



**B'NAI B'RITH
YAD B'YAD LODGE
NEWSLETTER
DECEMBER 2018**

President :
Maureen Daniels

Secretary :
Myra Wand

Compiled by : David Gould

Important: Before attending any event, please contact the appropriate person from the list at the bottom of this page, month by month. For security reasons, this is critical for **main meetings**. Also please contact the same person if you find later that you cannot attend.

December Summary

Main Meeting Tuesday 4
Ramble Wednesday 5
Arts & Literature Thursday 6
Bridge Thursday 13
Ramble Sunday 16
Short Walk Thursday 20
Rummikub Thursday 27

Main Meetings at 8:15 pm

Tuesday 4 December
Unrivalled Entertainment and
Music Hall Memories

 Nigel Coleman
We will light Chanukah candles and enjoy doughnuts. There will be a £3 charge for all members.

Wednesday 16 January
Ports and Port Jews
Tony Zandle



 **Wednesday 20 February**
The Jewish Community
of Golders Green

Pam Fox
Jewish Historical Society
of Great Britain

Arts & Literature at 8:00 pm

Thursday 6 December
Chanukah Stories
& Art Gallery 

Book Club at 8:00 pm
Wednesday 23 January
Restless
By William Boyd 

Bridge – Thursday at 8:00 pm

13 December **10 January**
14 February **14 March**



Music at 8:15 pm

Tuesday 26 February
Traveller's Tales
Presented by Greg Wand 

Tuesday 25 June
Jewish-American Entertainers
No. 6 - Neil Sedaka
Presented by David Cohen 

Outings

To be announced

Rambles – Midweek

 **Wednesday 5 December**
Thursday 3 January
Wednesday 6 February

Rambles – Sunday

16 December  **13 January**
17 February **17 March**

Rummikub - Thursday at 8:00 pm

27 December  **31 January**
28 February **28 March**

Short Walks

 **Thursday 20 December**

Dates for your Diary

 **Sunday 3 February at 7:30 pm** 
Yad B'Yad Supper Quiz
Northwood & Pinner
Liberal Synagogue, £21.50

Sunday 7 to Wednesday 10 April
Walking Break 
Bradford-on-Avon

 **Sunday 2 June**
BBUK AGM, Ort House

 **Wednesday 19 June at 8:00 pm**
Yad B'Yad AGM



The Flipside

Yad B'Yad

www.bnaibrithuk.org

Editor: Vivienne Gould



December 2018



A



FROM YOUR EDITOR:

*Oh, what a busy month we have had
and with lots more to look forward to !*



*Your President and Council
wish our members and their families*

HAPPY CHANUKAH

INTRODUCING **NIGEL COLEMAN** FOR OUR NEXT SPEAKER MEETING : TUESDAY 4th DECEMBER



Noel Coward was a man of many parts, playwright, actor, producer, director, painter and poet, whose work is performed regularly all over the world. Yet behind the polished facade lay a complex man, his private life was hidden from public view.

Nigel Coleman's compelling one man play reveals the real Noel Coward.

This will be followed by a short extract from Nigel Coleman's music hall memories, recreating the world of Max Miller and Tommy Cooper to name but a few.

Nigel has done several repeat talks for JACS and U3A.



*From the President
& her council
to those members
who are not in the best of health
at present*



MIDWEEK RAMBLE : THURSDAY 1ST NOVEMBER

RAMBLING IN THE RAIN ?

As there was no one else to do a write up.....

A first for Yad B'Yad. On 1st November the first DIY on-demand ramble took place. From under a lonely and a little damp Oak tree on a hill above Chesham as the scheduled ramble was abandoned, Gill & Robert kept the flag flying by taking the planned route and continuing alone - er with each other. With the rain receding to a refreshing drizzle and the autumn colours filling the horizon and leaves crunching - or perhaps squelching - under foot we followed the planned route. Red dots out, black dots back. With only 29 turns following the route was a doddle. We conveniently ran out of waymarks in woods near Tyler's Hill and took a small short cut.



Shortly after, we awarded the field leading down to Trapps Lane the coveted title of 'claggiest field near Chesham'. With probably a kilo of mud on each foot, we developed new techniques in boot cleaning. Nettles proved particularly effective and in combination with fields full of wet grass we ended the walk with shining mud-free boots. What a bonus. The walk was enjoyed by both. Oops - sorry no photo !

Thanks for the map Viv - it just about made it to the end without dissolving.

Gill and Robert Bernard

or RECLINING AT THE RITZ



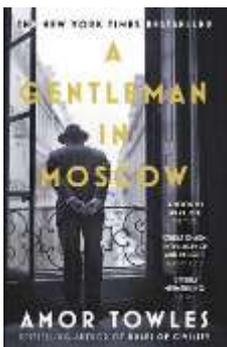
..... meanwhile the nine walkers who chickened out decided to head for a marvellous meal in Marrakesh ! Well it was "The Drawing Room" just off Chesham High Street - an unconventional and magical delight with Moroccan style furnishings, pictures and vegetarian menu where the only thing missing was a belly dancer. So our day was not a complete "washout", for here the service was excellent, the food exciting and Richard (the owner) exceptional.

Vivienne Gould



BOOK CLUB : THURSDAY 1ST NOVEMBER

A GENTLEMAN IN MOSCOW



Maureen started the evening by telling us about the American author Amor Towles who composes every chapter title of this book with words beginning with the letter "A." A good discussion followed. This book appeals more to those who like historical novels. Some of us had not finished it as we hadn't enjoyed it, but having heard from others that it takes a long time to get into and become intriguing have now become encouraged to do so.

It was about the young Russian Count Alexander Rostov who had written a poem that was not approved of. Though some would have preferred him to be shot for audacity of writing questionable poetry, their hands were stayed by some of those in power who considered Count Rostov a hero of the Russia of an earlier time. As he lived in the glorious and historic Hotel Metropol he was put under house arrest, consigned to a small cramped room in the attic. The story carried on to tell you about his life in the hotel and all the interesting characters he met.

Those who finished the book enjoyed the twist at the end but were not entirely surprised. Rostov sets up all leads necessary to escape to Finland, but it was to set a false trail. Rostov loved Russia. He had left Russia before the revolution but came back knowing the risks. He came back, because Russia was his home. And, he made the best of it in the Metropol. But, in the end, he wanted to go back to his old stomping grounds to breathe the fresh air of the country while looking at the apple blossoms once more. How could it get any better than that for a man who had lived the better part of his life inside a hotel?



Carole Franklin

We have recently discovered that it is soon to be made into a television play starring Kenneth Branagh



WEEKEND RAMBLE : SUNDAY 11TH NOVEMBER

A REMEMBRANCE DAY RAMBLE

in Greenwich Park and Blackheath



On Remembrance Sunday, 11/11, eleven of us met at Island Gardens Station to commence our ramble led by Liz and Frank. Before walking through the tunnel under the Thames to Greenwich, we stopped to admire the view of the Royal Naval College, the Queen's House and the National Maritime Museum, looking quite spectacular under the cloudless blue sky. We walked a short stretch along the river before turning off at the Trafalgar Tavern, posing for our photo next to Lord Nelson.

Just before entering the park, we stopped at 11.00 to observe the two minutes silence in honour of those who had bravely fought for our country. We then continued gently uphill through the park, admiring the beautiful autumn colours, and on to Blackheath, where we had a leisurely stroll round the village, browsing at some of the interesting looking shops. Blackheath has witnessed a number of stirring national events over the centuries including Watt Tyler and his Rebels meeting with King Richard II during the Peasants Revolt in 1381 and in 1660 Charles II returned to London via Blackheath at the Restoration of the Monarchy. We returned to Greenwich past the Royal Observatory and statue of General Wolfe, and once again stopped to admire the stunning view of London bathed in sunlight. The walk finished with a most welcome lunch at The Yacht.



However, after lunch we were given an extra treat. At Canary Wharf, Viv Gould led us on the Remembrance Art Trail. The exhibits in remembrance of those who had fallen during the two World Wars were very poignant. We were very lucky to have this opportunity, especially as 11th November was the final day of the display.



This really was a day to be remembered !

Liz Manches



MAIN MEETING : TUESDAY 13TH NOVEMBER

'A MODERN JEWISH EXPERIENCE OF THE BRITISH ARMY'

Mike Bluestone, the Chair of the Friends of Jewish Service Men and Women, introduced Dan Fox of the British Army Reserve who has served in the UK and Afghanistan. The friends raise the profile of serving Jewish men and women in the armed forces and in conjunction with Ajax (founded in 1928) publish a magazine "Menorah".

Dan gave the lodge a very interesting illustrated talk, starting with a brief history of the British Jews in the armed forces dating back to 1745. He told us about the first Jewish chaplains appointed in 1892 and about the Jewish General John Monash, who was knighted at the Battle of Amiens in 1918 at a turning point in the First World War. He followed this with the exploits of some of the 70,000 Jewish servicemen who served in the British armed forces in the Second World war (more than 20% of the Jewish community) who were awarded three Victoria Crosses between them.

Dan's military career began in 2006. There are about 500 Jewish members of the Armed Forces Jewish Community today. There is no institutional anti-Semitism. He gave many examples of how Jewish life reflects military life, particularly in areas such as remembrance. He also demonstrated how the laws of war found in the Torah-Talmud are still applied in the actions of the British army in the 21st century all over the world. The history of 350 years of Jewish service to the armed forces was celebrated in a service at Bevis Marks synagogue in March 2018, which included the installation of three Jewish chaplains.

In her vote of thanks, Gwenda Sacks thanked Dan for his talk making the lodge aware of a little known contribution that the community makes to the armed forces. She presented him with a donation for the Friends of Jewish Servicemen and Servicewomen. Dan thanked BBUK for their continuing support of the Armed Forces Jewish Community.



Greg Wand

SHORT WALK : WEDNESDAY 21ST NOVEMBER

A WEDNESDAY WANDER FROM WARWICK AVENUE

A dozen of us met at Warwick Avenue Station for our short walk into St John's Wood.



We strolled by the canal before heading inland and stopped by Hamilton Close, a mews known to house the aristocrats' horses and nearby their "laundresses", a term meaning houses of ill repute. After venturing past expensive plaqued properties of Hamilton Terrace and through more Regency-style streets we arrived at the Abbey Road Studios. Some walkers wanted a photo of us walking over **that** zebra crossing, but common sense

prevailed as the traffic was too heavy.

Carrying on through Grove End Road towards Lisson Grove where many musicians, artists, architects and writers once congregated we passed Lord's Cricket Ground, crossing into St John's Wood Church gardens famed as the place where as a child, David Gould was brought by his grandmother to play. It was also a final resting place for some well-known artists.

Our walk ended in St John's Wood High Street, where we stopped for a light lunch.

An enjoyable time was had by all with the added benefit of much brighter weather than the previous day. Many thanks to my partner in crime, Warren, for sourcing the walk.

Sandra Ross



MUSIC EVENING: TUESDAY 27TH NOVEMBER

A VIENNESE VENTURE

presented by Michael Morris

Michael's second presentation was a selection of music that were by little known composers or of little known works by well-known composers in 18th Century Vienna. He played 12 carefully selected tracks by the composers Monn, Albrechtsberger, Mozart, Hummel, Wagenseil, Vanhal, Gassmann, Salieri, Eybler, Haydn and Beethoven.

The highlights of the evening were:

The minuet which is the finale from the concerto for Jews harp, mandora and orchestra composed by Albrechtsberger written in 1770/71.

The pieces for musical clock composed by Haydn in 1793. This was played on a chamber organ made that year in London by John Avery and played by Richard Burnett.

The final piece was by Mozart. It was the Alla Turca from his Piano Sonata in A Minor K331. It was played by Richard Burnett on a Grand Piano which had a third pedal which gave a percussion effect. The piano was made by Johann Fritz of Vienna in about 1814. The tune would be instantly recognisable by fans of Dave Brubeck.

Michael told us how all of these talented composers were connected as teachers, pupils and friends. His commentary gave us a real flavour of the history of 18th Century Vienna and the events of the time.

The audience were very appreciative of the time Michael had dedicated to produce a fascinating insight into the contemporary musical scene.

Greg Wand



AN ANNUAL REVIEW FROM TWO OF OUR OTHER POPULAR MONTHLY ACTIVITY GROUPS

BRIDGE



This past year has continued to be popular with our meetings on the second Thursday of each month. Numbers have fluctuated between 4 and 5 tables dependent upon the space available in our hosts' homes. We are still on the lookout for more and larger homes as well as more players of course.

Our current bridge players vary in standard; so we attempt to get newcomers playing with others of a similar standard. Halfway through the evening we stop for tea and cakes and a chat. Sometimes, I even get asked questions about hands dealt that evening. It can be quite surprising the variety of bidding choices suggested to me!

Frank and Liz Manches



RUMMIKUB

Rummikub began as a general games evening but it quickly became apparent that people only wanted to play Rummikub, which for those who do not know, is a number game played with tiles, much like the card game Kalookie. At first Maureen ran it and then I took over when she became President.



We now have about 28 members on the list. Numbers are limited by the size of people's houses as not everyone can manage 4 or 5 tables (20 people), but it is rare that anyone gets turned away. We meet on the last Thursday evening of the month.

The host for the evening provides refreshments and we play on till about 11 pm. Some of us play by the old rules (original), some by the new rules (fairly recent and on line) and some by their own rules! But a good evening is had by all.

If anyone wants to come or would like to learn how to play, please get in touch.

Jonquil Nicolls

