

**Can you imagine  
life in a world of silence?**



## The Work of the Jewish Deaf Association

**The JDA provides** day centre facilities at its Stamford Hill headquarters and in North West London run in association with the Kinnor Community Centre.

**The JDA helps** its many elderly members left between £5 and £11 per week worse off by the government's social security reforms. The JDA assists members deprived by subsidies with financial help in paying heating bills.

**The JDA campaigns** vigorously on behalf of its members for a fair deal in society and a fair deal in our community.

**The JDA supports** its members by accompanying them to hospitals, other welfare agencies, local authority departments and employers and helps them to overcome the communication barrier.

**The JDA educates** through regular sign language classes for those in the community who work with deafness and through lip reading classes for people with hearing difficulties.

**Deaf people rely on us and we have to rely on you. Without your support, our work could not continue.**

## Deaf people endure it every day.

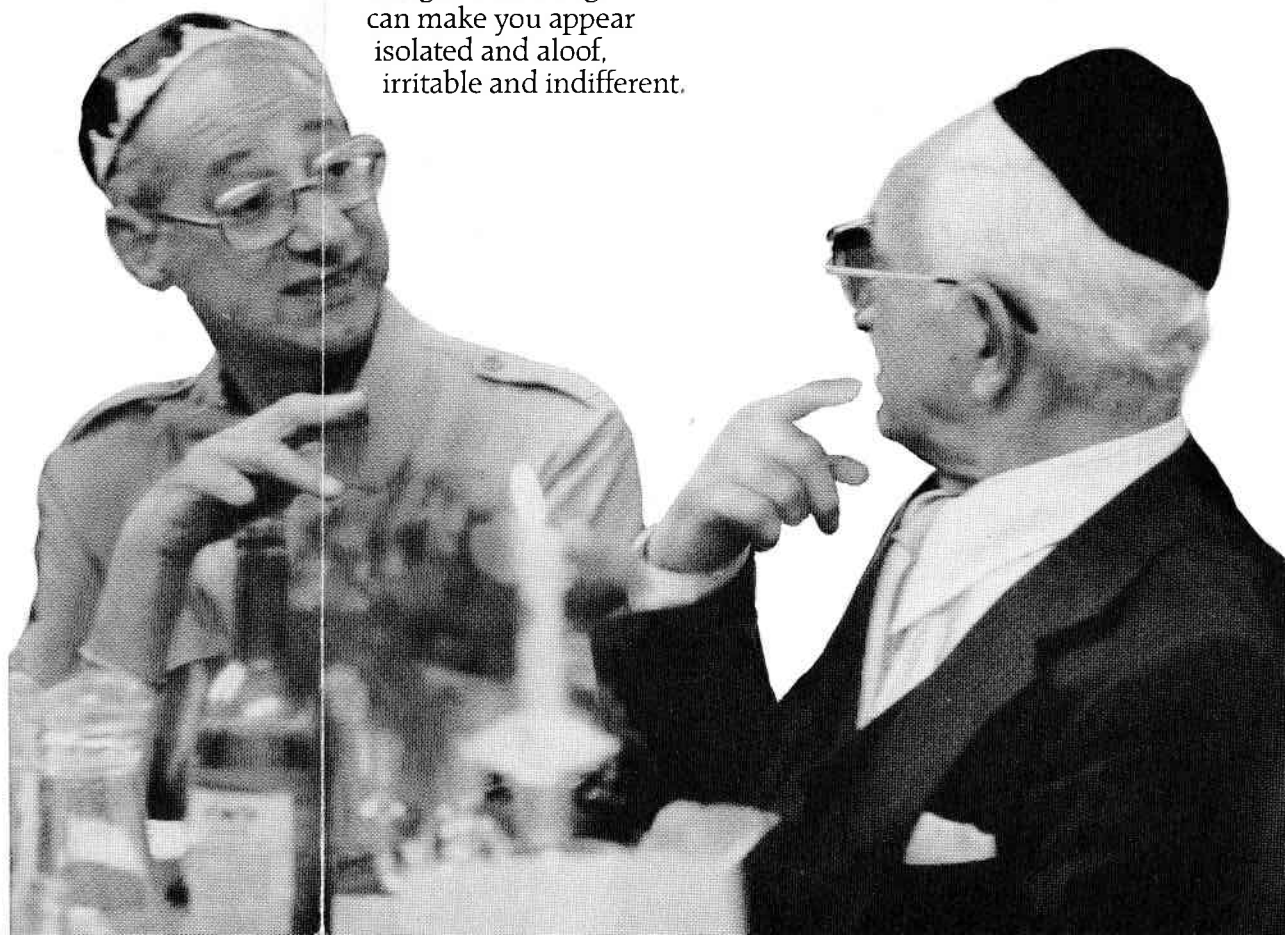
Life in a silent world can be bad enough. It's worse when those in the hearing world ignore your problems.

Deafness is an invisible handicap. Invisible to other members of society and, it would seem, to our own community. Despite being one of the most serious afflictions, the lack of obvious outward signs also makes deafness one of the least recognisable.

Whether a person suffers a hearing loss suddenly or steadily over a lengthy period of time, the shock can bring on dramatic character changes. A hearing loss can make you appear isolated and aloof, irritable and indifferent.

It can place a severe strain on relationships with the people around you.

Deafness affects all ages and all communities, cutting off the principal lines of learning and communication. It affects the young boy, born deaf, who must struggle more than most to learn his barmitzvah; the man or woman who goes deaf in middle age and who has to strain to follow a service or hear a Rabbi speak and it affects the elderly, unable to hear a grandchild's voice or participate in communal life.





# Overlooked by our own community

We in the Jewish community have always had the enviable reputation of looking after our own. Sadly when it comes to the deaf we do not always live up to that reputation. Frequently this is not through wilful negligence but rather through ignorance of how best to help.

The Royal National Institute for the Deaf estimates that up to two million hearing aids may be in use which are capable of receiving audio frequency induction loop transmissions. The induction loop system enables those with a hearing aid to hear the voice of a speaker with clarity and without having to endure environmental noise. It has been a feature of cinemas, theatres, church halls and other public places for some years.

The number of halls in the Jewish community which are fitted with an induction loop system can be counted on the fingers of one hand. An investment of only around £600 to install an induction loop in your local hall would not only be an investment in your community but would also immeasurably increase the quality of life for so many people.

## Don't think of it as a luxury – think of it as a responsibility



**THE JEWISH DEAF ASSOCIATION**  
90/92 Cazenove Road  
London N16 6AB  
Tel: 01-806 6147

Registered Charity No. 209892

*Executive Director: Mrs Pat Goldring*