



# JACS JOURNAL

**JEWISH ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL SOCIETIES**

[www.jumpingjacs.org.uk](http://www.jumpingjacs.org.uk)

**ISSUE 63 - ROSH HASHANAH 2019**

## CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

**W**elcome to the latest edition of our Journal. This is the first time I have the pleasure of writing to you as the National Chairman JACS.

I felt very honoured when it was suggested and voted through unanimously at the latest Executive/Chairmen's meeting that I should take on the role as the National Chairman. After having been the Deputy to Harold Newman for 2 years I was looking forward to this new role with the support from Harold now in his role as the President of JACS. Unfortunately this exciting prospect didn't last long with the untimely passing of Harold Newman MBE, our very much loved friend and leader.

Due to the sad loss of Harold it was without question the right thing to cancel the Eastbourne holiday which was due only a couple of weeks after his passing. I am delighted however, that Barbara has agreed to continue to organise future holidays in Eastbourne and if everything goes to plan it will take place on the 10<sup>th</sup>



November this year. Look out for further details if you haven't already received them when reading this article. If you are interested in going on the holiday you better be quick as it will certainly be a sell-out! If you are prepared to give Barbara a hand with the running of it please let me or Barbara know.

I am very grateful for all the hard work that the chairmen and their committees are doing to keep the JACS branches open. I know that a number of clubs are struggling due to declining numbers and I am working on a couple of ideas that might help us to attract new members. I am always open to any suggestions that could help us moving forward

so please do not hesitate to contact me to discuss any ideas big or small.

I am pleased to say that the website and the entertainers' directory have been a success. We are getting a number of enquiries from potential members and entertainers through the website as we are providing very varied and interesting programmes across all our branches. It is essential that we keep our information up to date. If you come across an interesting speaker or excellent vocalist please don't hesitate to pass on the information to myself so I can add this to our directory and share the information with all our branches.

It has as you all probably understand been a difficult period but I am sure that with all your continued support I will be able to share some good and exiting news with you the next time I'm writing this article.

Finally, Caroline and I wish you all a very Happy and Healthy New Year and Well over the Fast.

*Per Simonsson  
National Chairman JACS*



A boy asks his Dad one day, "Dad, why is my sister called Paris?"  
His Dad replies, "Because she was conceived in Paris."  
The boy says, "Ahh, thanks Dad."  
His Dad says, "You're welcome, Backseat."

Thanks for explaining the word "many" to me.  
It means a lot.

I was on a flight the other day when the air hostess came up to me and said, "Excuse me sir, would you like to have dinner?"  
I said, "What are the options?"  
She said, "Yes and No."

My girlfriend isn't talking to me because apparently I ruined her birthday.  
I'm not sure how I did that – I didn't even know it was her birthday...

My girlfriend says I'm hopeless at fixing appliances.  
Well, she's in for a shock.

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### Thinking of joining JACS but would like some questions answered before you do?

Speak to **SHEILA LEVITT** -  
our National Secretary.  
Her phone number is:  
**020 8954 6434**  
She'll be happy to help you!

### WEBSITE

[WWW.JUMPINGJACS.ORG.UK](http://WWW.JUMPINGJACS.ORG.UK)  
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### JACS - NEXT ISSUE

The Journal is printed in time for **Pesach** and  
just prior to **Rosh Hashanah**. Please let us  
have your articles in good time.

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**If it is worth publishing it must certainly  
be worth making that phone call, right?**

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Gants Hill	Weybridge
Harrow Mosaic Reform	Woodside Park

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## EDITOR'S MESSAGE



**F**or this September (New Year edition 2019), I want to consider the family, what it is, its strengths and weaknesses and how it moulds the individuals within its unit.

The dictionary definition of 'family': –

1. a body of persons who live in one house and under one head: a household
2. those descended from a common progenitor, a tribe, clan or race, kindred, extended
3. ones children collectively
4. a group of closely connected individuals
5. of immediate kindred, parents and children

The first definition is quite a wide one, especially as these days many households are made up of diverse persons not really related to each other, and yet they are considered a 'family'. Times have changed and 'family' has many connotations and many implications.

Jung and Freud propagated the concept that the family was the greatest influence on the individual for good or ill, and it is true to say that the family's influence moulds the young child, but later on outside influences such as peer pressure takes its toll. The question of which is more important – nature or nurture still raises temperatures. To some folk, babies come into the world as a clean slate (tabula rasa) and then environmental pressures shape the individuals. I would argue genes play a large part in determining what a girl/boy will become, irrespective of any outside influences. The up-to-date studies take into account these factors as well as environmental pressures. What we become is how we tackle these problems and when a child rises above a detrimental home life and becomes a stable human being.

The family, for most part, stands for unity, help and support, and coming together in times of crisis. Its collective strength supports the individual and preserves uniformity. This, conversely, is one of the family's weaknesses as the lack of freedom and claustrophobia can lead to rebellion and ultimately to an individual leaving the security of the family. This happens particularly in cults like the Exclusive Brethren (which I studied) where the man /woman who does not want to conform is banished forthwith. In Judaism very religious Jews do not recognize the joining together of a son/daughter with a non jew and sit shiva for that child. Fortunately, now we are more enlightened in our thoughts and this is not so prevalent. However, some Muslims still abhor mixed marriages and one hears of Honour Killings in their sects.

In 2019 we have the traditional nuclear family – Mother, Father and 2 children and many other variations of that theme. Suffice to say, some families are large and some are small, and today in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century we have another phenomenon – many singles.

A long time ago it was common to find a broigus between relatives where they did not speak/communicate for many years and it seems sad that this is still going on in our enlightened age. We cannot love everyone, but we can learn to tolerate their idiosyncracies.

On a personal note looking at my family – I love them- warts and all! They don't always agree with my sentiments but who does? And then we agree to differ. One thing is sure – we get together as a family unit fairly frequently (at my place as I provide the food) and communicate in between by email and phone, which surely is the keynote to good relationships.

The Kray brothers were well known for their despicable acts of violence to all and sundry, but one thing was sure: Oedipus, smeedipuss 'they certainly loved their Mummy!' I leave you with this thought – what more would any Mother want!!

Have a very happy, healthy New Year.

*Angela Feuer*  
*Editor*





## PROTECTING JEWISH LIFE IN THE UK

Our goal at CST is to protect you. We want to ensure that you, your family, friends and community can lead the Jewish life of your choice.

We know that these are difficult times, with the terrorist threat and the overall political situation causing deep concern to British Jews. CST's volunteers and staff are absolutely committed to protecting our Jewish communities throughout the country.


CST exists to facilitate Jewish life. Yes, antisemitism is a serious problem, but there is also the very positive reality of normal, daily Jewish life. That day to day positive experience may not make the news, but we should keep it in mind when we look at how things now stand.

We have, unfortunately, seen terrible terrorist attacks against places of worship, including synagogues in the USA. After these tragedies, it has been truly humbling to be repeatedly thanked for keeping the UK Jewish community as safe as possible, but really it shows exactly why CST does its work, and why we need the total partnership of our whole community. We thank you for supporting our security work and ask that you report any suspicious or offensive behaviour to our security teams.

Finally, our warmest wishes for a happy Rosh Hashanah. Please consider volunteering for CST or donating to us. We are a charity and we cannot do our work without your help. For more information, visit [www.cst.org.uk](http://www.cst.org.uk). In an emergency, call the Police and then call our 24-hour National Emergency Number 0800 032 3263.

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*Acting is merely the art of keeping a large group of people from coughing.*  
Ralph Richardson

## AROUND THE BRANCHES

## "HURRAH FOR TEA!" TALK BY RUSSELL BOWES AT JACS HARROW 9 JULY 2019



# Rimes wot we rate...

## **An addendum to WARNING – LADIES IN THE RED HAT**

**BRIGADE** The purple hat society is based on the red hat society – a social group for women who are 50 years old and above. It was founded in 1998 by artist Sue Ellen Cooper of the good old USA. The main objective of the RHS or PHS is to promote social interaction among women. The RHS wear red hats and purple dresses.

I first saw a group in London at the theatre and immediately thought of their American counterparts, and they looked so cute I felt like joining them. This poem epitomizes how women of a certain age feel and act.

### **WARNING**

*Jenny Joseph*

When I am an old woman I shall wear purple  
With a red hat which doesn't go, and doesn't suit me.  
And I shall spend my pension on brandy and summer gloves  
And satin sandals, and say we've no money for butter.  
I shall sit down on the pavement when I'm tired  
And gobble up samples in shops and press alarm bells  
And run my stick along the public railings  
And make up for the sobriety of my youth.  
I shall go out in my slippers in the rain  
And pick flowers in other people's gardens  
And learn to spit.

You can wear terrible shirts and grow more fat  
And eat three pounds of sausages at a go  
Or only bread and pickle for a week  
And hoard pens and pencils and beermats and things in boxes.

But now we must have clothes that keep us dry  
And pay our rent and not swear in the street  
And set a good example for the children.  
We must have friends to dinner and read the papers.

But maybe I ought to practise a little now?  
So people who know me are not too shocked and surprised  
When suddenly I am old, and start to wear purple.

*Jenny Joseph*

*from Selected Poems (Bloodaxe, 1992)*

© Jenny Joseph





*It is a curious thought, but it is only when you see people looking ridiculous that you realise just how much you love them. Agatha Christie*

## THE HILL PEOPLE

The hill people, known as the Druze, having assimilated into the Israeli culture, are the most loyal citizens of Israel, even serving in the Israeli armed forces.

Today, most of the country's Druze live in villages scattered in the hills of Galilee, along the Carmel range and the Golan Heights.

We visited Ussifiya in the Carmel Mountains. Typically, it was poor and scruffy, with children, dogs, chickens and goats running freely in the dusty streets.

The Druze culture is said to be similar to the Tibetan Buddhists, and their religion to the Isma'ili Muslims. They eat no pork, smoking and drugs are forbidden; and they believe in reincarnation. Crime is virtually unknown. Those who disobey the tenet are excommunicated and banished from the community.

"We are part of the Israeli mosaic", explained Jaber Aburukun, director of village education. "But we want to keep our culture and identity distinct, so we don't allow mixed marriages, nor do our women work outside the village until they are married."

We were invited to share a vegetarian lunch of meze and unleavened bread with Jaber and his family. They are one of five families who have begun offering hospitality to visitors to educate the outside world about the Druze way of life — as well as bring much needed income to the village.

Down on the coastal plains, the Jewish inhabitants barely seem to be on the same planet.

*Harry Fenton, Chigwell*

*Below is a beautiful photograph of the Hills of Galilee...*





*He seems to have learnt human as a second language.  
A.A.Gill on Piers Morgan*

## BALD HEADS – A THING OF THE PAST!

Scientists have created a cure for baldness by using stem cells which can be developed into any type of cell in the body. There are millions of people who live with male pattern baldness, burns or alopecia and are currently only able to have hair follicles transplanted from one part of the head to the other.

This is frequently a patchy process and sometimes not very successful, but now the breakthrough creates dermal papilla cells which determine hair follicle growth, length and thickness.

This all came about from researchers at the Sanford Burnham Presbys Medical Discovery Institute in San Diego four years ago.

They now think they can develop an injection to make it work. This all seems very satisfactory, and I can imagine how many men would rush to have this process.

Mice engineered to have no hair were used to test the process, and showed that the hair was able to be grown in a realistic way. The only problem is that would it grow all over the body as well? I am reminded of a Carry On film where experimental dosage produced a healthy beard on many females!



# FOOD FOR THOUGHT

## FOOD TRENDS OF THE YEAR 2019



**Y**es, the big food trend of 2019 is plant based and vegan cooking – admittedly this was also true in 2017 and even in 2018, but now it is truly well established and all the shops are getting into the act. I note that in Waitrose there are shelves devoted to vegan appetites whereas previously they were very sparse on the ground.

M & S has launched a pulled jackfruit pizza; Yotan Ottolenghi's new restaurant has a celeriac shawarma on the menu; faux mince made from pea protein is about to go on sale in Sainsbury's. This year's big thing will be vegan fish. Look for smoked 'salmon' and fishless fingers made from seaweed. You might also see 'mock mussels, ersatz oysters and sham scamp' on a high street. All of these items can be eaten by religious jews as they are purely vegetarian. The new jackfruit will be konjac – a low calorie, high fibre root vegetable (technically an edible tuber). Lower sugar chocolate croissushi (sushi croissants) shio koji (a gluten free alternative to soy sauce); dulse (a protein rich dried seaweed), and water kefir (posh lemonade)

Fake cheeses which are dairy free are the brainchild of Kinda Co a British start up who provide cheeses made from natural cultures and healthy ingredients. Other foods on trend now include pul biber (this season's seasoning); calamansi (A South Asian citrus fruit and drinks containing cannabidiol (CBD) which sounds suspiciously like cannabis but isn't! It is oil, extracted from hemp.

But if you want to embrace veganism you should look to the countries that practice it – Sri Lanka for rice flour pancakes etc. and Burma.

Flower power has always been with us but now it is taking on in a big way. Root to flower eating will sweep the menus of Britain in 2019. Carrot tops, beetroot stems, cauliflower leaves and cucumber flowers can all be eaten, and guess what, I have done this for years. People who experienced rationing in the War Time mostly used vegetables to supplement their diet and I found a vegan recipe which consisted of 'vegetables' and a soupcon of other items which I gave to friends for a vegan dinner party.



There is no doubt it was nutritious but rather bland. Perhaps vegan cooking needs a little 'je ne sais quois' in order to pep it up a bit.

The recipe on the following page might prove interesting.



*There's always hope. Otherwise why get up in the morning?*  
Margaret Atwood

## CAVALO NERO AND POTATOES WITH CHILLI AND GARLIC

**Serves 4.**

4 large waxy potatoes about 750 g  
10 leaves of cavolo nero,  
6 tabbsp extra virgin olive oil  
2 garlic cloves  
2 pinches of chilli flakes  
sea salt.

Scrub potatoes and put them in a saucepan. Cover with cold water and add 1 tbsp salt and cook until just tender. Lift them out of the water and place in a colander until cool enough to peel. Keep the water. Peel potatoes and cut into chunks.

Remove the tougher end of the cavolo stalks wash the leaves and cut into strips. Bring the potato water back to the boil and then add the cavolo. Boil until tender which will take about 15 mins. Drain well.

While cavolo is cooking heat oil in a large frying pan and add garlic and chilli. Saute until golden then add potatoes, mix for a minute and then add cavolo and continue cooking for 5 mins then add salt as required.



## Shana Tova from the **KKL** team

**Wishing the community a happy and sweet New Year**

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## POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY



### SOCIALISM

You have two cows – you give one to your neighbour.



### COMMUNISM

You have two cows – the Government takes both and gives you the milk.



### FASCISM

You have two cows – the Government takes both and sells you the milk.



### NAZISM

You have two cows – the Government takes both and shoots you.



### CAPITALISM

You have two cows – you sell one and buy a bull.



### TRADE UNIONISM

You have two cows – they take both away from you, shoot one, milk the other, and throw the milk away.

**MORAL?** Don't have anything to do with cows, they will only bring you trouble!



*Nothing matters very much, and most things don't matter at all.  
Arthur Balfour*



We had an afternoon wearing funny hats! I couldn't get all the members in but this is the majority. It was a fun afternoon wearing mad hats and playing BINGO. Of course we also ate Hamantaschen.

*Gloria Rones, Gants Hill*

## SUBJECT: L'SHANA TOVA

That season is here once again. Please fill out the form below and send it to your synagogue to ensure you get the best seat.

### HIGH HOLIDAY SEATING REQUEST FORM

During the last holiday season, many individuals expressed concern over the seating arrangements in the Shul. In order for us to place you in a seat which will best suit you, we ask you to complete the following questionnaire and return it to the Shul office as soon as possible

1. I would prefer to sit in the... *(Check one)*

- ☐ Talking section
- ☐ No talking section

2. If talking, which category do you prefer? *(Indicate order of interest)*

- ☐ Stock market
- ☐ Sports
- ☐ Medicine
- ☐ General gossip
- ☐ Specific gossip (choose one)
- ☐ The rabbi
- ☐ The cantor
- ☐ The cantor's voice
- ☐ Fashion news
- ☐ What others are wearing
- ☐ Why they look awful
- ☐ Your neighbors
- ☐ Your relatives
- ☐ Your neighbors' relatives
- ☐ Presidential Election
- ☐ Other (e.g. single guys/ girls)

3. Which of the following would you like to be near for free professional advice?

- ☐ Doctor
- ☐ Dentist
- ☐ Nutritionist
- ☐ Psychiatrist
- ☐ Child psychiatrist
- ☐ Podiatrist
- ☐ Chiropractor
- ☐ Stockbroker
- ☐ Accountant

- ☐ Lawyer
- ☐ Criminal
- ☐ Civil
- ☐ Real estate agent
- ☐ Architect
- ☐ Plumber
- ☐ Golf pro [tentative; we're still trying to find a Jewish One]
- ☐ Other

4. I want a seat located  
*(Indicate order of priority)*

- ☐ On the aisle
- ☐ Near the exit
- ☐ Near the window
- ☐ Near the bathroom
- ☐ Near my in-laws
- ☐ As far away from my in-laws as possible
- ☐ As far away from my ex-in-laws as possible
- ☐ Near the pulpit
- ☐ Near the Kiddush table
- ☐ Where no one on the bimah can see/hear me talking during services
- ☐ Where no one will notice me sleeping during services
- ☐ Where I can sleep during the rabbi's sermon [additional charge]

5. Please do not place me anywhere near the following people:  
*(Limit of six; if you require more space, you may wish to consider joining another congregation.)*

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Your name: \_\_\_\_\_

L'Shana Tova and well over the fast!



*If you are ever attacked in the street do not shout HELP, shout FIRE! People adore fires and always come rushing. Nobody will come if you shout Help. Baroness Trumpington*

## A LIFESAVING LEGACY TO THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL

**M**agen David Adom is Israel's only national medical emergency and blood service. It is responsible for the primary healthcare for all of Israel's citizens, irrespective of race, religion or ethnicity. Remarkably, it provides this service as a non-governmental agency, dependant on funds from donors across the world in order to carry out its lifesaving work. Magen David Adom UK is one of the largest providers of this funding. Each year, supporters contribute in excess of £5m to fund everything from bandages and blood bags to ambulances, stations and bloodmobiles. This figure is

made up by the efforts of marathon runners, cake sellers and this year, Israel360 - MDA UK's new format in Israel-centred challenges. Critically, the ever-increasing number of people who remember Magen David Adom in their will play a significant part in ensuring that the medics, paramedics and 22,000 volunteers (Israel's largest volunteer organisation) have the tools they need to save more lives. A recent legator decided that he would like his legacy gift to sponsor the ground floor courtyard at MDA's new National Blood & Logistics Centre in Ramla. Work on the development has already begun. It is being funded through a three-way partnership between the Israeli Government, American Friends

of Magen David Adom and Magen David Adom UK. The project will safeguard Israel's medical emergency infrastructure and blood supply against population growth, terrorism, cyber-attack and natural disaster. As the project develops, the legacy lives on. By leaving a gift to MDA UK in his will, the donor has planted a seed that will save lives for generations to come. Leaving a gift in your will is one of the most valuable and lasting ways you can support Magen David Adom. It is also very tangible. Friends, family and loved ones can see your gift and the incredible, vital lifesaving services it provides, for many years to come.

For more information on Israel360, leaving a legacy to Magen David Adom UK (or joining us on the Legacy Mission from 10-15 May 2020) or the new National Blood & Logistics Centre, please contact the office on 020 8201 5900 or email [rachelcohen@mdauk.org](mailto:rachelcohen@mdauk.org)



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**Magen David Adom is Israel's only national medical emergency service.**

Every day, thousands of people call **101** for lifesaving assistance. Our first-responder fleet, made up of paramedics & **22,000 volunteers**, ensure we get there fast, first and importantly, for **free**.

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**[www.mdauk.org](http://www.mdauk.org)**

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## STRUMA

Our friends Mike and Rochelle invited us to go with them to Istanbul, Turkey and meet up with their son Jonathan, who was part of a team of deep-sea divers searching for the Struma, we thought that it would make a nice holiday. Although I knew that there was going to be a commemoration ceremony, I had no idea of the impact that these few days would have on us all.

The Struma set sail from Constanza, Rumania with just under 800 Jews on board, including 103 children on 11th December 1941 their destination was Palestine. They had paid 1000 dollars a head to pack into a converted cattle boat which had been adapted to take 150 people; it had one freshwater outlet and one toilet. After just a few hours at sea the engine broke down and the crew of a passing ship agreed to fix it in return for all the unfortunate passenger's jewellery and money. On 15th December the little boat limped into Istanbul and the passengers celebrated, they had arrived in neutral Turkey albeit after a four day journey which should have taken 12 hours. The Turkish authorities under the direction of the British refused to allow them to dock, they were kept on the boat for 71 days. Obviously sanitary conditions deteriorated and dysentery and lice were rife. All appeals to the Turks and the British failed and on



23rd February 1942 a tug towed the Struma out to the Black sea, with its broken engine, if indeed it had an engine at all, and the Jews were abandoned to their fate. The following morning a Soviet submarine torpedoed the helpless vessel with its helpless human cargo, and with only one exception, everyone on board lost their lives.

The organiser of the trip was a young man called Greg Buxton, who lost his paternal grandparents in the Struma; he is also a diver who volunteered with his fellow divers, at their own expense to try and locate the wreck. He announced his intentions on the Internet and was overwhelmed with the world-wide response from relatives of the passengers. Greg

organised a documentary film crew under the Direction of Simcha Jacobici to make a documentary film of the search and the memorial events, for the bereaved relatives in honour of those who perished. Greg's father told me that he had left Rumania in 1935 to study engineering at London University. He had been in a fight with a member of the Iron Guard and could never again return to his native Rumania. After the death of his parents he joined the British Army 'to fight Nazis' first as an engineer, then a glider pilot and finally when the war ended, as an interrogator. He apparently speaks many languages fluently and without accent. While interrogating a suspected German war criminal the man told him that he was not a German but that



he was a harmless Rumanian and produced documentation which showed that he was a member of the hated Iron Guard, needless to say that was a great mistake on his part.

The group all got together before Shabbat on Friday night; some of the relatives had photographs of their loved ones. There was one very emotional meeting between a lady whose first cousin was a young bride who had married four days before embarking on the Struma, she did not know her cousin's married name and was therefore unable to identify her from the list of passengers. The sister of the groom recognised the photo of the young couple, and these two people who both lived in Israel and should have met at a wedding in Rumania met each other for the first time 58 years later in Istanbul.

Then there was the David family who had a four generation family photograph; thirteen of those smiling faces perished on the Struma. The Iron Guard had killed the grandfather and put his body, stamped 'Kosher Meat' on a hook in the slaughterhouse, the rest of the family understandably panicked and left Rumania on the Struma.

Simcha who spoke fluent Rumanian, and Hebrew told me that the one survivor David Stoliar who was 19 at the time, clung to a piece of the deck for 24 hours before some Turkish men, probably searching for

wreckage, found him and took him to a lighthouse. He had lost the use of his limbs in the icy water and was hospitalised; two weeks later he was arrested and thrown into a Turkish jail for six weeks as an illegal immigrant, until eventually the British authorities relented and gave him a visa to go to Palestine.

Earlier in the week Simcha had decided to find a village near to the lighthouse where David Stoliar had been taken, because he had information that some of the bodies had been washed ashore there. He took 84 year old Elana who had lost her brother on the Struma with him. They met a man in this village who was 12 years old at the time of the sinking. He remembered that seven Jews and one crewman had been buried between the Moslem and Christian cemeteries under a fig tree and pointed out the exact place. Elana told me that she does not know how she managed to clamber down the steep incline to find the grave but she did; Simcha found a little plaque on the fig tree and having identified the right place said Kaddish. Elana refused to be manhandled up the incline and so Simcha and the rest of the film crew had to haul her up by her hands. Octogenarian she might be, but her dignity remained intact.

After Shabbos we all got together and the bereaved relatives who had come from Israel, America, Canada and the UK told their stories. One

lady asked if anybody in the group had known her father who had been the ship's Doctor. She said that she had never known him, as she had not been born when the Struma went down. Nobody present had known him personally but she was told that her father had saved the life of a pregnant woman, by informing the British that he would hold them responsible for the welfare of the lady and her unborn baby. The authorities eventually allowed her to go to hospital to give birth, although due to the squalor and disease that she had endured for the two months on the boat the baby boy was born dead.

The next morning at breakfast I asked the questioner how she had escaped from Rumania. Apparently after her father perished, his young, terrified widow gave her baby away to a Greek Christian couple immediately after the birth, and some time later, took a job with them as her child's nanny. The little girl always wondered why her 'parents' had black eyes and she didn't, she also excelled at school and they were not at all academic. When she was twelve years old her mother revealed her true identity but when asked if they were Jewish the mother denied it, saying that it was not safe to be Jewish. The young girl won a scholarship to Russia and studied medicine for three years. During this time her mother gradually told her that they were indeed Jewish and

*It is awfully easy to be hard-boiled about everything in the day time but at night it is another thing.*  
*Ernest Hemingway*

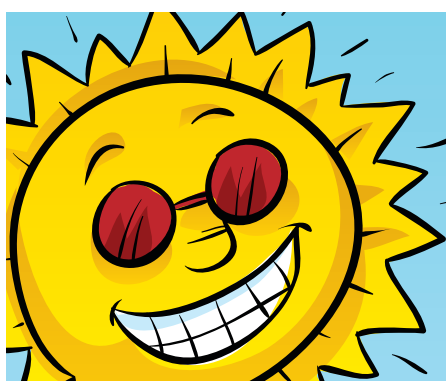
that the only safe place for them to live was in Israel. I asked her if she had become a Doctor and she said yes, she is and is now a Professor of Medicine in Tel Aviv.

We all gathered for a memorial service aboard a Turkish boat and sailed to where it is believed that the Struma sank. The British Ambassador Sir David Logan, Israel's Ambassador to Turkey, Prime

Minister Ehud Barak's special envoy, were among the dignitaries who joined the relatives and friends. The deputy Chief Rabbi of Turkey, Yitzhak Haleva and Chasan David Sevi conducted a moving service. Kaddish was recited, the Shofar was blown and the relatives threw flowers and wreaths and soil from Israel into the water. Many of the relatives read beautiful words and poems and then

Simcha with his voice cracking said "this was the place that the world abandoned these Jews, nobody wanted them, they just wanted them to just disappear and be forgotten". We were moved to tears as in one voice all the friends and relatives present spontaneously sang Am Yisroel Chai.

*Janet Clifford*



## GOOD NEWS

- ✓ MAZEL TOV to Matthew Feuer, grandson of Angela Feuer, who has graduated with First class Honours in Natural Sciences from Jesus College, Cambridge. He is now embarking on his PhD year.
- ✓ MAZEL TOV to Barbara and Sidney Moss for their respective birthdays.  
*Harrow Mosaic*
- ✓ MAZEL TOV to Joyce Davis, ex Chairman of Northwood, on her birthday

- ✓ MAZEL TOV to Shirley Imber on her first great grandchild, a little girl called Ariella.  
*Woodside Park*
- ✓ MAZEL TOV to Betty Tunkel on turning 90. *Woodside Park*
- ✓ MAZEL TOV (rather belated) for a happy birthday to a veritable youngster in his 70's, Per Simonsson, our new National Chairman.
- ✓ MAZEL TOV to Rachel Feuer, granddaughter of Angela Feuer, who was awarded the School Sports Prize for her skill in all sports. Also as part of the Girls United Team at the Football Festival she scored a hat trick (3 goals) on 7 July. What a star!!!
- ✓ MAZEL TOV to Martin Moss whose granddaughter Zoe has got engaged to Mark.  
*Chigwell*

- ✓ MAZEL TOV to Loretta Kay who celebrates her 80<sup>th</sup> birthday in September – the big one! *Boreham Wood*
- ✓ MAZEL TOV to Joan Kuperberg who celebrates her birthday in August. *Mill Hill*
- ✓ MAZEL TOV to Ruth Lynes - Secretary of Weybridge Jacs, on her 80th birthday
- ✓ MAZEL TOV to Gay Moss - Chairman of Weybridge Jacs on her 80th birthday
- ✓ MAZEL TOV to Phyllis and Stanley Corper who celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary in May.  
*Southgate*



Reaching the end of a job interview, the Human Resources Officer asks a young engineer fresh out of University, "And what starting salary are you looking for?" The engineer replies, "In the region of £125,000 a year, depending on the benefits package." The interviewer inquires, "Well, what would you say to a package of seven weeks holiday, full medical and dental, company matching retirement fund to 50% of salary, and a company sports car?" The engineer sits up straight and says, "Wow! Are you kidding?" The interviewer replies, "Yeah, but you started it."



## THE JURY

*A fictional story composed by Geoff Wolfson*

Alison was the love of my life and I had never got over her death. I remember the happy hours we spent together speaking sweet nothings to one another as we cuddled-up, she was just so utterly beautiful.

It was two years since she died and I had been brooding about it ever since. I felt sick that her killer was still living next door to me and carrying-on as though nothing had happened. The police had just called her death an accident, but I had witnessed it and knew better.

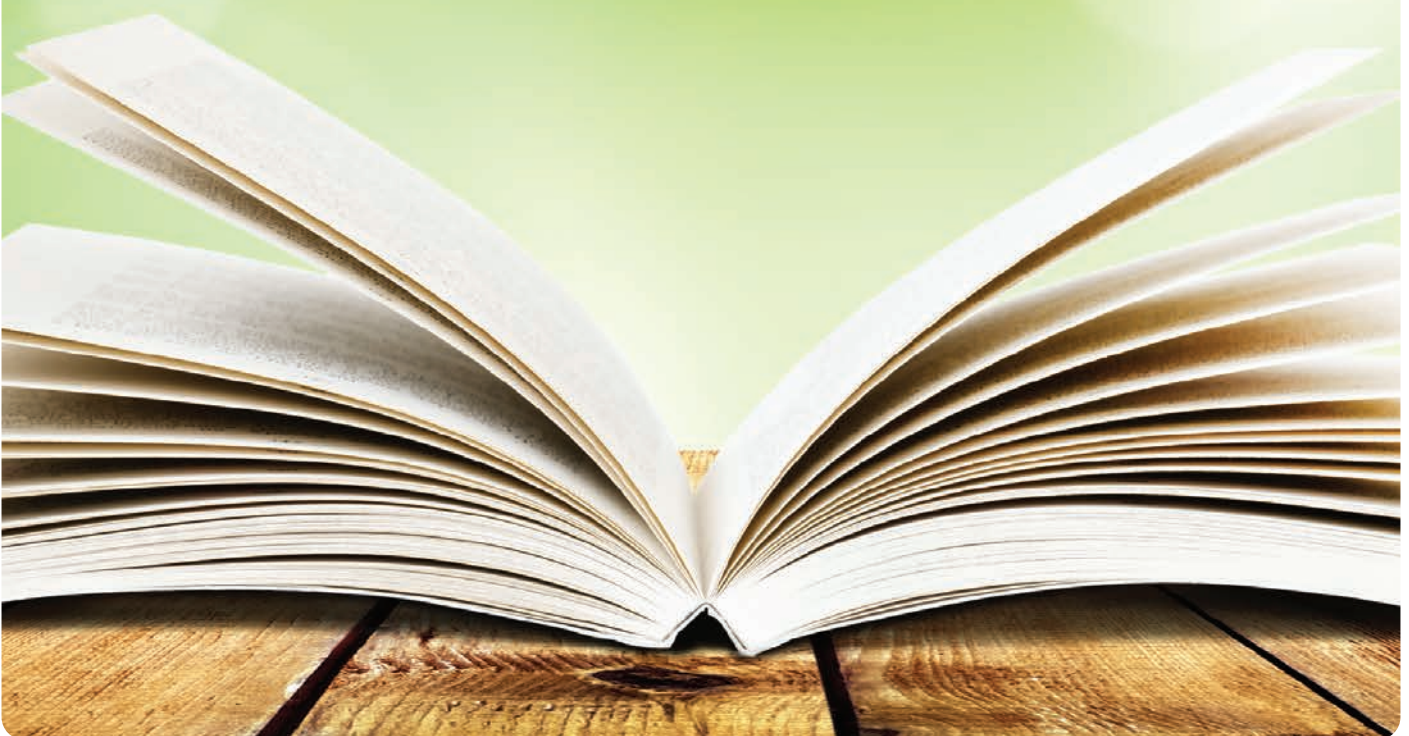
My next door neighbour John had never liked Alison and didn't mind telling me that. On the day she died Alison was crossing the road outside our homes when John screamed around the corner in his BMW. He stopped his car when he saw her and beckoned her to cross the road. Alison started to do so and it was then that John deliberately accelerated and rammed her. I rushed out from our front garden, but I could not save her. John and his girlfriend's behaviour disgusted me, they actually laughed out loud as I was just crying hysterically.

After the police said there could be no prosecution I vowed to avenge Alison and I had waited long enough. I knew John's habits and noted that he left his car at home for the five-minute walk to the station and he would return sometime between 6:30 pm and 7:30 pm.

The morning of my vengeance arrived and I phoned my garage and told them that my car's accelerator appeared to be playing up and booked it in for an inspection. This was to be part of my story. I also went shopping at Tesco late that afternoon to show good cause for using my car.

I didn't have to wait too long for John to appear and I knew where he habitually crossed the road. He never saw it coming as I accelerated behind him and threw his body into the air. He was luckier than my Alison and I had hit him just right, just another traffic statistic. The inquest treated the death as an accident and I avoided prosecution.

Yes, I was John's Judge, Jury and Executioner and Alison was avenged. Nobody kills my cat and gets away with it.



## SCRAPBOOKING

The art of Scrapbooking has become very popular. Scrapbooking allows you to create memory books that are so much more than the old standard, boring photo albums of yesterday. Using the immense supplies available for you to choose from in your Scrapbooking, you can create memory books that reflect not only your personality: but that also help you to capture the true "essence" of those special memories you want remembered forever.

You can begin making your memory scrapbook, sure to become a treasure to be shared from generation to generation with basic materials like patterned paper, rubber stamps, patterns, stencils, stickers, serrated-scissors, and the photos you already have. This is just a small example of the many supplies that are available for you to choose from in creating your memory book. You can find Scrapbooking supplies online and in many stores today. Software programs are also available to help you design the perfect memory book for your precious memories.

Begin by looking at a photo; recall the memories and feelings that arise by looking at this picture that has been captured. What does this picture represent to you? Maybe it is the love of family



and friends, or the adventure you found on your last holiday. Whatever it is, consider how you might best represent these feelings, and memories so that someone else looking at this same photograph, even a few generations removed, will be able to understand the emotions and circumstances surrounding the images of the people, places, or things seen in this particular photograph. Being able to know why a certain picture was taken, and what it meant to the one who took the shot, results in a 'bonding' between the original picture taker, the event captured, and the one who is now looking at these images.

Once you have started to think about what this picture means to you and how you would like to best represent that meaning, you can start to create a memory scrapbook that will keep these precious memories alive forever. The best memory books have pages that employ the use of many different types of materials. Don't be afraid to mix stickers with cut-outs (made by designed scissors), patterned papers, stencils, rubber stamp images,

markers, crayons, and labels. Let your creative-side come out in the designing of your memory books.

With a little creativity it is easy to create memory scrapbooks that are a joy to share with family and friends. Family history can be captured in these books: to be recalled in your lifetime and as testimonials of relatives in the past, to be known and remembered by the generations to follow. You not only have a plethora of choices in materials already available to choose from in creating your memory book, new ideas, and materials are created every day for those who want to use scrapbooking as a way to create memory books that will last forever.

What should you use to hold your newly created memory pages? You can choose to use a standard photo album, one that you can decorate using the same materials used in making your memory pages. Or maybe you will want to complete your memory book by laminating a couple of special memory pages for the front and back covers, and then "binding" them together with all of your memory pages into a book.

They are also a great resource for family members losing their memory as a way to keep them in contact with their past and settle them when they get confused.



## CELEBRATING SPIRITUAL ASPECTS OF JEWISH CULTURE THROUGH MINI JUDAICA

Some of Fay Leisorek's earliest childhood memories include collecting miniatures. Born and raised in Mexico, Fay attributes much of her love for the hobby and her creative energy to that country. She now lives in a community north of Toronto, Ontario to which she moved in 1977. Originally, in Mexico she qualified as a dentist, but unfortunately Canadian dentistry regulations prohibited her from pursuing her career without redoing many of the required courses. She chose to redirect her skills and eventually gained a graphic design diploma.

She had always 'made' articles in miniature from an early age, and had acquired a goodly number, and when she chanced upon a miniatures shop she realized that much interest had developed in this hobby.

Eventually Fay began to bring articles, which she had made, for sale in the shop and she identified a 'gap in the market'! "I hardly ever noticed any Judaica", she says "You could find things for Christian holidays, but not for the Jewish religion." In response she began making some traditional items. One of the first was a



Sabbath table that included Challah bread with a fabric cover, along with wine, candlesticks and a siddur. At first Fay went to Jewish shops to sell her creations, but eventually she began displaying her wares at Miniature Shows.

Today Fay is the only artisan in Canada who specializes in miniature Judaica. With the exception of wine bottles and some wine cups, Fay makes all the miniatures herself. Foods such as Challah bread and Latkes are made from Fimo. Fay utilizes the computer for designing prayer books and wine labels. She has been creating miniature Judaica for nearly 23 years and has more than 500 items in her catalogue which you can view online. Her work has been on display at the Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto, the Museum of Civilisation in Ottawa, the Jewish Museum in New York, the Puppenheim Museum in Holland and all across Canada in libraries, synagogues and galleries.

However, everyone who is the proud owner of a dolls house

can customize their own items ..... Before I even read about Fay – I had made challahs and a Friday night dinner of salmon, salad, potatoes and vegetables etc out of soft plasticine, and even affixed a mezuzah on the door posts of the house showing it was a Jewish residence. These articles may not be as perfect or as professional as Fay's, but symbolize the creativity which one can bring to bear on any humble miniature residence.

By the way, if you want to take advantage of miniature Judaica imported from Canada you can see it close to home at 37 Church Road, Hendon at Maureen's Miniature Shop.

Making and creating miniatures is a totally absorbing hobby, but I must admit once one gets the bug you tend to get slightly obsessive in that you just have to finish the process. Excuse me folks I just have to complete a flower arrangement for the lounge...

Angela Feuer



*Everyone feels 25 until the day they die.  
Martin Kemp*

# WHAT'S HOT

## PET OR PARTNER?

A new study shows that one in five pet owners prefer their pet to their partner. The study of 2,000 pet owners – commissioned by Panasonic Smart Home to celebrate National Pet Month – found not even our closest loved ones are a match for the bond we have with our animals.

Over a quarter of respondents claimed they are at their happiest when at home with their pet, while more than a third preferred quality time with their furry companion over time spent with most of their friends. Cats Protection has been saying it all along: cats make a house a home!



## CARRYING ON WITH THE PET THEME...

Several issues ago I mentioned that animals are influenced by living in a certain area and tend to take up regional accents. In my article I spoke of my experiment with cows in order to prove this theory which was a study by an eminent group of psychologists. Now scientists will spend the next five years recruiting cats from opposite ends of Sweden to gather information on what their miaows mean. A group of animal behaviourists in Sweden believe that pets may pick up 'regional accents' from their owners. We are truly in the Doctor Dolittle era!!!

## SPIRIT OF THE AGE

New York is having a boom in the sober night life scene, with a growing number of clubs offering booze-free nights where only mocktails are served. The rules are no booze, no drugs, no shoes and no speaking on the dance floor. There are shots which you can buy but they contain no spirits, only Amazonia – a non-alcoholic elixir that tastes like cold herbal tea.

## DID YOU KNOW THAT...

A town in the Phillippines has introduced a law making it illegal to gossip. Those found guilty of spreading hearsay face fines of up to £15, plus community service. The crackdown coincides with the start of summer, thought to be the worst time of year for tittle-tattle. The Mayor thinks that people should have something better to do !





### TOGETHER WITH AN ENGLISH SLANT

Roasted crickets are going on sale at the Abokado snack shop chain in London. Although insects are on sale in Sainsbury's, Abokado is the first takeaway chain to feature them in their menu. The crunchy, whole crickets will be available as a topping, or in bags alongside nuts and edamame.



Insects are also to the fore in CAPE TOWN, South Africa where a company Gormet Grubb is marketing maggot icecream. They use the larvae of black soldier flies in its product which comes in three flavours – chocolate, peanut butter and Christmas spices. The four young entrepreneurs behind the brand say they hope to change the world one scoop at a time by persuading people to see insects as an environmentally friendly source of food.

### A GOLDEN 'LOO'

A solid gold lavatory is to be installed in Blenheim Palace. This 18 carat WC forms part of an exhibition of work by the artist Maurizio Cattelan, but it has been plumbed in and will be available FOR USE BY VISITORS! Entitled America, it attracted 100,000 users when in New York's Guggenheim Museum with cleaners attending to it every 15 minutes. I quote "Despite being born with a silver spoon in my mouth I have never had a s.h.i.t on a golden toilet and I look forward to it." Said Lord Edward Spencer-Churchill, founder of the Blenheim Art Foundation.



### PENIS FESTIVAL

No – I'm not making this up. Japan's annual Kanamara Matsuri – or Festival of the Steel Phallus is a curiously outlandish even, in a country famed for its modesty and decorum. On the first Sunday in April, the streets of Kawasaki, south of Tokyo, are filled with huge penises carried on portable shrines by locals dressed in happi coats and sweatbands.

The festival is a serious religious one, based on the fertility rituals of Japan's Shinto religion, but in recent years it has had a lighthearted slant with the penis represented in all shapes and colours in everything from lollipops and carved vegetables to the food served in local restaurants. About 50,000 people attend and money raised goes towards HIV research.



### THE SNAKE PLANT

Commonly known as 'mother-in-law's tongue' this plant is commended for its potential to purify the air in space stations. It emits oxygen at night making it easier to breathe. Very easy to look after as I have had one for years. Patchplants.com from £10



### SHORTAGE OF PUPILS? BA ... BA BA

Fifteen sheep have been enrolled at a French primary school. The Jules Ferry School in the French Alps was told that it must lose one of its 11 classes because it didn't have enough students, so the sheep were registered to achieve the required average number of pupils per class. 'National education is unfortunately only about numbers' said Gaelle Laval, one of the parents who came up with this idea. 'With this surge in numbers, we're OK'



### ESTONIAN BEAUTY

If you visit Estonia the capital Tallinn, it is a most magical place. The old town of Tallinn is full of beautiful turreted buildings and is something out of a fairy book. It also has pebbled streets and windy roads as well as many wonderful eating houses. An experience not to be missed...





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