



HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY

Rickett Quadrangle
Middlesex University
The Burroughs
Hendon NW4 4BT

Sunday 26 January 2025
at 2.00pm





Snowdrop planting at Cromer Road Primary School

Introduction



Holocaust Memorial Day (HMD) is a time for us all to reflect and remember events of the past, particularly six million innocent people murdered by the Nazis and those who have suffered and died in subsequent genocides throughout the world. We pay tribute to the survivors and those impacted by such horrific events, many of whom are resident in the London Borough of Barnet.

Tomorrow is the 80th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau and this year also marks the 30th anniversary of genocide in Bosnia.

I am grateful for your attendance and participation on this very humbling occasion.

The theme this year is 'For a Better Future'

This year's HMD theme asks us to learn from the Holocaust and more recent genocides, to remember, and to take action.

The UK has a wonderful record of religious tolerance and freedoms, this country made great sacrifices during the wars to protect these freedoms. In Barnet we are committed to Holocaust Education and we must learn from the past and be active 'For a Better Future'.

*Councillor Tony Vourou
The Worshipful the Mayor of the London Borough of Barnet*

What was the Holocaust?

The Holocaust was the attempt by the Nazis and their collaborators to murder all the Jews in Europe. From the time they assumed power in Germany in 1933, the Nazis used propaganda, persecution, and legislation to deny human and civil rights to German Jews. They used centuries of antisemitism as their foundation. By the end of the Holocaust, six million Jewish men, women and children had been murdered in ghettos, mass-shootings, in concentration camps and extermination camps.

In addition to singling out Jews for complete annihilation, the Nazis targeted for discrimination and persecution, anyone they believed threatened their ideal of a 'pure Aryan race' or to be inferior. This included Roma and Sinti, Black, and Slavic people, and people who were disabled either mentally or physically, as well as gay people and political opponents.

For a Better Future

80 years on from the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau, antisemitism (anti-Jewish hatred) has increased significantly in the UK and globally following the 7 October attacks in Israel by Hamas and the subsequent war in Gaza. Extremists are exploiting the situation to stir up anti-Muslim hatred in the UK. Many UK communities are feeling vulnerable, with hostility and suspicion of others rising. We hope that HMD 2025 can be an opportunity for people to come together, learn both from and about the past, and take actions to make a better future for all.

There are many things we can all do to create a better future. We can speak up against Holocaust and genocide denial and distortion; we can challenge prejudice; we can encourage others to learn about the Holocaust and more recent genocides.

We can learn both from and about the Holocaust and more recent genocides, for a better future. Whilst racism and hatred do not always lead to genocide, all genocides begin with insidious stages including propaganda, 'othering' and dehumanisation. We can remember, for a better future, and assert the truth of history in the face of contemporary Holocaust denial and distortion. We can take action, for a better future. A future where people are not suffering prejudice or persecution because of their faith, ethnicity or other characteristic.



Photo: Graves in Srebrenica by Julian Buijzen

Multi-Faith messages

Once again we have gathered to commemorate the deaths of many millions, the six million Jews who perished in the Holocaust and the many others who have perished in subsequent genocides the world over. Recalling is more than looking at the past and acknowledging its horrors. The glance behind must act as a jolt to the present and especially the future. It must stir within us a hope, however faint, that maybe humanity will learn to live peacefully alongside each other. Many that went to their brutal deaths had some hope of salvation right up to their final moments on earth. That hope must be our legacy and be the driving force within us. Hope must drive us all to work where everyone can sit under their vine and fig tree without fear. The evils of the past must engender in us an active will, that we, each in our way, can make this world of ours that little better.

Reverend Bernd Koschland MBE, Kindertransport refugee



**HOLOCAUST
MEMORIAL
DAY TRUST**

*Learning from genocide -
for a better future*

Thank you for joining this event on behalf of Barnet Council at Middlesex University to mark Holocaust Memorial Day (HMD) 2025. HMD is the international day held on 27 January each year to remember the 6 million Jews murdered during the Holocaust. We also commemorate the millions more people murdered through the Nazi persecution of other groups and in the more recent genocides recognised by the UK government, and the genocide in Darfur.

This HMD marks the 80th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau, the largest Nazi concentration camp complex. 80 years on from its liberation, the mission to remember remains vital. We all need to learn from one of the worst atrocities in human history: in which six million Jewish men, women and children, along with millions more non-Jewish victims of the Nazis, were savagely and brutally murdered. And this year, HMD also marks the 30th anniversary of the genocide in Bosnia – within the lifetime of most of us here today.

Each year the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust (HMDT) selects a theme for HMD and this year it is For a Better Future. We remember the horrors of the past for a reason: so we can take steps to build a better future. There are many things we can all do to create safer and better communities, and a safer and better future for everyone. We can speak up against Holocaust and genocide denial and distortion; we can challenge prejudice; we can encourage others to learn about the Holocaust and more recent genocides.

Thank you for your support.

Olivia Marks-Woldman OBE, Chief Executive Holocaust Memorial Day Trust



The yearning for a better future, the theme of this year's HMD, can never be so appropriate in today's challenging climate for interfaith relationships. Despite these challenges, the simple act of us coming together to remember the greatest crime against humanity, in a spirit of positivity, says much for the perseverance of those seeking the essential goodness of communities possessing a faith or belief in humanity.

This Holocaust Memorial Day observes the 80th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau, the largest Nazi concentration camp complex, and the 30th anniversary of the genocide in Bosnia. This resulted in approximately 100,000 deaths and displaced over two million people and in Srebrenica, over 8,300 men and boys were systematically murdered. We also remember today other genocides that have occurred since, in Cambodia, Rwanda, Darfur and Arminia in addition to other atrocities perpetrated against the Rohingya and Uyghur peoples.

80 years on from the liberation of the death camps, antisemitism (anti-Jewish hatred), has increased significantly, following the 7th of October attacks on Israel by Hamas and the subsequent war in Gaza. Extremists are also exploiting this situation to exacerbate Islamophobia (anti-Muslim hatred). Many other communities are feeling vulnerable as disharmony fuelled by populist politicians, who nurture these tensions for their own ends, to create a climate of fear, suspicion and distrust.

When we lose the trust and confidence in both ourselves and those elected to provide the security we require, anarchy prevails. When we let these populist politicians divide societies and terrorists to control the narrative, convincing societies that they have the answers, we sow the seeds of our own downfall.

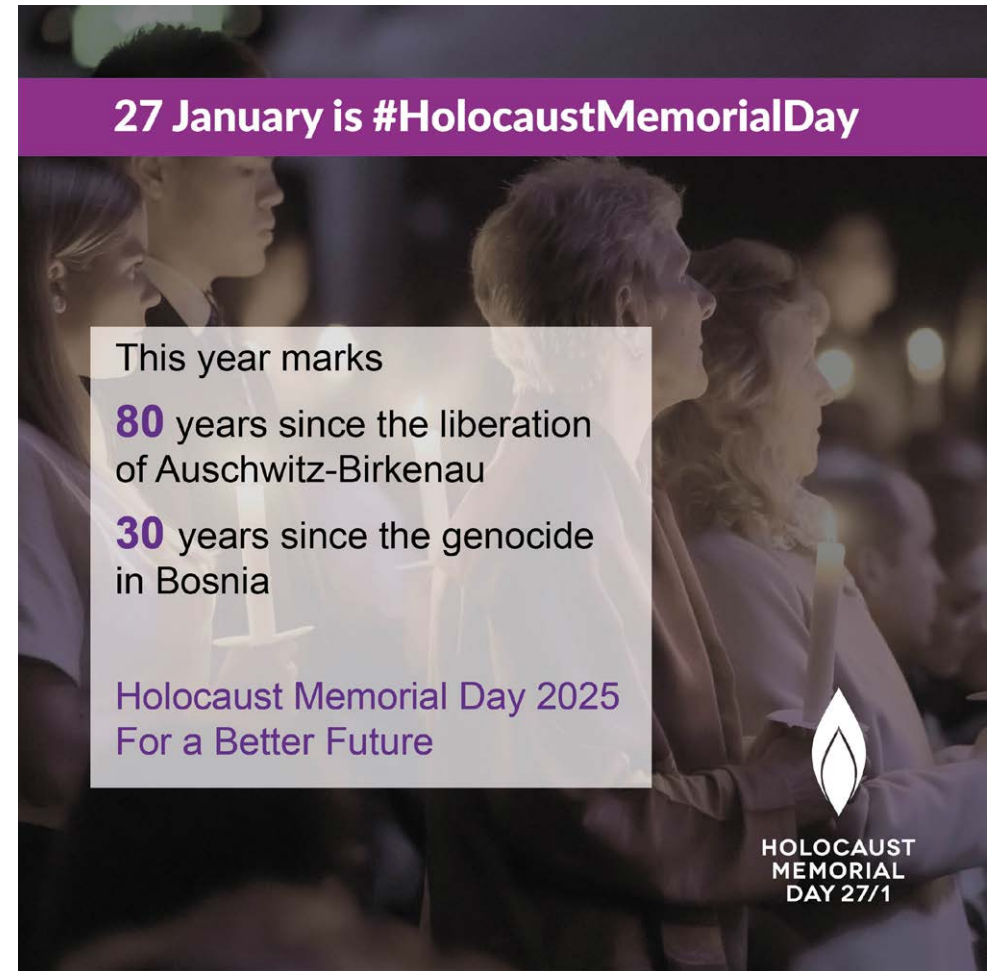
Consequently, it beholds those of us who strive for a better future, for ourselves, our communities and the planet, to work in partnership with those who uphold the values of faith and the dignity of difference. We are required to stand strong against those wishing to divide and destroy the ideals for which we advocate.

The Barnet Multi Faith Forum (BMFF) works vigorously to bring people of all faiths and none together. We organise honest and open conversations between people of goodwill. We commemorate and celebrate diverse cultural events and faith festivals. We have renewed the Barnet Covenant for Engagement between ourselves and Barnet Council and engage with all local stakeholders to achieve BarNet Zero by 2042. Amid recent threats to refugees, migrants and those of Muslim beliefs, we came together for solidarity prayers in the Finchley Mosque. These constructive events create a culture of friendly relationships and provide a vigilant reaction to potential trouble, keeping our borough safe.

On this Holocaust Memorial Day, we invite you to join us by engaging in mutual respect, education, dialogue, and understanding so that we all have an opportunity to create a better future for our families and our communities. To ensure that our precious democratic freedoms remain intact, our future health and wellbeing are maintained and where people can enjoy in peace and security, their faith and cultural identities.

Yours in Peace

Esmond Rosen, President Barnet Multi Faith Forum



Programme

MUSIC WHILST GUESTS ARE TAKING THEIR SEATS FROM 1.30PM

Barnet Band

Alyth SMG Choir

Edgware and Hendon Reform Synagogue Choir **Shuvi Nafshi**

(Please stand for the entry of the Mayoral Procession)

THE LIGHTING OF THE MEMORIAL CANDLE

Mrs Vera Schaufeld MBE, Holocaust Survivor

(Please be seated)

Psalm 23

The Reverend Dr Julie Gittoes, Vicar of Hendon and Area Dean of Barnet

God is my shepherd, I shall not want.
In green fields God lets me lie, leading me by quiet streams,
restoring my soul, guiding me in paths of truth
for such is God's name.
Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death
I fear no harm for You are beside me;
Your rod and staff they comfort me.
You spread a table before me in front of my enemies.
You soothe my head with oil; my cup runs over.
Surely goodness and mercy seek me all the days of my life
and I shall dwell in the house of God forever.

WELCOME: *Professor Shân Wareing, Vice-Chancellor Middlesex University*

ADDRESS: *The Worshipful the Mayor of the London Borough of Barnet,
Councillor Tony Vourou*

MUSIC: *Barnet Band In Memoriam by Ernest Block, arr. by Ian Brookman*

*(During this music, young people will place memorial candles in commemoration.
All other young people present are invited to join them.)*

SPEAKER: *Councillor Barry Rawlings, Leader of the Council*

MUSIC: *Alyth SMG Choir The Butterfly by Lisa Glatzer Shenson*

INTERVIEW: *Mr Manfred Kalb, Holocaust Survivor
Interviewed by Rabbi Mark Goldsmith*

MUSIC: *Edgware and Hendon Reform Synagogue Choir* **Eli Eli**

SPEAKERS: *Aoife Pearce and Katie Froget, East Barnet School*
Lessons from Auschwitz

THE BARNET STATEMENT OF COMMITMENT

Read by Aoife Pearce and Katie Froget, East Barnet School



We recognise that the Holocaust shook the foundations of modern civilisation and its unprecedented character and horror continues to hold universal meaning.



We believe that the Holocaust must have a permanent place in our nation's collective memory and we honour the survivors still with us.



We reaffirm our shared goals of mutual understanding and value the sacrifices of those who have risked their lives to protect or rescue victims as a permanent reminder of the human capacity for good in the face of evil.



We must strive to ensure that future generations are aware of the Holocaust and other acts of genocide, and reflect upon their consequences. We vow to remember the victims of Nazi persecution and all genocide.



We recognise that humanity is still scarred by the misconception that some people's lives are worth less than others because of their disability, ethnicity, gender, religion or sexuality. Racism, anti-semitism, xenophobia and discrimination still persist and we have a shared responsibility to fight these evils.



We in Barnet are proud of our multi-cultural, multi-faith community. We pledge to strengthen our efforts to promote education and research about the Holocaust and other acts of genocide. We will do our utmost to make sure that the lessons learnt from these events are fully understood.



We in Barnet condemn the evils of prejudice, discrimination and racism, and value the right for all to live in a free, tolerant and democratic society.

MUSIC: *Alyth SMG Choir Donna Donna arr. by Simona Budd*

SPEAKER: *Mr Peter Summerfield BEM, Holocaust Survivor*

MUSIC: *Edgware and Hendon Reform Synagogue Choir Enosh Kechatzir*

THE MEMORIAL PRAYER: *Cantor Tamara Wolfson*

El Maleh Rachamim (God full of compassion) is a Jewish prayer for the departed that is recited at funeral services, on visiting the graves of relatives (especially during the holy month of Elul), and at special memorial services held on festivals. The prayer originated in the Jewish communities of Western and Eastern Europe and since the end of the Holocaust, the prayer has been adapted as a memorial prayer for the victims of the Holocaust and Nazi persecution.

El Maleh Rachamim

O God, Who is full of compassion, who dwells on high, grant perfect rest in Your Divine Presence to all the souls of our holy and pure brethren whose blood was spilt by the murderers in Auschwitz, Belzec, Bergen Belsen, Dachau, Majdanek, Sobibor, Treblinka and other extermination camps in Europe; who were killed, strangled, burned and buried alive for the sanctification for Your Name.

For whose souls we now pray. May their resting place be in the Garden of Eden, Source of Mercy, may You shelter them in the shadow of Your wings for eternity; and may You bind their souls in the Bond of Life. It is God who is their heritage. May they be at peace in their place of rest. Now let us say: Amen

(Please stand)

אל מלא רחמים

שוכן במרומים. המצא מנוחה נכונה על כנפי השכינה. במעלות קדושים וטהורים כוהר הרקיע מזהירים את נשמות

אחינו בני ישראל הקדושים והטהורים שנפלו בידי הרוצחים ונשפה דמם בארשוין מידנאק, טרבלינקא, ובשאר מחנות השמד באירופה שנהרגו שנשחטו ושנשרפו ושנסבצו ושנחנקו על קדוש השם

בעבור שכל הקהל הקדוש הזה מתפללים בעד הזכרת נשמותם. בגן עדן תהא מנוחתם. לכן בעל הרחמים. הסתירם בסתר כנפיה לעולמים. וצורר בצרור החיים את נשמותם. יי הוא וחתלם וינחחו על משכבותם בשלום. ונאמר אמן:

RECITATION: *Rabbi Mark Goldsmith*

Psalm 121 Essa Einai

Led by the EHRS Choir

I lift up my eyes to the hills; where shall I find my help? My help is from God alone, Maker of heaven and earth. God will not allow your foot to slip, for your Guardian does not slumber. Know that the Guardian of Israel never slumbers and never sleeps. God is your Guardian, God is your shade at your right hand. The sun will not strike you by day nor the moon by night. God will guard you from all evil, guarding your soul. God will guard your going out and your coming in now and for evermore.

The Kaddish (in unison)

Let us magnify and let us sanctify in this world the great name of God whose will created it. May God's reign come in your lifetime, and in your days, and in the lifetime of the family of Israel - quickly and speedily may it come. Amen.

May the greatness of God's being be blessed from eternity to eternity.

Let us bless and let us extol, let us tell aloud and let us raise aloft, let us set on high and let us honour, let us exalt and let us praise the Holy One, whose name is blessed, who is far beyond any blessing or song, any honour or any consolation that can be spoken of in this world. Amen.

May great peace from heaven and the gift of life be granted to us and to all the family of Israel. Amen.

May the Maker of peace in the highest bring this peace upon us and upon all Israel. Amen.

קדיש

יתגדל ויתקדש שמה רבא. בעלמא די ברא כרעותה וימליך מלכותה בסיכון ובימיכון ובחיי דכל בית ישראל בעגלא ובזמן קריב. ואמרו אמן

יהא שמה רבא מברך לעלם ולעלמי עלמיא

יתברך וישתבח ויתפאר ויתרומם ויתנשא ויתהדר ויתעלה ויתהלל שמה דקדשא בריה הוא. לעלא מן כל ברקתא ושירתא תשבתתא ונטמתא דאמירן בעלמא. ואמרו אמן.

יהא שלמה רבא מן שמיא, וחיים עלינו ועל כל ישראל. ואמרו אמן.

עושה שלום במרומיו הוא יעשה שלום עלינו ועל כל ישראל. ואמרו אמן.

Adon Olam (Barnet Band will play first and Choirs sing)

Eternal God who ruled alone Before creation of all forms,	Adon 'olam, 'asher malakh, b'terem kol yetzir niv'ra	אֲדוֹן עוֹלָם אֲשֶׁר מָלַךְ בְּתֵרֵם כּוֹל יִצְרֵר נִיבְרָא
At whose desire all began and as the Sovereign was proclaimed.	L'et na'asa k'heftso kol, Azai melekh sh'mo nikra	לְעֵת נִעְשָׂה בְּחִפְצוֹ כּוֹל אֲזַי מֶלֶךְ שְׁמוֹ נִקְרָא
Who, after everything shall end Alone, in awe, will ever reign,	V'aharey kikh'lot hakol L'vado y'imlokhn nora	וְאַחֲרָי כִּכְלוֹת הַכּוֹל לְבַדּוֹ יִמְלוֹךְ נוֹרָא
Who was and is for evermore, The glory that will never change.	V'hu hayah v'hu hoveh V'hu yih'yeh b'tif'arah	וְהוּא הָיָה וְהוּא הוֹוֶה וְהוּא יִהְיֶה בְּתִפְאַרָה
Unique and One, no other is To be compared, to stand beside,	V'hu 'ehad v'eyn sheyni L'ham'shil lo l'haḥbirah	וְהוּא אֶחָד וְאֵין שֵׁנִי לְהַמְשִׁיל לוֹ לְהַחְבִּירָה
Neither before, nor following, Alone the source of power and might.	B'li reyshiyt b'li tah'liyt V'lo ha'oz v'hamis'rah	בְּלִי רֵאשִׁית בְּלִי תַחְלִיית וְלוֹ הַעֵז וְהַמְשָׁרָה
This is my God, who saves my life, The rock I grasp in deep despair,	V'hu 'Eli v'hay go'ali v'tsur hevli b'yom tsarah	וְהוּא אֱלֹהֵי וְחֵי גּוֹאֲלִי וְצֹר חֲבָלֵי בְּעֵת צָרָה
The flag I wave, the place I hide, Who shares my cup the day I call.	V'hu nisi 'umanu si m'nat kosi b'yom 'ekra	וְהוּא נִסִּי וְמָנוֹס לִי מִנַּת כּוֹסֵי בְּיוֹם אֶקְרָא
In my Maker's hand I lay my soul Both when I sleep and when I wake,	B'yado af'kid ruḥi b'et 'ishan v'a'ira	בְּיַדוֹ אֶפְקִיד רוּחִי בְּעֵת אִישָׁן וְאֵעִירָה
And with my soul my body too, My God is close, I shall not fear.	v'im ruḥi g'viyati Adonai li v'lo 'ira	וְעִם רוּחִי גּוֹיָתִי אֲדֹנָי לִי וְלֹא אִירָא

(Please be seated)

THE BARNET PLEDGE *Read by Uthman Mahdi Ahmad and Joshua Palmer, Barnet Multi Faith Youth Forum*

We commit ourselves, as people of many faiths living in Barnet,
To work together for the common good, uniting to build a better society
in our Borough, in London and in the wider world,
Grounded in values and ideals we share:

Community, personal integrity, a sense of right and wrong,
Learning, wisdom and love of truth, care and compassion,
Justice and peace, respect for one another, for the earth and its creatures.

We commit ourselves, in a spirit of friendship and co-operation,
To work together alongside all who share our values and ideals in Barnet and
beyond,
To help bring about a better Borough, a better capital and a better world
Now and for generations to come.

(Please stand for the National Anthem)

National Anthem

God save our gracious King
Long live our noble King
God save the King
Send him victorious
Happy and glorious
Long to reign over us
God save the King

Thy choicest gifts in store
On him be pleased to pour
Long may he reign
May he defend our laws
And ever give us cause
To sing with heart and voice
God save the King

THE FINAL BENEDICTION: *Rabbi Mark Goldsmith*

May God bless you and keep you.
May God's face shine upon you and be gracious to you.
May God's face turn towards you and give you peace.

Programme ends

Please have a look at the 'BESA: A Code of Honor' exhibition from Yad
Vashem and poems by students from Alma Primary.

As you depart the building, students from Akiva School will give you a
snowdrop bulb for you to plant, which represents a child that died in the
Holocaust. The council's project of planting snowdrop bulbs brings home
the scale of the Holocaust. So far 68,000 bulbs have been planted in the
borough.

Please plant the bulb to keep alive the memory of the lost children.

Barnet Band

A community wind band based in Barnet, north London, the first incarnation of Barnet Band formed in 1889. This makes us one of Barnet's oldest musical organisations. During the summer, we play at fetes, community events, and bandstands and we also give one to two concerts per year. Our concerts are almost always in partnership with local charities, and over the years the Band has been privileged to help many worthy causes.

Barnet Band is a not-for-profit organisation run by its members. As a community wind band, we accept new members without audition or requirement for grades. We aim for rehearsals to be fun and sociable occasions.

The Barnet Band is conducted today by Ian Brookman. www.barnetband.org

Alyth SMG Choir

The Alyth SMG Choir is made up of young singers from Alyth's Sunday Morning Galim group, where children build, develop and explore their Jewish identity. Music is an integral part of Alyth and children start learning and singing at a young age. The Alyth SMG Choir is led by Katie Hainbach, Head of Music & Arts.

Edgware and Hendon Reform Synagogue Choir

EHRIS Choir is a multigenerational choir, some of whom have sung for EHRIS (formerly EDRS/Hendon) for many years, since they were children. At today's ceremony, the choir is led by Choir Director Paul Norcross-King in partnership with Cantor Tamara Wolfson, who joined the EHRIS Clergy team as Cantor and Music Director at the beginning of January 2024.

Professor Shân Wareing Vice-Chancellor Middlesex University



Professor Shân Wareing is the Vice-Chancellor of Middlesex University. In this role, Shân leads the University's diverse and innovative community, including staff, students and partners in an outstandingly collaborative and inclusive culture.

Prior to this role she was Deputy Vice-Chancellor at the University of Northampton, and other executive roles she has held include Chief Operating Officer at London

South Bank University and Pro Vice-Chancellor Learning and Teaching at Buckinghamshire New University.

Shân's first job was as a Lecturer in English Language and Linguistics at the University of Roehampton, before she moved into the field of Education Development, during which period she was Co-Chair of the Staff and Educational Development Association.

She is Chair of the charity Unite Foundation, Chair of Advance-HE's Leadership and Management Strategic Advisory Group, and has published in the fields of linguistics, equality, diversity and inclusion, leadership and team development, and learning and teaching in higher education. Her current scholarly interests are leadership and governance from the perspective of diversity and inclusion, and higher education policy.

Shân studied English Literature and Language at the University of Oxford, and Sociolinguistics at the University of Strathclyde. She was a competitive rower for many years and has a rowing half-blue from Oxford. Shân holds a postgraduate diploma in Higher Education studies from the Institute of Education, University College London, she is a Professor of Teaching in Higher Education, a Principal Fellow of the Higher Education Academy and a National Teaching Fellow.

Mrs Vera Schaufeld MBE Holocaust Survivor



Vera was born in Prague, Czechoslovakia in 1930 and grew up in a small town called Klatovy with her mother, father and grandmother. Her grandmother had left Germany after Hitler came to power, to live with the family.

Vera had a happy childhood, going to a normal school where there were only two other Jewish children, and she was hardly aware of being a minority. She walked with the neighbours' children to school each day. Her mother, Elsa, was a medical student studying to become a doctor, which

was a remarkable thing at the time. Her father, Eugene, was a leading figure in the Jewish community and represented Czechoslovakia in International law.

The Nazis occupied Czechoslovakia in March 1938 and Vera remembers the feeling of anxiety as the family sat around the table listening to the radio. Her father said, "we are no longer living in a free country". As her father was such an influential figure, he was put on Hitler's list of people to arrest and imprison under Nazi occupation. Within two days of the occupation, he was sent to the local prison. He was not held for long, but the incident certainly marked the rising dangers for the family. Upon his release Vera went back to school but she experienced antisemitism first hand from a teacher. The class teacher stated that "Jews are the first to run away at the sign of trouble" and she remembered the feeling of being labelled for the first time.

One day, after school, her mother surprised her by taking her to a park. She explained what was going to happen and that Vera, then aged 9, had to go to England on her own. Her parents thought it was safer for her to leave Czechoslovakia until they were able to go to another country and send for her. She went to school with an autograph book which she had all her friends and family sign. It was one of her most treasured possessions.

In response to the rise in antisemitism, a British man named Nicholas Winton petitioned the UK Government to help children from endangered families living in Nazi-occupied Czechoslovakia. This led to the Kindertransport. Jewish children were allowed to travel and live in the UK, but only under very strict conditions. Their families needed to pay for their visa, and someone needed to care for them when they arrived in the UK. Nicholas Winton, supported by fellow volunteers, worked tirelessly between March and August 1939 to arrange the transport from Czechoslovakia to the UK, meeting all the government visa requirements, covering visa fees and finding each child a sponsor. Fortunately, her parents were able to afford the £50 visa fee in 1939 which was a lot of money then.

At the train station her parents had to stand behind the barriers as they were not allowed on the platform. She remembers waving goodbye to them, and this was the last time she saw her parents and any of her family. The journey took Vera through Czechoslovakia, through Germany, past the Hook of Holland to Harwich and then arriving on 1st June 1939 at Liverpool Street Station in London. Vera remembers the noise, the smoke and the dirt from the steam engines, hearing announcements over the speakers in a language she didn't understand and being worried that no one would be there to meet her.

Miss Lee, who spoke German came to collect Vera and two other children. They travelled to Bury St Edmunds for Vera to stay with her new guardians and Miss Lee continued her journey with the other two children. Vera was very sick on the journey and had to stop several times.

Vera stayed with Mr and Mrs Fairs and their daughter Betty. Betty was told to share her pocket money with Vera each week. Betty was very kind and never resented this. Betty and Vera were very close and remained life-long friends. Because Vera felt they were replacing her parents she never referred to her guardians as Auntie and Uncle, but always Mr and Mrs Fairs.

Her father was able to speak on the telephone to Mr Fairs. Mr Fairs asked her father if Vera could attend church with the family, otherwise a family member would have to remain at home to look after her. Vera's father agreed on the condition that they never tried to change her religion.

Vera's parents would send presents to both Vera and Betty and her mother, who had never knitted before, actually made them both scarves. Vera went to boarding school with Betty and was the only Jewish refugee child at the school, the East Anglian School for Girls, which later joined with Calford School for Boys when the war began. They had a separate building for their dormitory and an area for girls-only classrooms but were allowed to use the boys swimming pool.

The last communication Vera had with her family was before September 1939.

A teacher announced that the war was over, and Vera shouted 'Hoorah', but because of causing class disruption she was sent into the corridor. Vera was so happy and glad to be going home again even though she had



forgotten the Czech language. However, after a visit to the cinema there were images of concentration camps, and she soon learnt that no one in her family had survived.

Vera was helped to uncover what had happened to her family, all of whom died in the camps.

Her parents were murdered in Trawniki, a sub camp of Majdanek near Lubin in Czechoslovakia.

Between 1941 and 1944, the camp expanded into an SS training camp for collaborationist auxiliary police, mainly Ukrainian. In 1942, it became the forced labour camp for thousands of Jews within the Majdanek concentration camp system as well. The Jewish inmates of Trawniki provided slave labour for the makeshift industrial plants of SS Ostindustrie, working in appalling conditions with little food.

There were 12,000 Jews imprisoned at Trawniki as of 1943, sorting through trainsets of clothing delivered from Holocaust locations. The Jews were all massacred during Operation Harvest Festival of November 3, 1943, by the auxiliary units of Trawniki men stationed at the same location, helped by the travelling Reserve Police Battalion 101 from Orpo.

Her Grandmother was sent to Terezín (Czech), Theresienstadt (German), a Garrison town in northern Czechoslovakia which was transformed into a Jewish ghetto in late 1941. Here she met her own sister. Both Vera's Grandmother and Great Aunt died of starvation at Terezín.

Terezín served both as a transit camp for deportations of Czech Jews to Auschwitz-Birkenau and as a 'model ghetto' to which certain groups of German and Austrian Jews were sent such as war veterans, partners in mixed marriages and prominent community leaders. In this way, Terezín was intended to deceive public opinion and the international community, notably the International Red Cross who inspected the ghetto in June 1944. In reality, 35,000 Jews died in

Terezín and more than 80,000 were deported to extermination camps.

After the war Vera later trained to be an English teacher.

Due to the time spent in England, Vera had very little contact with other Jewish people, so she decided to travel to Israel to spend a year working on a Kibbutz. There she met Avram on her first day



Avram and Vera

there. Avram was Polish and was working as a shepherd on the Kibbutz. He had survived many concentration camps and survived Auschwitz-Birkenau, bearing the tattoo on his arm all his life.

They married in 1952 and moved to England. Avram studied and became a physiotherapist and Vera continued to work as a teacher. The London Borough of Brent later sent her to Ealing College to study linguistics for one year. This changed Vera's career as she became an interviewer of teachers and later an examiner of teachers to children who came from other countries and were unable to speak English. At that time in Brent there were many refugees from Kenya and Uganda. Vera was able to apply to the EU to fund the teacher placements required in schools and was able to place over 100 teachers. Having been a refugee, this inspired Vera to help other refugee children, particularly those that didn't speak English and support the teachers doing this work.

The Holocaust Educational Trust organised a visit for Vera, with Natasha Kaplinsky, to see Nicholas Winton and Vera remembers Nicholas saying to her "no one can learn from history unless they have empathy."

Vera continues to share her story speaking at many events including in Government departments and large company organisations. Vera wanted to encourage teachers to help children from other countries who didn't speak the same language.

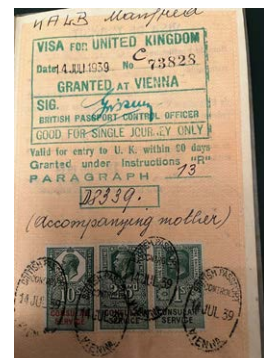
Happily, Vera and Avram had two daughters, four grandchildren and now have two great grandchildren.

Mr Manfred Kalb Holocaust Survivor



Manfred Kalb, known by all as Fred, escaped from Nazi ruled Vienna as a young child with his mother in 1939, just a few weeks before the outbreak of the Second World War. He and his mother were interned in the Isle of Man together with many refugees from Nazism and on release in 1942 they settled in Leicester.

In adulthood he moved to London, settling with his wife Joan in Edgware. Fred was a manager at Sainsburys for many years and he and Joan have brought up two children.



Fred's visa to enter the UK in 1939

Mr Peter Summerfield BEM Holocaust Survivor



Peter was born as an identical twin, with his brother George, in Berlin in Germany in June 1933, four months after Hitler came to power.

His parents were already suffering from the restrictions placed on Jewish people by the Nazis and, from 1936, they tried to find a country which would accept the family as immigrants. Eventually, they found a distant family sponsor to go to America. In August 1939 the family was finally able to escape Berlin four days before war was declared.

However, all their possessions and luggage were stolen so they arrived in England in August 1939 penniless and with only their hand luggage.

His grandmother and uncle were later murdered by the Nazis. Because of the war, the ship which should have taken the family to America was cancelled and the family remained in London. Peter's father was interned on the Isle of Man as an 'Enemy Alien' and Peter spent the war in London. During the Blitz, he slept in the Underground at night and gradually his parents slowly rebuilt their lives.

The family joined Belsize Square Synagogue, which was started by refugees in 1941, and Peter and his family have been members ever since. After the war, Peter, together with his brother, completed two years' National Service in the British Army, including time on Active Service in Egypt. Peter won a scholarship to study Law at Oxford and then qualified as a solicitor. He has been married to Marianne for more than 50 years. Between them they have five children, 12 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Peter's teddy, which travelled with him from Berlin



Aoife Pearce and Katie Froget East Barnet School



"I want to learn"

Aoife and Katie were selected to take part in the Holocaust Educational Trust's Lessons from Auschwitz Project this Autumn. This educational and commemorative project offers students aged 16-18 years the opportunity to learn about the Holocaust and consider its relevance for today. Having attended seminars, completed self-guided modules and visited Auschwitz-Birkenau in Poland, students are tasked with sharing what they have read, heard and learnt with their peers and wider community.

Holocaust Educational Trust



The Holocaust Educational Trust work to make sure that the millions who were murdered in this dark period of history are remembered, and honour those who survived and continue to tell the world of their experiences. Since 1988, the Holocaust Educational Trust has worked with schools, universities and communities around the UK to raise awareness and understanding of the Holocaust. One of their earliest achievements was ensuring that the Holocaust formed part of the National Curriculum for History, where it remains today.

They work in schools, universities and in the community to raise awareness and understanding of the Holocaust, providing teacher training, an Outreach programme for schools, teaching aids and resources. Through their flagship programme, the Lessons from Auschwitz Project, tens of thousands of young people have had the opportunity to see for themselves the site of the former Nazi concentration and death camp Auschwitz-Birkenau. They return inspired and passionate about ensuring that the legacy of the Holocaust continues for generations to come, and having seen where antisemitism can lead they are committed to calling it out wherever it is found.

Holocaust Memorial Day Trust



Holocaust Memorial Day Trust encourages remembrance in a world scarred by genocide. We promote and support Holocaust Memorial Day – the international day on 27 January to remember the six million Jews murdered during the Holocaust, alongside the millions of other people killed under Nazi persecution of other groups and in genocides that followed in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Darfur.

1933

Public burning of books written by Jews and anti-Nazis.
Jewish professors and students expelled from universities.
Jewish writers and artists prohibited from practising their professions.
Jewish shops boycotted.

1935

Jews deprived of German citizenship.
It is illegal for Jews and Gypsies to marry or have any sexual relations with Aryans.

1936

Jews may no longer vote.
Jewish doctors barred from practising medicine in government institutions.

1938

All Jews must carry identity cards at all times.
All Jews must add either 'Israel' or 'Sarah' to their name.

1939

All Jews must hand in their radios to police.

1940

Jews may no longer have telephones.

1941

Every Jewish person must wear a yellow Star of David at all times.

After 1941 the situation worsened for Jewish people living in Nazi-occupied Europe.

What happened next?

We all know.





Auschwitz-Birkenau



A special thank you to...

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Barnet Band
Alyth SMG Choir
Edgware and Hendon Reform Synagogue Choir

CIVIC GUARD OF HONOUR:

Training Ship Broadsword, Sea Training Corps
21 Company, Middlesex & North West London Sector, Army Cadet Force
Middlesex Wing, Royal Air Force Air Cadets

CANDLE LIGHTER:

Holocaust Survivor Mrs Vera Schaufeld MBE

GUEST SPEAKERS:

Professor Shân Wareing
Students from East Barnet School, Aoife Pearce and Katie Froget
Holocaust Survivor Mr Manfred Kalb
Holocaust Survivor Mr Peter Summerfield BEM

SIGNER:

Anne Molloy

MEDICAL COVER:

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EXHIBITION:

Yad Vashem - 'BESA: A Code of Honor'

POEMS:

Alma Primary

SNOWDROPS:

Akiva School



Holocaust Memorial Day 2024





London Borough of Barnet



Illustration: Children leaving Antharler Station by Hans Jackson