TRIBUTE - Remembering Harry Newman

25.8.25 - 15.8.14



JDA Support Worker Lisa Mansur pays tribute to Harry Newman

Harry was born on 25 August 1925 in Manchester. He became an orphan when he was a baby and did not remember his parents.

When Harry was old enough he was sent to the Residential School for Jewish Deaf Children. Here he met his two lifelong friends, Eddie Abrahams and Israel Itzkowitz. The late JDA member Minnie Goldberg told me that she looked after Harry and he was an adorable child. Very naughty, but adorable nonetheless.

After school, Harry worked for the police as a cleaner where he earned the respect and affection of his peers.

When JDA opened in Cazenove Road, having no family, Harry and Israel lived above the centre. They lived in the same buildings as each other right up until Israel had to move into care earlier this year. Harry was like a brother to both Israel and Eddie.

I met Harry when I started working at JDA 12 years ago but only really got to know him when I became his support worker five years ago. He may not have been a man of intellect but he was wise and knew how to live life to the full. What Harry lacked in height he made up for in personality.

Though Harry's last few years were difficult, he never stopped smiling or joking around. He had leukaemia and lung cancer but he never let it get him down.

Trudy Kling and Caroline Janner write:

Harry was an important member of the JDA family and also a dear friend. We remember him working in our parents' garden, always with a smile and enjoying a beer with our Dad at lunch time.

When JDA moved, it was very important to Harry to contribute to the Building Fund, so his name would be up on the wall. Harry was so proud of JDA.

Thank you Harry for your loyalty and friendship. You will always be warmly remembered.

When he laughed, it was impossible not to laugh with him. When he lost his temper it was like the wrath of the Lord coming down on you ... but when he smiled he could light up your life.

Harry was one of the most generous people I have met. Even when he was very ill himself, he would go shopping for his friend Israel when Israel was too weak to go out.

When Harry was diagnosed with lung cancer I decided to fulfil his lifelong dream and took him to see his team Manchester United play at Old Trafford. He had the time of his life and never stopped thanking me. He was very



appreciative of everything JDA did for him his whole life.

It was an honour and a privilege to know Harry. His massive presence will be sorely missed at JDA but we are all much richer for having known him.