



AJR JOURNAL

The Association of Jewish Refugees

Looking back at the Eastern Front

This month is the 80th anniversary of the German invasion of the Soviet Union. The death toll on the Eastern Front was enormous. In his book, *Europe at War: 1939-1945* (2006), Norman Davies writes, 'Total losses for the Soviet Union – military and civilian, including Soviet Asia – are now estimated at 27 million.' Of these two-thirds, 18 million, were civilians, including around '2 million Jews, 1-2 million Poles, 2-3 million Russians, 2-3 million Balts, 3-4 million Byelorussians and 5-8 million Ukrainians.'



The Tragedy of Nations monument to the Holocaust in Moscow, by Zurab Tsereteli, depicts a line of human beings gradually turning into gravestones

There have been a number of fascinating changes in the way historians have written about the Eastern Front. First, that civilian casualties are increasingly broken down by nationality. Before, western historians listed them as Soviet citizens. It is now clear that the largest number

of non-Jewish victims were from Belarus, the Ukraine and the Baltic Republics as well as Russia.

Second, the Western Front was 'something of a sideshow' (in Davies's words) compared to the war in the
Continued on page 2

MIDSUMMER MADNESS

Gravestones, Beetles and the Bayeux Tapestry in the age of Covid. Quite an eclectic mix for our midsummer missive.

Other articles include a thought provoking look at antisemitism in modern Hungary and the shocking rise of right wing extremism in Germany. There are many parallels which can be drawn here, highlighting the fact that none of us should be complacent.

Thank you to all our contributors to this issue, and all future comments will be gratefully received.

News.....	3
Who cares?	4
Letter from Israel.....	5
Letters to the Editor and Looking For	6-7
Art Notes.....	8
A Grave Question	9
Next Generations	10
Liberators through the eyes of the liberated..	11
Is history repeating itself?.....	12-13
Revvig up Volkswagen	14
Antisemitism in Hungary today	15
Compare and contrast.....	16
A Dutch life.....	17
Reviews.....	18
Obituaries	19
Events	20

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

AJR Team

Chief Executive Michael Newman

Finance Director Adam Daniels

Heads of Department

Community & Volunteer Services Carol Hart

HR & Administration Karen Markham

Educational Grants & Projects Alex Maws

Social Services Nicole Valens

AJR Journal

Editor Jo Briggs

Editorial Assistant Lilian Levy

Contributing Editor David Herman

Looking back at the Eastern Front (cont.)

East. If you look at the number of military deaths in individual battles and campaigns, the seven largest number of fatalities were all on the Eastern Front.

Third, it is increasingly clear that the Soviet Union did not simply fight a heroic war. It was a perpetrator, invading a number of countries before 1945 including Poland, Finland and the Baltic Republics and was guilty of war crimes, from 'the murder and maltreatment of POWs (including its own) to the sinking of refugee ships and the mass raping of German women.' (Davies)

Fourth, and perhaps most important for Jews, our attention has shifted from 'the Shoah by gas' in the Nazi death camps to 'the Shoah by bullets', especially in the Soviet Union. In his essay, 'Holocaust: The Ignored Reality' (*The New York Review of Books*, July 16, 2009) historian, Timothy Snyder, author of *Bloodlands*, wrote,

'All in all, as many if not more Jews were killed by bullets as by gas, but they were killed by bullets in easterly locations that are blurred in painful remembrance. The second most important part of the Holocaust is the mass murder by bullets in eastern Poland and the Soviet Union. It began with SS Einsatzgruppen shootings of Jewish men in June 1941, expanded to the murder of Jewish women and children in July, and extended to the extermination of entire Jewish communities that August and September. By the end of 1941, the Germans (along with local auxiliaries and Romanian troops) had killed a million Jews in the Soviet Union and the Baltics. That is the equivalent of the total number of Jews killed at Auschwitz during the entire war. By the end of 1942, the Germans (again, with a great deal of local assistance) had shot another 700,000 Jews, and the Soviet Jewish populations under their control had ceased to exist.'

If we relied on the books of Elie Wiesel, Primo Levi and the Diary of Anne Frank or films like *Night and Fog* and *Shoah* we would think of the Holocaust primarily in terms of 'the Shoah by

gas'. But in recent years historians have shifted our attention to countless atrocities in small villages, in woods and fields where Jews were shot by German soldiers and other perpetrators.

Two astonishing new books have brought 'the Shoah by bullets' to life: *Grief: The Biography of a Holocaust Photograph* (2020) by David Shneer and *The Ravine* (2021) by Wendy Lower. Both books tell the story of a single photograph of an atrocity. Instead of the early prevailing images of German bureaucracy and modernity which dominated so much of our early thinking about the Final Solution, these books show how very primitive and close-up the mass killings in the Ukraine were.

Grief shows a few figures in a frozen landscape outside Kerch, on the Crimean peninsula, in January 1942. The photograph is by Dmitri Baltermanns, a Soviet-Jewish photographer born in Warsaw who worked for *Izvestia*, the Soviet newspaper of record since 1917. After occupying Crimea, the *Einsatzgruppen* murdered thousands of Ukrainian Jews. Baltermanns spent a day at the killing site, photographing the dead. His most famous photograph, which he later called *Grief*, shows a group of women, poorly dressed, bent over, mourning the bodies of the dead. The emotional focus of the photograph is not on the bodies lying in the frozen mud, where they had been shot, but on the women, two in particular. Baltermann's photos 'never appeared in *Izvestia*,' writes Shneer. 'Why remains a mystery.' Indeed, apart from a two-page photo essay in *Ogonek* in March 1942, they never appeared in the Soviet press during the war at all. Shneer goes on to explain how *Grief* later became one of the most famous Soviet photos of the war, in particular of the Holocaust. The cry of the grieving woman at the centre of the photograph, wrote the German writer Heinrich Böll when he saw it at an exhibition in Hamburg in 1964, 'becomes the cry of humanity.'

Wendy Lower's book, *The Ravine*, is an extraordinary piece of detective work. In 2009 two young journalists from Prague showed her a photo of a Nazi atrocity and her book tells the story of how she found out who the

victims were, who the perpetrators were and who the photographer was. The photograph was taken on October 13, 1941, in Miropol in the Ukraine. It shows a woman and a boy being shot by Germans and local collaborators, Ukrainian auxiliaries, at the edge of a ravine. One German and the Ukrainian behind him, she writes, 'have just pulled their triggers... The Ukrainian's rifle is inches from the head of the woman, which is obscured in the smoke.' Lower goes on, 'The victims are at the edge of a ravine. The woman is dying from the bullet wound to the head, pulling the boy – who is still alive – down with her into the grave.'

What strikes Lower is 'the disturbing intimacy of the violence. Perpetrators stand shoulder to shoulder, close to the victims... Here we see genocide at its extreme: the final moment when uniformed gangs of men like this annihilate women and children. At the center [sic] of the image is what is left of a Jewish family and community in Miropol, a historical Jewish shtetl west of Kiev.'

These two books don't just tell us the story of two massacres in the Ukraine, where 'every fourth Jewish victim murdered in the Holocaust' came from. They were not murdered in death camps but gunned down in ravines, marshes, forests, ghettos and open fields. These books completely change our view of the Holocaust in the east, its iconography but also how Jews were killed and then forgotten. Lower writes, 'According to the Central Database of Shoah Victims' names kept by Yad Vashem, the Holocaust remembrance center in Jerusalem, about 50 percent of the Jews ... [killed] in the Ukraine have not been identified.' Thanks to Lower, the Jewish mother and child in the photo now have names.

Eighty years after the German invasion, historians like Norman Davies and Timothy Snyder, and these two remarkable books by David Shneer and Wendy Lower, tell us a history lesson that will change the way we think about the Holocaust forever.

David Herman

Note: David Shneer, a fine historian, died in November.



The Windermere 'Children'

BAFTA for The Boys

The highly acclaimed BBC drama, *The Windermere Children*, which tells the story of 300 Jewish children who came to stay in the Lake District in August 1945, has been nominated for an award at this year's prestigious Virgin Media BAFTAs. The winner will be announced on Sunday 6 June.

It has also been nominated for 'Best movie and TV broadcast' by the Banff World Media Festival.

This photograph of some of "The Boys" was taken at the end of filming.

OUR MAN ON THE BOARD

Hertfordshire-based William Baginsky has been nominated to represent AJR members on the British Board of Deputies, the organisation which promotes and safeguards the rights of British Jews to live in peace and enjoy our customs and practices. Here William tells us a little about himself.

I have been a second-generation member of the AJR for several years and, more recently, became involved as a volunteer with the *My Story* project.

My mother, Erna Baginsky (née Goldenberg), grew up in Vienna and arrived in England in 1938, age 19. My father Kurt, and his sister Edith, spent their childhoods and young adult years in the German town of Rosenberg, Upper Silesia, now Olesno in Poland. They came to England in 1939.

My wife Mary and I have three adult children, Charlotte, Abe and Ben, and four grandchildren – we are spread across three continents and, like everyone else, we are looking forward to the time when we can see family and friends in real life again.

I am very pleased to have the opportunity to represent AJR members at the Board



William Baginsky

of Deputies. I look forward to learning more about its work at first hand, bringing matters of interest to AJR members to the Board and reporting back via the *Journal* and in other ways. You are welcome to contact me at wilsky@icloud.com

Remembering the marches

***"The real suffering started then. After three days of marching, we arrived in Gleiwitz. The next day we were taken to Buchenwald. It took us eleven days to get there and we had to face indescribable ordeals."* - Hungarian survivor István Klauber.**

The death marches resulted in tens of thousands of people dying at the roadside of exhaustion, being shot for failing to keep up, or murdered in seemingly random massacres. The victims were totally at the whim of the guards, who left a trail of blood across Europe.

These "mobile concentration camps" overturn the idea that the brutality of the camps was kept entirely separate

from the German population. No one could fail to observe the emaciated, weakened inmates, the dead bodies that littered the roads, and the brutality of the SS guards. Indeed, a broad spectrum of the German population persecuted these evacuated prisoners. Some civilians shot inmates, while others refused them food. Local people also denounced prisoners who had escaped from marches to the SS. While there are instances of civilians helping inmates by sheltering them in



their homes, resistance was rare.

The Wiener Holocaust Library's new exhibition, *Death Marches: Evidence and Memory*, co-curated by Professor Dan Stone and Dr Christine Schmidt and on display until 27 August, brings to light this oft overlooked and understudied aspect of the Holocaust and uncovers how forensic and other evidence about the death marches has been gathered since the end of WW2.

Who Cares?



Carer [noun] /'keərə(r) [1] Cares (unpaid) for family or friends who have a disability, illness or who need support in later life: Washing them. And their laundry. And their dishes. Keeping appointments. And records. And tempers. Giving medicine. And time. And hugs. Filling forms. And fridges. And silences. Dealing with doctors. And nurses. And pharmacists. And social workers. And benefits agencies. And care workers. And a lack of sleep. [2] Needs support to manage a life of their own. - Carers Week

It is estimated that there are up to 6.5 million people in the UK who are unpaid carers. They are looking after a family member or friend who has a disability, mental or physical illness or who needs extra help as they grow older. They save the economy £132 billion per year. During the recent pandemic, Carers UK estimate that this number went up to over 13 million. This includes so many members of the AJR and their families.

7-11 June is Carers Week and in a world where many groups of people or worthy causes have their week, Carers Week should be one in which we all should show our respect and appreciation. Why? Because so many people who provide the practical, emotional, financial or "don't worry I'll do that for you" type of support do not see themselves as a carer.

People provide support for many reasons - because it is for family; out of necessity; because it is "just what you do" or because they enjoy helping others. All need to be recognised for the amazing roles they play. The daily telephone call and shopping dropped off once a week with the chat on the doorstep can be just as vital as the lifts to the hospital or the personal care that

another gives on a daily basis. All count as carers' roles.

But caring can have a huge impact on all aspects of life, from relationships and health to finances and work. Carers have faced increasingly challenging circumstances because of the COVID-19 pandemic and many are having to provide more care while dealing with financial pressures and significant levels of isolation.

The AJR has always recognised the crucial work of unpaid family carers. Our Carer Support Coordinator provides a number of services such as practical and emotional support; one to one telephone support; face to face support (in the garden at present); self-help groups for spouses caring for a spouse; wellbeing workshops including mediation, resilience and self-care; referrals and signposting; topical talks monthly and events such as guided painting.

However, this year the theme of Carers Week is "Making Carers Visible and Valued". So, the AJR wants to not just raise the profile of carers and salute them

publicly, we would also like to thank them in a more personal way.

We would like anyone who has received support or care from a family member or friend, or if you support someone else, to let us know - a quick email to caryn@ajr.org.uk or telephone call to 020 8385 3070 will do - so that we can then send a thankyou: a small token of our appreciation and an invitation to an event just for carers.

So many of us have received a carer's support. Now is an opportunity to say thank you and let these wonderful people know that we recognise and value them.

Carers Week is an annual campaign to raise awareness of caring, highlight the challenges unpaid carers face and recognise the contribution they make to families and communities throughout the UK. It also helps people who don't think of themselves as having caring responsibilities to identify as carers and access much-needed support.

www.carersweek.org



Over 300 people around the UK regularly give up their time to help individual AJR members in some way. We are always grateful to them and on 6 July we will be holding our annual 'thank you' event. Invitations are being sent out at the start of this month to coincide with the national Volunteers' Week - if you are one of our wonderful volunteers please keep the date.

LETTER FROM ISRAEL

BY DOROTHEA SHEFER-VANSON



OUR MODERN SONGS

Note from Editor: At the time of going to press our thoughts, along with those of most AJR members, were with our friends and relatives in Israel as the conflict over Gaza escalated. We hope and pray that by the time that our readers receive this the situation will have calmed. In the meantime here is a small reminder of "normal" times in Israel, when its citizens are able to focus on less alarming issues.



Israel recently celebrated another Independence Day. The seventy-third. The aroma of roasting meat filled the air. My

husband and I were guilty of adding to the general consumption of meat on that day, as we enjoy spending time in the open air with friends, joining in the general trend.

Yigal remembers that in his youth in the Haifa area he and everyone else would celebrate the day differently. In those days (the 1950s) everyone would be out and about in the streets, then suddenly a few people would form a circle and spontaneously burst into song and dance (the hora, of course). That was long before people started 'attacking' one another with squeaky plastic hammers and foam spray.

As a new immigrant in the 1960s I remember enjoying the squeaky plastic hammer experience, if not the foam spray. After getting married and having small children our days of milling around in the streets were over, though we enjoyed picnics with friends and relatives.

This year, while the ceremony of lighting the beacons was taking place on Mount Herzl, we attended a festive concert given by the Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra. The programme included a stirring performance of Dvorak's ninth symphony (*From the New World*), as well as a recently rediscovered piece entitled *Jerusalem* by the late Israeli composer, Marc Lavry.

Upon entry to the Jerusalem Theatre everyone had to present their 'green passport' proving they had received two Coronavirus vaccinations, and then proceed to the reception area, where we were treated to wine and chocolate. For that, of course, we had to remove our masks, but afterwards put them back on.

A ceremony at which the Israel Prize is awarded for academic and other areas of excellence is held on the evening that closes the celebrations and is watched on TV by most of the population. Constituting Israel's attempt to provide its own version of the Nobel Prize, it is a stately and serious occasion.

This year, however, the ceremony was marred by the refusal of the (right-wing) Minister of Education to grant the prize to an outstanding (but left-wing) mathematician.

One recipient uttered a few words of protest during the ceremony, but this passed without comment. The occasion was also used to enable a series of pop singers to sing and play a medley of songs of questionable taste (and certainly not my taste).

The Israeli modern song scene has developed in a direction which I personally do not find as tuneful as many of the popular Israeli songs of my youth, and so it seems I am becoming something of an old curmudgeon on that score. The idea of interspersing the prestigious awards to distinguished (and generally elderly) scholars with less melodious modern pop songs seems incongruous to me, but somebody somewhere evidently thought that it was appropriate.

While the parade of eminent academics and the recitation of their achievements and contribution to the advancement of knowledge inspires a sense of pride even in my curmudgeonly chest, I feel that some musical accompaniment more fitting to the occasion could surely have been found. Sadly, the general trend, in Israel as elsewhere, seems to be towards lower standards in ever-growing areas of life.

Books Bought

MODERN AND OLD

Eric Levene

020 8364 3554 / 07855387574

ejlevine@blueyonder.co.uk

SPRING GROVE

London's Most Luxurious

RETIREMENT HOME

214 Finchley Road
London NW3

- Entertainment
- Activities
- Stress Free Living
- 24 Hour Staffing Excellent Cuisine
- Full En-Suite Facilities

Call for more information or a personal tour

020 8446 2117

or 020 7794 4455

enquiries@springdene-care-homes.co.uk

Write Your Life Story Record a Family History

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

www.wordsbydesign.co.uk

tony@wordsbydesign.co.uk

01869 327548

PillarCare



Providing outstanding care and helping people to live independently at home for 20 years



Q Care Quality Commission

020 7482 2188 | enquiries@pillarcare.co.uk

Letters to the Editor

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

VICTOR ROSS

I'm glad you published a worthy obituary for my good friend Victor Ross (May). He was a very talented man. Just one correction - he joined the *Reader's Digest* in London in 1955 not 1963.

These days I'm almost housebound in my flat in Prague but continue to get pleasure from the *AJR Journal*. So far I've avoided the pandemic as I hope AJR members have as well.

Tom Schrecker, Czech Republic

I was very sad to read of the death of Victor Ross and I found that your obituary paid a well-deserved tribute to a highly interesting and distinguished life. My father, Steve Nelson, was a lifelong friend of Victor, having been interned with him in Canada during WW2, and often spoke very fondly of him.

I must correct Jo Briggs on one point however. Victor was not the "grandfather" of Direct Mail advertising though he may well have used the service to advertise *Reader's Digest*; the real credit for pioneering Direct Mail Advertising rests with my grandfather, Julius Seligsohn-Netter. Julius, together with my father, built up British International Addressing (BIA) from very humble origins in 1945 to a large company which was floated on the Stock Exchange in the early sixties and sold to Reuben H. Donnelley (US) in 1970. In fact, in the early '50s (so the story goes), Victor Ross visited my family at their house in Croydon and was so impressed at how well my grandfather was doing financially that he said "Now I know how the rich live!"

Years later, when Victor became CEO of *Reader's Digest*, my parents visited him at his house in North London. They were totally amazed by the size of his house and the opulence of its furnishings, all way outside their own standard of living. This tale was retold many times, so it may be somewhat exaggerated, but it is a good story and is a way of remembering him.

Andrew Nelson, Leeds

Note from Editor: Victor Ross was perhaps instead the "grandmaster" of Direct Mail – at least this was how he was described on the front cover of the November 1993 issue of *Direct Response* magazine.

MARY "PUTZI" HUTTRER

Mary (Obituaries, May) and I first met at a Creative Writing class at the Hampstead Garden Institute.

We were surprised and thrilled to discover that we had lived in the same street, Glockengasse, in Vienna's second district, Leopoldstadt. Although we lived so near to one another, we had never met.

At long last we met in England, in Hampstead Garden Suburb, another Jewish area. We became good friends and I was delighted to review her autobiography *Putzi's Memoirs* for the *AJR Journal*. (https://ajr.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/2017_March.pdf)

What I loved most about the book was her wonderful sense of humour in the most difficult situations. I have never read of an escape from the Holocaust, and the difficult life afterwards, described with so much humour. Most of us refugees tend to emphasise the horror and misery of these situations and humour is not something we emphasise.

Mary was typically Viennese; a combination of wit and charm. She will be so much missed by many people.
Thea Valman, London NW11

NOT EVERYONE WAS MIDDLE-CLASS

Like Peter Heilbrunn (May), I enjoy many AJR articles and readers' letters, but like him, I have been struck by the lack of class awareness of so many Holocaust escape and survival stories. While nothing should detract from, for instance, the tremendous achievement of the various Kindertransports, most of the children involved had middle-class and privileged backgrounds, presumably because their families had the resources and networks

to take up any opportunities for escape, however limited. Less privileged and/or rural Jews did not have such resources or contacts, so were more likely to perish. I'm not sure that documenting the country houses built by Jews in Britain and continental Europe (see *A Place in the Country*) helps challenge that picture.

My family story provides an alternative angle. My mother's family came from humble beginnings in Brody, near L'vov, in what is now the Ukraine. They arrived in Leopoldstadt, in Vienna at the turn of the 20th century, moving from one apartment to another as their circumstances changed. My mother and her 5 siblings attended *Realschule* rather than university and if not occupied in the (rented) family shoe shop, worked in low-paid office jobs. Three sisters managed to escape to Britain in 1938, after Kristallnacht, because a cousin, Fanny Isenstein, living in London and married to a lowly bookbinder, guaranteed to provide jobs for them - as laundry maid, mother's help, cook. Fanny was disowned by her own sisters because they felt she was endangering herself and them, especially should the Nazis invade! The rest of the Viennese family were murdered apart from another sister who managed to get to the US, going eastward via Shanghai. None of them ever set foot on Austrian soil again. And interestingly, their politics were left-leaning to reflect their circumstances both in Austria and Britain.

As Peter Heilbrunn indicates, most western European Jews pre-WW2, were poor, and many were involved in challenging the regimes which oppressed them. Their achievements should also be part of the Jewish story.
Gaby Weiner, Lewes, East Sussex

EU REALITY – PRO BREXIT/ANTI BREXIT

One wonders how long, in Anthony Grenville's view (May), the EU can preserve its abstract nobility of soul even while its mere membership produces, as he puts it, "hard right-wing movements", "Muslim extremism" and, in Britain's case, surrender by departure. The EU was, from the very start, something of

LOOKING FOR?

a mafia enterprise, its founding fathers purporting to contribute to international peace despite their essential irrelevance to this excellent goal. Today it is basically a cocktail of vested interests, ranging from the jobs of EU officials and politicians to the pretence that super-power status and security can be had on the cheap by parading as a unified economic entity.

As for Dr. Grenville's claim that "in Britain, too, the Brexit campaign has initiated a surge in antisemitic sentiment", remember that the nearest thing in post-war British politics to Oswald Mosely was a Labour party headed by Jeremy Corbyn - who did not support Brexit and who would evidently have been welcomed by the EU establishment, had he won a general election.

Peter Oppenheimer, Oxford

I don't recognise the Britain described by Anthony Grenville. The resurgence of antisemitic, xenophobic flag-waving sentiments in many EU countries is a predictable reaction against the EU's empire building and its rejection of the primacy of the nation state. It's always like that in empires. Does a Jew feel that his or her rights and religious freedoms are better protected in the UK than in, say, Poland or Belgium? The EU would no doubt have welcomed Corbyn had he been elected and would have let him have his way. In so far as Dr Grenville's claim that the EU's *raison d'être* was non-discrimination (not that I buy that, it was always an economic enterprise and an attempt to normalise Germany), then its courts and judges have failed to use their powers to achieve it. British Jews have done well to distance themselves from Marine le Pen, the AfD, the riots and suppression of basic freedoms that characterise some EU states. Not to mention the EU's failure to face up to Russia and Iran, and its unfair treatment of Israel. And let's not get started on vaccinations, the migrants, the eurozone. Brexit Britain is as good a place for Jewish life outside Israel as anywhere, and far, far better than across the Channel.

Baroness Deech QC (Hon), London SW1

ISIDOR WEINBERGER

Isidor Weinberger, born 3.8.1892 in Hradok, Slovakia, was a timber merchant living at Blaike 23 in St. Andrä, Carinthia, with his wife and children Moritz and Sidonia before they emigrated to Czechoslovakia. St. Andrae is planning a memorial plaque and is trying to trace family members.

jurgenschwiening@gmail.com

ISLE OF WIGHT

Michael Leventhal, a history and Jewish children's book publisher, wishes to find out how many Jewish people have lived on the Isle of Wight over the last century. In particular, how many Kindertransport children went there and if they stayed on after the war?

michael@greenhillbooks.com

GEORGE (GEORG) BOCK

Irene Cantez, volunteer family researcher at the German Maritime Museum, seeks

information on Georg Bock who was in the Kitchener Camp in 1939. Where did he go after leaving Kitchener? He died in June 1976 in Brighton.

irenecantez@gmail.com

JEWISH ORPHANAGE

Quaker David Dobson is searching for a Jewish orphanage which was attacked during Kristallnacht and from where some of the first Kindertransportees were evacuated.

daveandshelagh67@gmail.com

MAKS (MAKSYMILIAN) KON

A Polish historian seeks information on the son of a factory owner in Łódź, Poland: Maks KON, born in Łódź 20.4.1896, son of Oskar KON and Maria RUBIN-KON. He studied law and married Felicia Schorr on 18.6.1929 and may, at some stage, have been a director of the British Overseas Bank.

marylka3@yahoo.co.uk

David Kemek describes the EU as a "Brussels Empire" and Britain's former membership as an "unhappy entanglement". Yet there was little controversy about the EU until a band of right wingers (whingers?), in a foretaste of the "culture war" now engrossing and bitterly dividing our nation, began a media attack on an institution that had rarely if ever rated high in people's concerns. So far from being "unhappy", the UK's relationship with the EU gave us a substantial say in the councils of what is still our largest market, accompanied by free and seamless trade. The proportion of EU laws/directives with which the UK disagreed was minuscule. The EU was also gradually reaching trade deals across the world. That with Japan was announced around the time we left, and the EU would now seem to be further advanced in reaching one with India than the UK. It did so moreover from a position of strength equivalent to that of a superpower. Further, EU membership can only have helped the UK emerge from the economic miasma of the '50s, '60s and early '70s to become the

successful economy we enjoyed – at least till we left and are now learning the dire consequences of having done so.

As for the power of the nation state versus supranational institutions, I wonder what other such institutions Mr Kemek would like to leave or other treaties he would rip up. Under the NATO treaty for example, the UK is obliged to assist such other members as Turkey (Turkey!) if attacked. I suspect there may be many readers for whom that may be a rather less welcome obligation than we would have had in conforming to the EU's latest Packaging Directive!

Mark Victor Schuck, London N12

PLAUDITS

Just a short message to tell you how much I enjoy reading *The Journal*. It is amazing how interesting you manage to keep the *Journal*. There cannot be all that many of us oldies remaining. I am 93, one of Sir Nicholas Winton's children from Prague. *Bronia Zelenka Snow (née Bronislava Ringlerova), Esher, Surrey*

ART NOTES: by Gloria Tessler

The ever resourceful Ben Uri has shown particular initiative during lockdown. Its tiny physical space in St John's Wood has been transformed by digital ingenuity into a world of unlimited artistic potential.

It has 40 exhibitions online bringing art into a hitherto undreamed of space available world-wide. It began on an upbeat note when *The Guardian*, partnered with Art UK, chose **Marc Chagall's** *Apocalypse en Lilas, Capriccio* as its April 19 pick for its Great British art tour series, in the wake of art gallery closures. Chagall's gouache, pencil and ink *Crucifixion*, shows Christ as a Hassidic Jew and references the Nazi horrors the artist escaped after fleeing France for the USA. It is a powerful yet gentle piece, loaded with Nazi metaphor.

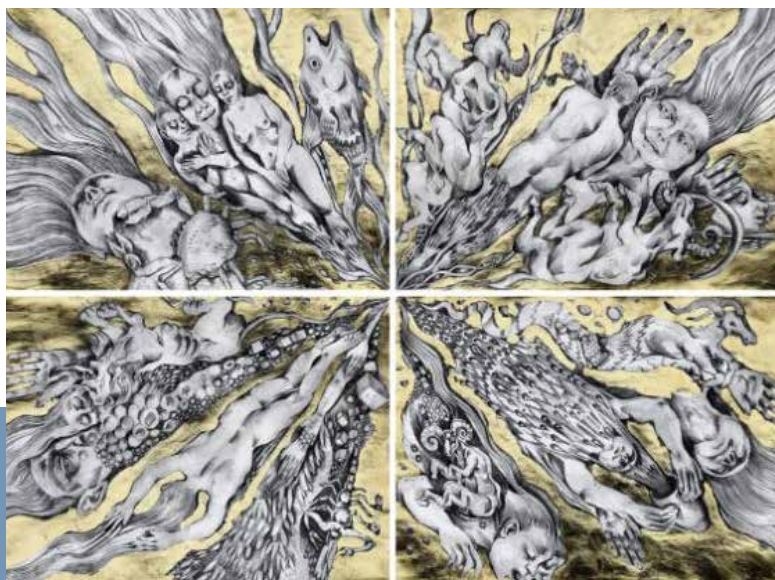
In the same month Benuri.org presented **David Breuer-Weil's** *Coviad*, a contemporary version of the Bayeux Tapestry in the age of Covid. It comprises 350 square centimetres in 70 connected panels.

Produced in pencil and gold leaf *Coviad* describes the process of the pandemic, adapting many tapestry symbols. The title suggests a pun on *The Iliad*, and shows the spread of the virus through transport and the division of people into support bubbles. Its all-encompassing imagery, typical of this ambitious artist, comprises clapping for the NHS, masks, tragic deaths and separations. But it delves deeper, covering the murder of George Floyd, the toppling of statues and the full brouhaha of public protest.

There is also biblical imagery. One square of the work divides into ten sections with detailed impressions of the Ten Plagues. Think Breughel and you have the full horror of this symbolic impact. Subtle it isn't.

Yet there is a positive. The arrival of the

Zodiac
by David
Breuer-
Weil, 2021



vaccines is heralded by angels bringing the world to an unknown normality. That hope burns eternal is demonstrated in the final panel: *Perseverance landing on Mars*. Ben Uri brings this work to life through film, exhibition and a biography of the artist.

On June 16, the Ben Uri considers the formative years of refugee and activist artist **Gustav Metzger**, later noted for his controversial nihilism. The BU Research Unit, partnered with the Gustav Metzger Foundation, launches **Becoming Gustav Metzger: Uncovering the Early Years (1945–59)** co-curated by Nicola Baird and Leanne Dmyterko. Supported by a programme of related events – it will present 40 rarely seen drawings and paintings from the artist's key developmental period.

They include his whimsical portrait of the young Frank Auerbach (c. 1952) and the large expressionist oils *The Dissolution of the City* (1946) and *Eroica, Funeral March* (1946), as well as early abstract works on board and cardboard. It follows the artist's creative path from figuration to abstraction prior to his ultimate auto-destructive practice.

Metzger (1926–2017) was one of 10,000 Jewish children evacuated in 1939 to London by Kindertransport. His family died in the Holocaust. Metzger came under the spell of David Bomberg, who mentored him in his radical Borough Polytechnic evening classes, where he created paintings at lightning speed.

Metzger eventually joined the Direct Action Committee against nuclear war.

His self-destructive art form was born in the shadow of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Alongside Bertrand Russell and others he was jailed in September, 1961 for non-violent civil disobedience, and told the court: "The situation is now far more barbarous than Buchenwald ... for there can be absolute obliteration at any moment."

It is not hard to see from where Metzger drew his inspiration. His installation: *Vienna 2005. 'To Crawl Into'* conceals a huge photograph of Viennese Jews scrubbing the pavement, covered by a gold cloth. To see the photo viewers have to crawl under the cloth in order to touch something of the victims' torment.

Another, *Liquidation of the Warsaw Ghetto, 19 April, 28 days in 1943* (1995) embodies the totemic photo of the young boy in the cap, holding his hands up. For ultimate effect Metzger has bounded the image with wooden shuttering.

<https://benuri.org/video/129-david-breuer-weil-the-coviad-ben-uri/>

Becoming Gustav Metzger: online at www.benuri.org

Annely Juda Fine Art

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

CONTEMPORARY
PAINTING AND SCULPTURE

A GRAVE QUESTION

Madeleine Isenberg is a genealogist based in California's Beverly Hills who is particularly interested in knowing how recognition of Holocaust survivors has been depicted on matzevot (gravestones), whether by wording and/or symbolism, in the UK and other parts of the world.

After years of looking at inscriptions and imagery on matzevot in photos around the world, I recently realised that I have overlooked an important and significant marking that has appeared, but not in every case. I'm talking about those brave Holocaust survivors who made it to places around the world and were able to raise families and lead productive lives despite all that they suffered, even living sometimes to ripe old ages. When finding an indicator either by some symbolism or wording, it makes me feel a sense of pride and relief that these people defiantly strove to stay alive during those horrific times, despite Hitler's intent to destroy all Jews.

During my years of extracting information on tombstones, I often go to websites (such as findagrave.com) and provide translation of names from the Hebrew, so that somewhere in time, people can see something of a genealogy. That's how I met James Mason (Meeka90069@yahoo.com) who is one of those kind people who voluntarily visit cemeteries, photograph stones, and make such records available on line. James is not Jewish, and we both realised the importance of recognising these Holocaust survivors, but didn't know how widespread such an indicator might appear. But James and I considered this might be an interesting research project to discover how and where such indications might actually appear. Not every survivor perhaps wanted to have this publicised posthumously or perhaps didn't think it worth letting the occasional visitor to a cemetery know of this detail. In a sense, it

might also reflect where in the world these survivors eventually settled.

What have we seen that set us on this quest? In the United States quite often I have seen a form of a Magen David incorporating the words Holocaust Survivor, either engraved or as a bronze "add-on", although the lettering may vary. In Seattle, Washington, in a Sephardic cemetery I often found the actual words such as "Holocaust Survivor" plainly inscribed, without a symbol. This is important because too many of us think that the Holocaust only affected Ashkenazim.

James contacted Nolan Altman, who administers JewishGen's Jewish Online Worldwide Burial Registry (JOWBR) database, and was in turn referred to Renée Steinig of the Jewish Genealogy Society of Long Island (JGSLI). Renée sent James an email, from which I have abstracted the following information:

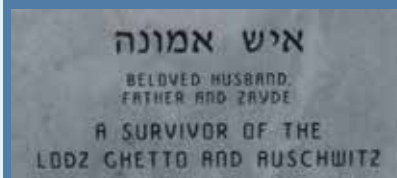
"... the one survivor symbol with which I'm familiar -- a metal grave marker... At one time, such markers could be purchased from the American Gathering of Jewish Holocaust Survivors. But now their website says 'out of stock' (<https://amgathering.org/buy-markers/>) ... According to a newspaper article published in 1986 ... Judy Freeman, the survivor who encouraged the Gathering to manufacture them, the design was first used in 1981, at a world gathering of survivors in Jerusalem. Mrs. Freeman did not know who designed the original image, which she said symbolised Judaism (the Star of David), imprisonment (the barbed wire), liberation (the break in the star), and new life (the branch)."

Try as I might, I have also been unable to learn who designed it in the first place. Whoever it was deserves credit. The link in Renée's message will show the same barbed wire star, but the lettering says, "Holocaust Survivor...to New Life!"

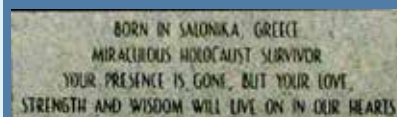
Another possible image for which I have no confirmation of its relevance is a sort of eternal flame. In place of this particular symbol/emblem, there are those who explicitly have the inscribed words, "Holocaust Survivor" and might



In the United States several tombstones feature a Magen David like this



Another example of a headstone inscription



This message appears on a Greek headstone

indicate even the particular ghetto or concentration camp, and for Auschwitz survivors, sometimes even their tattoo numbers.

In reviewing the stone of a recently deceased cousin from Slovakia, buried in the Har Hamenuhot Cemetery, in Jerusalem, I saw these beautiful words from Zecharia 3:2, *אִךְ מִצֵּל מֵאֵשׁ* (a brand plucked from fire).

Almost an implicit indicator of a survivor, are those people who ensured that names of their family members who perished without a memorial were also to be remembered by creating a form of cenotaph, in adding their names to that of another relative or ancestor's grave who had died before the Holocaust and where such matzevot still exist somewhere.

So my appeal is to those of you out there who prepared the matzevot for your survivors, or who have seen such, please send photographs to mrizbiz@gmail.com with details of the cemetery name and location.

And if anyone knows who designed that specific barbed-wire Magen David, please enlighten us all.



NEXT GENERATIONS

The Association of Jewish Refugees

MY HERITAGE

AJR Trustee Gaby Glassman is a psychologist and psychotherapist who has facilitated second generation and intergenerational groups since the late 1980s.

Who within your family was a Holocaust survivor or refugee?

Both my parents and most others in their circle of friends had fled from Germany, my father (born in 1904) from Neuss, near Dusseldorf, and my mother (1910) from Stralsund on the Baltic coast of North-East Germany. After the family oil mill had been sold in 1929, my father started a new business with his grandfather, but when he learned that the Gestapo was checking his movements he escaped to Holland in 1936 – one of approximately 30,000 German Jews who fled to Holland between 1933 – 1939. My mother arrived there in 1937, along with her first husband and 18 month old son, my half-brother Peter. Although my parents both managed to get their parents from Germany to The Netherlands, they later discovered that all four of my grandparents were murdered in Sobibor on the same day, in July 1943. Peter lived in hiding under a false identity with a couple who had lost their own son, until he was betrayed and deported to Bergen-Belsen. He was one of the fortunate few who survived. My parents married in 1947. I am the younger of their two children.

How old were you when you learned about your heritage?

I was always aware. In the decimated Amsterdam Jewish community in which I grew up there was a shared strong sense of loss, although it remained mainly unspoken. I remember emotional annual national remembrance evenings on 4 May and the Yizkor services in Shul. The feeling of communal togetherness made such an impression that I sought to replicate it over 30 years in Pinner by organising, with the help of a fantastic team, Yom Hashoah commemorations.

How has it affected you personally?

I did not have an extended family of aunts, uncles and cousins. Although it's really only now that I am a grandmother myself that I realise what I missed by not having my Oma and Opa.

What is the most important message you want to pass on to your own children?

The importance of thinking independently and acting on it early. "If it is to be, it's up to me." Indifference makes one a bystander, and that allows perpetrators to carry out their evil.

How did you become so involved with the AJR?

In 1996 I approached the AJR regarding an event for the 60th anniversary of Kristallnacht at the Harrow Arts Centre. The AJR's remit at the time did not include Holocaust remembrance but it



invited me to join the then Management Committee. In 2012 I became a Trustee.

Why did you decide to specialise in this area?

From a list of topics for my MA thesis back in 1983, my professor suggested transgenerational transmission of Holocaust trauma. Second Generation was a new concept at the time and it became a meaningful and rewarding choice for me personally and for my subsequent career. It also led, in 1989, to my first Second Generation group meetings.

Since the Brexit vote and the first Coronavirus lockdown there has been a massive surge of interest in this area and increase in demand for both groups and one-to-one therapy. In my private practice many of my current clients have a Holocaust background and this year I will be facilitating three 12-session developmental groups as well as a number of one-off specialist workshops.

How can I find out more about transgenerational transmission of Holocaust trauma?

I am writing a special feature for the July issue of the *AJR Journal* about the common issues experienced by my clients in relation to their heritage. My article will look at these issues as well as how one can heal.

BEING SECOND GENERATION

On Sunday 6 June Gaby Glassman will be leading an online workshop especially for the children of Holocaust survivors and refugees. The 90 minute workshop is being hosted by JW3 and will allow participants to explore together how being Second Generation has affected their lives.

For further information and to book see <https://www.jw3.org.uk/whats-on/being-second-generation-3>

Liberators through the eyes of the liberated

The last two months saw the anniversaries of the liberation of several notorious concentration camps. Generation2Generation (G2G) has been busy helping the children and grandchildren of Holocaust survivors to share stories of liberation, including the stories of some of the liberators. G2G's **Kezia Niman** shares one such story.

In April 1945 Major Leonard Berney was one of the first British soldiers to set foot inside Bergen-Belsen and what he saw stayed with him for the rest of his life. He passed away in 2016 and G2G is now helping his son, John, to develop a presentation of his father's experiences. John is determined to continue retelling his father's story to help raise awareness of how quickly discrimination can lead to atrocity. He has inherited a wealth of testimony from his father, including video footage, photos and written memoirs, but says that "without G2G I wouldn't have known where to start".

Born in London in 1920, Leonard Berney joined the army as an officer as soon as war broke out. He quickly rose through the ranks, thanks to his natural leadership skills, and was responsible for training over 3,000 soldiers in the anti-aircraft division. At the end of 1944 he was sent to fight with the army in Germany, but nothing could have prepared Major Berney for what he was about to witness.

"He saw piles of dead bodies, it was a terrible shock - in addition to the stench, which is what everyone remembers," says John, recounting his father's first impressions of a concentration camp.



Major Berney with his book *Liberating Belsen*

Bergen-Belsen may have been liberated but the British and Canadian forces suddenly found themselves responsible for 60,000 sick, starving victims of Nazi persecution. Major Berney had a senior role in turning the concentration camp into a displaced persons' camp, providing food, water and medical care for the survivors. He even helped Jewish refugees relocate to Palestine, despite being ordered by his superiors not to get involved. "It warms the cockles of my heart," says John as he thinks of the families living in Israel today thanks to Major Berney's help.

Despite his achievements, John's father never talked for years about his role in the liberation of Bergen-Belsen. Like many touched by the horrors inflicted by the Nazis, he suffered flashbacks but felt unable to express what he had seen. "I think he was 75 when he actually told me," John remembers, "It was a subject he couldn't deal with for a long time." Later in life Major Berney began to share his story, developing "... a driving ambition to talk about it, in the hope that it might prevent another atrocity". John recalls how increasing Holocaust denial further motivated his father, spurring him to write his book *Liberating Belsen Concentration Camp*. His testimony will also be permanently exhibited in the UK Holocaust memorial and learning centre which is being planned in Westminster.

April and May 1945 also witnessed the liberation of other camps and these stories



The young Major Berney

of survival and liberation are told by other G2G speakers. Amongst those former prisoners was Istvan Wirth, father of G2G speaker David Wirth. Istvan and his family were forced to live in the Budapest ghetto before he was marched the long distance to Flossenbürg camp. Eventually he was forced on a death march to Dachau, which was liberated by American soldiers.

Jeanette Marx's mother, Mascha Nachmansson, who started her ordeal in the Łódź ghetto, was deported to Auschwitz and Ravensbrück camps. She was rescued in April 1945 as part of a deal made by the Swedish authorities to transport Scandinavian prisoners of war and Jewish women prisoners in the famous "White Buses" to safety in Sweden.

Maralyn Turgel's father, Sam Gardener, also experienced the ordeal of several concentration camps, finally being liberated by the Americans from Mauthausen in May 1945. Sam described his liberators as "Angels from Heaven".

G2G focuses on helping second and third-generation survivors present their family stories and continue the retelling of their loved ones' testimonies. The charity is currently helping over 30 future speakers to develop presentations, assisting them with their research skills and integration of survivor testimony into an engaging PowerPoint presentation. It also assists in developing speakers' presentation skills for both in-person and online events. During the first four months of this year G2G speakers reached over 8,000 people.

www.generation2generation.org.uk

IS HISTORY REPEATING ITSELF?

The second of our series of articles written by the Wiener Holocaust Library's senior archivist Howard Falksohn looks at Walter Gyssling, Büro Wilhelmstrasse and the roots of anti-Nazism.

On 28 January this year the Neo-Nazi, Stephan Ernst (b.1973), was convicted of the murder of the CDU politician, president of the Kassel District government administration, Walter Lübcke (1953-2019). He had been executed at point blank range on 2 June 2019 whilst relaxing at his home. Lübcke had voiced support for his party leader's open arms policy toward the reception of refugees. The act sent a shockwave through German society.

It's a sobering thought that the last time an MP in a German democracy had been assassinated by rightwing extremists was 99 years previously when Walter Rathenau (1867-1922), the German Foreign Minister, was murdered by members of an extreme right-wing terrorist group, *Organisation Consul*, on 24 June 1922. Both the fact that Rathenau was a German Jew from a wealthy family and that he was (erroneously) perceived to have sold out Germany by agreeing to the terms of the Treaty of Rapallo, which renounced all previous territorial claims against Russia, contributed to the assailants' motives.

This latter incident was significant in that it set the young idealist, Walter Gyssling (1903-1980), on a trajectory of active anti-Nazism and indirectly shaped the pre-history of the Wiener Holocaust Library.

Gyssling was born in Munich into a cultured, middle class Protestant family. His mother was an opera singer and his father died shortly after Gyssling's birth. Most of his uncles and male cousins became career soldiers so it was no surprise that Gyssling should volunteer for the cadet corps. However, through the influence of one or two key figures, socialist and pacifist, he dropped his



Walter Gyssling, c1950s

military ambitions and became politicised through the November revolution and an active campaigner for students' rights.

In the immediate aftermath of the Rathenau assassination, the *Kartell Republikanischen Studenten* was founded with the mission to oppose grassroots Nationalism and Antisemitism within the German student community and to support the values of the democratic republic. The co-founder of this organisation, Wolfgang Hallgarten (1901-1975), invited Gyssling, then a student himself, to organise a chapter of the organisation in central Germany. The work entailed establishing high school groups and fund raising amongst democratically inclined business owners—usually Jewish. Shortly thereafter Gyssling moved back to Munich where he continued his studies until his finances ran out and then embarked on a career

in journalism. It was whilst in Munich, the epicentre of National Socialism, that he began attending Nazi meetings and rallies as an observer and also to speak out and remonstrate. On at least one occasion he became embroiled in a violent street fight with Nazi thugs. Gyssling was well-built, a trained boxer and fearless and could therefore hold his own. On another occasion he managed to ward off an assault by thugs in a beer hall rally by donning a monocle and ordering the rabble in a stentorian voice to be re-seated, which they duly obeyed.

Throughout the course of the 1920s Gyssling had become quite the expert on Nazism, so much so that his services were called upon by a newly formed office of Germany's largest Jewish organisation, *Centralverein deutscher Staatsbürger jüdischen*

Glaubens (CV) in 1929. Its remit was to combat Nazism. *Büro Wilhelmstrasse* (BW), named after its location in Berlin was close to the offices of the SPD newspaper *Vorwärts*. It was also known by the various titles *Ausschuss für Volksaufklärung*, *Bund deutscher Aufbau*, *Deutsche Volksgemeinschaftsdienst*.

The hierarchy of the CV had begun to take seriously the threat which the Nazis posed to Jews. However, since the CV's constitution precluded involvement in political activity, and they were keen for their campaign not to be perceived as purely Jewish, it was necessary to hide the BW's links to the mother organisation. Hans Reichmann, who later became the chairman of the AJR, played a key role in the management of the CV. He was a prime mover in the establishment of BW and became its director. He was responsible for securing funding to run the organisation and proved adept at cultivating relationships with politicians, disaffected Nazis and businessmen.

A retired police officer, Lt. Colonel Max Brunzlow, appears to have been the titular head of the BW. Presumably chosen because he wasn't Jewish, he had enjoyed a close connection with the CV, and had written a number of articles in the *CV Zeitung*, deploring the desecration of the graves of Jewish WWI dead and honouring the contribution and sacrifice that Jewish soldiers had made. In total there were five employees but Walter Gyssling, as the archivist and journalist, arguably played the most important part.

BW amassed 580 dossiers of information on the Nazis arranged into 30 sub divisions with 100,000 reference slips. The archive was arranged into six main categories

- Positions of NSDAP on national and international issues
- Relations with other German parties and organisations
- Nazi antisemitic agitation
- Nazi excesses, desecrations of graves etc
- The struggle against the nazis

- Alphabetical files on leaders and subordinates of NSDAP

Sources for the archive comprised: newspapers, flyers, posters, leaflets and books. In addition CV branches sent press cuttings. Staff also attended court cases against Nazis and attended Nazi meetings and rallies.

The material was used: to create press releases, produce exhibitions, for the production of more in-depth articles and as counter-propaganda. The archive was used for backdrops for press conferences and the production of placards in political campaigns. It supported research into the social structure, ideology, methods of agitation of the Nazis and their positions on questions of public life.

BW published *Der Anti-Nazi*, which amongst other things exposed the hypocrisy of the Nazi assertions regarding Jewish involvement during WWI whilst highlighting the avoidance of active service by many leading Nazis.

Notwithstanding the service it provided, BW couldn't halt the inexorable rise of the Nazis and immediately after the seizure of power the entire archive was sent away to be pulped - to protect the lives of those whose names were contained within. Gyssling fled ultimately to Switzerland, where he remained the rest of his life as a journalist. Hans



Slogan produced by Büro Wilhelmstrasse which is a play on the Nazi antisemitic slogan 'Juden sind unser Unglück' (Jews are our misfortune)

Reichmann eventually came to London.

The Jewish Central Information Office, which was founded in Amsterdam in 1934, drew on much of the expertise and methodology acquired by BW. Alfred Wiener, the latter's co-director, had worked closely with Hans Reichmann during their CV days and their relationship continued well after the end of WWII.

Since Luebcke's murder in June 2019, 12 more people have been murdered by right wing extremists in Germany.

www.fishburnbooks.com

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

He is a member of the Antiquarian Booksellers Association.

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



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

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

SWITCH ON ELECTRICS

Rewires and all household electrical work

PHONE PAUL: 020 8200 3518

Mobile: 0795 614 8566



**JACKMAN
SILVERMAN**

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY CONSULTANTS

Telephone: 020 7209 5532

robert@jackmans.co.uk

REVVING UP VOLKSWAGEN

The company whose history began with the production of the Beetle for the German people has developed into a global player with 12 brands, 120 production sites on four continents, more than 620,000 employees and more than 10 million vehicles sold per year. But its human rights record is murky at best. **Ruth Barnett** believes that its story of unethical behaviour can still be redeemed if the will is there to prevent genocide against the Uyghur in Xinjiang.

Multinational Volkswagen has many showrooms and factories abroad, including China. It owns Porsche, Lamborghini, Bentley and Bugatti. Volkswagen can easily afford to rise above its unsavoury past history and become a moral leader in the business world if it starts valuing people above pure profit.

Volkswagenwerk was founded in May 1937 by the German Labour Front under Adolf Hitler, who employed Ferdinand Porsche to design a "People's car" at a price that ordinary families could afford. Hitler called it the KdF or *Kraft durch Freude* (Strength through Joy) to restore ordinary people's well-being after the great depression. This was doubly devious. Not only had Porsche betrayed his Jewish friend by stealing the patents and design drawings for the People's car, but Hitler garnered money from advance orders for thousands of KdFs which he had no intention of delivering, as they were converted into vehicles used for Hitler's war. Added to this, the Volkswagenwerk in Wolfsburg used slave labour to run the production lines in the factories during WW2.

A very unethical start for the Volkswagen business and not at all what its genuine founding father had intended, for it was not Ferdinand Porsche but his previous friend, Joseph Ganz, who originated the idea of a 'people's car' that any family could afford.



Hitler inspects the new 'People's Car' at the Fallersleben factory in 1938. On his left is the car's alleged designer, Dr Ferdinand Porsche. Popperfoto, Getty Images

Joseph Ganz, son of Hugo Markus Ganz, the famous *Frankfurter Zeitung* journalist in Mainz, fought for Germany in WWI and then became an engineer, designing and building prototype cars as well as founding the journal *Motor-Kritik*. In 1933 Ganz displayed his revolutionary lightweight volkswagen *Maikaefer* (ladybird or beetle) with rear engine, independent suspension and many other advanced and patented features, at the Berlin Motor Show. Six years later Hitler's German Labour Front displayed the first KdF in the 1939 Berlin Motor Show to encourage people to make down payments to order their own KdF, which they never received, as the money went into the Nazi war machine. During the war Jews and other forced labourers were used to produce Volkswagen vehicles.

Ganz was arrested several times on trumped up charges which he bravely fought in the courts and continued to do so even when he fled to Switzerland and finally, after the war, in Australia, where he died aged 69 in 1967. When the German government denationalised Volkswagen in 1960, neither Ganz nor the forced labourers were recompensed as most of them were dead and Ganz had been carefully wiped out of the history of Volkswagen until a Dutch engineer, Paul Schilperoord, researched the history and exposed Volkswagen's unethical behaviour and the real founder of Volkswagen in his book, *The Extraordinary Life of Joseph Ganz*, published in 2012 (RVP New York).

By this time Volkswagen had produced many newer models that were highly successful and filled its coffers. By 2016 Volkswagen had achieved the largest worldwide sales of vehicles and did so again

in 2017, in spite of the emissions scandal in America between 2008 to 2015, that cost Volkswagen 15 billion dollars and could yet give rise to future court cases here in the UK. The scandal revolved around the company cheating emissions control by inserting illegal software in vehicles to hide from emissions tests, thus cheating customers into buying vehicles that appeared to be within emissions limits.

In 1985 Volkswagen founded a China group based on a new brand, the Jetta, and began manufacturing cars in the region of Xinjiang in northwest China. This is the same region that is now in the spotlight for its appalling treatment of its Muslim Uyghur community, an issue which has risen rapidly up the political and trade agenda. While there is no evidence as yet of Volkswagen using Uyghurs as forced labour, the company has been repeatedly slammed by the European Parliament for not taking a firmer stance.

I believe that Volkswagen has a chance to address its previous unethical status by withdrawing its factory from Xinjiang. Remaining in that region and doing business with China would be the equivalent of rewarding the CCP for genocide just as Volkswagen's use of Nazi forced labour during WW2 rewarded the Nazis for the Holocaust.

If you would like to join me in protesting about the situation in Xinjiang and urging Volkswagen to withdraw its business from China until the genocide is stopped please either contact your local Volkswagen dealer and/or write to Volkswagen's CEO, Tobias Heine, at tobias.heine@volkswagen.de

ANTISEMITISM IN HUNGARY TODAY

Blowing the shofar on the bank of the Danube River at a ceremony dedicating two new synagogues and two new Torah scrolls in Budapest.



There is a long history of antisemitism in Hungary, and it is still prevalent today, but it now appears mostly in a different form.

The powerful ruling party, Fidesz, is led by the Oxford educated Viktor Orban, who is a clever nationalistic politician. He realises that the majority of Hungarians today have antisemitic views but he also knows that this does not play well in the West. Therefore, this is where the “arch enemy” of the nation, the obviously Jewish George Soros, comes in. In the eyes of Orban, George Soros is an archetypal Jew: a financier, a speculator, a cosmopolitan. Hungarian hatred of Jews can be focused on him. This then is done very openly, loudly, provocatively. As a result, Orban can attract the large antisemitic vote, but can also protest that Fidesz is not antisemitic, it is just against Soros, whose actions they do not agree with.

What is Fidesz doing to counter any accusation of antisemitism? Quite a lot, in fact. The government gave substantial amounts for the renovation of the Jewish Hospital in Budapest, and for the renovation of several synagogues, such as those in Subotica and Zenta; and they supplied kosher food to Jews in Serbia. (Fidesz actively supports the Hungarian minorities in the territories lost under the

Treaty of Trianon. These communities are culturally closer to Hungary than to their “new countries” and Fidesz also no doubt harbours the covert idea of getting the territories back into Hungarian control).

From the religious point, Hungary has two Jewish organisations: *Mazsisz* which is something like the United Synagogue and *Emih* which is Lubavitch/Chabad. The latter is supportive of Fidesz and receives money from the government. The government publicises the fact that there is a very active Jewish cultural life in Hungary: two theatres, the *Golem* and the *Spinoza*, kosher restaurants and Balint Haz (the equivalent of JW3); notable Synagogues have been renewed in Budapest and elsewhere in the country. Many books are published by Jewish authors. It is also worth noting that, at the United Nations, Hungary consistently votes in favour of Israel more often than the U.K does.

What is there to complain about then? A great deal. Whilst proclaiming antisemitism has no place in their party, they do precious little to eradicate it. Frequently the offenders are “punished”, only to be soon reinstated.

On one of the notable examples of antisemitism, I would like to quote professor Stephen I Pogany. He writes about a short story by Albert Vass, a prolific but second rate writer with a dubious war record; the story is now in the schools’

curriculum. The title is *The Cross on Little Anna’s Grave*. The story goes that kindly Transylvanian villagers hide Mr Weiss from German soldiers and from Hungarian gendarmes who come to apprehend him. Yet, despite risking their lives for the community’s only Jew, Mr Weiss repays the villagers’ humanity and courage with cold indifference. The village is occupied by drunken, ill-disciplined Red Army troops who terrorise the locals. Mr Weiss is the only Russian speaker but he declines to intercede on the villagers’ behalf. Seated in a car next to a uniformed Soviet official, he tells the villagers they can turn with confidence to the Comrade Commanding Officer. He is driven away to start a new and privileged life as a Soviet collaborator.

Fidesz presents Hungarians as victims in the war, but the fact is that they were active and enthusiastic participants on the German side. In the so called House of Horrors, where victims of the Germans and later the Communists were tortured, the majority of exhibits relate to the Communist period. The Holocaust is minimised.

Recently a government minister was asked why Hungary was not admitting refugees. He replied “We are protecting our Jewish community by not letting them in”. Now we know....

Janos Fisher

COMPARE AND CONTRAST

I was pleased that David Herman touched on the subject of writing about the Holocaust (April). I would have liked *Boy 30529* to have been included.

I would have omitted Anne Frank who, being hidden, cannot tell us anything. It is popular, but her enthusiasm for the Dutch was entirely wrong, as was her belief in the goodness of mankind, for which there is no evidence.

Before deportation from Prague:

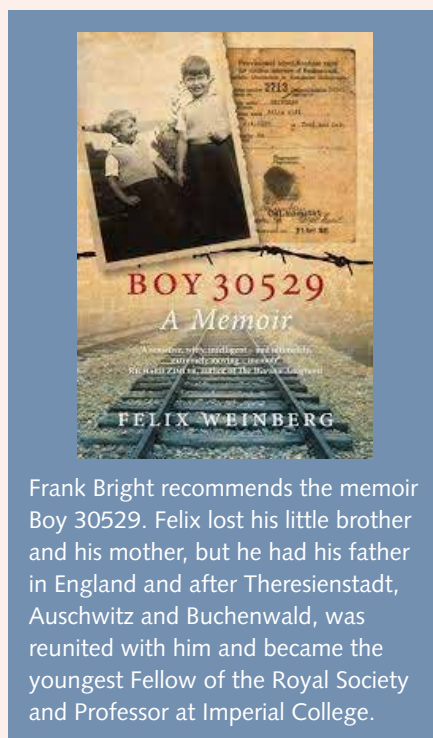
David Cesarani warned us not to believe eyewitnesses because they are minuscule in number and their memories cannot be relied upon. But these were my own experiences: Food allocation was aimed at starving Jews, to reduce their immune system. There were no dairy products, neither fresh nor dried fruit, no fish or fish products. Also no clothing coupons, a curfew, no use of public transport, no telephone, (private or public), no admission to laundries, museums, sporting events, musical performances: a complete exclusion from civic life.

I have a class photo, taken around May 1942, which was hidden by Czech friends. Of the identified 131 children, their siblings and parents, 107 were murdered (81.7%) and 24 (18.3%) saw liberation. The class photo shows everybody wearing a yellow star.

The ghetto of Theresienstadt:

Used in the early 1940s as a transit camp for Jews into the unknown East from which no traveller had ever returned. There, husbands were separated from wives, children from parents. Hunger, fear of being put on a transport, bedbugs, only an occasional communal short shower, vast overcrowding. Outbreaks of polio and of typhus due to malnutrition. Hair and nails stopped growing.

Youngsters were better able to survive: of those who remained in the ghetto throughout, 95.3% survived, whereas of those under 15 years of age who were sent east only 4.7% survived. Everything is relative and the ghetto of Theresienstadt



Frank Bright recommends the memoir *Boy 30529*. Felix lost his little brother and his mother, but he had his father in England and after Theresienstadt, Auschwitz and Buchenwald, was reunited with him and became the youngest Fellow of the Royal Society and Professor at Imperial College.

was as nothing compared to what awaited those few who passed the first and later Selections in Auschwitz. Of my transport to Auschwitz of 1,500 men, women, boys and small children, only 78 saw liberation 7 months later. A death rate of 94.8%.

Slave Labour Camps:

Schwarzheide, an open air plant making aircraft fuel from brown coal; Germany, in preparing for war, had over 40 such plants. 1,000 prisoners from the ghetto who were sent to Auschwitz and had survived the selection there, arrived at Schwarzheide to build slit trenches and air-raid shelters (which they were not allowed to use), and to defuse unexploded bombs. The plant was frequently bombed by the USAAF and prisoners suffered many dead and injured, some by direct hits. 316 prisoners of the original 1,000 survived.

Kurt Huppert was my classmate. Both of us arrived and left the ghetto on the same transports, both of us were selected for work on arrival at Auschwitz. On the second night the manager of the firm, who had an armaments contract, came into our hut to pick his slaves. He remained close to the door, near which I happened to be standing. He pointed at me, but Kurt, standing at the far end of the hut, was not selected. He died of starvation in the arms

of his younger brother in January 1945. Such small acts determined life or death.

I, and 164 others, were sent from Auschwitz to Friedland, a sub-camp of Gross-Rosen, to make aircraft propellers. In January 1945 several groups of death-marchers passed our gate and left their dead behind for us to bury. Aged 16, I helped to put them into mass graves. I shall never forget how light they were, just skin stretched over bones. Starvation had caused the body to feed on itself until there was nothing left.

History does not show improvements. The UN did nothing to prevent mass murder in Rwanda, the Sudan or Cambodia. Jews suffered throughout history: first from converts to Christianity: Emperor Constantine was anything but a saint. Jews were burned at the stake by the Inquisition, naturally for the good of their souls. Catholics were behind the trial of Alfred Dreyfuss. Poles, although suffering from German persecution themselves, would divulge a Jew's hiding place for the price of a bottle of Vodka.

If the Holocaust shows anything it is that it was entirely one-sided, the German and Austrian victims having fought for and laid down their lives for what they wrongly assumed was their country. Am I really a member of the human race? Not that long ago the Germans thought of me as subhuman and treated me and six million of my race accordingly.

Hillel said "If I am not for myself, who will be for me?" The answer is simply "nobody", as evidenced by the Evian Conference, the Swiss turning back fleeing Jews, the USA reducing the number of entry visas available to Jews, Switzerland suggesting Germany puts a large "J" into Jewish passports, the fate of the passengers of the ship *St. Louis*, the shutting of the gates of Palestine in the hour of our greatest need.

"But if I am only for myself what am I?" Answer: I am an example of a marked, hunted, orphaned, robbed, starved, persecuted and treated-with-contempt Jew who wants nothing more than to see justice done to him and to his race. I

A Dutch life

As a child during the war I was in hiding in The Netherlands and came to the UK in 1956. Shortly afterwards I met my future wife, Brita Galton, of Galton Flowers, Golders Green - in a greenhouse. Last year we celebrated our 60th wedding anniversary.

Recently my sister found an old suitcase in the loft with lots of old papers relating to my father and a photograph of him with his rowing boat. He was a keen rower on the river Rhine, near Cologne. He escaped on this boat to Rotterdam: the strong one-way current helped.

There were also eight testimonials written at the end of the war, testifying to his wartime activities: in 1941 he joined the Dutch underground, transporting weapons etc., on his bicycle. On one occasion he was arrested and tortured to give names, which he refused to do. There were also documents giving the names of the people involved. He was then taken under armed guard, not as a Jew which he managed to hide, but as a suspected member of the Dutch underground. He jumped from a moving train and was able to escape.

After the war he found a letter from the Dutch police, addressed to his last known address, stating that he committed an illegal act by jumping from a moving train and had to pay a fine of 6 Dutch Florins. After the war the Dutch government offered my father Dutch nationality free of charge, on account of his wartime activities.

The photo of the Anne Frank house was taken years before it became such a popular tourist destination. Our daughter Katrien Wolf was the first voice of Anne Frank in the demonstration film after the house opened.

Ed Wolf



Philip Wolf on the banks of the Rhine



The Anne Frank house before it became internationally famous

am not really asking for much but I am even denied that little: when I asked the German Pension Office in 1998 for a pension from the firm for which I had been made to work as slave labourer, and which is doing well to this day, they said: "Your application is dismissed because your employer made no pension contributions for you during your employment".

Frank Bright



benuri.org

DISCOVER

200 different ways to play and make 'art' with your grandchildren at **benuri.org**

THE FIRST FULL SCALE VIRTUAL MUSEUM AND RESEARCH CENTRE

REVIEWS

INVISIBLE WALLS: A JOURNALIST IN SEARCH OF HER LIFE

By Hella Pick
Weidenfeld & Nicolson

Journalist Hella Pick reveals her extraordinarily fascinating life – from arrival on a Kindertransport aged eleven to a trailblazing thirty-five year career on the prestigious *Guardian* newspaper – in this riveting autobiography.

Born in Vienna, Hella came to England on March 15, 1939 as number 4,672 of 10,000 children brought out of Germany and Austria after Kristallnacht. She soon found herself being educated in the Lake District where her mother had secured a job on a domestic visa. Her grandmother perished in Theresienstadt.

Money was always a struggle but Hella was a talented student finding herself at the London School of Economics at 17. Soon she ended up commercial editor of the periodical *West Africa*. As virtually the only woman in a man's world, she was reporting back from Nigeria, Sierra Leone and Ghana. Her main interest was constitutional change and the politicians who were driving it at a time when the writing was on the wall for colonial rule.

Before long she was *Guardian* correspondent for the United Nations in New York and reporting on Presidential elections from Washington. With a great talent for networking and friendship she met everyone who was anyone on the world political stage, won trust and forged rapports with world leaders.

After President Kennedy's funeral she described the "steadfast bearing and dignity" of his widow Jacqueline "one child clinging to each hand". Descriptions of election campaigns are interesting and she travelled with President Nixon to Moscow, later witnessing his resignation. She was in Selma, Alabama following Martin Luther King as he led the epic civil

rights march to Montgomery.

Soviet threats including the Cuban missile crisis are vividly explained and she even took a turn at royal reporting with the Queen's controversial visit to Quebec in 1964. Hella's mother worried continually about her daughter when she was overseas, phoning the *Guardian* editor with concerns!

Her career involved long periods in Europe covering every significant event from Cold War negotiations to life in communist Eastern Europe. We learn about visiting behind the Berlin Wall, and differences between communist countries and the impact of a Polish Pope. In Yugoslavia she explores the authority of Marshall Tito holding together a different brand of communism which fragmented after his death. In Paris she found herself covering the 1968 student riots, general strike and General de Gaulle's rôle.

Throughout she is adept at explaining simply exactly how a crisis arose, who the main players were and how they coped. She sheds a clear light on Soviet politicians – chatting to Mikhail Gorbachev on board ship – and enjoyed a personal friendship with Willy Brandt. This enabled her to come to terms with Germany's Nazi past. Reporting home without the aid of modern technology, she gave succinct accounts of often highly complex political situations. History brings its own perspective but Hella enlightens by telling how it felt being there at the time. The book also covers personal heartache and an unsuccessful attempt to produce a book on the Aga Khan involving the most fascinating travelling.

After she left the *Guardian*, Hella reinvented herself exploring her Jewish roots, spending time in Austria especially when writing a biography of colourful and prominent Nazi hunter Simon Wiesenthal. Afterwards she investigated Austria's role in the Nazi era in her book *Guilty Victim*. She then found further fulfilment working with fellow refugee George Weidenfeld's Institute for Strategic Dialogue, although personal insecurity has confronted her with a series of invisible walls.

Janet Weston

JEWS DON'T COUNT

By David Baddiel
Times Literary Supplement

The title is a bit misleading as the actual premise of this book is that – in the eyes of many people – it's antisemitism that doesn't count, or at least it counts nowhere near as much as other types of racism.

Baddiel argues that many people who describe themselves as progressive anti-racists pay significantly less attention to what has been historically one of the worst and most murderous forms of racism than to almost all others. He makes a convincing argument that on all sides of the political spectrum there is an extraordinary capacity to fail to consider Jewish people, or to forget about, fail to notice, or downplay racism against Jews in a way that they would never do about almost any other form of racism.

In an attempt to explain why antisemitism is often placed at the bottom of the 'racism hierarchy' Baddiel examines the concepts of privilege and whiteness in relation to Jews, offering this as an argument for why Jews often get overlooked by the progressive left.

He also looks at the number of anti-Jewish symbols and words that still go unchallenged, covering everything from Shakespeare's Shylock to Dickens' Fagin to Tottenham Hotspur's 'Yids'. He rightly questions why the Y word is accepted when nobody with even a hint of WOKE about them would even dream of using the 'N' or 'P' words.

It is a concise, powerful and well written book which I think would be an insightful read for anyone. Baddiel writes with clarity and at times humour, providing what many people might see as a well-argued and very necessary wake-up call. Let's just hope that it ends up getting read by the sort of people who find themselves attracted to the overt statement within the title.

Jo Briggs

OBITUARIES

SYLVIA CAROL MATUS

Born: 26 July 1939, London
Died: 3 March 2021, London



It is with very great regret that the AJR learned of the passing of our colleague and friend, Sylvia Matus.

Born in London, Sylvia attended Peterborough and St Margaret's school in Harrow and went on to Pitman's College, where she took a secretarial diploma. Her first job was working for Dr Hans Granby, a refugee, with whom she stayed for two years: this was Sylvia's first introduction to the German Jewish community.

Sylvia then became PA to Sidney Bernstein, chairman of *Red Arrow Rentals* (better known as Granada TV) just when *Coronation Street* began. Together with her boss she was also instrumental in the planning and construction of the Toddington Service Station on the M1. A special perk of her job at Granada was being permitted to fly in the company jet between the offices in Manchester and her family home in London.

In 1961 Sylvia met Howard on a blind date and they were married ten months later. It was a love story that lasted for sixty years and which produced two wonderful daughters, Michele and Janine.

In 1979, when the girls were old enough, Sylvia began to work for the AJR. She ran the highly successful employment bureau, a position she held until 1987 when the newly formed Day Centre (financially assisted by the Paul Balint Trust) moved from Belsize Square Synagogue to Cleve Road in London's West Hampstead. Sylvia remained as head of the Day Centre for nineteen years.

Always elegant, Sylvia personally greeted the members as they arrived, invariably knowing their names and family histories. She was unbelievably caring and totally devoted to her work. It was during these years that Sylvia instigated the AJR holidays, when she would take around fifty members to English seaside resorts, a highlight in the annual calendar, which continues to this day.

In 2006 Sylvia retired and was unfortunately diagnosed with Parkinson's disease. She bore her illness with dignity and courage and never complained. She saw life through rose-coloured spectacles and was loved and respected by friends and family, as well as by AJR members, staff and volunteers.

Sylvia will be sorely missed.

Susie Kaufman and Carol Rossen

WOLFGANG MARC SCHATZBERGER

Born: 23 July 1926, Vienna
Died: 24 January 2021, York



My Opa, Wolfi, grew up in an assimilated Polish/Jewish family, the only child of Maximilian and Ida (née Lewinter).

Opa inherited his mother's musical talent, his accordion chosen as one of the few possessions he could bring to England: his parents made the heartbreaking decision to send him away from Vienna on a Kindertransport in 1939.

Opa's parents were on one of the final transports to Auschwitz in 1944, but it was two years later when he was notified of their death by the International Red Cross.

On arrival in England, Opa was cared for in a Jewish children's hostel in Margate, soon moving to Liverpool and then to Manchester, to be looked after by an uncle and aunt who had managed to immigrate, and forming a surrogate sibling relationship with his two cousins. Opa graduated in Electrical Engineering at the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology, eventually becoming a company manager with TAC Construction Engineers, where his projects took him around the globe.

He met his wife, Rosl (née Fried), at the Young Austria group in Manchester – although they had attended the same school in Vienna. Their marriage spanned 74 years, and spawned two children, six grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren. That five of Opa's descendants have held clinical careers in the NHS is clear evidence of the contribution made by refugees to British society.

This was doubtless a message which Opa hoped to convey to the 10,000+ young people he reached through his talks for the Holocaust Educational Trust. Retirement in York brought new enterprises, including violin-making, wood-turning, and volunteering for various organisations. But Opa's greatest impact was, arguably, in Holocaust education and he was awarded the BEM in 2020, receiving the honour at home, a few weeks before passing away aged 94.

Opa's accounts of the Holocaust served not just to educate and broaden understanding of the worst impacts of prejudice and discrimination. Disturbed by the political direction of travel in many Western nations late in his life, Opa felt a responsibility to teach young people how to recognise the seeds of injustice before it grows out of control. He was a model European citizen, with an impeccable moral compass: we can all learn from his kindness, resilience and warmth.

Jacob George

ZOOMS AHEAD

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

Wednesday 2 June @ 2pm	Nick Dobson - The Extraordinary Sherlock Holmes https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/86214393853
Wednesday 2 June @4pm	Brenda Dinsdale - The Children of Chernobyl https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/87166409897
Thursday 3 June @2pm	Ben M Freeman - <i>Jewish Pride: Rebuilding a People</i> https://www.eventbrite.com/e/ajr-book-club-with-ben-m-freeman-jewish-pride-rebuilding-a-people-tickets-152855283267
Thursday 3 June @4pm	Richard Freedman - Holocaust Education in South Africa https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/87363377951
Monday 7 June @10.30am	Online Yoga: Get fit where you sit https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/83404920061
Tuesday 8 June @3pm	Nick Lander in conversation with his aunt Ellen Bottner, a Kindertransportee who was adopted by Nick's grandparents https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/81127505854
Wednesday 9 June @2pm	AJR Book Discussion (no speaker) - <i>An Officer and a Spy</i> by Robert Harris https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/88234118642
Thursday 10 June @2pm	Bertha Leverton's story as told by her daughter Mirry https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/81942771514
Thursday 10 June @4pm	Rabbi Rubin - My Zeidy: Did I trigger memories that were too painful? https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/83250623951
Tuesday 15 June @2pm	Sidney Austin's 'Happy Hour' singalong https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/85390280609
Wednesday 16 June @2pm	Laura Nicholls - The Romans: What they ate and what they did for us https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/84814640480
Thursday 17 June @2pm	Yolanda Bentham - The story of Ferramonti di Tarsia Internment Camp https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/81546826094
Monday 21 June @10.30am	Online Yoga: Get fit where you sit https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/85857624637
Tuesday 22 June @2pm	Michael Bennett – My father Boris, the wedding photographer https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/82987228943
Wednesday 23 June @2pm	Philippa Bernard - Roderigo Lopez: Jewish Physician to Queen Elizabeth I https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/87233212693
Thursday 24 June @3.30pm	Kinder Contact Project https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/88941197274
Tuesday 29 June @2pm	Judy Karbritz – Victor Borge: The clown prince of Denmark https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/88417903736
Wednesday 30 June @2pm	Gillian Walnes Perry - Fascinating Lives from the Northern European Royal Families https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/83624669418

DUTCH COURAGE

The AJR congratulates Selma Van de Perre on the royal distinction she recently received from her native Netherlands.

The Dutch ambassador to the UK and Princess Mabel of Orange-Nassau were among the 100-plus guests to join the online honours ceremony for the 97-year old Londoner, who was liberated from Ravensbrück on 23 April 1945.

Selma fought in the Dutch resistance, spending years concealing her Jewish identity under the alias 'Marga' as she criss-crossed the Netherlands, delivering critical documents.

She came to the UK in 1945 at the behest of the Dutch Ministry of War and met her husband, the journalist Hugo van De Perre, while working at the BBC. She later became a teacher and has volunteered with the International Ravensbrück Committee since 1980, sharing her story with thousands of schoolchildren. Last year she chronicled her remarkable stint in the resistance in her memoir *My Name is Selma*.



© EMBASSY OF THE KINGDOM OF THE NETHERLANDS

Published by The Association of Jewish Refugees (AJR), a company limited by guarantee.

Registered office: Winston House, 2 Dollis Park, Finchley, London N3 1HF

Registered in England and Wales with charity number: 1149882 and company number: 8220991

Telephone 020 8385 3070 e-mail editorial@ajr.org.uk [f](https://www.facebook.com/AssociationofJewishRefugees) AssociationofJewishRefugees [@TheAJR](https://twitter.com/TheAJR)

For the latest AJR news, including details of forthcoming events and information about our services, visit www.ajr.org.uk

Printed by FBprinters, 82b Woodside Park Road, London N12 8RY Tel: 020 8458 3220 Email: info@fbprinters.com

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

