

Allan Julius Takes on Reviewing Officer Role

This year's reviewing officer is AJEX's newest and most high ranking member. Brigadier Allan Aubrey Julius. Allan retired from the British Army in 1983, after 36 years of service.

Born in 1928, he was conscripted into the Army in July 1947. When asked about his life Allan delights in sharing with us his story.

“ Being asked to take on the Reviewing Officer's role... is truly an honour ”

“Joining the Army from humble beginnings opened up a whole new world. It enabled me not only to travel and live in 23 countries, play and excel in sports such as horse riding, rugby, boxing (for the army) and sailing, but also to learn languages including Gurkhali, Italian and Swahili. I also met many exciting intelligent people, many of whom are still in touch and others who have, sadly, passed on to better pastures.

I met my beautiful wife, Stefanella, in Kenya and we married in Kuala Lumpur in December 1956. She was an intelligent and accomplished



Allan Julius

classical concert pianist, we had twins, Nicola and Stephen. Both are now married and I have four grandchildren, Phillipe, Stefanella, Alexander and Carolina. My wife sadly died in 2001.

Finding and joining AJEX is part of my desire to re-establish my Jewish roots. I have been warmly welcomed by everyone at AJEX head office and the Finchley and Hampstead Garden Suburb branch and look forward to a long and happy association. Being asked to take on the Reviewing Officer's role for the 75th Anniversary remembrance Ceremony and Parade, is truly an honour.”

New Jewish Chaplain

Rabbi Arnold Saunders is the New Chaplain to the Armed Forces. Born in 1958 he is an active member of Manchester AJEX.

Rabbi Saunders is the first ever Jewish CCM (Civilian Chaplain to the Military) and is responsible for the spiritual and pastoral care of all serving Jewish personnel.



Rabbi Arnold Saunders

Watch out for the next AJEX JOURNAL in Spring 2010 which will have a full interview with the new Chaplain

Fallen Heroes

The Association was delighted In July 2009, to hear that Servicemen and Women, who died in combat, will receive a posthumous award from H.M. The Queen.

The Elizabeth Cross will be granted to the next of kin of Armed Forces personnel killed on operations or as a result of terrorism in a mark of national recognition for their loss.

Next of kin will receive the Elizabeth Cross - a sterling silver emblem in the shape of a cross over a wreath - plus a Memorial Scroll signed by The Queen which will bear the name of the person who died. This honour will be granted to families who have lost loved ones in conflicts dating back to 1948.



The New Elizabeth Cross

Peter Wagerman, National Chairman of AJEX, writes “It is right and proper that those who gave their lives in the service to the Crown should be honoured in this way”.

Families of service personnel who have died since 1948 and wish to receive the eligibility criteria, can telephone the Ministry of Defence on 0800 085 3600 or go to the MoD website www.mod.uk and follow the links to the medal office.

Heroes Return

The Big Lottery Fund launched earlier this year "Heroes Return 2" which is funding for veterans wishing to visit and mark overseas anniversaries throughout 2009 and 2010.

This scheme is to help World War II veterans who saw active service, to apply for grants of between £150 to £5,500 depending on the destination and are set to cover the cost of travel and insurance. Widows and widowers of WWII veterans are also eligible.



Bernie Carton at the AJEX 2008 Parade

Bernie Carton, an AJEX member, obtained over £2000 and last summer was able to visit Italy, one of the locations where he served during the war.

See below to find out more about the scheme and eligibility.

Telephone the application helpline on
0845 0000 121

Or visit
www.heroesreturn2.org.uk

Dates for the Diary

5 Nov 09 - Field of Remembrance. please join AJEX for this annual ceremony at Westminster Abbey. Fall in at 10.30am for 11am. Please advise AJEX Head Office of your attendance



8 Nov 09 - Remembrance Sunday. Please support your local event. Details about the London event are available from AJEX Head Office

10 Nov 09 - The Unknown Warrior. A short ceremony arranged by the Western Front Association takes place at Victoria Station, Platform 8, at 8.32pm. A group from AJEX will be present

15 Nov 09 - 75th AJEX Remembrance Parade Whitehall. Followed by Reunion and Rally at the Grand Connaught Rooms

27 Jan 10 - Holocaust Memorial Day. This is the international day of remembrance for the victims of the Holocaust and of other genocides

End of Feb 10 - AJEX Israel Mission. A trip is being organised. For further details and to take part, please contact AJEX Head Office

21 Apr 10 - The AJEX Annual Conference. Open to all members. A London venue will be announced in due course

AJEX Supports Maccabiah

The Maccabiah Games, referred to as the "Jewish Olympics" is now the 3rd largest sporting event in the world and takes place in Israel every 4 years.

The 18th Maccabiah Games saw over 500 participants from Great Britain this past summer, they returned with an impressive 38 medals, including 9 Golds.

AJEX helped to sponsor two of the team members who took part in the Junior Girls Football tournament.



Photo supplied by team member Stephanie Elek



Team GB's Junior Girls Football Team at work and on tour

The girls had a terrific experience thanks to AJEX, not only playing in the games, but also visiting Israel and learning about the country and its history.

Both participants wrote to AJEX expressing their gratitude for a once in a lifetime experience that exceeded all their expectations.

For photos and full details of the
18th Maccabiah Games
visit
www.maccabiah.com

Generous Legacy



Margery Maud Grenville Schwartz
6th February 1917 - 24th July 2008

A former long standing member of Ilford's AJEX branch, Margery Maud Grenville Schwartz (nee Myer) generously left a bequest of £100,000 to the AJEX Welfare Division, an amount that will certainly go a long way to help the ever increasing elderly client base that are needing our help more and more.

Born to a well known Jewish family, she lived in Henley and as a young girl her family moved to Maida Vale.

Before the war she worked for the Central British Fund for German Jewry (which later became WJR) and was also involved in the Kindertransport.

During the war she volunteered and was accepted into the RAF where she served in the aptitude testing unit for potential pilots.

She was a keen member of AJEX and marched every year in the Annual Parade until her health prevented her.

A great supporter of many charities, her legacy to AJEX is a donation greatly appreciated.

Margery is survived by her husband Dr Maurice Schwartz.

AJEX Honours Last WWI Survivor

Henry William Allingham
6th June 1896 - 18th July 2009

AJEX Deputy National Chairman Dr Arnold Phelops together with AJEX standard bearer Leslie Sutton and accompanied by their wives, represented the Association on 30th July 2009 to pay last respects to the late Henry W Allingham at his funeral in Brighton.



Henry Allingham at The Imperial War Museum - June 2006

Allingham was the oldest surviving member of the British Armed Forces and at the ripe old age of 113 - the oldest surviving veteran of the First World War.

He was also the last surviving member of the Royal Naval Air Service (RNAS) and the last surviving founding member of the Royal Air Force.

From 2001 he had become the face of the First World War Veterans' Association and made frequent public appearances to ensure that awareness of the sacrifices of the First World War was not lost to modern generations. He received many honours and awards for his First World War service and his longevity.

Celebrating One Hundred



(l-r) - Hyman Plaskow & Leslie Sutton with Dr Cowen on his 100th Birthday

On the 17th of September Dr. Arnold Phelops - AJEX Deputy National Chairman, Alan Levine - the Welfare Chairman and Leslie Sutton our National Standard bearer, attended the 100th birthday party of Dr. Julius Cowen, a long-time member of AJEX.

Sydmar Lodge, Dr Cowen's residence, was the party venue. It turned into a very lively affair, attended by 60 guests, many of whom were relatives including his children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. Entertainment came from his grand-daughter, followed by Douglas Poster, a professional cabaret act, who sung numbers from Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin etc.

The rest of the afternoon was filled with a rendition of Happy Birthday, the presentation of a beautiful cake, afternoon tea and a speech from Hyman Plaskow, a fellow AJEX member, treasurer of the Southgate branch and an ex-patient of Dr Cowen.

The finale was to present Dr Cowen with a special AJEX certificate. Arnold Phelops commented: "He seemed a little overwhelmed by all the fuss but certainly had a fabulous afternoon, as we all did."

Jewish Military Museum News...



The Jewish Military Museum has continued to expand its professional team. September saw the arrival of a dedicated Education Officer, Niki Goorney. She will take full responsibility for the education programme which includes visits to schools and universities and hosting group visits to the museum too.

Niki comes with a great deal of experience in youth work, and will develop the existing programmes as well as create new initiatives.

The museum's education plans are designed for all ages, including primary school children through to undergraduate university students.

The plans to move the museum to larger and more accessible premises are also steaming ahead, along with fund-raising initiatives for renovations and building works required. We aim to create a state of the art Jewish Military Museum, a permanent memorial for all things related to the Jewish Military, past and present.

The annual Remembrance season in November is always a busy one for the Museum. 2009 is no exception with a full diary of dedicated ceremonies and events to be held at 12 different schools.

Each school visit is a unique experience. Always attended by a group of veterans, these priceless visits help to explain the purpose and importance of Remembrance and serve as treasured encounters for the volunteer veterans too.

MUSEUM OPENING TIMES

Mon - Thur 10.00am - 4.00pm

Call Brenda to book

Tel. 020 8201 5656

Email. museum@ajex.org.uk

Groups always welcome

Newcastle Celebrates 75 years



Photo by S R Mickler

Members of Newcastle & North East District AJEX branch

On the 28th June 2009 Newcastle AJEX marked its 75th Anniversary with a unique event, a luncheon attended by over 130 guests, held at the UHC Synagogue.

Special Guests included the Lord and Lady Mayoress of Newcastle upon Tyne, Counsellor Mike Cookson and his wife Dorrie, Guest Speakers Lt Colonel Mordaunt Cohen TD DL, Dr Lionel Kopelowitz JP and representatives of many other ex-service organisations.

Leslie Sutton, the AJEX National Standard bearer, carried out his duties during the event along with four children from the community who carried the branch Standard.

Contact Us

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AJEX Charitable Foundation
Charity Commission
Registration No. 1082148



Last Will & Testament

HERE IS YOUR
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TO LEAVE
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We Need Your Help

The AJEX archivist, Martin Sugarman, would like details of any people who served during the Second World War in the:-

- Fire Service
- Police
- Merchant Navy

Please contact Martin on:
020 8986 4868 - after 7pm
020 7832 5254 - office hours
or by email

martin.sugarman@westking.ac.uk



National Fire Service firemen training to use a trailer pump at LFB headquarters, c.1941

AJEX would also welcome any memorabilia from the Fire Service, Police or Merchant Navy that you would be happy to donate to our Jewish Military Museum.