

The Past - the Present and the Future



Ron
Shelley
MBE

Chair of the Jewish
Military Museum,
Ron talks about their
successes and ambitions

The Jewish Military Museum moved to Hendon four years ago and we are proud to say that we have hosted more than 1000 visitors and several hundred school children during that time.

The museum was founded and is currently supported and funded by the Association of Jewish Ex-Servicemen and Women (AJEX).

We are located in Hendon, North West London and display a unique and important part of Anglo-Jewish heritage.

An array of artefacts, memorabilia and uniforms can be seen at the Jewish Military Museum, a living testament to the courage and heroism shown by thousands of British Jews who served during WWI and WWII. We also honour British Jews who fought in other campaigns and those *currently* serving in the Armed Forces today.

The museum often steps out of its premises and into the wider community. Several times a year and with the help of AJEX volunteers, our museum staff visit schools up and down the country and sometimes overseas, with a programme that has become a very useful resource to teachers. It involves a treasured visit from real life ex-servicemen and women, enhancing the school's study of World War II, which is part of the national history curriculum.



Bielefeld School Visit - children of UK servicemen and women stationed in Germany

With a compact and informative mobile exhibition to hand, the Jewish Military Museum also works hard to keep the Jewish and wider community informed of its existence and to tell the story of their heroic brethren. This exhibition has travelled not only to schools but to the House of Commons, other museums, synagogues, shopping centres, libraries and universities.

“
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”

A professional team works at the museum backed up with the support of our volunteers.

The future for the Jewish Military Museum is bright, with plans to move to larger and more accessible premises. These will include lecture, research and meeting room facilities, so we can offer more education programmes while encouraging friends and supporters.

So please do pay us a visit and perhaps get involved. We want help to keep the flame burning and remind future generations of the contribution given to Britain by British Jewish men and women, in and out of wartime.

We are working to create an even bigger and brighter permanent memorial for everything they believed in and we still do.

The Mobile Exhibition is New and Improved

We have a new mobile Jewish Military Exhibition; a very informative display which is now in an easy pull-up banner format, that takes minutes to erect, pack and ship in lightweight shoulder bags.



We loan it out to other museums and often use it during our educational visits. It creates a talking point during the programmes and enhances the experience for the children and teaching staff.

The mobile is available for your school, conference or synagogue - Do contact us to arrange a booking

Bursary for Undergraduates



Zac Newman at the Museum

Zac Newman, who graduated from Nottingham University in the summer of 2008, was the first recipient of the bursary offered by the Jewish Military Museum to students whose dissertation covers any aspect of the Jewish contribution to the British Armed Forces. Zac's dissertation was entitled Vladimir Jabotinsky, The British, and the Formation of the Jewish Legion during WWI.

Our 2009 bursary has been awarded to James Green, history student at Leeds University who will submit his dissertation on Jewish Servicemen in the British Army during WWII, 1939 - 1945.

Undergraduate students who would like further details about this scheme should contact the museum office. Copies of Zac's dissertation are available from the museum's library.

Back to School Again and Again

The museum's education programme has enjoyed tremendous success during the past 18 months.

More than 30 schools have met with members of the Museum's valued volunteers, who speak, usually from experience, either in the museum or on site in schools. The format for the programme varies and includes assemblies and workshops. We have been delighted by the response, working with all ages from primary schools to undergraduate University students.

The following is an extract from a letter received from a student at JFS, after our annual Veterans Day event at the school:

"It was enthralling to listen to all the wonderful veterans. Many of the exciting stories were about their roles in the army and how they contributed to the country during war time. I felt very fortunate as they taught me many great things. It is great that we can learn history from the true source. It was a good experience as we had the opportunity to ask questions. I felt very involved as we had many fascinating conversations with the veterans."

Here are the schools and other education establishments that we proudly work with:

- Bancrofts School - Essex
- Beis Yaacov Secondary School (Girls)
- Bell Lane Primary School
- Bielefeld School - Germany
- Chalkwell Primary School - Essex
- Chasetown College - Birmingham
- City of London Girls School
- City of London Boys School
- Clore Shalom Primary School
- Courtlands Primary School
- Edgware Reform Hebrew Classes
- Girl Guides Borehamwood
- Haberdashers' Aske's Girls
- Haberdashers' Aske's Boys
- Hackney Primary School
- Hasmonean Girls School (Secondary)
- Hasmonean Boys School (Secondary)
- Hasmonean Primary School
- Hertsmere Jewish Primary School
- Independent Jewish Day School
- Ilford Jewish Primary School
- Immanuel College
- Jewish Lads & Girls Brigade
- JFS
- King Solomon High School
- Kol Chai Hebrew Classes
- Mathilda Marks Kennedy School
- Menorah Primary School
- Michael Sobell Sinai School
- Noam Primary School
- Notting Hill & Ealing High School
- Nottingham University JSoc
- Queens College
- Sir William Ramsey School, Bucks

Honouring our Past Supporters



Mark Kosky
Jan 5th 1923 - Aug 28th 2008

During the latter part of 2008 we sadly lost two of the museum's staunch supporters, Mark Kosky and Cyril Zamchick.

Both Mark and Cyril were active volunteers, joining us at the Museum and on our regular visits to schools, offering individual and unique styles that really engaged with young students.

Both these AJEX veterans will be greatly missed.



Cyril Zamchick made this model of the Anderson Shelter (home made shelter) which is often used during the Museum's education programmes. It always creates enormous interest from all age groups.

Want to be our Friend?



- We are looking for some friends.
- Would you like to help us on our journey to build a bigger brighter Jewish Military Museum?
- A place to honour the past and encourage and educate the future.
- Do you have a few spare hours a month?

If you are interested please call, we want to hear from you.

Telephone Brenda on 020 8202 2323



At the Jewish Military Museum, we have on file the details of over 60,000 Jewish military personnel, who served in the forces from 1939 up to the present day.

Come and visit us to access this information at our interactive touchscreen resource centre, or go to www.ajex.org.uk and find it online.

Meet the Museum's Professional Team...



Brenda Goldberg - Museum Administrator

Brenda has been working full time at the Jewish Military Museum since 2007. She has been responsible for building a successful education programme involving schools and university students, as well as helping to develop the collection.

Her passion for the museum has encouraged many more groups and individuals to visit, by introducing easier access like the "Late night at the Museum" initiative.

Brenda has also been meeting with and encouraging essential relationships with other independent museums in and around London.

Lynne Benarroch - Fundraising Researcher

Lynne is a new team member, looking into fundraising opportunities, via trusts and foundations and new programmes involving the commercial and voluntary sectors.

With a new museum site on the horizon, Lynne is also preparing a strategy to sustain the museum in years to come via donors and other fundraising schemes.

...and our Dedicated Lay Leadership

The Jewish Military Museum has a very active and involved lay leadership who give up so much of their time and work tirelessly alongside the professional staff.



Jack Lewis

- Ron Shelley MBE - Chairman**
- Henry Morris - Curator**
- Martin Sugarman - Archivist**
- Leonard Stern - Communications**
- Jack Lewis - Record of Honour**



Martin Sugarman

Two Recent Donations

Thelma Alphandary (Nee Goide) has recently donated her perfectly kept uniform from her Royal Naval service days during the second world war.



Original uniform on display at The Jewish Military Museum

The Women's Royal Naval Service (WRNS) was formed in 1917 to carry out shore-based duties which enabled sailors to go to sea. The WRNS were disbanded in 1993 when women were finally allowed to join the Navy.

The latest donation to the museum's collection came from the late Doctor Bruce Eaton's family, who uncovered his kit bag in the family home's loft, filled with treasure from his Royal Army Medical Corps (RAMC) days.

Included in the bag was Dr Eaton's original uniform, a mobile stretcher, his medical arm band and other war time memorabilia. The museum is in the process of having the bag and its contents restored, in order to display it very soon.



Replica RAMC armband circa 1940s



Late Night at the Museum is a new initiative to allow wider access to the Jewish Military Museum's extraordinary collection.

The Museum is the ideal venue for an outing for members of your association/group/committee and it is **completely free of charge** and includes a guide!

Our usual opening hours are:
Mondays - Thursdays
10.00 am - 4.00 pm

However, to accommodate requests for group visits, we are

introducing "late nights" by arrangement. We can even arrange light refreshments too.

For more details or to make a booking and make a night of it, please do contact us.

For security reasons, during usual opening hours, visits are by appointment only, so simply telephone to make your booking.

Contact Us

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AJEX Charitable Foundation
Charity Commission
Registration No. 1082148

Thanks to the Pears Foundation

Thanks to the work of the Pears Foundation, AJEX and the Jewish Military Museum are able to share a truly informative 30 minute DVD production entitled Jewish War Heroes of the British Armed Forces. It tells the heroic story of Jews who served in the British Armed Forces over the last 250 years.

The Pears Foundation, whose values and philosophy include Jewish heritage and responsible British citizenship, produced this DVD for AJEX. **FREE** copies are available for you to take away when you visit the museum and we encourage you to watch it and share it with others too.



This DVD has been circulated to over 100 schools since it's production nearly two years ago, where it is warmly received as an important resourceful teaching material.

The documentary can also be viewed on-line at youtube.com - just type in the title Jewish War Heroes and sit back and enjoy!

Have you Ever Visited the AJEX Website?



www.ajex.org.uk