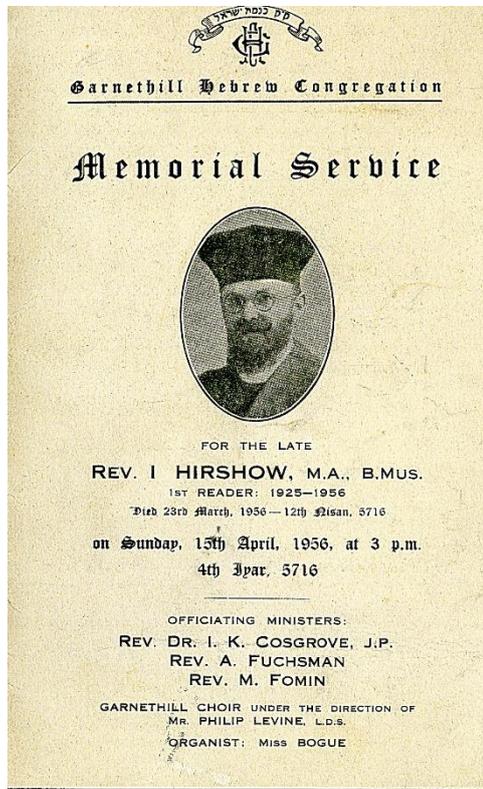




Garnethill Monthly April 2021

A Trip Down Memory Lane



The Times referred to a recent new BBC Radio 3 project on the work of Russian-born cantor Isaac Hirshow who became the celebrated University of Glasgow's first Bachelor of Music. His journey began from Velizh, a Russian shtetlil, in 1883 and he

eventually made his way to the city of Glasgow and became a much loved Chazan in Garnethill. His Glasgow concerts in the 1920s helped define Scottish-Jewish identity. The article explained that despite his incredible legacy his musical work was relatively unknown. In 1922 he emigrated to Scotland where he took up the post of cantor at the Chevra Kadisha synagogue in the Gorbals area.

In Warsaw he had worked as a choirmaster and cantor at Adas Yeshurun known as the "synagogue of musicians". Recently, Radio 3 partnered with the Arts and Humanities Research Council to grant funding to academics to study seven

musicians. One academic was very excited about the Chazan's cantata called The Hope of Israel which he described as superb and a work which straddled east and west.

The Archives Centre has a collection of material about Rev. Hirshow, including music manuscripts, his cantata 'The Hope of Israel,' and copies of around fifty documents, photographs, certificates, references and press cuttings. Much of this material was donated by Rev. Hirshow's granddaughter in Israel, Adele Stephens. (Photos are kindly donated from the collections of the Scottish Jewish Archives Centre).

Eddie Binie our current Chazan said that Rev Hirshow's music is still sung in Garnethill-Hashkiveinu, Uvashfor Godol and Vay'hi Bayom Hashlishi, which is sung on Rosh Hashannah and Yom Kippur. He said, "In the Hallel, we sing a few bars of his 'Cantata': 'Min Hameitzar Korosi Yo' ('The Hope of Israel') which was composed by Rev Hirshow for his B. Mus (Glas.) in 1938.



ANNOUNCEMENT:

Services are resuming ...

27 March, Saturday; 10 AM

28 March, Sunday; 9:30 AM

29 March, Monday; 9:30 AM

- The Bimah Boys committee have been contacting male members via email and/or phone to ensure there will be a minyan for all three services
- We are limited to **50 people** at each service
- We will be using downstairs for everyone; as there are **32 socially distanced seats on both sides** of the downstairs areas (2 metre distance)
- You will be expected to wear your mask and use hand sanitiser, as before

Looking forward to seeing you there !!



THANK YOU !!

A big thank you to Neville Shaffer who has graciously donated funds to polish the Marble inside the prayer hall. Thank you to Josephine for overseeing the work, which was carefully completed with environmentally friendly products by our contractor.



THANK YOU !!

Charles Levine and Morris Shapiro have volunteered to ensure our Website is regularly updated.

Welcome on board ...



PASSOVER GREETINGS...

May the Festival of Passover bring you the blessings of

Good Health, Good Fortune,

Love, Peace, Prosperity.

Sue (Chairman)

Just in the nick of time before lockdown.....



Mazel Tov to the delighted couple who got married last Friday 19th March 2021 in Paris just before the lockdown. Kevin Ayoun, grandson of Linda Hornstein and nephew of Errol Hornstein married Anna under the adorned Chupah. We wish them much happiness.



Things in France are determined by region. Paris has gone into a lockdown situation from last Shabbos with all forms of religious services stopped. This caused a panic in our family as my sister's son Kevin was due to be married last Sunday !! Fortunately the Rabbi agreed to have the chupah on Friday before Shabbos and lockdown. After the civil ceremony at the local Mairie (town hall) which is compulsory in France for all marriages they went to the shul and were married. In Marseille things are slightly different. Places of worship remain open with up to 50 people allowed to attend.

Pesach goods are not a problem in Paris and Marseille the two cities with the largest Jewish population in France. There are supermarkets where you can buy Pesach goods. They remain open in both cities. There will not, however, be any communal seder nights this year.....truly why is this night different from all others!!

Errol (Parnas)

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To make a donation, please visit uk.virginmoneygiving.com and search for Garnethill Hebrew Congregation



Pesach Memories of Yore

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My mother was always very fastidious when it came to Pesach. She changed everything. We had nowhere in our small kitchen to keep Pesach dishes, cutlery, pots and pans, so they were kept wrapped upstairs at the bottom of everyone's wardrobes.

My sisters and I had to run up and down to bring them all downstairs and help to wash and dry each one. We always had two Seder nights and my father laboriously read every single word of the Haggadah from beginning to end. There were no fancy sweets or chocolates, only acid drops, which we learned to like. My mother was not a baker, so we had to make do with coconut jam sponge from the Deli, which I hated. Still, we never went hungry, with plenty of chicken soup, kneidles and chicken, meat or fish

When I got married, I used to go back to my mother's for Seders. When she was no longer with us, I kept the tradition of changing everything and having two Seders. It was hard work, but I got used to it and my father came to me and read as always. Sadly, today, with lockdown, nothing will happen, but hopefully next year, we will manage Seders again **(Roberta Wright)**.



On the radio a Rabbi was chatting about Pesach. He asked the question:

What is the difference between a piece of Matza and a cardboard box?

Answer: The box doesn't make any crumbs on the carpet... **(Elaine Marks)**

My mother's magnificent Seder table and my father's beaming face as he took his place with all the family, to recite the initial blessings, are images that are with me to this day. In later years, with the addition of his three grandsons, history repeated itself. Magic moments and magic memories! **(Pamela Levin)**

“ We were slaves to Pharaoh in Egypt, but HaShem our G-d took us out from there, with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm” **Haggadah**

Month of April/Nissan/Iyyar 5781 Shabbat and Festival

April	Nissan	Omer Start	End
3 Shabbat	21 Pesach, 7 th day	6 7.42 Fri	8.53
4 Sun	22 Pesach, 8 th day–Yizkor	7	8.56
9 Fri	27 Yom HaShoah	12	
10 Shabbat	28 P.Shemini, mevorchim, start <i>Pirkei Avot</i>	13 7.56 Fri	9.09
12 Mon	30 Rosh Chodesh Iyyar, first day		
13 Tue	1 Rosh Chodesh Iyyar, second day		
14 Wed	2 Yom HaZicharon	17	
15 Thurs	3 Yom HaAtzmaut	18	
17 Shabbat	5 P.Tazria–Metsora, Perek 2	20 8.10 Fri	9.26
24 Shabbat	12 P.Acharei Mot–Kedoshim, Perek 3	27 8.24 Fri	9.43
26 Mon	14 Pesach Sheni		
30 Fri	18 LaG BaOmer		

MAFTIR/HAPHTORAH FOR APRIL

Shabbat 3 April Pesach 7 th Day	Mr. Len Dorfman
Sunday 4 April Pesach 8 th Day	Mr. Errol Hornstein
Shabbat 10 April	Mr. Charles Levine
Shabbat 17 April	Dr. Richard Levin
Shabbat 24 April	Mr. Len Dorfman

Yahrzeits for April

Shabbat 3 April	Mrs. Brenda Frame; Mrs. Jacqueline Goldberg, Mrs. Marilyn Silverdale; Mr. Michael Conn; Dr. Fiona Frank; Dr. Michael Greenhill; Mr. Kenneth Greenhill; Mr. Trevor Schuster–Davis
Shabbat 10 April	Mr. Charles Levine; Mr. John Cosgrove; Mr. Stanley Kaye
Shabbat 17 April	Mrs. Lana Jacobs; Mr. Charles Trager; Mr. Harold Fox; Mrs. Pearl Levy; Mr. Anthony Silverdale; Mrs. Pamela Levin; Dr. Richard Levin; Dr. Colin Levin; Mr. Garry Levin
Shabbat 24 April	Mr. Howard Singerman; Mrs. Claire Singerman; Mrs. Judith Gillis; Mrs. Pam Friend; Mrs. Renate Mackay; Mr. Stanley Kaye

Happy Passover from across the world.....



This year's Pesach in Singapore is significantly different from last year for two key reasons. First both the synagogues reopened about six months ago and secondly we are hosting communal seders. The Singapore government has managed the pandemic extremely well. Life is back to some form of normality in that you can go to a movie, eat out or go shopping (the last two are the most popular Singapore pastimes). We have been wearing a mask for a year now and social distancing and social tracking have become a norm. There is even a hint that by the end of the year we may be traveling overseas again. Nobody is more pleased than Grace Kelly, my wife, as she's had me home for over 13 months now!

This month there was one dark spot. A 20 year old Muslim Singaporean, who was serving national service (which is compulsory here) had been radicalized and was planning to attack one of the synagogues. Fortunately, the authorities apprehended him before he could act. Every cloud has a silver lining and the support from the Muslim community over the last few weeks has been excellent with various events held to show the solidarity. Singapore is a country that from day one that has been built in a harmonious society. **Chag Sameach from Robin & Grace Kelly**



What a rollercoaster it has been over the last few months as efforts continued to contain Covid 19. Lockdowns were eased and tightened again over the winter months as new and highly transmissible variants appeared. Pesach this year at the end of March heralded renewed optimism here and in Israel.

For many weeks Israel has topped the worldwide league tables for vaccination rates. This has allowed a nearly complete easing of lockdown. Bars, restaurants, shops and shopping malls and theatres are open as are sports and leisure facilities. There are two standards for the easing of lockdown, green passports which are not an issue for a population used to identity cards and the purple standard both of which have enabled more freedom. Ben Gurion airport has reopened for Israelis although there is concern about the possibility of the transmission of new variants.

This picture is a vast improvement on last summer in no small part due to the successful vaccination programmes. We all hope that this can be maintained so that we can look forward to visiting Israel again in the not too distant future. **Suzie Dover Pesach 2021**

A Letter to Garnethill..

Bishop's House
Corran Esplanade
Oban PA34 5AB



March 21st 2021

Dear Friends,

Last year our communities celebrated Pesach and Easter in unusual and restricted circumstances. We thought then that it would be a one off event, that this year there would be a return to normal but once again many of us are facing celebrations apart from family and friends.

This has been a difficult year for all of us. Many have lost loved ones without being able to accompany them into death or being able to mourn with family and friends. Many have been pressurised by work and home schooling. Others have experienced loneliness and stress while others have found time to enjoy their homes and explore new interests. We have come to be grateful for the work of nurses and doctors, care workers, essential service providers – all those who keep our communities running smoothly and contribute to its well-being.

Pesach, remembering as it does, the liberation of the People of Israel from the slavery of Egypt reminds us that our hope in liberation and salvation is well founded. It gives us confidence that there is light at the end of this corona tunnel, that there is a brighter future ahead and that we can be restored to health and well-being and enjoyment of friends and family. Hopefully, we will do so having learned the lessons of this time of lockdown. We have seen with our own eyes how interconnected we are as human beings, how we are all affected by viruses that cannot be contained within nations, cultures or religions, how dependent we are on each other and on those who serve the needs of our community. May we emerge from this experience with a renewed sense of human fraternity and a renewed commitment to continue the good relations between our two faiths and the work of interreligious dialogue here in Scotland.

For the moment, however, I am happy to send greetings and good wishes to you and the whole Jewish community as you celebrate Pesach, in my own name, in the name of the Scottish Catholic Bishops and indeed the Scottish Catholic community.

Yours sincerely

+ Brian McGee, Bishop of Argyll and the Isles President of the Bishops' Committee for Interreligious Dialogue

The Chief Rabbi's Pesach Message 5781



11 MARCH 2021

“You will see, you will see, how good it will be next year.”

Why, at every Seder, do we enthusiastically sing, “leshana haba’ah biyrushalayim” – next year in Jerusalem? Although we have made the same declaration every year, it has never come true – at least not in the messianic sense in which it is intended – so why not simply say “In the future, we will be in Jerusalem”?

Hope

Any study of Jewish history is a study of hope, often despite apparently impossible odds. It is therefore fitting that the epic story of the inception of the Israelites as a nation, the Exodus from Egypt, stands among the greatest illustrations of optimism and forbearance of all time.

It was a truly extraordinary miracle. The chasm in status between the Egyptian overlords and the Hebrew slaves could hardly have been greater. The most sophisticated and powerful civilisation on the planet controlled and persecuted a tiny nation of slaves, who were denied every basic human dignity and any capacity for resistance. What hope was there for salvation? On what basis could the people summon the strength to go on despite everything? The answer is that they knew of the promise that Hashem had made to their ancestor, Abraham, that they would be strangers in a land where they would be oppressed and enslaved, but He would ultimately redeem them and they would return home to the Promised Land. Despite everything, they chose hope over despair. They chose to believe that salvation would eventually come.

Optimism

This places Pesach 5781 into valuable context for us. This time last year, we were coming to terms with the fact that we could not celebrate Pesach with extended friends and family as we usually do. It was agonising for so many, particularly those who were vulnerable or lonely. We took comfort in our belief that this was a 'one-off' and next year would be different. How then should we respond in the face of yet another Pesach when so many are separated from their loved ones, having not yet banished Coronavirus from our midst?

Let us approach this Pesach with the same degree of hope and optimism as ever. Real progress is being made and we are blessed by the extraordinary miracle that is the vaccine. Britain and Israel have led the world in administering its roll out and, Be'ezrat Hashem, we will soon return to a more regular rhythm of life.

I am inspired by the beautiful words of Ehud Manor, the Israeli songwriter, who wrote his famous song 'Bashana Haba'a', at a time when the State of Israel seemed to be surviving from one war to the next:

'Od tireh, od tireh, kama tov yihye, bashana, bashana haba'a' - 'You will see, you will see, how good it will be next year!'

Valerie and I extend to you all our warmest and best wishes for a healthy, fulfilling and kosher Pesach.

Chief Rabbi Ephraim Mirvis

March 2021 • Nisan 5781