



**B'NAI B'RITH
YAD B'YAD LODGE
NEWSLETTER
APRIL 2019**

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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.

April Summary

Main Meeting Wednesday 3
Walking Break Sun 7 to Wed 10
Bridge Thursday 11
Ramble Sunday 14
Rummikub Tuesday 16
Ramble Wednesday 24

Main Meetings at 8:15 pm



Wednesday 3 April
A Dentist in the Jungle
Geoffrey Bard

Wednesday 8 May
Memories from before and during the Holocaust
Lesley Urbach & Fred Weil

Wednesday 19 June at 8:00 pm
Yad B'Yad AGM 
Followed by :
Slide Show
Presented by Les Spitz

Arts & Literature at 8:00 pm

Tuesday 4 June
Topic to be announced

Book Club at 8:00 pm

Wednesday 29 May
The Lost Boy
By Sara Downing 

Bridge – Thursday at 8:00 pm

11 April  9 May
13 June 11 July

Music at 8:15 pm

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

Tuesday 24 September
Richard's Journey 
Through Europe
Presented by Richard Stanton

Outings

Sunday 30 June
Oxford & Cogges Farm
£30 includes coach, tour, entrance & cream tea 

Rambles – Midweek

 **Wednesday 24 April**
Wednesday 1 May
Thursday 6 June

Rambles – Sunday

14 April  26 May
16 June 21 July

Rummikub - Thursday at 8:00 pm

Tue 16 April  **30 May**
27 June **25 July**

Short Walks

 **Monday 6 May**
Thursday 27 June
Wednesday 10 July

Dates for your Diary

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

Wednesday 8 May
LBIA Breakfast with Polish Ambassador

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

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

 **Sunday 7 July**
Interlodge Supper Quiz 
Hendon United Synagogue

 **Sunday 4 August**
Treasure Trail

Wednesday 18 September
BBUK Chicago Bridge Lunch 
Grim's Dyke Golf Club, £19.50



The Flipside

Yad B'Yad

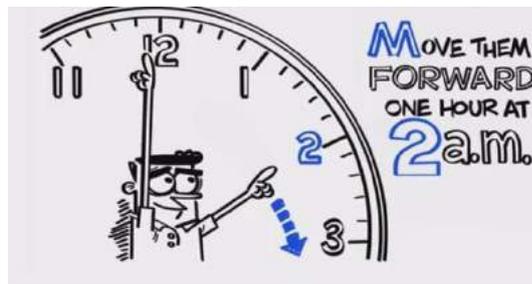
www.bnaibrithuk.org
Editor: Vivienne Gould



2019



FROM YOUR EDITOR: CLOCKS GO FORWARD TO SUMMER TIME :
SATURDAY 30TH MARCH



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

*and a Happy Pesach
to you all*



YAD B'YAD FOOD BANK COLLECTION

At our March main meeting, our members kindly donated goods weighing 46.85kg (approx. 103 lbs). The Harrow Foodbank volunteers were very pleased to receive the items and send their thanks to the donors.

Margaret Summers



Mazaltov
*to Liz and David Koten
on their granddaughter
Esti's batmitzva*



*Happy Birthday to Andrea Gohil
who celebrated her 70th birthday
on the Ides of March*

Mazaltov
*to Rosemary and Geoff Wolfson
on the birth of their new grandson
to daughter-in-law Rivkah
and son Daniel.*

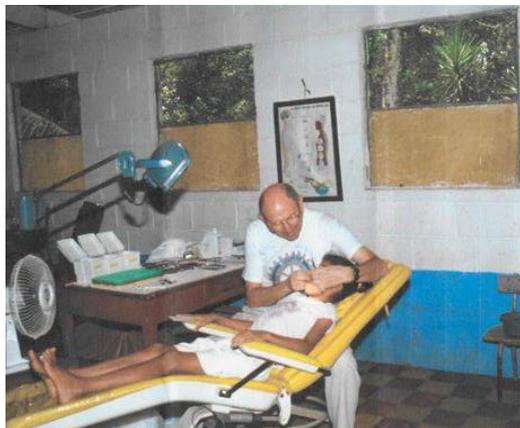


INTRODUCING GEOFF BARD FOR OUR NEXT SPEAKER MEETING : WEDNESDAY 3RD APRIL

A DENTIST IN THE JUNGLE

Geoff was a local dentist and in the 1990s offered his services through Rotary International to work with other medical volunteers to help native residents in areas where they did not get adequate medical or dental care. He did 3 terms of a month's service in the heart of the Amazon Jungle and beyond the 'blue line' in Guatemala.

He will give a short history of his work there and what happened to Val (his wife) and himself when they treated the terrorists.



He did at one time call his talk 'Voluntary dentistry, blood and sex in the jungle' which whets the appetite!





MUSIC GROUP: TUESDAY 26TH FEBRUARY - TRAVELLERS TALES

MEMORIES ARE MADE OF THIS

or GREG AND MYRA - THIS IS YOUR LIFE

For Greg Wand's music evening it was full house again at Hilary and Richard's.

Greg provided a talking point by his maps and information sheets for each record he played. These were extremely interesting and informative as well as providing an intimate view of Greg and Myra's many travels all over the world. It was certainly an eye opener of the places they had visited and a privilege to have a glimpse of their most cherished memories.



Greg started his introduction by mentioning that he and Myra had been on 17 ocean and 9 river cruises and each tune was integral to their experiences. Among the varied programme was a tribute to their going down the Nile in November 1995, and 'Old Man River' when they sailed the Mississippi. Interposed with the recordings Greg added anecdotes from each place they had visited. For instance in 1993 they went to Portugal and found out that the Portugese were the worst drivers in the world! Thus we were treated to 'April in Portugal'.



Each track was introduced by information relating to the area. Funicular, funicular (3 tenors) was about Mount Vesuvius and reminded the group that in 1944 the funicular was destroyed so this energetic couple had to walk up to the top. On my list of specialities is No.6 track as in 1972 Greg told us that he won a prize at work and so they went to the Moulin Rouge show and saw the famous 'Can Can'.

January 2017 saw this intrepid couple on a 1,000 mile drive around Western Australia. 'I talk to the trees (No9) with information sheet about walkways and detailed maps. In 1982 they had a business trip to New Zealand which brought forth 'Hands Up' which was a popular number one record at the time, and a wry comment 'little did we know that one of our daughters would emigrate there.'

A popular tune No.12 'Is this the way to Amarillo' evoked the memory of Greg who had graduated in 1968, gone to the USA travelling around on a Greyhound bus for 99 days and guess what - stopped at the town of Amarillo in Texas. This music journey even mentioned the total eclipse in No.13 'Total Eclipse of the Heart', complete with information sheet and many facts about this amazing experience.



But to me personally the most touching moment was when Greg acknowledged his love for Myra on Track 18 'Love is in the air' which took place on 9th July 1966 (according to Greg!) when they first met. Whow!!!

There were 20 tracks and too many to comment on in this article, but suffice to say it was an extremely interesting and informative evening - also one that left the audience uplifted as well as enlightened!

Angela Feuer

WEEKEND RAMBLE : SUNDAY 17TH MARCH



APRIL SHOWERS IN MARCH

On Sunday 17th March fourteen of us met outside Sarratt Village Hall for a ramble led by Liz & Frank. We set off heading north through the village, turning off just past a Victorian Postbox. We then walked across fields, passing Rosehall Farm, one of the oldest Manors of Sarratt, mentioned in documents in the middle of the 12th century and supposedly haunted by a headless ghost!

After walking through woods and over fields, we walked uphill along the road to Chipperfield. The Windmill Pub was an ideal spot to avail ourselves of their conveniences and quench our thirst. The publican was kind enough to allow us to sit in their garden and eat our picnics in comfort while enjoying the lovely warm spring sunshine.

We then continued through the woods, passing the Apostles Pond, named because the owner of Chipperfield Manor House in 1714 decided to plant 12 lime trees around the pond. Shortly after this we took an unintentional detour and on emerging onto the road, we were bombarded by large hailstones. (Viv and Gwenda sheltered in a phone box.) What a contrast to our lunch stop!

After retracing our steps, we eventually found the right path and arrived back at Sarratt, looking more like drowned rats. However, everyone agreed that it was a good walk even though the 6.5 mile ramble ended up being nearer 8 miles. Just shows we are all pretty fit!

Liz Manches



MAIN MEETING : TUESDAY 19TH MARCH

A BEGINNERS' GUIDE TO SHOP LIFTING

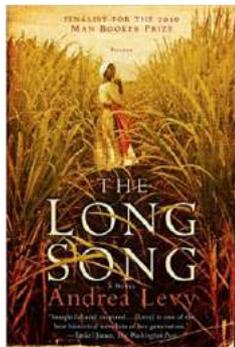
Brian Wass, a former police officer, gave us a fascinating talk about his career as a store detective at Fenwicks, Brent Cross. We learnt that a store, like Fenwicks, would expect to lose £2 million a year to theft.

Brian and his team were able to spot potential shoplifters by their body language, enlarged pupils and demeanour. As, today, CCTV is used, the detectives do not need to wait for a suspect to leave the store before confronting them. Brian did stress, however, that they had to be certain that theft had taken place so needed the video evidence. It seems that Brian had trust in us because he then told us numerous ways that shoplifting can be done. I wonder if I was the only person to take notes. Of course mine were so I could do this write up.

Gwenda Sacks gave the vote of thanks for what had been a most interesting and amusing talk.

Vivienne Roland





BOOK CLUB : THURSDAY 21ST MARCH

THE LONG SONG

The evening started with a lengthy discussion on the author Andrea Levy who sadly had died since Eve had chosen this book for us. She was born in London to Jamaican parents, and her work explores topics related to British Jamaicans and how they negotiate racial, cultural and national identities.

The Long Song is written as a memoir by an elderly Jamaican woman living in early 19th-century Jamaica during the final turbulent years of slavery and the transition to freedom. It is an emotional and harrowing account told from the point of view of those who experienced the troubles first hand and tells the tale of a young slave girl, July, who lives at Amity - a sugarcane plantation. She lived through the 1831 Baptist War, and then the beginning of freedom.

The themes of the book incorporate: how it feels being an immigrant Jamaican, racism, black versus white, landlord versus tenant, slavery and its abolition, slave uprisings, rape, the 1831 Baptist War in Jamaica, the clergy, and love triangles.

Everyone enjoyed *The Long Song*. It gave us a very interesting insight into the lives of slaves in Jamaica.

Vivienne Gould



SHORT WALK : MONDAY 25TH MARCH

A RAMBLE FROM RUSSELL SQUARE



On a very sunny but cold morning, twelve members gathered at Russell Square underground station. The station was built in 1906, when it was still the custom for each station to have a unique style of tiling, so that illiterate workmen would know when to get off the train. To remember the victims of the bombings on 7 July 2005, there is a plaque identical to the one at Kings Cross-St Pancras.

Our walk was ably led by John Ashmele, and roughly traced the route from his home to his elementary school in the 1950's.

We strolled through Russell Square Gardens, which were re-landscaped in 2002 in a style based on the original design. The Russell family owned Bedford House, which was demolished to allow Russell and Bedford squares to be developed in 1804.

John showed us the 6th floor window which was his childhood bedroom in Whitley Court. He remembered watching the funeral cortège of George VI pass down the street in 1952. Every Christmas day, the nurses living in the hostel across the street would sing carols as they walked to the hospital where they worked. Comedian Sandy Powell ("Can you hear me, mother?") lived in the flat next door.

During John's childhood, there were still many bomb sites awaiting development, including the site of the Brunswick Centre built in the late 1960's in Marchmont Street. We strolled along several narrow streets containing interesting old fashioned shops, Victorian pubs and numerous blue plaques commemorating artists, authors and entertainers. Kenneth Williams grew up in a flat above his father's barber shop at 57 Marchmont Street. We passed Argyle Primary School, where John received his elementary education.

John remembered the man who came every day to sell toffee apples to the school children. Today the pupils are nearly all from immigrant families. The walk finished in Argyle Street, now occupied by respectable small hotels, but in earlier decades part of the Kings cross "Red light" district. Finally we had lunch in the British Library, already heaving with hungry students.

David Gould



ARTS & LITERATURE GROUP
LITERARY CORRESPONDENCE

Tuesday 26th March

Dear Reader

I am writing to tell you some of the things you missed at our meeting tonight when we came together to celebrate the power of literary correspondence.

A letter is one person's written message to another pertaining to some matter of common concern. Letters have been sent since antiquity. Tonight we looked at all sorts: personal love letters between grandparents, letters from a German Jew interned in Australia and a sequence of letters from an 18 year old Jewish WW1 soldier culminating with a letter from his regiment informing his parents that he had been shot for desertion.

We discussed the epistolary novels *The Colour Purple* and *84 Charing Cross Road* and we deliberated over frequent "Letters to the Editor" contributors with examples.



Individual historical letters contributed included Van Gogh's letters to his brother Theo, Clementine Churchill to Winston rebuking him for not being as kind as he used to be, Michelangelo to a friend lamenting the torture endured painting the ceiling of the Sistine chapel, 3 Elvis Presley fans to Eisenhower begging him not to send Elvis to the army (well at least not to give him a GI haircut) and Ghandi writing to Hitler for the sake of humanity.

Also featuring tonight was William Donaldson, the British satirist and writer, who, under the pseudonym of Henry Root, was the author of *The Henry Root Letters* -a collection of correspondence between the supposedly retired wet-fish merchant, Root, and the great and the good. His letter to the Queen complaining that she was always opening things so suggesting she should try closing things instead was a good point to close our meeting!

Yours in letters

Vivienne Gould

(Flipside editor)

