointed to the Chair, first of Latin and later of Classics at University College, Cardiff.

Doris Moritz



LETTERS

Dear Bernd

Many thanks for your Newsletter which I always find interesting (thanks, Ed.) Apart from going under the title "Bertha's sister", I also had two daughters, Michelle and Vivy, at JFS at one time being taught by you.

In the April letter, Dr Hans Kaiser was searching for some people, including Elsa Winter and Dr Ida Levisohn. Elsa Winter was a kind who came to England from Kempen at the age of six. Eventually she moved to Israel and married a Rabbi Cohen, first living in Jerusalem and then in Haifa. There are a son and a daughter. On the death of her husband she moved back to Jerusalem. Tragically this good person, always smiling, was killed by an Arab terrorist who blew up the bus she was travelling in, on the way to a shiur.

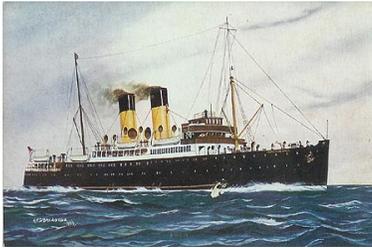
Dr Ida Levisohn lived in Epsom for a long time before coming to Israel. One of her family is also a relative of mine by marriage. I contacted him. He, Meir Levisohn, has a lot of information on both Elsa and Dr Levisohn.

He can be contacted in Israel on 0525700444 (mobile) or (02)5342946; he does not believe in, or have, a computer.

Inge attended a Jerusalem Boys' Town School, where part of the theme was the Kindertransport. They showed a half-hour film about Israeli children, made by Hilary Gatoff, including three from Vienna, 3 from Czechoslovakia and three from Germany, all with totally different lives in Israel and also in England. Then Rabbi Manny Fischer, one of Rabbi Schonfeld's Kinder) also spoke. Bertha, her daughter and son-in-law and I were invited to visit Boys' Town; our presence at the Shoah commemoration was a follow-up to that visit.

Inge Sadan

SS PRAGUE



I was not greatly impressed by the information supplied to you by Google in respect of the railway steamer *SS Prague*, so I set to and researched her past myself. So for your benefit and the benefit of your readers, here are the facts.

She was built in 1930 by the world renowned shipyard John Brown on Clydebank with a speed of 21 knots and a displaced 4220 tons. The ship took part in the evacuation of 3039 Allied troops from Dunkirk and a further 3000 French troops who were transferred to another ship. She was commanded by her Master, Captain CR Baxter who was awarded the DSC (Distinguished Service Cross).

The *SS Prague* returned to John Brown's yard in 1948 for a refit, when an oxygen tank exploded which set the ship on fire from stem to stern. She was completely gutted and heeled over into 50 feet of water. She was subsequently refloated and broken up at the yard of Thomas W Wood at Barrow on 23rd September 1948.

So apart from helping us to safety and freedom, she continued this mission in 1940 by rescuing troops under fire in Dunkirk. She had a noble record with a sad ending and deserves to be remembered by us.

Ernest G Kolman

Florida

In the most recent issue of the KT/AJR newsletter, someone who recently moved from S. America to Florida asked about "Kinder" there. Please advise him there is a large chapter of KTA in Florida and he should contact the chairperson, Anita Hoffer, email:

agh492001@yahoo.com

For more information, he can contact us at: margkurt@aol.com

Kurt Goldberger, President. KTA (KT America)

Elsa Winter

My husband's family from Golders Green took in Elsa Winter in 1938. My husband believes that she came through the Cambridge Refugee Committee. She may have had two relatives in Cambridge. In 1939 her father came and she left with him. We heard nothing further until some years back when Herbert Goldschmidt rang and gave greetings from her. He told us she was married and lived in Bnei Brak.

Marion Goldwater (Née Danziger, a Kind from Berlin 1939)

Sherrards House - Welwyn

I recently came across the Kindertransport data base and recognised my data from my date of birth. [Because of data protection I have omitted the reference number – Editor]. Although not all the information contained in the data base is absolutely correct, I am amazed at the correctness of most of the data contained therein.....I visited the UK and went to Old Welwyn to look at the Sherrards House which was used as a hostel in 1939. My niece in London corresponded with a person who was researching the history of Welwyn Garden City and Old Welwyn, but she (the researcher) had never heard that Sherrards House had been used as a hostel for Kindertransport children in 1939.....I notice that I am the only child

mentioned (on the data base) as having been in Sherrards House. There must have been at least 30 children there.

Walter Steuerman

If any of our readers were there please contact him at 2010 Islington Avenue, [Apt 1506, Toronto, Ont. M9P 358, 416 2440036 or waltsteu@rogers.com]

Help for Dissertations

Interviews with 4-5 Kinder who were billeted in Shropshire, but not necessarily living there now.

Interviews would take place between October and early December. Chad is willing to meet if needed. Please make contact with Chad McDonald (University of Northampton) at chadmcdonald@me.com

Natalie Clarke is researching for a thesis on Jews who have opinions or experiences on the Catholic Church's involvement throughout the Holocaust. Please contact Natalie at natalieandreaclarke@gmail.com. (Received via the Jewish Museum!)

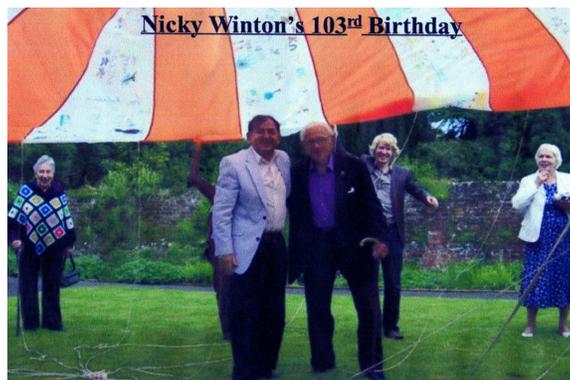
Poland to Talaton

When I wrote my book Nightmare's Fairy Tale....I was dependent on my personal papers for details of our Kindertransport journey from Zbanszyn to Otwock....Three of us travelled and lived together for one year as evacuees with the Goslin family in Talaton (nr Honiton) Devon 1939-1940. I and my brother left for the United States in 1940 to be reunited with our mother. Our father, a Westerbork survivor, joined us in 1946.

Gerd Korman, Professor Emeritus. Born in Elberfeld

Photograph of Sir Nicholas at this spot

Shown in the photograph are the Czech Ambassador, Sir Nicholas, a grinning grandson Laurence and Susanne Medas (in the poncho – one of his rescued children)



On Saturday 19th May, around 70 people dropped in on Nicky Winton to wish him well on his 103rd birthday. As well as his own family, six of the children he rescued from Prague in 1939 were also present. Birthday good wishes were also conveyed from the District Assembly. The Czech Ambassador, Michael Zantovsky, brought a delicious two layer chocolate cake. A parachute was sent by all the children and staff at the Basic School of Sir Nicholas Winton, which is at Kunzakbin in the Czech Republic. He had visited the school in 2008 and the school and he met up again in Prague in 2011.

The parachute was accompanied by a letter from the children to wish Sir Nicholas a happy birthday and explained the parachute as a symbol of saving, especially as he was a pilot.

[Extracted from an email sent by Susanne Medas]

Greta Burkill and Cambridge - Manpreet Sidhu

Manpreet Sidhu is a biology major in the Honours Programme in biology at the College of Saint Elizabeth, Morristown, New Jersey and is planning a career as a physician. The College is very proud of her paper on Greta Burkill, wrote her Professor of Holocaust Studies, Harriet Sepinwall, for its research. The first part of the paper gives a concise and accurate history of events in Germany leading to a brief discussion on where could Jews go, with doors virtually closed, e.g. in Palestine and the USA. England responded positively allowing in refugees, and especially opening the doors to the Kindertransport. Manpreet then moves onto the work of the Cambridge Refugee Committee and the vital input of Greta Burkill. Her description of Cambridge also gives a bird's eye view of the Refugee Children Movement and the general difficulties faced by refugees such as internment. In the midst of all the vital background, Greta Burkill features as the 'heroine' of the care for Kinder in Cambridge.

Overall, the paper shows much detailed research, as shown in the bibliography, and careful selection of material. Manpreet was moved to write her paper by a talk given to students by Sigmar Silber, himself a Kind.

BK

CHRISTADELPHIANS

A Christian sect founded in 1848 by J. Thomas. They were also involved in bringing over Kinder and settling them in hostels, a very small one in Coventry and a larger one in Birmingham Elpis Lodge ('Abode of Hope'). It was opened in April 1940 and managed by the Council for Birmingham Jewry and Council for Refugees. Dr and Mrs Albert Hirsch from Frankfurt were put in charge of the hostel. Dr Hirsch worked hard to ensure the social development of the children; he also gave instruction in Jewish life. Jewish encouragement was also given by Rev. Dr Abraham Cohen, Minister of the Birmingham Hebrew Congregation. The hostel closed in 1948 when it was considered that its work was done.

BK

Exhibition in Meiningen and Nuremberg

I received an email from Judge Christoph Gann of Meiningen, (some miles north of Wurzburg) author of a book on Raoul Wallenberg, requesting information about Eva Mossbacher (1926-1983), daughter of Hedwig and Otto Mosbacher. Eva, went to school in Fuerth, and left Nuremberg on a Kindertransport on 10th May 1939, arriving in Harwich via the Hook. She then went to live with two Christian ladies in Cambridge. Mr Gann is putting on an exhibition about the fate of Family Mosbacher (Meiningen/Nuremberg) who with 39 other Jews from Meiningen perished in the Shoah. After Meiningen, the exhibition will be shown in Nuremberg to mark the 50th anniversary of Eva's death by suicide in London.

In the course of the email, he gives a short excerpt from a letter Eva wrote to her parents from the journey, which mentions a Ruth Koschland; he wonders whether she might be my sister – she is, bis 120. What is interesting is that it brought back long forgotten memories to my sister when I emailed the contents to her, as she was on the same transport.

The extract reads (originally in German):

"I have very pleasant company. The children from Munich are charming and speak in a lovely Munich accent. The parents of Ruth Koschland (also a Kind) are also very nice. They accompanied to Wurzburg... The parents of Ruth Koschland will certainly phone you....Ruth K is very frum. She has indeed prayed....Just now we passed by very near the Cathedral (Cologne)....Just now the Gestapo official was here. Ruth K had to open her case...."

Eva's parents were killed in Belzyce in the district of Lublin, as were the Jewish citizens of Meiningen.

Bernd Koschland

MISCELLANEA

Future events

75th KT Anniversary will be marked on 23rd June 2013 at JFS - details will be sent in due course.

A further event is planned for November 2012

Award

Our added congratulations to Frank Meisler on his award of the Officer’s Cross of the Order of Merit by the Federal Republic of Germany. The full story has already been covered in the AJR Journal and website

Who is it?

The picture of ‘Guess Who’ is our Bertha before leaving Germany.

Correspondence

Correspondence should be addressed to the Editor of the Newsletter via AJR or directly to me as editor nisraf@compuchange.co.uk

Arnold Schwartzman OBE RDI



In response to a mention of the Rowden Hall Hostel in Margate, I received a note from Arnold Schwartzman about it, attaching photographs, including one of the building as it once was. His family bought the property and adjoining ones for a hotel, the Majestic (Kosher) Hotel. Our ‘mystery’ photo of a young person came through his good offices when he sent me contact details to the Washington US Holocaust Memorial Museum website, which holds some 500+ photographs relating to the Kindertransport.

Arnold lives in the United States and is a documentary film maker and a friend of Mark Jonathan Harris, the director of the Oscar winning film on the Kindertransport *Into the Arms of Strangers*.

He directed and produced the film *Genocide*, which 30 years ago received the Oscar for this documentary feature film, the first on the subject of the Holocaust to receive an Academy Award. Last year he worked with Sir Ben Kingsley at the Museum.

[Rowden Hall was the summer residence of Joseph van den Bergh (of Unilever), which would explain it becoming the B’nai B’rith hostel. It is now a block of modern flats]

Bernd Koschland



Lisel Menden should have read Liesl Munden – Apologies to you Liesl.

Views expressed in the Kindertransport Newsletter are not necessarily those of the Kindertransport Special Interest Group or of the Association of Jewish Refugees and should not be regarded as such.

