

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY WORKING GROUP 2015

THEME FOR 2015: 'KEEP THE MEMORY ALIVE'

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS – updated 12-01-15

Members of the public are welcome at all events in this programme. All are free of charge unless stated, though advance booking is advised for some to avoid disappointment.

Monday 19th – Friday 30th January:

Exhibition in the Council House (foyer) Corporation St, DE1 2FS commemorating the 70th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz, the 20th of the Srebrenica massacre, the centenary of the Armenian genocide, and the Ukrainian Holodomor of 1932-33, together with other massacres and genocides since the Holocaust.

Friday 23rd to Thursday 29th January:

Bosnia-Hercegovina Community Centre, 99 Curzon St, DE1 1LN, during opening hours: exhibition to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the Srebrenica massacre, and the Bosnian war.

Sunday 25th to Friday 30th January:

Derby Cathedral, Iron Gate, DE1 3GP, during cathedral opening hours: 'Keep the Memory Alive' – a special exhibition.

Features: from the past - sufferings of the Bosnian and Ukrainian peoples; for the future - Holocaust Memorial Day poster competition 2015, the winning entries from Derby schools.

Note 1: the exhibition is presented jointly by the Bosnian and Ukrainian communities, two communities that have each experienced *de facto* genocide though in different parts of the world, working together.

Sunday 25th January:

St Katharine's chapel in the cathedral will be available from 3.00pm-5.00pm for quiet meditation and prayer.

QUAD, Market Place, DE1 3AS, 8.30pm, film: 'Night Will Fall' (15), a documentary about Nazi concentration camps, featuring previously unseen and reportedly harrowing images in footage filmed in 1945 by Sydney Bernstein and Alfred Hitchcock. 75 minutes.

Please note: I believe this film is not officially released until April, but is available in selected venues, including Quad, Derby, as part of the Holocaust Memorial Day commemorations.

Note: tickets £5.00: QUAD box office 01332 290606

Monday 26th January:

QUAD, Market Place, DE1 3AS, 9.15 am – 12.00 noon: 'Into the Arms of Strangers' (PG), the award-winning documentary film about the Kindertransport, which brought 10,000 Jewish children from Nazi-occupied territory to safety in England, just before the outbreak of war in 1939. Narrated by Judi Dench it includes

Free showing for booked schools and public (booking also advised). Stephen Mendelsson, a Kindertransportee who settled in Sheffield after the war, now a highly experienced speaker with a great sense of humour, will lead a Q&A session afterwards.

Monday 26th January:

Mickleover library, Station Rd Mickleover, DE3 9GH, 2.00pm: talk – 'Weave a Wreath of Memory: The Literature of the Holocaust', by Rabbi Roderick Young. As time passes Holocaust survivors grow fewer, but their written accounts remain in a literature of tragedy and darkness, but also of unexpected love, resilience and hope. Rabbi Young studied English Literature at Oxford, was ordained as a rabbi in New York and served in synagogues in New York, Leicester and London. He is now free-lance.

Free, but maximum 50, **booking essential at:** <https://derbycitylibraries.eventbrite.co.uk/>

Further information on library events: Tricia Kenny, Patricia.Kenny@derby.gov.uk

Tuesday 27th January: Holocaust Memorial Day

70th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau

Bridge Chapel, Sowter Road, 3.00 pm: quiet time and meditation, led by the Dean of Derby, the Very Revd Dr John Davies. This will include a reflection by Isaac Pizer, who attended a retreat in Auschwitz in May 2014 and whose extended family, from the Jewish Sephardic community in Salonika, Greece, was transported to Auschwitz-Birkenau in 1943. Of the 56,000 members of this community 98% died in the Holocaust: from Isaac's family only one person survived.

From the Bridge Chapel the observance moves to the trees dedicated to Anne Frank and Olga Nahlak, on the green opposite the Bridge Chapel. Iryna Bates of the Ukrainian community will read her poem, 'Stones', in memory of Olga Nahlak and Isaac will commemorate those who died in Auschwitz, including his relatives, before the Dean and the Mayor of Derby, Cllr Shiraz Khan, lead the placing of small stones at the foot of each tree. All who wish to do so may take part and stones will be provided at the trees.

Note 1: In Judaism, stone-setting is the custom at which a headstone is placed on a grave, often on the anniversary of the death; subsequently, small stones rather than flowers are left on graves or memorials, which custom will be followed here.

Note 2: Olga Nahlak was a Ukrainian gentile who saved a Jewish family by hiding them in a bunker under her floorboards, even faking a pregnancy so that when one Jewish mother gave birth, no-one was surprised to see Olga with a baby and its crying aroused no suspicion. After Olga's husband disappeared, presumed murdered, she came to England where she lived and died in Derby and was

designated Righteous Among the Nations. Full details of her life will be available on the day at the Bridge Chapel (and are available online – Google Olga Nahlak). Anne Frank's story is well known.

Further information: Collette Flood, Mayor's Office, 01332 642551

Some transport will be provided from the stone-setting to the Bosnia-Herzegovina Centre, which is approx. 20 minutes' walking distance from the Bridge Chapel.

Bosnia-Herzegovina Centre, Curzon Street DE1 1LN, 4.15 pm: commemoration of the Bosnian war and Srebrenica massacre. At 4.30 – the time at which the candles will also be lit at the national UK commemorative event in London, at Auschwitz and selected sites world-wide - Derby's 70th anniversary Holocaust memorial candle, one of only 70 to be awarded to local groups by the national Holocaust Memorial Day Trust, will be lit for the first time by Medina Salkic, a Bosnian woman who lost many male relatives in the Bosnian Srebrenica massacre, with Bahrudin Muhic who lost his father and others - his relatives can be seen in the convoy on the famous picture leaving Srebrenica.

The Bosnian community invites everyone to enjoy complementary traditional Bosnian refreshments in the centre after the commemoration.

Further information: Ferid Kevric, general manager, Bosnia-Herzegovina Centre:
tel 01332 294436.

The flame from the 70th anniversary candle will be preserved and taken to the cathedral in a special container. The candle itself will be extinguished and carried on foot through the city centre to the cathedral, for the multi-faith commemoration at 6.00pm (see below), where it will be relit from the flame.

The cathedral coffee shop, opposite to the cathedral on Irongate (DE1 3GP) will remain open until the service starts at 6.00pm.

Derby Cathedral, Irongate, DE1 3GP, 6.00 pm – 7.00 pm: multi-faith service of commemoration in Derby Cathedral, with readings from the Bible and Qu'ran, the Jewish Kaddish (traditional Hebrew prayer for the dead), roll call of genocides and music from one of the cathedral choirs and Derby High School for Girls.

Charles Whitaker, whose poem about the Holocaust was adopted by the national HMD trust last year, read at the national commemoration in London by a celebrity and subsequently used in its promotional material (the DT featured this last year and will have full details on file), will also be reading a new poem written for this year's commemoration of the theme, Keeping the Memory Alive.

The 70th anniversary candle will be brought into the cathedral from the Bosnia-Herzegovina Centre and lit, for the second time, by a representative of the Armenian community which, this year, is commemorating the centenary of the genocide in Armenia.

QUAD, Market Place, DE1 3AS, 7.30pm – approx. 9.00 pm: an evening of commemoration and celebration to include performances by communities that have found sanctuary and safety from persecution in Derby. The 70th anniversary candle will be brought in and the programme opens with the third lighting, by Judy Sherwood, whose grandmother died in Auschwitz, and Isaac Pizer, many members of whose family also perished there (see information under Bridge Chapel above).

The evening will include the presentation of prizes to the winners of the schools' poster competition; testimony and performances by the Armenian, Bosnian and Jewish communities, both separately and together; music from Bridges – see below; Hoverla, Derby's award-winning Ukrainian dancers; flamenco dancing from the Gypsy community and a performing arts presentation by students from Landau-Forte College, Derby.

It will also see the launch of 'A Gypsy's Tale', a DVD and illustrated 2015 calendar celebrating the contribution the Gypsy community has made to the UK, (funded by Heritage Lottery) including decorations for bravery during WW1.

Full detailed programme of items and performers will follow in January 2015.

Note: Bridges, the group created for HMD 2013, and uniquely combining Jewish and Ukrainian music and musicians, is a remarkable collaboration since historically these two traditions were in conflict.

Free, but booking strongly advised: QUAD box office 01332 290606

Immediately after the above celebration, at

QUAD, Market Place, DE1 3AS, approx. 9.30pm, film: 'Night Will Fall' (15), a documentary about Nazi concentration camps, featuring previously unseen and reportedly harrowing images in footage filmed in 1945 by Sydney Bernstein and Alfred Hitchcock. 75 minutes.

Please note: I believe this film is not officially released until April, but is available in selected venues, including Quad, Derby, as part of the Holocaust Memorial Day commemorations.

75 minutes.

Note: tickets £5.00: QUAD box office 01332 290606

Wednesday 28th January

QUAD, Market Place, DE1 3AS, 9.15 am – 12.00 noon: film Into the Arms of Strangers. As 26th Jan. **Tickets £5.00** QUAD box office 01332 290606

Central Library, The Wardwick, Derby DE1 1HS, 2.00pm: Bosnia and Herzegovina - Twenty Years On. Paul Johns, Director of SANA, who has worked in Bosnia since before the end of the war, writes, 'It's nearly 20 years since the end of the war which tore Yugoslavia apart, since the birth of modern Bosnia. People in that beautiful country still suffer the divisive legacy of that war - politically, economically and socially. But good things are happening there too, some of them the result of interfaith partnerships between British and Bosnian people' Paul has interesting stories to tell of frustration and progress, or fear and hope, in a country he calls his second home.

Free, booking advised at: <https://derbycitylibraries.eventbrite.co.uk>

Further information on library events: Tricia Kenny, Patricia.Kenny@derby.gov.uk

Saturday 31st January

Community Centre, Charnwood St, Derby, DE1 2GU, 7.30pm: an evening of song and dance with **Hoverla** Ukrainian musicians and dancers led by Joe Kupranec; Klezmer band **The Klatsh**, led by Phil Tomlinson and **Bridges**, the Band combining musicians from both traditions, created for HMD 2013 (information as for 27th January, above).

A fantastic and unique evening is promised, with the opportunity (for those who wish) to join in with both singing and dancing.

Booking information: no tickets, please just come; bucket collection to help defray the week's expenses. (Derby HMD receives no public funding.)

Further information: for pictures and videos please google Hoverla and The Klatsh

For further information on the whole week:

Anne Johns, HMD Working Party member with responsibility for publicity and media
a.johns1@unimail.derby.ac.uk; mob 07952 503001;

(Ends)