

Holocaust Memorial Day: We will not forget

Pat Lipert

Communities across Cornwall observed Holocaust Memorial Day on the 27th of January through exhibits, prayers, ceremonies and pledge to wipe out Anti-Semitism, support the Jewish people and to honour the memories of six million Jews murdered by the Nazis and other sympathisers during the time of the Third Reich. Almost 75 years have passed since that time of evil, and still we remember, determined to educate each new generation which has followed.

At Truro Cathedral on Friday and Saturday, the 25th and 26th of January, an exhibition organised by the Cornwall Police Diversity Team along with the Inter-Faith Forum to highlight the inhumane effects of hatred and bigotry, ethnic cleansing and systematic annihilation of innocent people based on their religion, tribal or ethnic affiliations, was displayed. On each day, at 1pm, candle lighting ceremonies, prayers and commentaries from the Inter-faith Communities and in particular, the Cornwall Jewish Community, Kehillat Kernow, were held to remember the six million Jews murdered in the Holocaust. Chairman Jeremy Jacobson delivered readings from Siddur on the six million and the 'Ma-aley' before a group of

people from his community, along with representatives from the Inter-Faith Forum and others from the greater community.

On Sunday, Reflections on HMD at the Peace Pole at the Dor Kemmyn Field outside Penmount Crematorium were held. Prayers for peace from the various faith communities were held, including Jeremy Jacobson's reading of Eliezer Berkovits' moving passage in 'the memory of the K' doshim.' Also on Sunday, many members of the Jewish Community joined with members of the Redruth Baptist Church and other visitors from 2:30-5:00pm to view an Anne Frank exhibit mounted by Rev. Tristan MacDonald. This was followed

by prayers led by Elder Andrew Chapple, a commentary by Patricia Lipert of KK, an explanation by Rev. Tristan MacDonald of the exhibit, and Kaddish led by KK vice-chair, Adam Feldman. After candles were lit in memory of the six million Jews who were killed during the Nazi regime. This is the third year that the Redruth Baptist Church has held special observances in honour of Jews everywhere and for the Jewish Community of Cornwall, a project spearhead by Elder Chapple based on his commitment to atone for past actions of Christian organisations against Jews and his pledge to eradicate Anti-Semitism.



Reflective readings-Elder Andrew Chapple of the Redruth Baptist Church, Patricia Lipert and Adam Feldman of Kehillat Kernow lead prayers and reflections about the six million Jews murdered in the Holocaust at the Redruth Baptist Church's Anne Frank exhibition on HMD.

In neighbouring county, Devon, at Mast House in Plymouth, a free holocaust memorial lunch was held on Monday, 28th January. An afternoon programme included opening commentary by Andrew Grace, University Equality and Diversity Advisor; Survivor's Testimony; readings by Liz Berg of KK; Remembering the Rwandan Genocide by Jabo Butera, Diversity Business Incubator and a talk on her visit to Auschwitz by Tilda Fraser, VP University of Plymouth Students Union.

Note: More on these events can be found on the picture page, chair's remarks and the editorial.



Interfaith peace plea-Members of Cornwall's Interfaith Community gather around the Dor Kemmyn peace pole in Truro on HMD to remember victims of the Shoah and to pray for peace and international understanding and tolerance.

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Chairman's remarks

Jeremy Jacobson

It was Sunday 27th January, Holocaust Memorial Day, and I was sitting at home, drinking coffee and beginning to read chapter 10 of *The Wandering Jew* has Arrived by Albert Londres. Written in the 1930s, this book sympathetically explores Jewish life in Eastern Europe. Chapter 10 is entitled 'The Ghost' and, as I discovered with horror, describes a number of pogroms occurring in Romania and Ukraine between 1919 and 1927. The description of the pogroms in Proskourov, Felchtine, Chargorod and Pestchanka made my blood run cold, such was the vicious, sadistic cruelty demonstrated by the Cossack soldiers who murdered, maimed and tortured their way through these towns.



I already had a reading lined up for the afternoon event organised by the Cornwall Faith Forum at Penmount, where members of different faiths were to gather to read and reflect together. My text would be about how the Holocaust meant that it was essential for people everywhere to join in remembrance and friendship so as to fight the kind of hatred which leads to persecution and mass murder. So shaken was I, however, by what I had just read that I changed my mind and, that afternoon, read the reflection of Eliezer Berkovits, to be found in our Reform Siddur: "I stand in awe before the memory of the K'doshim (the holy ones) who walked into the gas chamber with the Ani Ma'am - I believe - on their lips..." This passage turns faith and certainty on their heads. It talks of the holy disbelief of those whose faith was "crushed, shattered and pulverized," which is to be respected just as much as the holy belief of those who somehow clung onto faith. As witnesses from a distance we have no right to question either, nor to pass judgment. It is a disturbing passage, but such reflections are necessary. Otherwise, we risk, over time, softening the meaning of the Holocaust. That is not to say that moving, sometimes poetic prayers for the dead and for understanding among individuals, groups and nations today are not important. They are, and at the Peace Pole on Sunday afternoon, members representing Bahai, Christian, Hindu, Muslim and Pagan faiths joined with Mai and me to pray for peace and to remember those who died and suffered because others chose to hate. My passage came first though and perhaps added to our shivers. A cold wind swirled the smoke and flames of a bonfire among us as we struggled to keep warm. For a time, it hailed, but we remained in our circle, doggedly determined to stay.

First Night Communal Seder: Pesach 5779



Cemetery visit-Members of Friends of Penzance Jewish Cemetery, caretaker and local historian, Keith Pearce, Mandy Pearce and new director of the Penlee House Gallery and Museum, Anna Renton, long with staff member of the museum, tour the restored Penzance Jewish Cemetery.

Pat Lipert

It's time again to dust off your seder plate, get out your Haggadah and come to Trelissick Gardens Barn Restaurant in Feock for Kehillat Kernow's special celebration of the first night of Passover.

This year's communal seder is Friday, 19th of April and will begin at 6:30pm.

You will have received your form in the post, returned it, hopefully no later than the 3rd of March, to Ann Hearle, organiser of this event, along with your cheque to cover members of your family and friends. Anne's address is Turnstone Cottage, 3 Vivian Terrace, Mousehole, TR19 6QZ and her phone number is 01736-731686. Your form also contains directions to Trelissick Gardens.

Trelissick Gardens is part of the National Trust and Garden entrance is permitted up to 5:30pm at no extra charge. As Pesach is later this year, it might be the perfect time to enjoy the early Spring flowers in these luxurious grounds. There is a large car park immediately adjacent to the restaurant.

Seder is especially important for our children and they are most welcome. Please provide books and items of amusement and comfort to occupy the little ones during the service. If possible, children should wear soft shoes or slippers. A small area will be set aside within the room for the children so that we can be inclusive while accommodating all our members and special guests.

For those of you who have particular dietary requirements, do know that the charoset and other foods to be served during the service and at the dinner afterwards will contain nuts. Feel free to bring candlesticks, candle holders, matches and Kiddush cups if you can. Seder plates complete and Kiddush Kosher wine will be supplied for the service. You also can bring your own table wine for the meal. This year the seder begins on Erev Shabbat, so we will have both the Shabbat and Yom Tov candles to light: two mitzvot for the price of one! We look forward to seeing you on this most special of all Jewish holidays, celebrated by Jews throughout the world, our festival of freedom. Hag Sameach!

Meanwhile, other members of our community were at Redruth Baptist Church, viewing the exhibitions mounted there by our Christian friends. On Friday and Saturday, some of our members also attended the candle lighting and readings at Truro Cathedral and on Monday, Liz Berg, attended an event at Plymouth University.

In an article in the latest issue of *Jewish Renaissance*, Richard Rampton, the QC who defended Deborah Lipstadt against the Holocaust denier David Irving, discusses the rise of 'denialism,' a cynical movement which denies history precisely so that the same history can happen again. As Jews and as members of the human race we must argue with our minds and act with our hearts so that history does not repeat itself.

Jewishly speaking...

Cornish Oxford Don, A. L. Rowse, best known for his work on the Elizabethan Age and for his theory about the 'dark lady' of Shakespeare's sonnets. At the end of his last book, *Historians I Have Known*, he wrote, "If there is any honour in the world that I should have liked it would be to be an honorary Jewish citizen." Contributed by Jeremy Jacobson.

Do you have a favourite quote on the subject of Jews? Send in your selection for the next newsletter to: editor@kehillatkernow.com

KK AGM: A year of achievement

Pat Lipert

The annual AGM meeting of Kehillat Kernow highlighted how much a small Jewish community can achieve in one year's time. From movie nights to restoration projects, from inter-faith events to memorial and festival services, from simchas to education, from hospitality to visiting the sick, members of the community continued to manifest the best of Judaism and why a synagogue such as ours continues to thrive.

This couldn't have been made more clear than from the eloquent remarks of KK Chairman, Jeremy Jacobson, in his opening statements about what has happened in the past year in our community. The importance of "needing to engage with the world," was well illustrated when he reviewed the many ways in which he and other members of the KK community achieved this: interaction with the Faith Forum, attending workshops in schools and colleges, involvement with local history through the Ponsharden and Penzance Jewish Cemeteries, visiting patients of various faiths at the Duchy Hospital, participating in UN Peace Day and on Remembrance Day or joining the initiative to build a Cornwall Faith Response Team. "Indeed, if last year the theme seemed to be cemeteries, this year we could say it is stories,"

Jacobson said. This happened not only at the Fact-Fact-Fiction-and-Food Club events, but also at narratives shared with the Islamic Community: "Folk tales, personal journeys, stories of faith were told by members of all ages. A large gathering attended, drawn from our two communities but also from the Cornwall Faith Forum." Not only does this increase understanding, but "it establishes bonds between us all. Such bonds can help guard us from anti-Semitism and Islamophobia and more general racism."

Our historical Jewish roots in Cornwall also were exemplified by a trip to the Royal Cornwall Museum in Truro to see their collection of Judaica as well as attending an exhibition of our Jewish history at the Penlee House Gallery and Museum in Penzance.

More lessons in humanity and liturgy were enhanced by visits from Hannah and David Jacobs, visits from leaders of the Cambridge Jewish Community and MRJ student Rabbi Lev Taylor.

"The majority of our members do not see what goes on behind the scenes, but without a great deal of administrative and organisational work, we would have no activities and would risk falling foul of the law," Jacobson said. The later refers to having to comply with the new Data Protection Act. Particular members of the KK

Community were lauded by Jacobson for their intense involvement in these various projects: Leslie Lipert, Sharim Atilano, Pat Lipert, David and Anne Hearle, Adam and Melanie Feldman, Anthony Fagin, Rachel Brown, Roger Chatfield, Bonnie Rockley and Harvey Kurzfield. "Despite rising anti-Semitism, we rain positive," Jacobson concluded, "We do not need to stick banners up on every street advertising our comings and goings, but continue our activities, build relationships with like minded communities and disseminate our values and culture more widely through activities mediated by organisations such as the Faith Forum [to] enable us to do our bit in being a light to the nations and in mending the world."

In addition, proposals for a trip to Bournemouth Reform Synagogue in the Spring, more youngster involvement at Sukkot and Purim via our Film-Fact-Fiction-and-Food Club, celebratory activities for our 20th anniversary of KK's establishment, Sedra volunteers, and on-line Conversion involvement were addressed.

All current Council members were re-elected with the addition of Carolyn Shapiro. A light buffet followed.

The next AGM is scheduled for the 17th of November 2019 at The Liperts. Be there!

Miracles do happen

Pat Lipert

If you have any doubts about this, you did not attend the fabulous Food and Film Night at Malpas Village Hall on Saturday, the 3rd of November. You did not see or eat the wondrous array of Israeli food laid out before you nor did you watch the uplifting Ushpizin, which focuses on the festival of Sukkot. And yes, in the film, "nes gadol hayyat sham," and in Malpas Village Hall, the sun shone despite the rain outside. While we were only 11 strong at the event, this allowed us to gather around one communal table, catch up with the latest news and tuck in. Satiating and gratitude go hand in hand. Ushpizin, which means "visitors" in Hebrew, is a charming Israeli film about a poor but pious couple who pray for a means to celebrate the

upcoming holiday of Sukkot in their modest home. Their prospects are grim for when the film opens, elders of the community are discussing the value of an etrog (1,000 shekels already yet), something beyond imagination in their eyes for there was only a cooked cabbage for dinner that night, and then there was nothing. But pray they did, and, hineini, money is slipped under their door, the means for a Succah and a way to celebrate the festival of Sukkot is now possible. The only thing missing are the ushpizin and hopefully they will be righteous visitors to grace their Succah. Righteous they are not, but things work out in the end for fables like this always have a happy ending with a strong message: If you look towards the light, if you have faith, if you love Adonai with 'all your heart and all your soul,



Let the show begin-Gloria Jacobson and Harvey Kurzfield enjoy a warm cuddle before watching the film, Ushpizin, along with other members of the KK community.

and all your might,' blessings and miracles do happen.

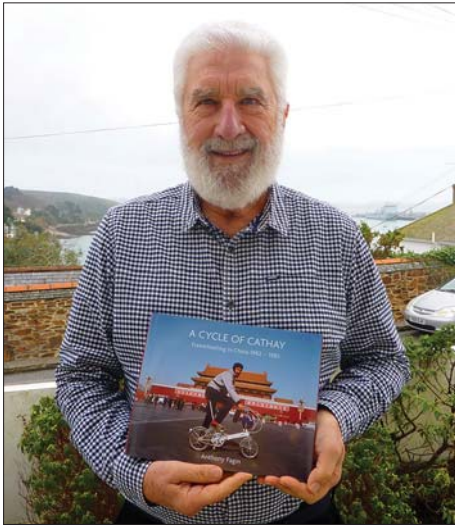


Festival fare-Members of Kehillat Kernow gather around the sumptuous buffet created by shul members to celebrate the Sukkot-based film, Ushpizin.



Good food, good talk-What better way to enjoy a Saturday night than to gather round the table for a good meal with friends and one's extended family members!

East meets West: Ant's memories of China



Memories-Anthony Fagin stands outside his house overlooking Falmouth Harbour while remembering other harbours in China during his trip taken in 1982-83. And, he has the book to prove it, *A Cycle of Cathay, Freewheeling in China 1982-1983*.

Pat Lipert

When our own Anthony Fagin cycled around the People's Republic of China for a month in 1982-83, it was an experience of a lifetime. Recently he got to relive the magical journey when he prepared to publish his '*A Cycle of Cathay, Freewheeling in China 1982-1983*.' During the process of self-producing the book and going through all the sublime photographs again, he realised how unique that particular time was in a country newly recovering from Chairman Mao's Cultural Revolution. "It was a time before intense industrialisation and the immense infrastructure had been put in place," Fagin said, and so it was an opportunity to see "how ordinary life in China was lived."

And see it and experience it he did through the use of his fold-up Bickerton bike, his camera, rudimentary dictaphone, a sympathetic ear and discerning eye, to envelop all the Chinese people and their astounding landscape had to offer. The following is an interview of that time: **While you had done several cycling trips in other countries before, why did you decide to go to China at that time?**

I've always had an interest in the East, its long history of civilization, its magnificent topography, landscape depicted by its classical painters, its reverence for nature. I saw an advert in the papers that SACU (Society for Anglo-Chinese Understanding), was organising a two-week stint for a group of bikers to explore the Pearl River Delta at a time when China was beginning to allow individual visitors into the country. I also wanted to travel on my own after that period up the East coast to Beijing and into the mountainous area of Guilin and the beautiful cities of Suzhou and Hangzhou. **Why did you decide to travel by bicycle, and in particular, a Bickerton bike?**

I was going to travel enormous distances. If I could find a folding bike to take on public

transport (the Chinese people then could not own a motor vehicle nor could they take their bikes on public transport), which when folded looked like ordinary luggage, that would allow me to use the assortment of trains, planes, buses, ferries to cover the longer distances. I contacted the original maker, Harry Bickerton, and bought the standard model from him with a strengthened seat tube to take with me to the land of the bicycle.

did you need to make this journey, especially when you were cycling on your own through China?

I had to get official approval from the government in Beijing, submit my complete itinerary, and upon my arrival at various destinations, my presence was recorded by an official of the Chinese International Tourist Service. Once I had done that, I was completely free to travel anywhere I wanted. I was told by SACU that I was their first independent traveller to China since the Cultural Revolution. Had I been in Russia, for example, I would have been followed everywhere. Not in China.

You say in your book, very few pictures were 'staged.' Why? I wanted to take as natural a shot as possible. Almost all the photographs were spontaneous which is why you may notice that pictures of people do not have them looking into the camera. In many cases, had people known I was taking a picture, they would either have posed stiffly or run away.

What differences and similarities did you discover between you and these wonderful Chinese people?

It's easy to enumerate the differences but deep down, the similarities were greater. Civilisation is just a veneer. Differences were stimulating, thrilling and welcomed. Human beings are just that-human, and so the differences only add to one's understanding and life.

How did your wife and young children respond to your journey?

They were completely supportive. My wife said, 'You must do this!' and my children were excited. My youngest who was five years old at the time, still remembers the trip I took. Although I was totally isolated from them and they couldn't contact me, I could send postcards.

Did you notice a Jewish presence when there?

I didn't when I was there but I stayed in Shanghai at the Peace Hotel, originally called the Cathay. Later, when researching some of this material, I discovered it was built by Sir Victor Sassoon in 1929. An Iraqi Jew, he moved his wealth from Bombay to Shanghai and contributed to the economic development of

that city along with other Jewish families. It was nice to find that out. I know there were Jewish communities in the Far East. **When writing the book and sorting all the photos, how did you remember all the details of your journey?**

Along with my camera and two simple lenses, I also had a little pocket Dictaphone to record my thoughts as I was cycling along and also pieces of conversation I had along the way. Each night I would write out my notes. Some I reconstructed later when I got home and a lot of the research came after the event. I wanted the text and the pictures to complement each other, to make the photographs as seamless and as harmonious with the text as possible. When I went back to the text after 35 years, I wanted to keep the writing faithful to what I had written at age 42 and so I only made small editorial changes. To work out the layout of the book, I had to expand some of the text to go with the pictures. In doing this, I was able to relive the experience I had and make the same journey all over again. I would not want



You did what!- Anthony Fagin discusses extraordinary details from his book, *A Cycle of Cathay*, with Pat Lipert over a cup of very good coffee.

to go back to China now for it would dilute that experience.

What was your feeling about the people you met on this amazing journey?

I felt an affinity with people who paid such attention to detail, with the humble administrators who built their houses upon retirement in Suzhou and Hangzhou. They would go up the mountain and choose a particular rock, return with it and place it in nearby water for it to acquire just the right amount of patina and aging. Then three generations later, their great, great grandson would retrieve that rock and place it in the position in his garden where his great, great grandfather had imagined it should go. People were sensitive in noticing the natural wonder around them both in single plants and the landscape, or in what they were making. In Guilin, the Karst (limestone geological mountain formation), with their lines and cracks, and shapes, were exactly like all the wonderful Chinese landscapes I had seen in pictures. How could one not feel an affinity with all this?

[Note: Copies of Anthony Fagin's book can be purchased for £25.00 via the website: www.cycleofcathay.co.uk]

Conversion: The joyful path to Judaism

Pat Lipert

So, you think you want to be Jewish? Think again. It is the most life-changing, ever-evolving, serious decision you will make in your life.

Among other things, it will affect the way you think, how you look at current events, your attitude towards humanity and social problems, what you eat, how you interact with people within your community and with the greater non-Jewish community, what you do and say in your daily life and a hands-on involvement with your Jewish community, locally and world-wide.

It is not just for Passover or Rosh HaShannah, as wonderful as both these holy festivals are. In short, you don't mess with God. It also is one of the most rewarding, meaningful and spiritually gratifying choices you can make. It is a joyful journey of self-discovery and endless reward.

There are many reasons why you should convert and many reasons why you shouldn't.

- **You should convert** from no religion or another religion to Judaism because the ethics and values in Torah are compatible with your own already developed moral and spiritual code.
- **You should convert** if you are willing to take a life-long road to learning and discovery of all things Jewish, culturally, socially, ritualistically, communally, and secularly.

“ Judaism is believing through your actions and the ethics of Torah, you can make the world a better place ”

- **You should convert** if you understand and accept that Judaism is a religion which requires individual responsibility and a reciprocal contract with God and your Jewish community.

That doesn't mean that you should blindly follow your faith; it means you were born with reason, free will and must and should make choices about what you will believe and do as a Jew. Judaism is not a religion of dogma and 'must believes,' but rather a thinking, feeling, and doing religion. It is, inherently, an inclusive, morally upright religion but there is space also for individual differences, and

because we adhere to 'the dignity of difference,' as Rabbi Jonathan Sacks put it, other paths to God also are meritorious and deserve your respect and compassion.

You should not convert to Judaism...

- Merely because your partner is Jewish.
- If you like Jewish food (who doesn't?)
- Admire many characteristics of the Jewish people and their accomplishments.
- Wish to combine your beliefs in another religion (i.e. the Christian concept of Jesus), in order to proselytise.
- Have compassion for events in Jewish history.
- Have an admiration for Israel.

Of course you should love Israel; it is our spiritual homeland and holds a very special and

personal place in our hearts, but being a Phylo-Israelite is not reason enough. Of course, it helps to like Jewish food; of course, you are compassionate about the life partner you have chosen and his/her family; of course, you admire Jewish accomplishments and are in awe of Jewish history (and literature, philosophy, scholarship, music and art...), but conversion involves a bit more commitment than that. Being a good Jew isn't merely about how much learning and scholarship you can master or how well you can master Hebrew or recite the liturgy or adhere to ritual (as admirable as that is); it also is about Mitzvot, good deeds, sharing, giving and receiving and Tikkun Olam (repairing the world).

It is about life, not death; joy not wallowing in sorrow; hope not despair; charity not meanness; peace not war, not doing to others what you would not have done to yourself, and believing through your actions and the ethics of Torah, you can make the world a better

place.

The rest, as Hillel said, "is commentary." This is why, when a person goes through the Jewish Conversion process, it takes between one-two years, for change does not come overnight and one needs time to evolve, to slowly ensure that this is the

“ Judaism is the most life-changing, ever-evolving, serious decision you will make in your life ”

right path to take.

If you decide to take this wonderful journey, you will be welcomed into the Family of Israel with open arms.

Our English and Irish panto artists



Adam in Wonderland-Adam Feldman as the wonderful Tweedle Dee, one of the Queen of Hearts' henchmen, seen at his debut in a speaking part in the Malpas Village Hall production of 'Alice in Wonderland.'



Woof, woof!-Our own Louise Garcia in Ireland is enjoying playing a giant French poodle called Felix in her panto and has all the children shouting: "Poodle Power!"

Gathering together to remember

During the weekend of January 25th-27th, members of Kehillat Kernow met with people from the greater community of Cornwall at churches, memorial site in schools and municipal halls to remember and honour the six million Jewish lives annihilated in the Holocaust. Prayers for peace, tolerance, education and loving kindness for all people reverberated throughout these events. These are some of the highlights...



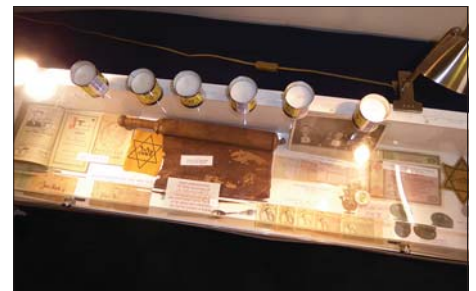
Interfaith service-Members of the Cornwall Jewish community stand before the altar of Truro Cathedral after candle-lightings and a service of remembrance were held. From left to right are: (back row) Liz and John Adelson, Roger Chatfield, Rachel Brown, (front row) Helen Stanton, Jewish resident of Truro, Alexandra Stuart-Brinkley, Jeremy and Mai Jacobson.



We are commanded to remember-KK Chairman Jeremy Jacobson speaks before an interfaith congregation in Truro Cathedral during a service of remembrance in honour of HMD while Rev. Roger looks on.



Family portraits-Photos of Anne Frank's family and early life before all were taken to concentration camps, was one of the many artefacts mounted by Rev. Tristan McDonald, whose comprehensive exhibit at the Redruth Baptist Church, brought many people from all faiths together to see it.



Six candles, six million-The lit candles in the hall of Redruth Baptist Church, representing those precious lives lost in the Shoah, were one of many candle lighting ceremonies which took place throughout Cornwall during the weekend of HMD.



All too familiar memories of the past-KK members, Nicola Willis and Karen Myers examine some of the artefacts available for viewing at the large Anne Frank exhibit at Truro Baptist Church on HMD.



Listen and remember-Members from various faiths attended the Anne Frank exhibit and ceremony of remembrance with Elder Andrew Chapple, Pat Lipert and Adam Feldman, leading prayers, along with historic commentary on Anne Frank by Rev. Tristan McDonald who mounted the exhibition.



Simcha time-Mazel Tov to Rachel Brown and Roger Chatfield as they receive a special blessing after the service on Saturday, 16th March, after just having announced their engagement. May their lives be filled with much love and joy.

Editorial

This year, Holocaust Memorial Day on the 27th of January has taken on a new scope and been given more precedence than ever before with 11,000 events held across the United Kingdom. Of particular poignancy leading up to the weekend of commemoration and tribute to the six million Jews slaughtered in the Holocaust, was the burial of six unknown victims of the Shoah at a funeral service held at United Synagogue's Bushey New Cemetery led by Chief Rabbi Ephraim Mirvis. Over 1,200 people attended, over a 1,000 from Jewish communities as well as eminent representatives from government, the Royal Family, historical and charitable organisations, other religious faiths and remaining survivors.

The remains of the six unknown victims, had been kept in the Imperial War Museum for over two decades. They, finally were given a proper Jewish burial, something denied to so many other unknown victims of that terrible time. In some ways, this ceremony has assuaged some of the survivors in being able to give religious burial to these anonymous five adults and one child. And that is all we know about them or will ever know, just as we will never know about all those not given the final dignity they deserved, but for some of the few remaining survivors, at least, they can represent lost family, lost friends, lost community.

The day of remembrance for victims of the Holocaust also is particularly important this year. A recent pole of 2,000 people in Britain conducted by the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust, indicted that 5% did not believe the Shoah happened; one in 12 thought the scale was exaggerated and two-thirds of those 2,000 couldn't say how many Jews were murdered or grossly underestimated the number.

Education, despite Herculean efforts by so many credible organisations over the past fifty years, has not been as effective a tool towards more tolerance. In times of populism, burgeoning extreme right or left political movements, racial, ethnic and religious hatred increases.

As less and less survivors remain alive, those who bear witness and have the most dramatic, convincing, eye-to-eye contact with their audiences, and who can change attitudes towards the catastrophic results of intolerance and hatred becomes less effective. In the future, this vital information about our recent history becomes a passive vehicle for information, subject to the dustbins of fake news, questionable data, or inaccessible to those who need to know. And that is why, days for remembrance, in particular, HMD, is so crucial. As Olivia Marks-Woldman, chief executive of HMDT said, "Without a basic understanding of this recent history, we are in danger of failing to learn where lack of respect for differences and hostility to others can ultimately lead."

Review: Lemon Hart of Penzance

Pat Lipert

Who was the real Lemon Hart, one of Penzance's best known Jews of the 19th century? To discover the truth based on documentary evidence, one only has to read the recently published booklet by local amateur historian, Keith Pearce, to find out. Meticulously researched publication, the intricate and complicated family histories and enigmatic business dealings of the Hart family and other relations who resided in Cornwall and in London are explained. Much of the confusion surrounding Lemon Hart's enterprises and reputation is a result of faulty assumptions, mistakes over similar family names, sometimes sloppy scholarship and sometimes accepting popular folklore for actual documentation. Pearce painstakingly unravels who is whom, who did what and how these various business transactions and inter-marriages between largely Jewish but also Christian families both in the West Country and in London took place and when.

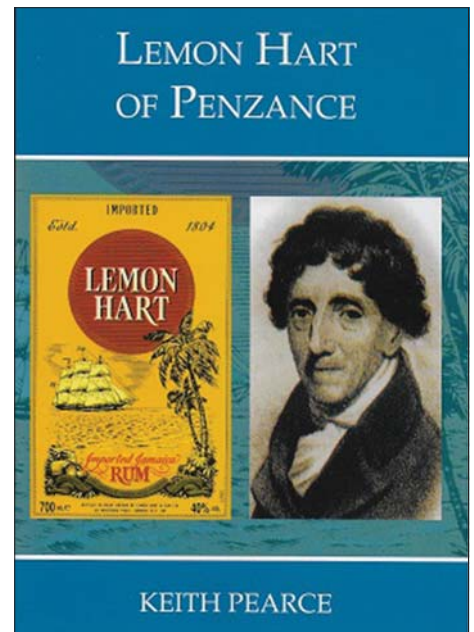
Even when Pearce separates the fact from fiction surrounding Lemon Hart, one discovers that Lemon Hart's genuine accomplishments and contributions to Cornish and London Jewish life were just as interesting and meritorious as the more lurid fabrications with which he is connected.

For starters, Lemon Hart came from no mean stock. The Penzance Hart family ('not ... directly related to other Hart families in Plymouth, Portsmouth, London and elsewhere'), were probably some of the first Jewish settlers to arrive in Cornwall in the early 1700s and were essential in establishing the Jewish Community in Penzance, the leasing of land for the Penzance Jewish Cemetery and the building of the first synagogue in 1768. Lemon Hart was the first "recorded Parnas, President of the Hebrew Congregation), whilst his grandfather and father were probably (records have been lost or not kept), the prior Presidents.

The commercial history of Hart as an importer of rum and other goods, as co-owner of two local ships, as a manufacturer-distiller, as a victualler to the Royal Navy (along with many others), both in Penzance and later in London, made him a successful businessman both in Penzance and in London. He did not introduce the "tot" of rum to the Navy.

If you want to understand more about some of our leading, founding Jewish families in and around Penzance, and their involvements in the local and greater communities, this booklet, which also contains colour portraits and family trees, is for you. Published by Penlee House Gallery and Museum in Penzance, this booklet is available through Penlee House and from Kehillat Kernow for £5.00.

[Editor's note: Keith Pearce writes, "On page 5, I have said that there is no evidence that Lemon Hart 'was skilled as, or traded as a clock-maker or watchmaker.' I now know this to be incorrect. In



Leading citizen - Cover page from booklet about the life of Lemon Hart whose contributions to Penzance and London life were widely acclaimed.

her recent book, 'Merchants and Smugglers in Eighteenth Century Cornwall,' Charlotte Mackenzie has identified several primary sources (of which I was unaware), which confirm that Lemon Hart was apprenticed in his youth to Charles Vibert, a Clock-Maker. He qualified as a watchmaker and his occupation was recorded as such at the time of his marriage to Letitia Michael of Swansea. It seems that his principal and more remunerative trade in Wine & Spirits represents a second phase in his career. Consequently, the 1781 Lemon Hart clock (mentioned by Rabbi Susser), may well have been made by Lemon Hart, perhaps as an apprentice piece."]



Bat Mitzvah girl - Zahava Cohen celebrated her Bat Mitzvah in Redruth on the 22nd of December. Her Torah reading from Vaya-chi and haftarah reading officially began her life as a full member of the Cornwall Jewish Community.

Notices and diary

Mazel Tov:

- Anthony Fagin on publication of his book, 'A Cycle of Cathay' in December
- Adam Feldman on his dramatic debut with a speaking part in pantomime this year
- Mai Jacobson and Roger Chatfield on their official welcome into the family of Israel
- Murray Brown on his acceptance into the teaching programme in Manchester
- To Bao Jacobson, Jemima Feldman and Keith Pearce on their special birthdays.
- Congratulations to Rachel Brown and Roger Chatfield on their recent engagement. May they have a life together filled with much love and happiness.

Get Well Soon:

- Vera Collins
- Mandy Pearce

Diary:

- Apr 13th Metzora (Sharim), 8 Nisan, 10:30am, TBS
- Apr 19th Erev Pesach, 1st night of Seder, Fri., Trellisick Gardens, The Barn, 6:30pm
- Apr 27th Acharei Mot (Adam), 22 Nisan, 10:30am, TBS
- May 11th Emor (Pat), 6 Iyyar, 10:30am, TBS
- May 25th B'chukkotai (Harvey), 20 Iyyar, 10:30am, TBS
- Jun 8th Naso (Sharim), 5 Sivan, 10:30am, TBS
- Jun 22nd Sh'lach L'cha (Adam), 19 Sivan, 10:30am, TBS

- Jul 6th Chukkat (Pat), 3 Tammuz, 10:30am, TBS
- Jul 20th Pinchas (Harvey), 17 Tammuz, 10:30am, TBS
- Aug 3rd Masei (Sharim), 2 Av, 10:30am, TBS
- Aug 17th Va'ethannan (Adam), 16 Av, 10:30am, TB
- Aug 31st Re-eh (Pat), 30 Av, 10:30am, TBS
- Sep 14th Ki Tetze (Harvey), 14 Elul, 10:30am, TBS
- Sep 29th Erev Rosh HaShannah, 29 Elul, Sun., Roselidden Farm, Helston, 6:30pm
- Sep 30th First day Rosh HaShannah 1 Tishri, Mon., Roselidden Farm, Helston, 10:30am
- Oct 8th Eve of Yom Kippur, Kol Nidrei, 9 Tishri, Tues, Roselidde Farm, 7pm.
- Oct 9th Yom Kippur, 10 Tishri, Wed., Roselidden Farm, 10:30am
- Oct 13th Eve of Sukkot, 14 Tishri, Sun. No Service
- Oct 26th Bereshit (Sharim)|, 27 Tishri, 10:30am, TBS

Leslie's joke

The Planters

Solly is serving time in prison for securities fraud. One day Maurice, his father who still loves him writes:

Dear Solly, I won't be able to plant anything in the garden as I am too old to do it without your help. Looking forward to your early release. Love, Dad



Solly replies:

Please don't dig up the garden—that's where I hid the money. Wait until I get out. Love, Solly
 At 4am, the police come to Maurice's house and dig up the entire garden. Two days later, Maurice receives another letter from Solly. Dear Dad, Now that the garden has been dug up, you can plant your garden. It's the best I could do from here. Love, Solly

Return Hertz Chumashim

We notice several copies of our 'Pentateuch & Haftorahs' edited by Hertz which we use in our weekly services are missing.

If you have a KK copy, would you please bring it back to shul.

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Pass the cheese brûlée please!

Melanie Feldman

This is an adapted Maria Elias recipe. Her version is a little too salty for me.

It is an unusual savoury brulee and works beautifully as a cheese course.

- 100g Roquefort cheese
- 100g gruyere cheese
- small bunch of seedless grapes
- ½ tsp salt
- large pinch of white pepper
- 25g caster sugar

- 5 egg yolks
- 2 cloves garlic
- 500ml double cream
- 4 tbsp demerara sugar
- handful of pecan nuts, chopped

Heat oven to 150 degree C. Heat cream in a pan with the garlic cloves. Whisk egg yolks, caster sugar, salt and pepper together until the yolks go pale. When the cream is nearly boiling, pour it onto the egg mix, whisking. Crumble up the Roquefort an add that.

Chop the gruyere into little blocks, half the grapes and put them in the bottom of ramekins (will do 6 small ones or 4 larger ones). Pour over the cream mix. Put an old tea towel in the

bottom of a roasting tin or big lasagne dish and stand the ramekins on it. Put it almost in the oven and carefully, pour boiling water around them to make a water bath. Bake for 40-50 minutes (depending upon the size), until they are set and their tops are browning. Once the brulees are cold, scatter over the demerara sugar and either blast it with a cook blow torch or under a hot grill. Scatter a few chopped pecans on top. Serve with breadsticks or crackers.



Unique cheese course-This inventive concoction of cheese and cream make for a delicate third course worthy of any fine dinner party or as a main at a fancy lunch.

SUDOKU

How to play: Complete the grid so the numbers 1 to 9 appear only once in each row, each column and 3x3 box. Don't worry; no maths is involved. Only logic is required to solve the puzzle. Have fun!

IT'S MODERATELY HARD

9		2		6	7
	4			1	2
	7	6		3	1
			8	5	7
		4	3	2	
6	2			9	3
4	8	1			7
5	7			8	

For the solution and more free puzzles, have a look at the Sudoku website: sudokusolver.com.