



Golden Anniversary Party



Glaziers Hall

Sunday 18th November 2001

In the presence of

The Chief Rabbi, Professor Jonathan Sacks

Greetings from the JDA Fundraising Committee

Thank you for joining us to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Jewish Deaf Association. We hope you have a wonderful evening and that you will continue to support the JDA in all its future endeavours.

We would also like to thank all those who contributed to this brochure or who made donations, for their kind and generous support.

Committee

Craig Gottlieb

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Rochelle Ezra

Barbara Gee

Sharon Graham

Caroline Hayim

Caroline Janner

Trudy Kling

Rochelle Lewis

Myer Solomon

Talya Tibber



SANDRINGHAM NORFOLK

As I had the pleasure of attending the 25th anniversary celebrations of the Jewish Deaf Association, I am delighted to have this opportunity to congratulate the Association on reaching its 50th anniversary. It already has an enviable record and I offer it my very best wishes for the next 50 years.

The ability to hear properly is taken for granted by most people and it is difficult for us to comprehend what a serious disadvantage it is to be deaf or hard of hearing. Modern technology can do much to help, but it needs the experience, knowledge and comprehensive services of the Association to ensure that the deaf and hard of hearing get the best possible advice and support.

A Message from the chairman

When my father created the Jewish Deaf Association (JDA) 50 years ago, he could never have imagined how much of an impact its activities would make on the lives of the hundreds of Deaf and hard of hearing people – and their families – who have passed through its doors since then. Our programmes and facilities have grown in line with the changing needs of people with a hearing loss and we are constantly striving to improve the services we can offer them.



The Duke of Edinburgh and George and Evelyn Gee at the JDA's 25th Anniversary Dinner

The Committee would like to thank the following companies and individuals who have generously donated prizes for our Golden Balloon event

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The Dinner Committee wish to acknowledge the help given by Peter London, who donated the use of the Glaziers Hall for this event

The Formation of the Jewish Deaf Association

by Julius Newman

"After a successful bazaar for the Jewish Blind Society (I attended a meeting which was) addressed by the blind MP Mr Hugh Fraser. He was emphasising the disabilities of the blind and how much they needed attention and help. The thought that immediately went through my mind was; 'what arrangements were available for Jewish deaf people?' – having had personal contact with deaf people.

I decided to ascertain if there was any centre or activities for the Jewish deaf. To my surprise I learnt very quickly that the only available meeting centre for the deaf were all being run by the churches and that the large number of Jewish deaf people, young and old alike, were attending these various meetings in church halls.

I then approached Miss Hilda Schlesinger MBE, knowing that she had been interested in the deaf for many years. She was very co-operative and explained that prior to the 1939/45 war there had been attempts at organising clubs for the Jewish deaf but unfortunately they had not been successful.



*Julius J Newman
Founder of the
Jewish Deaf Association*



An early gathering of Jewish Deaf Association members at the newly-opened Stamford Hill premises that were to house the organisation for the next 47 years

My next effort was to find members of the Jewish Community who would help financially.

My first call was on Miss Clarica Davidson ... and she responded very enthusiastically. From then on progress was very rapid. We then held gatherings of the Jewish deaf at various synagogue halls and particularly the Hampstead and Golders Green Synagogues, who were always very helpful.

In April 1948 we held our first meeting at the Palestinian Club in the West End of London. During discussions with the deaf people I learnt that their main ambition was to have a centre and home of their own where they could meet and discuss their problems.

In the Autumn of 1949 a Committee was formed under the Chairmanship of Miss Clarica Davidson, and was known as the Jewish Deaf Association Concert Committee.

Subsequently an all Star Concert was organised at the Palace Theatre in the middle of 1950 and the sum of £3,200 was raised. The audience (were asked) if anybody knew of premises that might be suitable for a club and if so would they contact me. Within a few days I was approached and told that 90/92 Cazenove Road (in Stamford Hill), although having suffered war damage, could be obtained if quick action was taken.



Some of those same members say goodbye to Stamford Hill as they prepare to move into the JDA's brand-new Community Centre in North Finchley, three years ago.

"I immediately contacted the Chairman of the Joint Synagogue Children's Hostel and arranged that, providing we repaired the building and made it habitable, they would give us a peppercorn lease at 1/- (one old shilling) per annum. We then proceeded to have the necessary construction and decoration carried out at a cost of £1,400. (Thanks to fundraising by the committee) we are now fortunate enough to be the owners of this magnificent freehold premises, and free from all encumbrances."

• *Abridged version of an article written in 1968 by the late Julius J Newman, founder of the Jewish Deaf Association.*



Jewish festivals such as Succot and Chanukah have been celebrated in sign language ever since the JDA was established, ensuring that deaf people do not feel excluded from their cultural and religious heritage.

The Jewish Deaf Association Today **by Sharon Graham**

The Jewish Deaf Association was established as a Registered Charity in 1948 and the official opening of the Jewish Deaf Association Club and hostel took place on 27 May 1951. The JDA remained at these premises until 1998, when it moved into its present, purpose-built Community Centre in North Finchley.

Today, it has expanded its services further than even Julius Newman could have imagined, offering support, information and a growing

range of social, cultural and educational programmes for its members and people living or working with deaf and hard of hearing people

The Centre houses one of the few Resource and Technology Rooms for deaf and hard of hearing people in the UK. The Resource Room is open to people of all faiths who need advice on the specialised equipment available to help them lead more independent lives at home and at work.

The Association holds a weekly Day Centre for profoundly deaf members, as well as regular social events and signed celebrations of Jewish festivals for deaf people and their families. It also runs a social group for hard of hearing people, sign language classes, a Tinnitus self-help group and courses on managing hearing loss.



JDA members play bingo at the weekly Day Centre

Over the years, the JDA has campaigned vigorously to encourage synagogues to install induction loop systems, so that hard of hearing people can listen to and enjoy services without the distraction of background noise.

The JDA is also proud of its campaign to help synagogues to include deaf people in their services and festivals, by helping them to hold signed and explanatory services for Shabbat and High Holydays.



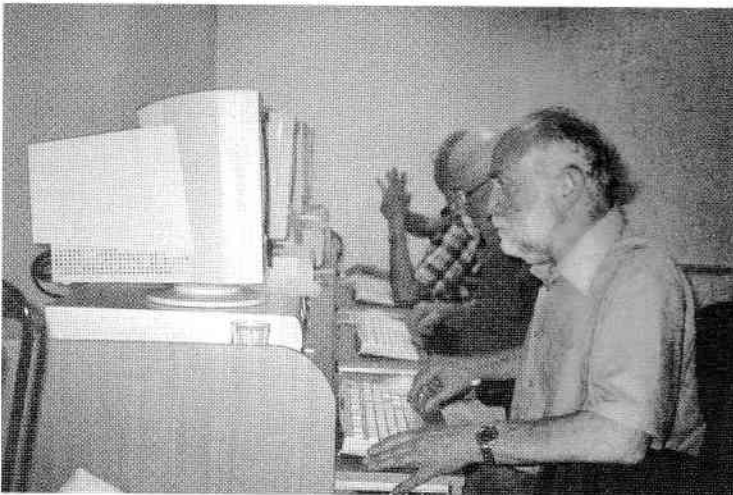
The JDA's Resource and Technology Room offers advice, support and information on specialised equipment for people with a hearing loss or Tinnitus

Deaf awareness sessions are available to hearing people in schools, colleges, synagogues, youth groups, voluntary organisations and businesses in the wider community.

The JDA is also developing its work with young Jewish deaf people and their families, offering information, support and the chance to meet other families in similar situations.

The JDA's highly successful computer training sessions for deaf people are run by a deaf tutor, using sign language. Computer literacy can be invaluable to deaf people and the JDA's new Internet Café, due to open this winter, will offer them a wealth of opportunities

to meet and socialise whilst using the equipment to establish a vibrant website and 'chatroom'.



Computer training sessions for deaf people are held in sign language

Hearing loss can present people with a whole range of challenges and the Jewish Deaf Association promises to be there for everyone who needs its help.

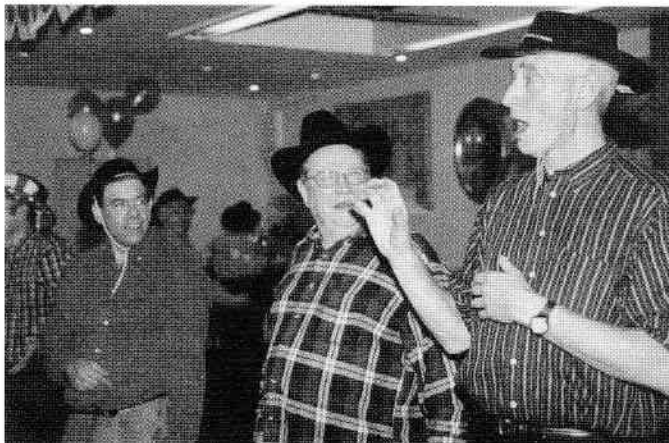
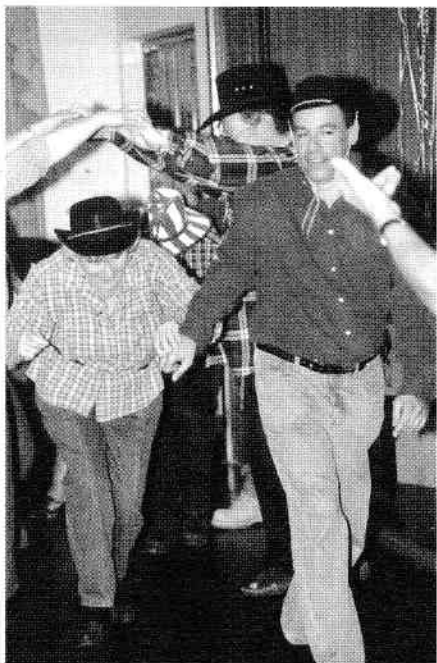
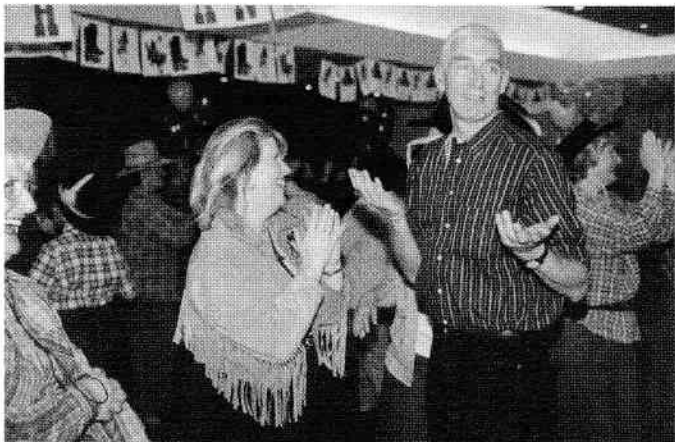
However, the JDA is a completely independent organisation and relies wholly on its income from charitable donations and bequests.

Your support for this 50th Anniversary event is vital to our existence and very much appreciated.

The funds we have raised tonight will help to ensure that the JDA can continue to keep its promise.

Thank you.

Members of the Jewish Deaf Association held a signed barn dance at the end of October to celebrate our 50th Anniversary



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The Dinner Committee
wish to acknowledge
an anonymous donation
of £33,000
which has enabled
the purchase of a mini-bus

Joan & Tony Gold
Wish the
JDA
even greater success
in its second fifty years

Janet Zysblat and Ingrid Sellman,
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Finchley, with their husbands Michael
and David congratulate the JDA and
look forward to the next 50 years

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Helene Samuels
wishes every success
to this function
and to all the wonderful work
carried out by the
JDA

Wishing this function
every success



Lily Goldstein & Michael



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on all your
wonderful work*

Margot & Julian Lew

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from
The Cukier Family

Best wishes
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The Family of the
Late Tilly Goldberg,
past Vice-President
of the JDA wish this
Golden Anniversary Party
every success

Malcolm and Mary Goldstein
wish the
Jewish Deaf Association
every success for the future

John & Susan Harris
wish this function
every success

Neville & Susan Kahn
wish the event
every success

*Greetings from
Ronnie & Violet
Musry*

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and long may it continue

*Wishing this function
every success
Linda and Harvey
Rosenblatt*

**On behalf of the
JDA
Evelyn & George
thank
the Functions Committee
for arranging this
Golden Anniversary Party**

