



AJR JOURNAL

The Association of Jewish Refugees

Welcome, Your Majesty



On behalf of all our members the AJR wishes to extend to Your Majesty our sincerest congratulations on the occasion of your Coronation and our hopes for the welfare and prosperity of the people of the United Kingdom and throughout the Commonwealth.

King Charles III has long been a friend to the Jewish people and has met hundreds of Holocaust survivors and refugees, usually wearing his own personalised blue velvet kippah.

As Prince of Wales, Charles made several trips to Israel. In 2016 he visited the Mount of Olives grave of his grandmother, Princess Alice of Greece, who is named Righteous Among the Nations for saving Jews during the Holocaust.

Charles recently commissioned seven paintings of Holocaust survivors to add to the official Royal Collection of Art. He wrote: "Behind every portrait is a unique story, of a life lived, of love, of loss. However, these portraits represent something far greater than seven remarkable individuals. They stand as a living memorial to the six million innocent men, women, and children whose stories will never be told, whose portraits will never be painted. They stand as a powerful testament to the quite extraordinary resilience and courage of those who survived and who, despite their advancing years, have continued to tell the world of the unimaginable atrocities they witnessed. They stand as a permanent reminder for our generation – and indeed, to future generations – of the depths of depravity and evil humankind can fall to when reason, compassion, and truth are abandoned."

His Majesty is known for his love for the natural world and the AJR hopes that our members and their families will enjoy planting these flower seeds as a symbol of life and hope for the next generations.





With Kurt Marx in 2018



The then Prince Charles at the funeral of the late Shimon Peres in 2016



King Charles at the Kindertransport Memorial in Hamburg



At the formal opening of the new Jewish community centre in Krakow



Ann Kirk, Bob Kirk and the Prince of Wales



At the unveiling of the Portraits exhibition at Buckingham Palace in 2022



Prince Charles enjoying tea with AJR members



Lighting a Holocaust memorial candle at Buckingham Palace



Sir Erich Reich and Prince Charles



The Prince of Wales with Kathleen Bluh

The King and Us



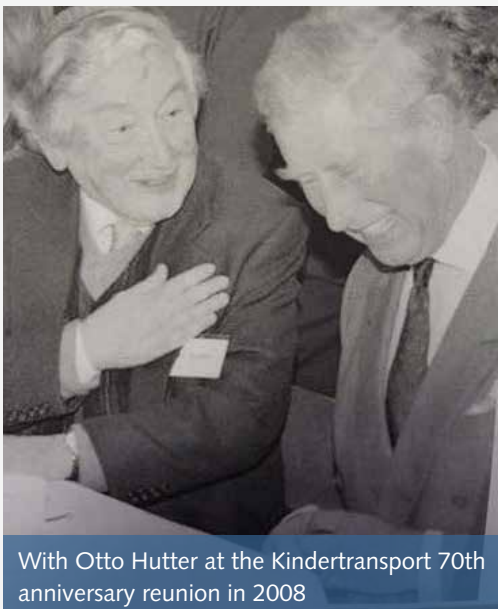
With AJR Trustees at St James Palace



Honouring Bea Green



With Michael Newman and Andrew Kaufman



With Otto Hutter at the Kindertransport 70th anniversary reunion in 2008



Dancing the Hora at a gathering at JW3

Burning Books

On 10th May ninety years ago Nazi students raided the Berlin Library and burned over 20,000 books, including books by Freud, Einstein, Thomas Mann and many others. It was just the latest of a series of terrible events in early 1933 in Nazi Germany.

On 30th January Hitler was named Chancellor. On 27th February the Reichstag was set on fire. The next day Hitler suspended all civil rights. A reign of terror ensued. Thousands were arrested and sent to prison. The non-Nazi press was outlawed. On 20th March the first Nazi concentration camp opened at Dachau.

Three days later the Enabling Act allowed Hitler to rule by decree without reference to either the president or parliament. On 7th April, the Law for the Restoration of the Professional Civil Service was enacted: all Jews and anti-Nazi dissidents were dismissed from the German civil service.

Then came the book burning. On 6th May 1933, the Institute of Sexology, an academic foundation devoted to sexological research and the advocacy of homosexual rights, was broken into and occupied by Nazi-supporting youths. Several days later the entire contents of the library were removed and burned. Then on 10th May came a wave of book burning which more than any other event in the previous few months symbolised the Nazi war on all forms of literature and ideas opposed by the Nazis: what the historian Richard J. Evans called 'Hitler's Cultural Revolution.' Walter Lippmann, one of the leading American commentators of his time, wrote, *'These acts symbolise the moral and intellectual character of the Nazi regime. For these bonfires are not the work of schoolboys or mobs but of the present German Government acting*



A still from the film *The Book Thief*, based on Markus Zusak's 2005 novel of the same name

through its Minister of Propaganda and Public Enlightenment... [T]hey burn with conspicuous zeal ... The ominous symbolism of [this burning and] these bonfires is that there is a Government in Germany which means to teach its people that their salvation lies in violence.'

German students organised 'an act against the un-German spirit' in nineteen university towns across the country. They compiled a list of prohibited books, seized them from libraries and set them on fire. Nationalist students marched in torch-lit parades against the 'un-German' spirit. High Nazi officials, professors, rectors, and student leaders addressed the participants and spectators. At the meeting places, students threw the pillaged, banned books into the bonfires with a great joyous ceremony that included live music, singing, 'fire oaths' and incantations.

The largest of these book bonfires was in Berlin, where an estimated 40,000 people gathered to hear Josef Goebbels proclaim that 'Jewish intellectualism is dead.' He announced that the students were 'doing the right thing in committing the evil spirit of the past to the flames,' in what he called a 'strong, great and symbolic act.' In his speech - which was broadcast on the radio - Goebbels referred to the authors whose books were being burned as 'Intellectual filth' and 'Jewish asphalt *literati*.'

According to the leading German historian, Karl Dietrich Bracher, *[T]he exclusion of "Left", democratic, and Jewish literature took precedence over everything else. The black-lists ... ranged from Bebel, Bernstein, Preuss and [Walther] Rathenau through*

Einstein, Fred, Brecht, Brod, Döblin, Kaiser, the Mann brothers, Remarque, Schnitzler, and Tucholsky, to Barlach, Bergengruen, Broch, Hoffmanstahl, Kästner, Kasack, Kesten, Kraus, Lasker-Schüler, Unruh, Werfel, Zuckmayer, and Hesse. The catalogue went back far enough to include literature from Heine and Marx to Kafka.' (*The German Dictatorship*, 1970, p325)

In his book, *The Coming of the Third Reich* (2003), Evans provides a clear summary of why these writers were targeted: novels by Heinrich Mann and Erich Kästner were accused of 'decadence and moral decay,' the works of Freud were burned for their 'debasement of man's animal nature,' all the books of the popular historian Emil Ludwig (born Emil Cohn) were destroyed for their 'denigration' of the 'great figures' of German history, the writings of pacifists like Kurt Tucholsky and Carl von Ossietzky for their 'arrogance and presumption,' Erich Maria Remarque's acclaimed novel, *All Quiet on the Western Front* for its 'literary betrayal of the soldiers of the World War.'

A few days later, Joseph Roth wrote to his friend Stefan Zweig, 'Within five months, there will be no publisher, no bookseller, no author of our kind.' He was already in Paris. Zweig's book on Marie Antoinette had been the best-selling Christmas title of 1932, selling 50,000 copies by the start of the New Year. His books were among those burned on 10th May.

German artists who had advocated art which was considered decadent had their books and notebooks destroyed. The [Continued on page 5](#)

MEET THE KINDER

MICHAEL BROWN

In preparation for the 85th anniversary of the Kindertransport in November. Michael Newman and Danny Kalman recently met Michael Brown BEM, who arrived in England on 23 August 1939 on the penultimate transport before the war began.

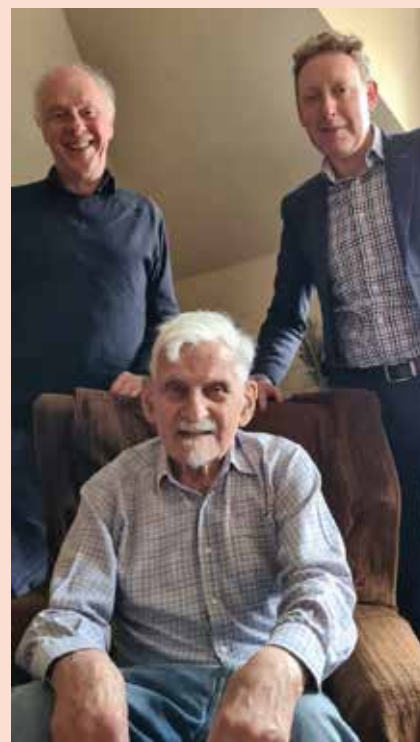
Michael's mother came from Katowice, his father from Ostrovo in Poland. They moved together to Breslau, where Michael and his younger sister Hannah were born. His father was a lawyer and staunch Zionist who lost his job in 1937 after the Nuremberg laws, and was then involved in helping people prepare to emigrate to Palestine. The family moved to Hanover where they lived in an apartment owned by Joseph Berliner, whose brother invented the gramophone.

Michael was nine years old when he boarded a boat at Hook of Holland. He remembers being in a below deck cabin with two boys and feeling relieved to breathe fresh air at Harwich. At Liverpool Street he met David Rafael, a philosopher at Imperial College, whose family fostered him in Liverpool. His sister was taken in by an uncle who also lived in Liverpool. They never saw their own parents again and later learned they were deported to Latvia in December 1941, and that their mother was subsequently murdered in Stutthof.

In Liverpool, Michael attended cheder with Frankie Vaughan. He was then evacuated, first to Chester and then to a hostel in north Wales with 20 other children.

Initially Michael became a teacher, before qualifying as an accountant. He married Jenny and they had one son, Conrad.

In recent years Michael has spoken to voluntary organisations, religious groups and school children in the UK



Michael Brown with Michael Newman and Danny Kalman

and Germany about his experiences of fleeing Nazi persecution. He hopes it will be an antidote to it ever happening again.

Burning Books (cont.)

German artist George Grosz wrote in a letter, 'That they burnt my notebooks [and drawings] I don't hold against them. Some of them are, so to speak, fire-proof and will continue to live.'

Among the authors whose works were burned was the German poet Heinrich Heine who in 1822 famously wrote, 'Where they burn books they will, in the end, burn human beings too.'

It wasn't just German authors whose books were destroyed. Well-known British authors like HG Wells, DH Lawrence and Joseph Conrad, Russian authors such as Isaac Babel, Tolstoy and Dostoevsky, and numerous French authors, including Romain Rolland, Gide and Victor Hugo, and some of the best-known American writers of the time such as F. Scott Fitzgerald and Hemingway, all had their works burned.

According to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, 'The response to

the book burnings was immediate and widespread. Counter demonstrations took place in New York and other American cities, including Philadelphia, Cleveland, and Chicago. Journalists in the American and world press expressed shock and dismay at these attacks on German intellectual freedom, and various authors wrote in support of their assaulted German brethren.' Helen Keller published an 'Open Letter to German Students,' in which she wrote: 'You may burn my books and the books of the best minds in Europe, but the ideas those books contain have passed through millions of channels and will go on.'

10th May was the most famous incident of book-burning by the Nazis. But it was not the only case. Between early March and October 1933, around a hundred book burnings took place in seventy cities in Germany. The German Students' Union played a central role. Other key groups involved in the campaign were the Hitler Youth, SA and SS groups, and the *Kampfbund für deutsche Kultur* (*Combat League for German Culture*). These

terrible events in early 1933 drove many into exile. Almost 40,000 Jews had left Germany by the end of 1933, including two hundred Jewish academics, twenty of them Nobel Laureates. Some of Weimar Germany's most famous cultural figures fled: Alfred Kerr, Weimar Germany's leading theatre critic, left for Prague; Billy Wilder escaped to Paris, and stayed with a number of other German refugees, including Peter Lorre, Franz Wachsmann (later Waxman) and Friederich Hollaender – who had written 'Falling in Love Again' for Dietrich in *The Blue Angel*; Remarque left for Switzerland; Brecht and his wife went to Prague, Zurich, Paris and then Denmark; Hannah Arendt left for Paris via Czechoslovakia and Switzerland. Curiously, the period that followed, from Summer 1933 to the beginning of 1935 was 'relatively quiet', according to the British historian Ian Kershaw (*The Nazi Dictatorship*, 4th edition, 2000, p106). Tragically, worse was to follow in Germany and around the world, as many countries closed their borders to refugees.

David Herman

DOROTHEA SHEFER-VANSON'S LETTER FROM ISRAEL



THE BEST TIME OF OUR LIVES



The topic for discussion at the meeting last week was 'Which time of your life would you like to go back to?'

During the pandemic the group of people who meet every two weeks to engage in German conversation held Zoom meetings instead of physical ones, and this still persists. Most of the participants are men and women in their seventies or eighties who have retired from employed work, and so it seems safer to remain at home for these meetings.

I was one of the first to reply, and I declared that here and now is the best time of my life. In my teenage years I suffered from social isolation, heartache and physical discomfort. Once I moved to Israel my situation changed, but those years of having to cope with three young children, trying to work as a freelance translator and also enduring bouts of illness that obliged me to undergo surgery and kept me in hospital for weeks at a time were not easy. Add to that the financial constraints that affect most young families, and I sometimes wonder, looking back, how I managed to remain sane at the time. At least, I hope I did.

But now my children (and even my grandchildren) are grown, and my husband and I are free to attend concerts or films without having to feel guilty or take a babysitter, our financial situation has improved, and my health situation is under control. The world around me has its problems, but for the moment they are not on my immediate doorstep. My home is warm and dry, we have plenty to eat, can see friends and family from time to time, and our children and grandchildren come for Friday-night dinner every two weeks. So now is definitely the best time of my life.

As the discussion continued other people expressed similar views. One of them stressed that being free from the constraints of work means that he has time to read, watch films and TV, and of course I agree with that. Another participant talked about pursuing his hobbies of painting and writing, in which he is able to engage even more actively now than before. That is the case for me too, as I've managed to write eight books since retiring from work. Some people talked about their travels or their voluntary work, and others about being involved in researching and writing their family history. Almost everybody agreed that, physical limitations apart, this is the best time of their life.

That triggered a general discussion about the importance of writing about our life for the benefit of our offspring, of keeping a record of who the previous generations had been, what they had

done and how they had lived. Many of those involved had documents, correspondence and diaries of previous generations, and acknowledged that they were probably the last individuals in their family with knowledge of the German language and hence able to access those records. Suddenly, we were all confronted with the heavy responsibility that lay on our shoulders of making the lives of our parents and grandparents accessible to our children and grandchildren, and all the future generations. I hope to be able to do something about it at some point in the future.

And nobody wanted to go back in time.

CHAOS CONQUEROR

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

**Contact Jo Sovin,
Chaos Conqueror**

07905 581 794 jo@josovin.com
www.josovin.com

Impeccable references provided
Fully Covid vaccinated

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**

PillarCare

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



020 7482 2188 | enquiries@pillarcare.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



**JACKMAN
SILVERMAN**

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY CONSULTANTS

Telephone: 020 7209 5532
robert@jackmans.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.

A DIFFERENT POINT OF VIEW

As a second-generation descendant of two parents who were German refugees, I enjoy reading the *Journal*. However, the April edition contained a political article written by Dorothea Shefer-Vanson. There needs to be balance of argument in *The AJR Journal*. Many believe that the judiciary in Israel is too left wing and has too much power. She also states that the orthodox do not contribute to the economy or the Army, but they would argue that by studying the Torah they are helping Israel and the Jewish people. I am not an expert on these issues, but please can we have some more balanced letters from Israel.
Dr David Goldmeier, Edgware, Middx.

THE IMPORTANCE OF MEMORY

David Herman (April) questions the reliability of memory of the interviewees in "Emigré Voices" who were in their 70s and 80s at the time. I can assure David that some of us, now in our 90s are perfectly able to remember accurately the places, people and incidents in our early lives.

We are of course fortunate to have escaped the dreadful mental diseases of old age. Remembering names, misplaced items or which keys to press on our gadgets may be a problem but past events can be as clear as when they occurred. In the 1930s, the world boxing champion Max Schmeling married the film star Anni Ondra in the village church in Baad Saarow, near Berlin. This little boy was pushed to the front of the crowd waiting to see the newly-weds emerge from the church. Challenging the champion to a fight cannot be forgotten.

The sights and sounds of much-loved family and friends, lost so soon, remain for ever.
Walter Wolff, London NW2

I write as a Holocaust victim. I am not using the word "survivor" because many (including my wife) think that this word should only be used for those who suffered the concentration camps. I don't agree because this would exclude those who escaped on Kindertransport but who am I to argue with my wife of 64 years? I am also

not using the word "refugee", though it is in the name of our Association.

I came to England from Vienna in 1939 aged three and a half. Although I have spoken many times about the Holocaust as a "victim", particularly about Kristallnacht, I do not think the memories are mine. I know that some brain specialists believe that memories start forming at about the age I was when I came to England. I agree with the majority who contradict this. Thinking back, I do not remember anything even remotely clearly before I was aged five. This therefore leads me to the sad conclusion that nobody born after 1933, the time Hitler came to power in Germany, has memories that can be taken as facts. Nobody, I would suggest, who is not already in their nineties has memories that are his (or hers) as opposed to those told to him (or her) by their families. I am 87. Believe me – however fluently I can tell you about Kristallnacht, how my father was in hiding because he'd been told he would be taken to Dachau, how my mother and I were left alone in our apartment and surgery, how the Nazis smashed everything to smithereens - do I really remember all this? Or was what happened exactly what my parents told me? Please tell me what you think.
Peter Phillips, Loudwater, Herts.

RECLAIMING CITIZENSHIP

A number of years ago my in-laws thought my husband and I should reclaim our citizenship (we were both born in Germany). We were not at all keen but went along with it, but over the years we just let it lapse. However, recently our elder son, who lives partly in France, applied and got his citizenship and passport. I was perfectly

LOOKING FOR?

Henry ROBERTS/Hans ROBITSCHK (born 16 January 1924, Vienna)

Rev. Brian Tebbutt has documents relating to Mr. Henry Roberts, who was born Hans Robitschek on 16 January 1924 in Vienna. The papers were discovered in the attic at 48 Palmerston Crescent, London N18, and comprise documents regarding Mr Roberts' Kindertransport passage, military service in Malaya and personal correspondence.
btebbutt@btinternet.com

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

AJR Team

Chief Executive Michael Newman
Finance Director Adam Daniels

Heads of Department

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

AJR Journal

Editor Jo Briggs
Editorial Assistant Lilian Levy
Contributing Editor David Herman

happy with this as it was done for purely pragmatic reasons. He, like us, has no feelings of attachment to Germany.

On the other hand, a cousin of my father, Ernst Cramer, who became Editor of *Die Welt* and right hand man to Axel Springer, said that by going back to Germany, although an American citizen, he was reclaiming his citizenship which Hitler had taken away. His wife, though, made sure that even though their children were born in Germany they would be American and not German.
Hannah P. Gummers



benuri.org

A New Era

Open 24/7 | Free Entry | admin@benuri.org

ART NOTES: by Gloria Tessler

What came after Impressionism? There is no single answer. The late 19th and early 20th century saw several divergent moods, many led from Paris, the avatar of the art world, but avant-garde thinking was also expressed in Barcelona, Brussels and Vienna. It heralded the fragmentation of Impressionism into Primitivism, Cubism and eventually Abstraction and Expressionism.

But you would also find Pointillists who explored 'the dot' in a highly disciplined way. These neo-Impressionists were led by Georges Seurat and Paul Signac, whose technique was regarded as scientific, re-arranging colour, light and form to convey mood. They were also allied to anarchist and socialist politics – which they felt would create a utopian vision.

After Impressionism: Inventing Modern Art at the National Gallery features paintings and sculptures by Cezanne, Van Gogh, Rodin, Picasso, Matisse, Klimt, Käthe Kollwitz, Sonia Delaunay, Kandinsky and Mondrian, among others. It depicts the era between 1886 and just before the First World War – the longest period of peace in Europe in over a century – but also a time of industrialisation, modernisation and colonial exploitation, challenges which led to the break-up of Impressionism, rooted as it was in an increasingly out-dated classical world.

In Paris the so-called Fauvists, Henri Matisse and André Derain, were derided as wild beasts for their “unnaturalistic use of colour and deconstruction”. But some recognised their roots lay in Van Gogh and the neo-Impressionists. Picasso himself expressed the challenges that would give voice to developing artists in Spain. One of his most arresting works from the blue period is *The Absinthe Drinker* (1901), whose energetic, primary colours – the green of her dress, the orange of her skirt and her yellow hair – all belie the dejection of her pose, arms folded, head forward.

Interior with a Young Girl Reading (1905-6) by Henri Matisse, also betrays this love of exuberant colour. Again, the girl's deep introspection is challenged by the noise

surrounding her: a jumble of vases, fruit, paintings, all arranged formlessly and without perspective. In contrast, Henri Toulouse-Lautrec's *The Reader* (1889) portrays an intense young woman whose face beneath the billowing brown hair is rivetted on her book, while the busy blue-green brush strokes allow the colour to enter the girl's chemise and hair, too.

Vincent van Gogh's *Woman from Arles* (1890) is one of six portraits he did of Mme Ginoux, the owner of the Café de la Gare in Arles. Here, too, there is much use of green, in the table at which she sits, in her scarf, and reflected in the deep black of her hair, but the woman is looking far away from us with her hand on her chin and her expression unreadable.

Paul Gauguin's *Vision of the Sermon (Jacob Wrestling with the Angel)* (1888) engages his typical Breton women in their forbidding white headgear. It was hailed at the time as depicting the Symbolist movement, with its emphasis on dream and imagination but with modern eyes it's hard to avoid a sense of *The Handmaid's Tale*.

I was very taken with André Derain's *Madame Matisse in a Kimono* (1905), recalling the summer spent by the artist with Matisse and his wife Amélie in a small Mediterranean fishing village. Exploring the post-Impressionist theme of vivid colour still further, Mme Matisse reclines with a fan and a blue and green kimono, while the background of carnelian red and emerald green, instead of dwarfing her, strangely accentuates her quiet, downcast pose.

In a nod to Cezanne's *Bathers*, Picasso's *Nude Combing her Hair* (1906) may suggest classical versions of Venus, but his clumsy,

cylindrical figure, painfully clutching her long brown hair also recalls the ancient Iberian sculpture, which inspired him, as did ancient African art.

I couldn't pass by Max Fechstein's painting of *Charlotte Cuhrt*, (1901), the 15-year-old daughter of his most important patron. Here the young girl sits in a brilliant red dress and a black hat, against a background of lemon and emerald with her slender, black-shod feet firmly planted on an ornamental red carpet. Again, her expression is pale and introspective against the bold colours.

This sombre mood deepens with Edvard Munch's *The Death Bed* (1895), which recalls the death of his elder sister Sophie in 1877 when he was in his early teens. Here the grieving family surround the dead girl, the whiteness of her body contrasts with the blackness of the mourning robes and sombre faces.

Gustav Klimt's diaphanous *Hermine Gallia*, the Viennese patron of contemporary art (1904) mirrors the subtle blue and pink background in her long dress. Klimt, whose stolen work has been subject to much post-Nazi litigation, was then Vienna's most sought-after avant-garde artist.

After Impressionism: Inventing Modern Art National Gallery until August 13.

Annely Juda Fine Art

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

**CONTEMPORARY
PAINTING AND SCULPTURE**



La Danse by André Derain (1906)

ROSALIE'S DRAWINGS

AJR member Rosalie Ronel, 85, is a talented but hitherto unknown artist. We are grateful to her daughters, Sharon Goldman and Leora Sagman, for bringing her to light.

Rosalie was born in October 1937 in Sofia, Bulgaria. After surviving Nazi occupation during WW2 her family moved in 1948 to the newly established State of Israel. Rosalie embraced the language and excelled at school. She married and moved to London in the 1960s.

Shortly after the birth of her second daughter she caught meningitis. It left her body severely weakened with the condition now known as ME, which causes excessive fatigue, continuous temperature changes and neurological and digestive problems. Rosalie has struggled with her health ever since, experiencing several periods of confinement. For the past three years she has been bed-bound, thanks to the added complications of severe osteoporosis.

One of her darkest periods of ill health was in the early 1990s and this was when she began drawing. She had been artistic as a child but never had opportunity to pursue it. Art now became both a source of comfort and a way of extricating herself from her immobility and encompassing the world she longed to be in.

Her drawings started from doodles and would turn into explosions of colours and shapes, all of which helped her escape within her imagination. She drew the gardens and flowers she would like to be surrounded by, she drew the structures she'd like to look out from, and she drew the colour and energy that was so far from her reality.

Sometimes she would draw only in black and white, to fit her mood, and sometimes she expressed her anger and frustration through forms and movement. In her darkest times she also wrote poetry, expressing the rampant mental energy experienced by many ME sufferers alongside their complete lack of physical energy.

Without formal training she created her world simply, on old envelopes, scrap paper and with felt tips and pens. She later experimented with collages and chalks, again with what she had to hand - old catalogues and materials brought by family.



The holistic diet and body regime with which she carefully persevered allowed her to live her life.

Despite Rosalie now needing 24/7 care, and her eyesight failing, she still manages to pick up a pen to doodle almost every day. She also looks through many of her old creations, and re-visits her thoughts behind them.

Her daughters describe Rosalie as "the most caring and selfless person we know, who only wants to enrich others' lives with her drawings and love of colour". We are truly grateful to them for sharing these lovely drawings for all our readers to appreciate.



Great minds

It is no surprise that many of the pioneers of modern psychology were Jewish: Freud, Klein, Maslow, Frankl and Adler, to name but a few... Here we celebrate the work of two remarkable psychoanalysts, both of whom came to Britain as refugees from Nazi Europe and are still contributing to the field today.

LYDIA TISCHLER



Lydia Tischler

Lydie Tischlerová was just ten years old when Hitler invaded her home country of Czechoslovakia in March 1938. Her mother was tragically murdered in Auschwitz and Lydia herself spent more than two years in Auschwitz and other camps caring for younger children. She was brought to the UK as one of 'The Boys' and decided to devote her life to looking after children. As she told the editor of www.MindinMind.com: "One of the ways you can mother yourself is to mother other children".

She was one of the first child psychotherapists to train with Anna Freud and became the first Child Psychotherapist at the Cassel Hospital in London where mentally ill mothers and their babies were treated. She went on to transform their treatment by establishing a family unit,

saving many seriously at-risk children from being taken into care.

Her contribution to the teaching and organisation of child psychotherapy has been significant. She has been a key figure at the British Psychotherapy Foundation and Association of Child Psychotherapists, but her contribution to the mental health of children internationally is also impressive. For the last thirty years as co-founder of the European Federation of Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy, she has established adult and child therapy trainings and services in Central and Eastern Europe. Even now, in her mid-90s, she is currently helping to establish a child psychotherapy training programme in Beijing and has recently delivered ten seminars over Zoom to groups of Chinese psychotherapists.

Lydia's incredible stamina was publicly recognised in January when she was awarded *The Times/Sternberg Active Life Award* which celebrates outstanding achievement by people over the age of 70.

Her 75-year career spans what she considers the biggest ever period of social change. She regrets the breakdown of the traditional family unit which taught children to live alongside others and control their impulses. She has witnessed a general devaluation of religious beliefs in favour of more modern ethics, which has affected the collective moral compass. She believes that the resultant lack of boundaries has created a society which encourages people to pursue wishful thinking in favour of reality. Hence there is a culture of entitlement, with no room for inhibitions.

She has a deep love of music and literature which, paradoxically, she developed in Terezin at the age of 14. She worked in the market gardens, growing vegetables for the Germans, but she also had the chance to meet Jewish composers, pianists, singers and conductors. She recalls hearing Verdi's *Requiem* and *Magic Flute* performed, before she volunteered to join her mother and sister when they were sent to Auschwitz. Unfortunately her mother was sent to the right, which means she never saw her again. Lydia and her sister both



Lydia at *The Times/Sternberg Active Life* recent awards event

eventually came to England, living just 10 minutes away from one another until 2018 when her sister moved back to Prague. She sadly passed away last September.

Lydia has several theories as to why so many of the world's leading psychotherapists are Jewish. Firstly, most Jewish children are taught from an early age to ask questions and accept that there are different ways of thinking – for proof, look no further than the role of the youngest child at the Seder table. Secondly, Jewish people have long tended towards professions that involve thinking, partly because they were banned from many other professions in medieval Europe. And thirdly, until the State of Israel was created in 1948, many Jews had no option but to live mainly in their heads.

With six great-grandchildren aged between 2 and 21, Lydia's greatest regret is that she won't see the youngest grow up. As a naturally curious person she admits that it is hard to accept that she will never know how everything turns out and what will happen.

When asked what advice she would give to a child psychotherapist who is just starting out, Lydia says: "Listen to the child. Don't go in with preconceived ideas but just listen to the child. You must establish a relationship with the child before they will trust you with their problems. Most new trainees are obsessed with making the 'right interpretation' but they need to let go of this idea. Just being with a child is more important than what you say to the child; you follow the child, you don't dictate to the child."

Lydia Tischler will be in conversation with the broadcaster Jonathan Freedland on Sunday 2 July at Finchley Reform

think alike

Synagogue. The event is being organised by the charity Learning from the Righteous, with support from the AJR.

For more information contact Antony Lishak at

antony@learningfromtherighteous.org

Lydia's interview on MindinMind can be seen on: <https://mindinmind.org.uk/interviews/lydia-tischler-interview/>

ISCA SALZBERGER-WITTENBERG



Isca Salzberger-Wittenberg

The oldest living child psychotherapist, Isca Salzberger-Wittenberg, turned 100 years old in March. To celebrate her incredible life story, the AJR released a special film, based on the testimony Isca recorded for AJR Refugee Voices Archive in 2006.

Isca was born in 1923 in Frankfurt am Main to Rabbi Dr Georg Salzberger and Nenny Salzberger. Following Georg's incarceration in Dachau in 1938, the family – including Isca's two older sisters, Lore and Ruth, fled to the UK in April 1939. Isca was allowed to bring her beloved cello with her.

The charity which was later to become the AJR asked Isca what she could do. "I said I'd take any job but I loved babies and children," she said. She was sent to Yorkshire to train as an infant nurse where "the worst thing was we were not allowed to pick up the babies".

From there she asked to go to university to become a social worker. She was awarded a scholarship to study in Birmingham and lived in a Quaker college.

She said: "The atmosphere was wonderful, each person was accepted, whatever the nationality. I felt for the first time since being in England I could be myself. I flourished."

Once graduated Isca was one of the first people to undertake the child psychotherapy training at the Tavistock Clinic, London, set up by John Bowlby and Esther Bick after WW2.

She worked at the Tavistock Clinic for over 50 years, eventually rising to be its Vice Chair. She taught others about infant observation, which she believes is an essential part of understanding babies and their parents. Her own experiences led her to gravitate towards helping adolescents experiencing mental health difficulties, and she pioneered a counselling service at the Tavistock where for the first time young people could refer themselves.

Tragedy befell her own family when her older sister Lore died from cancer, aged 44, leaving two sons, Raphael, then eight, and Jonathan, five. Following her sister's wishes, Isca married her brother-in-law, something she says is "not unusual in Jewish culture" and who was "a very gentle person".

Isca's father was very liberal in his thinking, but still ensured that Isca and her sisters had a strong religious upbringing, which has left her with a strong sense of spirituality. "Whether it is the bread you eat and which you bless and thank God for; whether it's the wine you have or whatever you do, it is all related to something beyond this world, with a sense of gratitude and positive things in life. And I think that's in me. And I'm grateful for that. Psychoanalysis does not usually go together with religion, and I have spent many years trying to link the psychological way of thinking with a spiritual life which enables me to think about what's beyond this life, beyond this planet."

Isca believes that surviving the trauma of the Holocaust helped to make her a good guide for others experiencing loss. In her book *Experiencing Endings and Beginnings*, the second edition of which was published



Isca and family

last September, she wrote: 'What makes it possible to accept the transience of life, to bear increasing losses, face the loss of one's own life, and yet go on growing, gaining, or at least maintaining emotional and spiritual strength?'

At 97, missing her beloved cello which she could no longer play, she took up the piano, "which I always thought inferior to the cello", and started taking lessons. "You mustn't focus on what you lose, you must think about what you can do," she said. "Now when I practise the piano I forget everything else, I'm only concentrating on the music."

She is fiercely proud of her two sons, her five grandchildren and four great grandchildren, of which the youngest is two years old and "absolutely delightful".

In 2019 Isca was interviewed for the specialist child mental health website www.MindinMind.com. She was asked what she would like other child psychotherapists most to know about what she learned from her work. She replied: "Each mind is different. Each individual is different. They have their own history and this makes the work enormously interesting and that everybody is important and worthwhile helping."

Isca's interview on AJR Refugee Voices Archive can be seen on:

<https://www.ajrrefugeevoices.org.uk/RefugeeVoices/Isca-Wittenberg>

Isca's interview on MindinMind can be seen on: <https://mindinmind.org.uk/interviews/isca-wittenberg-interview/>

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY DETAILS TO FOLLOW

Tuesday 20 June	Jewish East End Walking Tour and lunch
Thursday 13 July	River Thames boat trip with afternoon tea from Henley
Thursday 10 August	Fish & Chips in Southend
Tuesday 5 September	Brighton Royal Pavilion and walking tour with a Jewish twist
Wednesday 13 September	Trip to Sandwich



SUNSTONE LTD
PLUMBING AND HEATING

Contact Howard for:
HEATING | PLUMBING | GAS
UNDERFLOOR HEATING
ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Call or text: 07947 755665
howardbgold@gmail.com



HENRY KISSINGER TURNS 100

He's among the world's best known Jewish refugees still alive: Henry Kissinger, the fifteen-year-old boy who fled from Bavaria and went on to become Washington's first foreign-born and Jewish secretary of state. Martin Mauthner pays tribute to him, as Kissinger turns one hundred years old.

Dominating U.S. foreign policy in the 1970s, Kissinger is credited with helping the U.S. reach detente with Moscow and Beijing, and ending its military intervention in Vietnam. Through his 'shuttle diplomacy' - he once visited 17 countries in 18 days - he brokered a truce between Israel and Arab states after the 1973 'Yom Kippur' war. On the debit side, critics point to his role in the illegal bombing of Cambodia, and in Washington's support for repressive regimes in Chile and elsewhere.

Heinz, as he was known as a child, was born in Fürth, near Nuremberg. In later life, Henry, as he became, would

say he was not especially aware of the momentous changes taking place around him after 1933. His mother and friends, on the other hand, would recall how Jewish children were now no longer allowed to play with the others; they were excluded from cafés; they would see *Juden Verboten* signs everywhere. Most boys in Fürth had joined the Hitler Youth, and Heinz and his brother Walter would watch them parade in uniform.

Kissinger's mother Paula, too, had found her gentle friends with whom she used to go swimming in the summer were shunning her; she was in any case banned from the pool. Most importantly, Kissinger's father Louis had lost his job as a teacher, following the notorious antisemitic Nuremberg Laws of 1935.

Paula would say later that she was the one who realised the family had to quit Germany. After her husband was sacked, she had asked a first cousin she'd never met if her sons could come and live with her in Washington Heights, a part of outer Manhattan that attracted German Jewish immigrants. The relative insisted the whole family come to the U.S. At first, Paula was reluctant to leave behind her terminally ill father, Falk Stern. She changed her mind by early 1938. Her cousin helped the




family get the required U.S. documents permitting them to enter the country. After paying a farewell visit to Falk Stern - he died in May 1939 - the family left for New York in August 1938, spending a fortnight en route with relatives in London.

Kissinger joined the U.S. army in 1943, serving as an interpreter and intelligence officer in Europe. Coming back to the U.S. in 1947, he had an outstanding academic career at Harvard University, where he became a professor of government and international affairs in 1957. While teaching at Harvard, the U.S. government began to consult him on foreign policy issues. He became President Richard Nixon's national security advisor in 1969, and secretary of state in 1973.

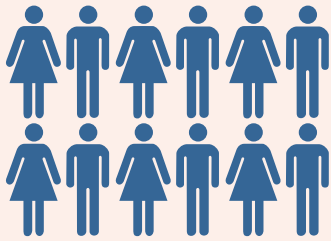
JOSEPH PEREIRA
(ex-AJR caretaker over 22 years) is now available for DIY repairs and general maintenance.
No job too small, very reasonable rates.
Please telephone 07966 887 485.

Books Bought
MODERN AND OLD
Eric Levene
020 8364 3554 / 07855387574
ejlevine@blueyonder.co.uk



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

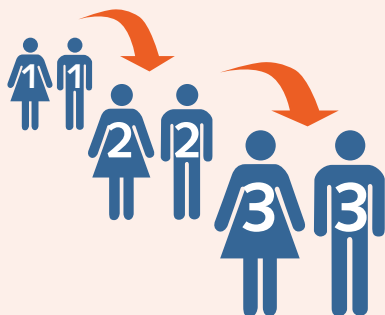
Contact Alf Buechler at alf@buechler.org or tel 020 8554 5635 or 07488 774 414



1,806
AJR
MEMBERS



300+
NEW REFERRALS
TO OUR SOCIAL
WORKERS
OF WHOM
264
ARE 1ST GEN



964
2ND & 3RD
GENERATION
MEMBERS

200+

AJR
VOLUNTEERS
OF WHOM

- 65** ARE 'TELEPHONE FRIENDS' TO ONE OR MORE AJR MEMBERS
- 107** ARE AGED OVER 70
- 29** ARE AGED UNDER 40
- 46** HAVE VOLUNTEERED FOR MORE THAN 10 YEARS

50

AJR STAFF



450

GROUP MEETINGS,
EITHER IN PERSON
OR VIA ZOOM

3,000+

TWITTER FOLLOWERS

80+

TREES NOW PLANTED

20

FUNDING PARTNERS

£277,163

VIA EDUCATIONAL GRANTS

392,000

HOURS OF CARE FUNDED
FOR AJR MEMBERS

20,000+

VISITORS TO AJR
REFUGEE VOICES ARCHIVE



£8,503,263

TOTAL INCOME



£8,998,334

TOTAL EXPENDITURE



£7,113,816

DIRECTLY ALLOCATED TO MEMBERS
FOR HOMECARE AND OTHER
SUPPORT SERVICES



£20,947,454

RESERVES CARRIED FORWARD

2022 AJR ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Last year was my first twelve months as Chairman and I am highly impressed at the breadth and depth of our services and activities, as well as your commitment to participating at our gatherings.

Although the Omicron variant meant we had to be cautious how we gradually restored all our social and welfare services, last year marked a very welcome return to business as normal.

Undoubted highlights of the year included the wonderful annual tea, complete with conga line dancing, the planting of over 70 trees all around the UK as our 80 Trees for 80 Years programme rolled out, and the unveiling of the AJR plaque in remembrance of internment on the Isle of Man. I was also personally honoured to address the President of Austria, Alexander van den Bellen, as part of our second generation trip to Vienna last summer.

EVENTS & OUTREACH

The Outreach Team, managed by Susan Harrod, worked incredibly hard to arrange an array of interesting and varied events, whilst coping with the demands of working from home and then encouraging members to come to in person meetings.

We started 2022 with a full calendar of Zoom events and the hope that the vaccine would allow us to open again and begin in person meetings. At the end of February, we began testing the water with small in person get-togethers around the country. These were met with incredible enthusiasm by our members.

By May we had a full diary of both in person meetings across the UK, covered by Karen Diamond and Ros Hart in the South of England, Agnes Isaacs in Scotland and Newcastle, and Michal Mocton across the North of England. Numbers continue to rise and we are now covering some areas for the first time.

Alongside this we held over 300 meetings on Zoom. These continue to be popular so we will be continuing the programme for the foreseeable future.

We also ran several outings during 2022, including a five-day trip to the Cotswolds, a three-day trip to Bath aimed at second generation members, and outings to the Scottish Jewish Heritage Centre, Southend, Chiltern Open Air Museum, Edinburgh Festival and Waddesdon Manor.

The highlight of the year was our Annual Tea – the first for three years – when nearly 200 attendees enjoyed an afternoon of delicious food and surprise entertainment at Stone X Stadium.

SOCIAL WORK

We always welcome new referrals and 2022 was a very busy year. We received 304 new referrals, of which 264 were first generation. We have been able to help many members access funding for Homecare and for other vital health and welfare services to enable them to remain safely at home.

There have been some changes within the team. In London, we said goodbye to George, who was on a short-term contract. We were happy to have Madeleine back from maternity leave, and welcomed our new team member Alison, who is working in Manchester, replacing Sara Dietz.

EDUCATION & HERITAGE

Educational Grants & Projects

During 2022, the AJR continued to support innovation in Holocaust teaching, learning and commemoration through our educational grants programme. Grant recipients included the Holocaust Educational Trust, Holocaust Centre North, Voices of the Holocaust, Gathering the Voices, Cornwall Faith Forum, University of Sussex, Facing History and Ourselves, National Holocaust Centre and Museum, Jewish Film Festival, Wiener Holocaust Library, Yom HaShoah Manchester and Yom HaShoah UK.

Beyond our financial support for these institutions, we also aim to help them in other ways. In August, we hosted the second annual Funding Partners Forum, an online event for organisations from across the sector to share best practices. Organisations such as the Holocaust Educational Trust incorporated our UK Holocaust Map into their professional development courses for teachers, helping to ensure that teachers were using it as a classroom resource.

Meanwhile the AJR continued to participate actively in the UK delegation to the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance, and worked closely with international partners such as UNESCO and OSCE/ODIHR to deliver training to educational policy makers about contemporary antisemitism.

AJR Refugees Voices Archive

The reach of our testimony archive has grown considerably as we enable researchers and our partner institutions to access our amazing library of videos, photographs & documents and interview transcripts. The archive now receives an average of 2000 visitors each month, partly thanks to our intensive social media activity using content.

The team conducted 17 new interviews (13 first generation and four second generation), among them Eva Hoffman, Sir Simon Wesley, and, most recently, Lord Daniel Finkelstein OBE) and we have used social media very effectively to promote them. We also compiled several short films using footage from the archives, on topics such as experiences on the *SS Dunera*, and bespoke audio installation for the new Kinder Memorial Bench in Harwich where passers-by can rest a while and listen to testimony from some of the many AJR members who are epitomised by the wonderful new memorial that was unveiled in September.

The Director of our archive, Dr Bea Lewkowicz, presented two papers at international conferences and began curation of the 2023 AJR Testimony Forum and a new UK Holocaust

2022 AJR ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS

Testimony Portal, which will be a joint project between the AJR, government and partners holding testimonies of UK refugees and survivors.

My Story

Work continued to complete the last books in AJR's life story book project, bringing the total to 45 *My Story* books. In March we launched Mindu Hornick's book at an event in Birmingham, where over 50 signed copies were sold. In October we launched Ruth Schwiening's book at the National Holocaust Centre, which was also well-attended. A complete set of the *My Story* books has been requested by the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum.

Next Generations

As the number of second generation members has increased, so have the events tailored specifically for this group and we appointed Debra Barnes as our dedicated Next Generations Manager. Highlights included a week-long heritage trip to Vienna; a Finchleystrasse walking tour; and a day trip to Sandwich for Kitchener Camp Descendants. A separate committee has been created to discuss and plan events for AJR Next Generations 3G members. The AJR re-joined the World Federation of Holocaust Survivors and their Descendants and was represented by Debra Barnes and Danny Kalman at its conference in St Louis in October.

PR & Communications

The AJR assisted with the production of the BBC's *Who Do You Think You Are?* programme featuring Matt Lucas. Other events which reaped good media coverage were the Vienna trip (including significant TV coverage in Austria); many of our tree plantings; connections between AJR members and the Queen for her Platinum Jubilee and on the occasion of her death; and the sad passing of notable members Sir Erich Reich and Paul Willer.

With the recent appointment of Gemma Blane as our new PR & Communications Manager we have boosted the AJR's

presence in Jewish and local publications, achieving a majority share of voice in the news and community pages of publications such as *Jewish Chronicle*, *Jewish Telegraph*, *Jewish News* and *Ham & High*, using our members and events to capture hearts and minds. We are also building AJR's profile as thought leaders on world events that are relevant to our remit.

Gemma has also taken over editorship of our popular weekly e-newsletter which was launched by the Outreach team during the pandemic and which continues to be welcomed by members.

80 Trees for 80 Years

2022 saw the bulk of the tree planting events for a nationwide 80th anniversary project. Hundreds of AJR members and their families attended the various events, either as sponsors or spectators, alongside local dignitaries and other guests. Almost all of the events achieved local media coverage and the entire project was warmly embraced by the Jewish press.

AJR Journal

Our monthly *Journal* continues to attract plaudits from around the world, with content reflecting anniversaries of notable historical events, developments in Holocaust education and commemoration as well as many of the AJR's own activities. We are now working to increase its reach further.

VOLUNTEERS

Our volunteers, who number more than 200, continue to support AJR members through regular visits, phone calls, computer support and at Outreach events. Together with our regular work of placing volunteers with members to provide companionship and support, we have undertaken several community projects.

Our Dementia and Memory Loss coordinators, Julia Baker and Naomi Kaye, began the very popular Poetry Please sessions for members during lockdown. An anthology of the original poetry of our members was collated into a book

which was then presented to all our AJR volunteers.

For Mitzvah Day we arranged for our members, volunteers and staff to knit blankets for homeless charities. This earned us the Mitzvah Day trophy for the best Winter Warmers project.

The Carers Support project, managed by Caryn Bentley, offers regular one-to-one and group sessions to help carers with the challenges they face. This year we have also offered art therapy sessions, mindfulness, creative writing and a seminar on sleep.

ORGANISATION AND STAFF

Jasbir Kaur joined the Social Work team in February to replace Sandy Myers who retired at the end of 2021. Following a restructure of the Volunteers Department, Michal Mocton joined in the North West to support Fran and also the Outreach team, and Niki Goorney joined the London team.

Following invitations to submit an IT tender, four companies were invited in to the office in May for presentations and after a long review, DHTS were appointed to take over from Technica Solutions. The handover was completed in October.

All this adds up to an incredibly busy year and 2023 looks no quieter. Having recently hosted the President of the Bundestag, Bärbel Bas, at the Liverpool Street station monument, we are looking ahead to events later this year to mark the 85th anniversary of the Kindertransport.

I would like to thank all our wonderful staff, directed by Michael Newman and the senior leadership team, for their exceptional endeavours and for their advocacy, diligence and creativity. My thanks also go to my fellow trustees for their wisdom and dedication. It is our great pleasure and privilege to serve, and we all look forward to continuing to deliver our mission this year and beyond.

MIKE KARP OBE
Chairman

2022 AJR ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS

TREASURER'S REPORT

I began last year's report reflecting on our own history and the developing refugee crisis once again in Europe. A year on, the conflict and injustice continues with little sign of resolution. Uncertainty for millions of displaced Ukrainians remains, thankfully surrounding countries and those further afield have continued to welcome, embrace and support refugees; we hope those who wish to be able to return to their homes very soon.

2022 saw a welcome return to normality after the pandemic; in-person meetings, events and support were once again introduced. Technology that we learnt and adopted through the pandemic remained to complement in-person events, allowing members to participate who would otherwise not be able to through geography or accessibility.

The delivery of financial support to our members and the wider Umbrella Group, which we lead, has continued to grow. Welfare payments for care and other emergency services funded from all sources increased by over £1.5m (35%) to £6.0m, of which the AJR itself contributed £0.7m in Self-Aid payments to our most vulnerable members. As always, we extend gratitude to the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany for providing the balance, and for their continued support, and congratulate them on their great success in the negotiations with the governments of Germany and Austria in the provision of funds for this life-changing support. Their funding to the entire Umbrella Group increased by £2.6m. Through the course of the year, 392,000 hours of care were funded for AJR members and 409,000 hours to survivors and refugees through other Umbrella Group agencies.

The Trustees of the AJR remain committed to ensuring that the historical memory of the Holocaust and its impact are preserved through general education as well as in ways that are personal to our members. To this end, more than £320k was allocated to these aims through projects that the AJR led and by partnering with other educational institutions.

We are thankful that legacy income grew in 2022, and we remain grateful for the foresight and generosity of former members whose bequests supported the organisation and enabled us to deliver both our services and our mission. I echo the message of our Chairman and encourage our members to remember that legacies provide a vital income source enabling us to continue and further our charitable work.

Volatility of the global financial markets once again returned in 2022 and we experienced a drop in the value of our investments of £2.3m compared to the £2.2m growth in 2021. The Trustees continue to take regular steps to ensure the organisation has sufficient liquid resources to maintain our vital services. Our reserves remain strong thus enabling us to ensure that these services can continue uninterrupted for the foreseeable future.

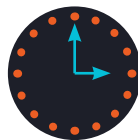
I offer my sincerest thanks to the finance team, who are continuing to manage the finance function in ever changing circumstances.

FRANK HARDING
Treasurer
03 April 2023



**30%
INCREASE**

IN WELFARE PAYMENTS



**801,000
HOURS**

OF CARE FUNDED



ALLOCATED
TO EDUCATIONAL
PROJECTS



**£2M
DROP**

IN THE VALUE OF
OUR INVESTMENTS

2022 AJR ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS

FINANCE REPORT

The Association of Jewish Refugees (AJR)
 Summary Income and Expenditure Accounts
 Year ended 31st December 2022

NB all figures are subject to audit

	2022		2021	
	£	£	£	£
Income:				
Claims Conference, Six Point & Other Grants	5,992,331		4,432,229	
Subscriptions/Donations	228,148		156,788	
Investment income	497,685		386,096	
Other Income	4,404		4,525	
		6,722,568		4,979,638
Legacies		1,780,695		70,496
Total Income		8,503,263		5,050,134
Less outgoings:				
Self-Aid, Homecare and Emergency Grants	5,858,747		4,363,370	
Social Services and other member services	1,255,068		1,125,670	
AJR Journal	84,459		78,054	
Other organisations	277,163		307,913	
Internal Educational and testimony projects	230,722		223,263	
Administration/Depreciation	1,292,175		1,329,704	
		8,998,334		7,427,974
Net outgoing resources for the year		-495,071		-2,377,839
Surplus/-Deficiency on realised and unrealised investments		-2,256,325		2,208,708
Net movement in funds		-2,751,396		-169,131

The Association of Jewish Refugees (AJR)
 Summary Balance Sheet
 Year ended 31st December 2022

	2022		2021	
	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets and Investments		15,862,649		20,099,692
Current assets	7,036,320		5,354,158	
Current liabilities	1,951,515		1,755,000	
Net current assets		5,084,805		3,599,158
Net assets		20,947,454		23,698,850
Reserves brought forward		23,698,850		23,867,981
Net movement in funds for the year		-2,751,396		-169,131
Reserves Carried Forward		20,947,454		23,698,850

SPOTLIGHT ON...PETER LORRE

Janos Fisher looks at the work of Hungarian actor Peter Lorre, whose big break came when he played a child murderer in Fritz Lang's *M*; the first ever Film Noir, which premiered exactly 92 years ago this month.



Peter Lorre talking to Humphrey Bogart in the 1942 classic *Casablanca*

Peter Lorre was born in Slovakia as Laszlo Loewenstein in 1904. His Jewish parents were Hungarian speakers who moved several times, finally ending up in Vienna, and this is where the young Lorre started his acting career. It is also where he became addicted to drugs.

From Vienna he proceeded to Berlin, where he worked first on the stage, then in film in Berlin in the late 1920s and early 1930s. His portrayal of a serial killer who preys on little girls in *M* caused an international sensation.

He then moved to Paris where he joined other émigrés, including Billy Wilder. Lorre maintained that Goebbels sent him a message to come back to Berlin but that he replied: "For two murderers like Hitler and me there is not enough room in Germany".

Next, he went to England, where he was offered a role in a film directed by Hitchcock. The result, *The Man Who Knew Too Much*, was a great critical success. It was said of Lorre that he had similar gifts to Charles Laughton but that he used them better. Hitchcock allowed him a considerable degree of creative freedom.

When he was offered \$500 a week by Harry Cohn, he and his wife thought it would make all the difference to their lives. His wife kept tabs on his spending but the weekly \$500 shrunk to \$160 a week after paying agents' fees and paying back loans. On to Los Angeles with his wife where he joined or met many of the other immigrants, most notably Chaplin; after seeing *M* three times Chaplin said. "There is much of the born poet in Peter Lorre. He is a fresh and original talent. He is endowed with such intuitive, emotional

and imaginative powers that he impresses me as one of the greatest character actors." Lorre said: "I've played mostly bad men – killers - but the audience loves me. You know, I can get away with murder".

In the late 30s Lorre appeared as a Japanese detective in the very popular *Mr Moto*. In the successful film, *The Maltese Falcon* he acted with Humphrey Bogart and Sydney Greenstreet. Bogart and Lorre shared the same sense of humour and practised it all the time. They also appeared in several Warner Brothers anti-Nazi films, which were opposed – and not only by the German ambassador.

His best-known role was in the film, *Casablanca*. The cast of *Casablanca* is like a list of refugees from Europe (three of them from Hungary): Conrad Veidt, SZ Szakall, Paul Henreid, Peter Lorre and director Michael Curtiz. No-one connected with the film foresaw its enormous popularity and, as far as Lorre is concerned, whenever he was on, he dominated the scene.

Subsequently he played in a film directed by Negulesco, *The Mask of Demitrios*, and Negulesco said of Lorre "He was the most talented actor I ever saw in my life."

Unbelievably, he was venerated by gangsters in Las Vegas: In their company he was never allowed to pay for anything, and was treated like royalty. He was also loved and cared for, even after their divorce, by Celia his first wife. He was altogether a lovable and amusing person.

In Palm Springs he offered to teach the film director Spiegel how to ride. Spiegel

replied "you are too effete to ride". Lorre proudly replied "All Hungarians ride horses and women". And he proceeded to teach Spiegel the basics of riding.

When the family of Bertold Brecht arrived in America, Lorre helped them considerably and Brecht reciprocated Lorre's admiration and friendship. However, Lorre's financial help to Brecht was not returned!

During and after WW2, he often visited camps and hospitals.

In *Silk Stockings* (the remake of *Ninotchka*) he played the easily corrupted Russian official to perfection. Then he appeared in *Around the World in Eighty Days*.

Interestingly, his three wives met often and his first wife remained kind and helpful to the end. His closest friends described him as a shy man in great need of recognition.

Janos Fisher



COME FROM AWAY

IS COMING TO NORTH LONDON (sort of)

Tuesday 30 May 2023

Hear the remarkable story of how the rabbi from 'Come From Away' (Rabbi Leivi Sudak) spent Shabbat in the small town of Gander in the wake of 9/11

Taking place in a North London venue followed by a Kosher lunch

£20 per person

For more information contact Ros Hart
ros hart@ajr.org.uk

GROUNDING JEWISHNESS

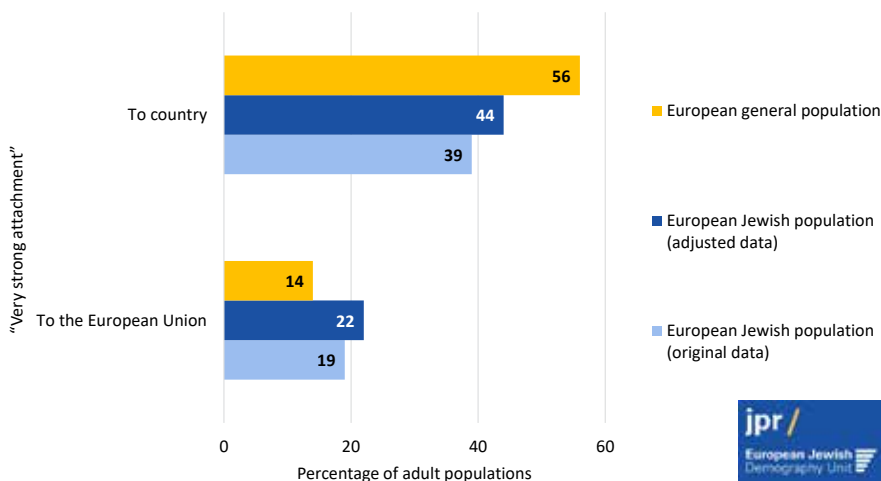
How attached do European Jews feel to the countries in which they live? Or to the European Union? And are their loyalties 'divided' in some way – between their home country and Israel?

Answering these types of questions helps us to see how integrated European Jews feel today, and brings some empiricism to the antisemitic claim that Jews don't fully 'belong.'

A new 'mini-report', published by the **Institute for Jewish Policy Research**, explores European Jews' levels of attachment to the countries in which they live, to Israel, and to the European Union, and compares them with those of wider society and other minority groups across Europe. Some of the key findings include:

- European Jews tend to feel somewhat less strongly attached to the countries in which they live than the general population of those countries, but more strongly attached than other minority groups and people of no religion.
- That said, levels of strong attachment to the country in which they live vary significantly from one country to another, both among Jews and others.
- European Jews tend to feel somewhat more strongly attached to the European Union than the general populations of their countries, although in many cases, the distinctions are small. The gap

A lower proportion of Jews feel 'very strongly attached' to their home countries than the general population, but a higher proportion of Jews feel 'very strongly attached' to the EU



between Jews and non-Jews is larger in Scandinavia, Central and Eastern Europe and Germany than it is in Western and Southern Europe.

- Some European Jewish populations feel more strongly attached to Israel than to the countries in which they live, and some do not. The Jewish populations that tend to feel more attached to Israel than the countries in which they live often have high proportions of recent Jewish immigrants.
- Having a strong attachment to Israel has no bearing on Jewish people's attachments to the EU or the countries in which they live, and vice versa: one attachment does not come at the expense of another. They are neither

competitive nor complementary; they are, rather, completely unrelated.

- Jews of different denominations show very similar levels of attachment to the countries in which they live, but rather different levels of attachment to Israel and the EU.

The mini-report was written by Prof Sergio DellaPergola and Dr Daniel Staetsky and can be viewed on <https://www.jpr.org.uk/reports/grounding-jewishness-how-attached-do-jews-feel-israel-europe-and-countries-which-they-live>. It is based and builds on JPR's groundbreaking and much fuller report, <https://www.jpr.org.uk/reports/jewish-identities-european-jews-what-why-and-how>, which was published in January 2022.



MONUMENT OF THE MONTH

RASHI MONUMENT

In our April issue we invited you to share photos of lesser-known Jewish monuments.

Thank you to Pinner-based AJR member Gabor Otvos for sending in this picture of the Rashi Memorial Monument in the French city of Troyes. Apparently, the well-known medieval rabbi Shlomo Yitzhaki, known as Rashi, was born in Troyes and lived there most of his life. The monument is in the town centre, in front of the Champagne Theatre.

REVIEWS

DEJINY ŽIDOV v SPIŠSKEJ NOVEJ VSI (The History of the Jews in Spišská Nová Ves, Slovakia)

By Dr. Kormašová

In 1965, the year of its founding, Northwood & Pinner Liberal Synagogue (now called "The Ark Synagogue") obtained the first of three Czech Memorial Torah Scrolls from the Westminster Synagogue. In time it initiated research into the communities whence came the scrolls, from communities destroyed by the Nazis. Many visits have been made and events organised to memorialise the lost Jewish communities of those towns: Kolín, Třeboň and Kladno. Kolín, in particular, becoming a town that has developed close links with The Ark. There are no Jews in that town, but local historians and the Mayors and Civic authorities have gone out of their way to restore the synagogue (dedicated in 1696) and use it for regular concerts. They installed a permanent exhibition detailing the Jewish history of the town and each year develop a new exhibition based on various aspects of the history of former Jewish inhabitants. They have published several books on the stories behind the many Stolpersteine in town, about the children who were murdered and those who left on the Kindertransport.

One of the heart-warming aspects of reactions to the Holocaust is the way local non-Jews have sought to memorialise the Jews of their town and to renovate the Jewish edifices, often long abandoned. The Ark Synagogue also has a Torah scroll from Spišske Nova Ves in eastern Slovakia. We were gifted the scroll in 1998 and started to look into its origin and this led to several visits. We were fortunate in that a teacher, Dr. Ružena Kormašová, inspired her senior students at the High School to restore the devastated Jewish cemetery. She then researched the former Jewish community and has just published a book detailing the history of the community, its fate and that of its synagogue that was devastated by local Hitler youth in 1941 and destroyed by the Communists in the 1950's.

Dr. Kormašová has investigated the story of each member of the pre-war community, its rabbis and leaders, and

the post war histories of the few survivors. A member of The Ark Synagogue, Cynthia Drapkin, worked with Dr. Kormašová to erect a memorial plaque on the site of the synagogue. The plaque was unveiled, in 2021, by H.E. Lubomir Reháč the former Slovak Ambassador in London who had sponsored the event and travelled there from his new post in Moscow.

In November 2021 Dr. Kormašová was awarded by the Central Union of Jewish Religious Communities its highest honour, the Eugen Bárkány Prize for saving Jewish cultural heritage.

Rabbi Dr. Andrew Goldstein

GET THE CHILDREN OUT! UNSUNG HEROES OF THE KINDERTRANSPORT

By Mike Levy
Lemon Soul

Behind the miraculous rescue of almost 10,000 Kindertransport children lay a wide and dedicated network of people who toiled tirelessly behind the scenes to save these young lives. They raised funds, battled with officialdom and bureaucracy using all the organisational and persuasion skills they possessed, to get children out of Germany, Austria and Czechoslovakia, as the Nazi net tightened.

The story of these brave, tenacious, compassionate but diverse individuals is told in Mike Levy's book. Working day and night, they came from all walks of life toiling at home and abroad to ensure the mission's success in the short window of time left between Kristallnacht in November 1938 and the outbreak of war.

As a six-year-old boy Lord Alf Dubs arrived in London in June 1939 from Prague and later personally thanked Sir Nicholas Winton, a central figure in the heroic rescue. He tells how others, less well-known, also helped by organising Kindertransports from Germany and Austria and who are honoured in this book. "Among them volunteers, politicians and activists who played a part in lobbying, logistics and linking children with families, who chose to shine light and hope into the lives of children fleeing Nazi horrors."

Mike Levy explains how the rescue of nearly 4,000 Basque children arriving in the UK from Spain in 1937 set a precedent. Soon

afterwards sponsors, homes, hostels and other accommodation had to be found for the mainly Jewish youngsters. A wealth of refugee committees, volunteers and philanthropists ensured children were mostly placed with compassionate families, were well cared for and received medical attention. Finding sponsors to put up £50 per child (a huge sum at that time) was imperative but often difficult. They built on the work of Berlin passport control officer Frank Foley who created false papers enabling refugees to get out, and himself hid Jews. Meanwhile Frankfurt Foreign Office diplomat Robert Smallbones fearlessly stood up to the Gestapo, while Josiah Wedgwood asked questions in Parliament.

"Dutch Aunt" Truus Wijsmuller confronted Adolf Eichmann while Zionist Sir Wyndham Deedes was a central figure. Quakers led by Bertha Bracey played an invaluable role, and children were received at Dovercourt holiday camp, Harwich by manager Frank Bond. Here a team provided care, oversaw education and sought foster families. Those involved in finding homes and looking after Jewish refugee youngsters are too numerous to mention. Outstanding among them was Anna Essinger, paving the way when she moved pupils from her progressive German school at Herrlingen in 1933 to Bunce Court, Kent.

Children often grew up side-by-side with host families, forming lifelong friendships, although they missed their parents badly. Tragically, many never saw them again. When youngsters were unhappy, organisers did their best to relocate them, with many volunteers taking in children themselves. Strong aristocratic personalities and philanthropists made it their mission to help, and academics played a key part. Helpers also did everything in their power to secure the release of those later interned as enemy aliens.

The book shows the phenomenal effort involved in the Kindertransport programme. It is divided into chapters featuring individuals involved, including short biographical details and photographs. This makes the reader want to find out more about each and every one of these remarkable people.

Janet Weston

How Hollywood helped refugees

Hollywood and Hitler - that's a controversial topic. Scholars have shown conclusively that the movie moguls, anxious to protect a major market for their films, and despite their Jewish background, collaborated with the Nazis for years.

Only in 1939 did a major studio, Warner Bros., release what is considered Hollywood's first explicitly anti-Hitler film. Based on FBI files, *Confessions of a Nazi Spy* left little doubt that Berlin's wicked agents were actively seeking to destabilise the US. Thomas Mann saw the movie when he visited the studio in 1939, judging it 'impressive'.

Other experts, however, have revealed that, behind the scenes, those same studio bosses, such as Jack Warner and Louis B. Mayer, were funding informants busy infiltrating Nazi activities in the Los Angeles region, where pro-Hitler groups had gained a secure foothold. Moreover, Hollywood was also stretching out a helping hand to German-speaking refugees from Hitler, as Thomas Blubacher, a Swiss writer, reminds us in his recent survey of 'Weimar' on the West Coast, especially the swanky Pacific Palisades suburb. He was lucky enough to be a 'writer in residence' for three months in that area, in the large, Spanish-style Villa Aurora, where the highly successful refugee writer Lion Feuchtwanger and his wife Marta lived after escaping from war-time France. In 1995 public and private German donors helped turn the house, linked to the University of Southern California, into a centre for German-speaking musicians, artists and writers.

Blubacher's chatty and lively *Weimar unter Palmen - Pacific Palisades* (recently published by Piper Verlag) notes that southern California received about 15,000 of the German 105,000 émigrés who reached US shores between 1933 and 1941; about seven in ten of those had Jewish roots. Some came hoping a studio would offer them a job; others moved west because living costs were lower than in the New York region. Those



The president and founder of Universal Pictures, Carl Laemmle, was one of the few saviours that the Jewish people had in Hollywood

who found work in the movie industry, Blubacher maintains, became 'the architects of Hollywood's golden era'; in 1939 the US had more cinemas than banks, with around 50 million Americans going to the movies every week. Many of those highly skilled émigrés - as opposed to less qualified immigrants from other parts of the world - are still familiar names: Bertolt Brecht, Fritz Lang, Hedy Lamarr, Ernst Lubitsch, Thomas Mann (the *New Yorker* dubbed him 'Goethe in Hollywood'), Otto Preminger and Billy Wilder are a few examples.

Settling on the West Coast was not straightforward. For some, 'Weimar under the palm trees' was more like a 'sunshine prison'. Most émigrés had to overcome a lot of red-tape - affidavits, visas, financial guarantees - before they could acquire settled status. After Pearl Harbour, the refugees became 'enemy aliens', subject to a nightly curfew. By day, they needed permission to travel more than five miles from their residence.

To help the less fortunate - whether already in the US or those still trying to enter - a group of settled émigrés set up the European Film Fund in 1938. Among them were Lubitsch and Paul Kohner, born in what is today the Czech Republic. He had emigrated to America in the 1920s and became a prominent film agent. Kohner talked his clients into donating part of their income to the charity. The fund persuaded studios such

as Columbia, Warner Bros. and Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer to help raise money. Jack Warner, for example, organised a fund-raising dinner at which Thomas Mann was the guest of honour.

Perhaps the studios' main contribution was to offer eligible refugees one-year contracts as screenwriters. The salary was \$100 a week, about \$2,120 today. Established screenwriters earned more, but the contracts were primarily a way of helping the exiles obtain visas from US consulates across the border in Mexico, and keeping them afloat in the first, difficult months.

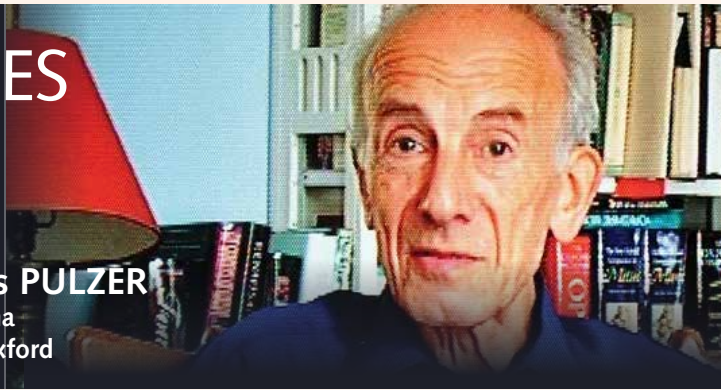
The studios rarely renewed the contracts after one year, and most beneficiaries were not kept on the payroll. Several failed to take root in Hollywood, and couldn't wait to go back to Europe after the war. Thomas Mann's elder brother Heinrich was among them. Although he had been one of the most prominent literary anti-Nazis before he fled to the US, he was an insignificant figure in California. He was about to travel to East Berlin, after communist Germany chose him as president of its academy of the arts, but died before leaving American shores.

There are many good books in English about the German-language exiles in Hollywood, and a translation of Blubacher's work deserves to join them.

Martin Mauthner

OBITUARIES

Peter George Julius PULZER
 Born: 20 May 1929, Vienna
 Died: 26 January 2023, Oxford



Tall and imposing, cultured and urbane, unfailingly courteous in manner, Peter Pulzer seemed to have been born to fill the position that he came to occupy: Gladstone Professor of Government at All Souls College, Oxford.

In reality, he was born into a modest middle-class home in Brigittenau, Vienna's Twentieth District, and arrived in Britain aged nine speaking no English. He and his family came from the highly assimilated sector of Viennese Jewry. His father, an architect and civil engineer, formally left the Jewish community, and Peter himself, though profoundly aware of his Viennese Jewish heritage, experienced little difficulty in integrating into British society.

Peter and his younger sister enjoyed a largely unruffled childhood, until the annexation of Austria by Nazi Germany in March 1938. His family's apartment was ransacked by Nazi thugs on the night of 9/10 November 1938, and his father and grandfather were arrested and taken to Gestapo headquarters. Typically, Peter chose to recall the admirable behaviour of the taxi driver who drove them home and did not make trouble for them when they had to fetch money to pay him. In his many writings, Peter was to foreground the liberal qualities of tolerance, humanity and generosity to others that underpin the democratic order.

Like many Jewish families, the Pulzers sought desperately to escape from Vienna. In February 1939, they were granted entry visas to Britain, thanks to the kindness of a Hertfordshire clergyman, Reverend Ponsonby, who stood guarantor for them. The Pulzers settled in Kingston-upon-Thames, south-west of London, where they spent the war. Peter attended Surbiton County School for Boys; as his English posed no barrier to his studies, he soon began

to excel. His father had experience of working with reinforced concrete, a specialism which for obvious reasons was much in demand at the time; but that professional expertise did not save him from being interned on the Isle of Man for several months in 1940/41.

Peter's father had struck up a friendship with the local vicar, and it was he who advised Peter to apply for King's College, Cambridge, where he read history and studied for his PhD. His dissertation, which was published in 1964 under the title *The Rise of Political Anti-Semitism in Germany and Austria*, became a standard work on its subject. In 1957, he was appointed Lecturer in Politics at Magdalen College and Christ Church, Oxford, and in 1962 Official Student and Tutor (Fellow) at Christ Church, where he remained until he was appointed to the Gladstone Professorship in 1984.

Peter taught on both the history and politics courses and was greatly respected and liked by his students. His research covered a notably wide range of subjects: he was an expert on the history of modern Germany and Austria, with a special interest in the Jews of the German-speaking lands, and he also wrote widely on British politics, including the bestselling textbook *Political Representation and Elections in Britain* (1967). The principal focus of his attention was on liberalism and the workings of democracy, including, as at the time of the rise of racial antisemitism in Germany and Austria, when anti-democratic forces came into the ascendent.

Peter Pulzer remained at All Souls until his retirement in 1996. He supported refugee organisations: he acted as Chairman of the Board of the Leo Baeck Institute in London, and he made a generous donation to the AJR. He regarded his life in Britain as marked out by good fortune, describing the middle-class British people who had helped him and his parents as 'the salt of the earth'. He married Gillian Marshall in 1962; they had two sons.

Anthony Grenville

Anita MANDL

Born:
 17 May 1926,
 Czechoslovakia
 Died:
 24 December 2022,
 Budleigh Salterton

Anita Mandl, accompanied by her brother, arrived in London from Czechoslovakia in July 1939 on the last but one of the Nicholas Winton Kindertransports; she was 13 years old.

Her father owned a paper mill and her mother was a pianist, but neither parent survived WW2. Her father died of a heart attack soon after the declaration, whilst her mother was sent to Terezin. There she was tasked to play concerts for the entertainment of Nazi commanders, and did so throughout the entire war. On the day peace was declared, she was murdered by her captors.

Anne Stevens, a Quaker schoolmistress in East London, sponsored Anita Mandl's life and education. Aged 16, she declared to her guardian her determination to be financially



independent and was enrolled at Walthamstow College of Typing. The subsequent qualifications enabled her to gain employment in Islington at the British Valve and Electrical Accessories Company.

She was the youngest of all their secretaries and earned £5 per week, which she used to finance her night school studies at Birkbeck college, despite V1 and V2 bombs falling all around both work and college. She graduated from Birkbeck in 1946 with a general BSc and in 1947 with a First-Class Honours in Zoology.

Taking up the offer of a job in the University of Birmingham Anatomy department, she worked on original research and gained a PhD in 1951. She worked closely with the celebrated zoologist Lord Zuckerman (1904 -1993), collaborating on the edit of a tome on the ovary as well as researching the effect of radiation on oocytes. In the aftermath of the atomic bomb this was considered a vital contribution to the understanding of potential mutations in the event of a nuclear war. Later on, research into cancers with Dr Denys Jennings (1904 – 1995) led to a long-term partnership and companionship travelling by road widely over Europe, the Middle East, Afghanistan and Pakistan in an open-top Mercedes. They married in 1965.

During a full career at Birmingham University that included gaining a DSc in 1960 Mandl enrolled herself at night school once again. This time it was at the Birmingham College of Art, where the Head of Sculpture, John Bridgeman, and tutor Bill Daley encouraged her to specialise in Sculpture.

Her portraits of Solly Zuckerman and Peter Mitchell form part of the art collection at the University of Birmingham and the Zoological Society of London respectively.

Mandl, however, is best known as a stone and wood carver. She left Birmingham after her marriage to Denys Jennings and they moved to Devon, which enabled her to become a full-time sculptor and pillar of the community.

From her studio in the garden in Budleigh Salterton she produced an impressive body of work, just short of a thousand sculptures, mostly of a range of animals carved in fruit tree wood and other hardwoods and attractively coloured marbles and stone.

Anita Mandl, independent to the last, died at her home in Devon on Christmas Eve.

Adam Manning (with thanks to the *Exmouth Journal*)



Tom KAREN
Born: 20 March 1926, Vienna
Died: 31 December 2022, Cambridge

He wasn't well-known to the general public, but insiders acknowledge that Thomas Karen, whose family fled to Britain from Czechoslovakia, significantly shaped industrial design in Europe.

Born Thomas Kohn in Vienna in 1926, Karen died in Cambridge, aged 96.

After studying aeronautical engineering at Loughborough College and applied art at what is today the Central St Martins arts and design university in London, Karen went on to create a wide range of easily recognisable products, such as the three-wheeled Bond Bug (popular partly because it was subject to a reduced tax rate), the Raleigh Chopper bicycle and the Marble Run children's game, which he called his 'most inspired creation.' He was awarded an OBE in 2019.

For many years Karen worked in Letchworth Garden City, and its museum has been hosting a year-long exhibition to commemorate his life and work. His autobiography *Toymaker*, published in 2020, describes his early life in the former Czechoslovakia, and his terrifying journey fleeing Hitler. Karen's family had left Vienna for the Czech city of Brno. With Nazi troops on their doorstep, the family moved to Prague, until they realised they would not be safer there. Contacts in the Czech Air Force in 1942 helped Tom's father escape to Poland, Sweden and, finally, to Britain. Tom, his mother and brother reached Britain in the middle of the war, after travelling to Belgium, Southern France, Spain and Portugal.

Karen would say later: 'I feel so sorry for every kind of refugee. I know what it is like, but they have it much worse [today] than I ever did. It is terrible that families and children are drowning in the English Channel; it is just appalling.'

Martin Mauthner

IN PERSON EVENTS

DATE	TIME	IN PERSON MEETING	CO-ORDINATOR
Tuesday 2 May	10.30am	North London	Ros Hart
Tuesday 2 May	11.30am	Wembley	Karen Diamond
Wednesday 3 May	2.00pm	Muswell Hill	Ros Hart
Wednesday 3 May	2.00pm	Edinburgh	Agnes Isaacs
Wednesday 3 May	11.00am	Manchester	Michal Mocton
Thursday 4 May	2.00pm	Pinner	Karen Diamond
Tuesday 9 May	10.30am	Ealing	Ros Hart
Thursday 9 May	10.30am	Ilford/Wanstead	Karen Diamond
Wednesday 10 May	TBC	Leeds	Michal Mocton
Thursday 11 May	2.00pm	Bromley	Ros Hart
Thursday 11 May	2.15pm	Bushey	Karen Diamond
Monday 22 May	12.30pm	Brighton	Ros Hart
Tuesday 23 May	12 noon	Birmingham	Karen Diamond
Wednesday 24 May	11.00am	Glasgow - Mary Quant exhibition	Agnes Isaacs
Thursday 25 May	11.30am	Oxford	Karen Diamond
Wednesday 31 May	2.00pm	Glasgow - Afternoon Tea	Agnes Isaacs

CO-ORDINATOR DETAILS

Agnes Isaacs
agnes@ajr.org.uk
Tel: 07908 156 361

Ros Hart
roshart@ajr.org.uk
Tel: 07966 969 951

Karen Diamond
karendiamond@ajr.org.uk
07966 631 778

Michal Mocton
michalmocton@ajr.org.uk
07966 886 535

Susan Harrod
susan@ajr.org.uk
020 8385 3078

ZOOMS AHEAD

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

Thursday 4 May @ 3.30pm	Kinder Contact Project https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/83017324257	Meeting ID: 8301 732 4257
Wednesday 10 May @ 2pm	Dr Helen Fry - <i>The spies and diplomats who saved Jews: Kendrick and Foley</i> https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/88120051638	Meeting ID: 8812 005 1638
Thursday 11 May @ 2pm	Michael Newman in conversation with AJR member Monica Petzal about antisemitism and stolpersteine https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/84210753203	Meeting ID: 8421 075 3203
Monday 15 May @ 4pm	May Quiz https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/82352547429	Meeting ID: 823 5254 7429
Monday 22 May @ 4pm	Being Jewish in Scotland https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/88071514475	Meeting ID: 880 7151 4475
Wednesday 24 May @ 2pm	AJR Book Discussion (no speaker) - <i>The Midnight Library</i> by Matt Haig https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/87317194355	Meeting ID: 873 1719 4355
Wednesday 31 May @ 2pm	Nick Dobson - Queen Elizabeth: A Life in Flowers https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/82045023342	Meeting ID: 820 4502 3342

KEEP FIT WITH AJR

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

Every Monday @ 10.30am EXCEPT 1, 8 & 29 MAY	Get Fit where you Sit (seated exercise) https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/85246889439	Meeting ID: 8524 688 9439
Every Tuesday @ 11.00am	Shelley's Exercise class https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/88466945622	Meeting ID: 884 6694 5622
Every Wednesday @ 10.30am	Dance Yourself Fit with Jackie Turner https://ajr-org-uk.zoom.us/j/86302485494	Meeting ID: 8630 248 5494

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

 AssociationofJewishRefugees  @TheAJR_ Telephone 020 8385 3070 e-mail editorial@ajr.org.uk

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

Printed by FBprinters Tel: 020 8458 3220 Email: info@fbprinters.com

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