

Parade and Ceremony Sunday

20th November 2011

2pm at the

Cenotaph Whitehall
London WC2

Fall-in Horse Guards
Parade at 1.50pm

Nearest Tube Station
Westminster

(Jubilee, District & Circle lines)

The AJEX Annual Remembrance Ceremony and Parade once again falls on Mitzvah Day, bringing additional support to this long established event.

Hundreds of AJEX members, their descendants and other military and youth groups march together down Whitehall in remembrance of the fallen British Jewish service men and women.

MitzvahDay
make your mark 

This year's Reviewing Officer for the Parade will be Rear Admiral David Steel CBE BA, FCIPD, FCILT, Barrister-at-Law. David Steel joined the Royal Navy as a Supply and Secretariat Officer in 1979 and currently holds the post of Naval Secretary and Chief of Staff (Personnel) and Chief Naval Logistics Officer.



David Steel

Field of Remembrance

Each November The Royal British Legion creates a Field of Remembrance at Westminster Abbey to pay tribute to all those who have bravely served in the British Armed Forces and who are sadly no longer with us.



A ceremony will be held on Thursday 10 November 2011 at Westminster Abbey. All those who wish to have family members or friends, who were killed in action or died in service, commemorated with a Magen David marker should write to: Mr G J Kaufman at AJEX Head Office (address on back cover).

Please supply their name and all relevant details known. If you are able to make a small donation to AJEX in their memory, this will be much appreciated and help towards the costs.

And Don't Forget

British Jewish War Veterans
and their dependants need

YOUR LEGACY

AJEX Head Office can help you
amend or create a will.
call them today
020 8202 2323

National Chairman's Message

AJEX at this time is experiencing exciting times. This will be the 90th Anniversary of our laying a wreath at the Cenotaph in 1921.

It continues to enjoy support from its members and branches enabling us to continue our vital activities and we are still pursuing ways to increase our membership and income.



Dr. Arnold Phelops National Chairman

I hope to see many of you at the Parade on 20th November. You can all help to make it a bumper turnout in our 90th Anniversary year.

I end my message by wishing everybody who reads this a Happy, Healthy and Peaceful L'Shana Tova.

90th Anniversary Golf Day Raises £4K

This summer over £4,000 was raised at a special AJEX 90th Anniversary Golf Day.

Held on 7th July 2011 at Potters Bar Golf Club, 64 players and many more spectators enjoyed the day even with the occasional rain shower.

Annual JFS Veterans Day

On Tuesday 26th July 2011 thirty five Jewish war veterans, all AJEX Members, took part in the Annual JFS Veterans Day - a very popular event at JFS School. Nearly 300 pupils from year 9 (14 year olds) attended a full day of activities, reflecting on World War II years.

The day began with an act of Remembrance including the playing of the last post and recitation of the Kohima poem by pupils.

During the day, pupils presented their own findings about the war years, had the opportunity to try on original uniforms, participated in group discussions with the visiting veterans and took a look at a collection of military memorabilia and equipment, which was viewed and handled with great interest.

AJEX has learnt that the day, which is a regular feature in the JFS curriculum, has another very interesting effect. The event often encourages discussions back home with relatives and grandparents who had participated in the war and it's aftermath, but until that moment had not been able to talk about it - until now...



JFS Students wearing some of the Jewish Military Museum's collection of uniforms

Award for Vice President

Gabriel Kaufman, an AJEX Vice President, Chairman of the Monash branch of the Royal British Legion and a past National Chairman, was recently awarded a Civic Award. The ceremony took place last March, at Barnet Town Hall in Hendon, where Gabriel was presented by the then Mayor of Barnet, Councillor Anthony Finn, with the award in recognition of services to the Borough.

AJEX would very much like to wish Gabriel congratulations, a worthy award for an exemplary gentleman.

AJEX Archivist Get Results

Martin Sugarman, AJEX's Archivist, has been in touch with The Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) about a number of Jewish graves bearing a cross on the headstone. Martin requested that they be replaced by the Star of David.

We at AJEX are delighted with his research and the subsequent outcome. CWGC wrote back to Martin confirming that Private G Kosmann, buried in the Chapelle-D'Armentieres Old Military Cemetery, Gunner D Belmon, buried in the Pozieres British Cemetery, Ovillers-La Boisselle and Sergeant W Mack, buried in the St. Pol Communal Cemetery Extension, will have placed, *"...a Jewish emblem on the headstones... as and when they come up for replacement naturally."*

A Monthly Dose of Chicken Soup

AJEX House, a residential warden controlled home in London's Stamford Hill is home to over 40 residents with Jewish ex-service connections and was founded by AJEX in the late 1970's. Jewish Care for the past year has been treating residents to a communal monthly traditional Friday night Shabbat dinner and served by volunteers from Jewish Care's local Brenner Community Centre.

The three course dinner, with Kiddush and benching is an event the residents really look forward to. Other AJEX members are very welcome to attend; should you be interested please contact Leon Newmark on 07817 207185 for details of dates and costs.

AJEX-BRANCHNEWS...

Q&A at London Branch

The Finchley & Hampstead Garden Suburb AJEX Branch recently hosted a Q&A session at Kinloss Synagogue, Finchley. A great turnout of members from all over north London attended the event. The panel of dignitaries included the Mayor of Barnet, Local MP Mike Freer, Johnathan Arkush and Maya Jaffe.

AJEX on the South Coast

The Brighton & Hove AJEX Branch have been busy this past summer. In July they held a quiz, raising money for AJEX's welfare fund and in August they were represented at the annual service held by the Canadian Veterans Association and The Royal British Legion in memory of those who died at Dieppe. The Branch Standard was carried by Michael Phillips and the Branch Chairman, Aubrey Cole, was also in attendance.

Annual Whisky Club

Newcastle's AJEX Branch held a whisky tasting evening recently - raising £300. This event is now being staged annually in memory of AJEX stalwart, Maurice Black.

Party for William & Kate

Cardiff's Penylan House held a joyous event on 29th April to celebrate the Royal Wedding of William to Kate. The party was organised for residents and other guests, many residents are AJEX veterans. Guests included AJEX Cardiff Branch member Harry Poloway MBE BEM, who acted as MC and several other AJEX members too. In a lounge decorated with bunting, the varied programme included entertainment, sing-a-longs and a delicious home cooked lunch and tea, providing an immensely enjoyable gathering to mark a truly unforgettable Royal Wedding celebration.

Obituaries

Harry Shepherd - born 23rd April 1928 - died 28th January 2011
Age 82

Harry was AJEX's National Chairman from 1995-96. In WWII Harry served in the Royal Army Medical Corps. His education included gaining an MA Honours degree from Oxford University. He made his name as marketing chief for Marks & Spencer and for many years he was also chairman of the Oxford Street Association. A keen Zionist, he was an active supporter of Ben Gurion University.

He is survived by his wife Frances, two daughters, eight grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.



Lt. Col. Peter G Davis
DSC R M born 9th
Dec 1923 - died
18th August 2011
Age 88

Son of Capt Solomon Davis, a founding member of AJEX.

After serving in the Home Guard Peter joined the Royal Marines in 1942. After the war he became a Regular Officer and climbed the ranks serving in Portsmouth, Poole, Germany, Malta and Malaya.

In retirement Peter kept up his association with the Royal Marines, was an active member of AJEX and became Chairman of the Jewish Committee for HM Forces.

For Peter's full Obit go to
www.ajex.org.uk

We also Offer our Deepest Sympathy to the Families of

Sidney Goldberg
Kenton Branch
age 88

Julius Cowen
Southgate Branch
age 101

Regional Conference

On Sunday 24th July 2011 the Regional Conference was held in Leeds. Branches from Leeds, Merseyside, and Southport attended the day along with a number of branches from London.

Len Fineberg, Chairman of the Leeds branch, opened the event with special reference to the 90th Anniversary of the first wreath laying by Jewish Veterans in 1921 at the Cenotaph in London.

Jeffrey Fox, Regional Chairman and National Deputy Chairman, together with Gabriel Kaufman, Alan Levine, Mervyn Kingston, Mrs Avril Levinson and Dr Peter Wagerman, all addressed the conference and Ron Shelley, Parade Marshal, appealed to the audience for maximum attendance at this year's AJEX Remembrance Parade in November.

The afternoon session was run by Dr Arnold Phelops, AJEX's National Chairman, who opened a discussion on the future of AJEX. Attendees all seemed to be in agreement that it would be an excellent idea to encourage non Ex-Servicemen and Women to join AJEX.



**The Lord Mayor of Leeds -
Rev'd Councillor Alan Taylor**

The conference closed on a very upbeat note, when delegates joined the Lord Lieutenant and the Lord Mayor of Leeds to view the new wing of the Leeds Jewish Housing Association, to which AJEX donated £15,000.

News from The Jewish Military Museum



The Jewish Military Museum continues to offer an informative evolving exhibition space, with events taking place for all ages throughout the year. The museum staff, together with AJEX members, work increasingly outside the museum with many schools, as well as taking temporary exhibitions to other public events and spaces.

Recent Events at the Museum

STORY TIME AT THE MUSEUM was a programme that started this past summer and due to its success the museum would like to offer it during all future school holidays. A professional storyteller is brought in, who researches relevant stories to capture the imagination of 4-8 year olds, arts and crafts activities and refreshments are offered, giving families a chance to experience the collection.

In addition to this, the Museum has started a monthly TOPICAL COFFEE MORNING, bringing small groups together to discuss subjects such as November's topic; "Where would we be without war?". The museum want to hear what you think and

offer you the opportunity to explore their exhibits in a different way. So come and have your say. Booking is essential, do call the museum for more information.

Looking for Sponsors

These events and others that are planned all help to increase visitor numbers to the museum, awareness of AJEX and a further understanding of the Jewish Contribution to the British Armed Forces, from the Boer War to current conflicts.

The museum is looking for Event Sponsors in order to continue and build more programmes, to bring even more visitors through the doors. If you are interested in sponsoring such events, even naming them after a loved one, please do call the Jewish Military Museum office.

The Museum on the Road

Each year AJEX members hold a ceremony at the National Memorial Arboretum in Staffordshire to mark Armed Forces Day. The Chairman of the Jewish Military Museum, Ron Shelley MBE, with Dr. Peter Wagerman and the Museum's Education Officer, Niki Goorney were part of the group this past June. As in previous years, local schools from the



North Statue at the National Memorial Arboretum

Staffordshire area participate in the event and Chasetown Specialist Sports Academy played host to a presentation, with two other local schools in attendance, Broadway School and Great Wyrley Performing Arts School.

Mr Shelley and Dr. Wagerman talked about the Jewish contribution to the British Armed Forces and the relevance of Remembrance today in the wake of current British troop deployment. The students also had a very interesting session with the Holocaust Education Trust, before joining in the Armed Forces Day Parade at the National Memorial Arboretum.

The students contributed to the occasion by speaking of hopes and dreams, including a moment of remembrance for a past student of Chasetown who served in the RAF and was killed whilst serving in Iraq.

Can you Help?

Three men serving with the Pioneer Corps were killed in an explosion that occurred in Milford Haven on 28th April 1942. A memorial marking this event will be dedicated at a service to be held in April 2012. The names of these three men are: Pte. Heinz Schwartze, Pte. Ludwig Rosenthal, Cpl. Heinz Abraham (New York). If anyone has any knowledge of these gentlemen's surviving relatives, would they please get in touch with the Editor, Henry Morris via AJEX Head Office, as the organisers would like to invite them to the event.

AJEX is looking for any runners who have entered the ballot for the Virgin London Marathon on 22nd April 2012, to run and raise money for AJEX's welfare division. Please contact Jacques Weisser at AJEX Head Office if you are interested.

The editor, Henry Morris, would like to hear from any Jewish ex-servicemen who may have been employed by Montague Burton of Leeds and who donated to the planting of trees in Israel in 1958. He believes this is a notable story worth researching. Henry can be contacted at AJEX Head Office.

Contact Us

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AJEX Charitable Foundation
Charity Commission
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