

Weekly Bulletin of

The Jerusalem Rotary Club

Club # 13459, District 2490 04 January 2017



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P/ Dan Shanit

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PDG Irène Lewitt

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P/P Shlomo Khayat

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R/ Tony Kolankiewicz

Upcoming Programs

11 Jan
Lunch Meeting 13:00 hours

P/Dan Shanit
"The Rotary Peace Education
Initiative"



Suggestions for speakers or subjects for a talk or discussion are welcome.

Please write to the Chair of

Please write to the Chair of the Program Committee, Art Braunstein, via the Contact Form on our website.

www.rotaryclubjerusalem.org



This Week's Program

Prof. Emeritus Alexander Rofe Hebrew Bible—Hebrew University

"The Creation Story- Is Genesis Unique?"



Alexander Rofe is Professor Emeritus of Bible at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

He was born in Pisa, Italy in 1932. His father, Gersh Roifer was active in the Zionist movement and directed the maritime school of the Betar youth movement in Civitavecchia. His mother, Matilde Gallichi, taught classics at high school. After his father's death the family make Aliya in 1939. At the Hebrew University, Alex Rofe studied Hebrew Bible and the History of Israel, obtaining his Ph.D. in 1970.

Since 1959, he has taught at many academic institutions, both in Israel and around the world.

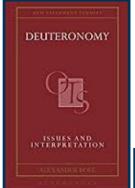
Prof. Rofe taught at the Hebrew University for nearly forty years. He was promoted to full professorship in 1986 and retired in 2000. He co-edited the series of monographs Jerusalem Bible Studies (1979-1986) and has been editor and coeditor of *Textus* Bible Project (1995 – 2009).

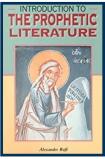
He has contributed to three fields of study in the Hebrew Bible: textual criticism, history of literature, and history of the Israelite religion. His publications include *The Israelite Belief in Angels* (1979); *The Prophetical Stories: The Narratives about the Prophets in the Hebrew Bible; Introduction to Deuteronomy: Part I* (1988) *Deuteronomy: Issues and Interpretation* (2002); *Introduction to the Literature of the Hebrew Bible* (2009).

Alex Rofe married Esther Kessler in 1954. They have four children, grandchildren and greatgrandchildren.











From your Editor

Please remember

The Half-Year District Conference on 13 January 2017 at the Maxim Levy "Hechal HaTarbut",

Eliezer Kaplan Street 2, Lod. Please note: The programs are all in Hebrew

You can see all the information on all the Club's Events on our website, just by clicking on the following links:

http://www.rotaryclubjerusalem.org/program-bulletin
http://www.rotaryclubjerusalem.org/next-district-event

Dear Friends,

We are at the beginning of a New Year, when people make New Year's resolutions! Israel has made one resolution which started the 1st of the year by banning free plastic bags in the supermarkets.!

from David Lilienthal

Now, at Rami Levi's you buy a plastic bag and you get a FREE chicken!



Another New Year resolution which is excellent, and everybody can and should do $\,\,!$

From Irene Lewitt



I trust you all had an easy transition from 2016 to 2017. Starting the year with a concert to which I know many of you attended was a very pleasant way (to say the least) of starting the year! I wish you

all many more concerts and wonderful happenings in 2017!





From Eli Kenner

Below is an exchange of mail between Ruth and Eli which is self explanatory.

Dear Ruth,

Enclosed bellow, the letter I wrote you from Japan regarding the Rotary scholar Asami. This because I received today the minutes of the last meeting of the projects committee. It said there:

"Ruth informed the committee that our Rotary Scholar, Asami Ueno, who recently received a Masters in Public Health from the Hebrew University/Hadassah Medical Center, is now working for the United Nations in Amman, Jordan."

As you know I saw Asami when I was in Japan. Enclosed are the photos.

She will depart to her new job in Amman in 9 days from today. She hopes to come visit us in Jerusalem as soon as possible Best regards

Eli Kenner

Hello Ruth,

Loving to inform you that during the group's visit to Osaka, I had the pleasure of hosting Asami for the day. It turns she does not live far and I have been in touch, by mail and by Line, since our last lunch meeting in Jerusalem.











From our Secretary

Dear Friends,

Do you remember the article about the visit of the 9 Medical Specialists/personnel from Kenya, which was published in the 14 December Bulletin?

The other day a letter from them was forwarded to me, by Dr. Ruti Stashefsky Margalit, Associate Professor (visiting) Sackler Faculty of Medicine, Tel Aviv. Director of the Change the World program. and I wish to share it with you.

EGERTON

UNIVERSITY

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P.O. Box 536 NJORO, Kenya

FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES

To The president Rotary Club Tel Aviv, Holon, Nazareth, Haifa and Jerusalem

Dear Sir,

May I take this opportunity to thank you for hosting us in Israel. We were accorded privileges, respect and honor by the various Rotary clubs in Israel. We really appreciate that through your care we had a comfortable stay in our hotels and were able to tour various attractive sites.

We also appreciate the fact that you gave as a chance to make a presentation about our University and project proposal in your conference and later have discussions with different groups and persons. Indeed, these discussions and your service to humanity motto will shape our project progress as well input in the society.

We hope that we can build on the contacts and networks together with Kenyan Rotary clubs for future collaborations.

Yours Sincerely,

Dr. Samson O. Obure,
Dean, Faculty Health Sciences
Egerton University.



From Yvette Nahmia-Messinas

www.jpost.com/Blogger/Yvette-Nahmia-Messinas



Salonica – mother of love and pain

Where should I start? I'll start at the end. On Saturday we went to see the film <u>Ouzeri Tsitsanis</u> (Cloudy Sunday) by director Manousos Manousakis in the framework of the Jewish Film Festival at the Jerusalem Cinematheque. "Ouzeri" in Greek is the place where people drink ouzo and eat mezethes. Vassilis Tsitsanis was one of the most important figures in the formation of modern Greek music, a master bouzouki player and among the forces shap-



ing the Rebetiko (urban Greek music) in Salonica before and during WWII. The screening hall was filled with known faces of Greek Jews, Greek music lovers, philhellenes and beyond.

The film was balanced, nuanced and rich, and succeeded in telling the story of the Greek Jews of Salonica, the "madre d'Israel," from different perspectives. We saw the Sephardi Greek Jews, heard them speak in Greek and Ladino and sing songs in Judeo-Espagnol in their communal choir as well as get involved in the new socialist ideas. We were exposed to the foreign sounding names of the foods they ate, the synagogue they went to, the controversial rabbi they followed. We also saw the inner strife among them, of those who suggested not listening to the rabbi and his directives of going along with the Germans' requests, and those who felt safer in complying with the Jewish community's policy rather than straying away from it and going on their own.

We were shown Estrea, the young Sephardi Jewess (Christina Chila Fameli) who is active in the resistance by type-writing its messages in a well-hidden basement. Although she is issued false identity papers as a Greek Orthodox woman, and has the option to escape with her Greek Christian boyfriend Giorgos (Charis Fragkoulis) to Athens, Estrea opts to turn herself in as a Jew and get on the train to be with her family. Estrea knows that the train is headed for Poland, but doesn't know its ultimate destination is Auschwitz, where 96% of Salonica's Jews perished.

We were also exposed to the Greeks – Jews and Christians – who collaborated with the Germans and served as traitors, and assassins, as well as those like Giorgos and Vassilis Tsitsanis (Andreas Konstantinou) who were part of the resistance, and hid Jews.

The film in a sense is a tribute to all that was and is no more.

It portrays how this crime was made possible due to the apathy of Greeks to the fate of Greek Jews; how the Jews – who had no

precedent or knowledge of what was really happening – chose to stick with their families and the rabbi's directives, even though the resistance may have been an escape route for many more, like in Athens, Larisa or in other cities. This is an intricate and tragic story that took place in Thessaloniki in the years 1942-1943 and which has never before been told cinematically. Manousos Manousakis and his team deserve our appreciation for their work, released in 2015.

To me and my husband this was a story that we identify with, and are part of: the story of the annihilation of 87% of Greek Jewry. My husband, Elias Messinas, is named after his grandfather Elias Negrin whom he never got to meet – he went into hiding with his family, protected by Greek families in Athens, but was given up by a traitor and subsequently deported to die in Auschwitz. Fortunately, Negrin's wife and daughters managed to survive the war hiding with Christian families in Athens, with fake identity cards, pretending they were Christian refugee relatives of their benefactors.

My father's immediate family also managed to survive this way. The rest of the family, who remained together in loannina in northern Greece, to carry on the shop's business affairs and to be with the elders, were deported and perished in Auschwitz.



From Yvette Nahmia-Messinas

www.jpost.com/Blogger/Yvette-Nahmia-Messinas



The film's theme hit home, and tears came to my eyes as I saw scenes of both love and pain my homeland had brought on so many of us Jews.

We loved the language, the music, the nature, but mostly we loved its people. Many among the Greek people saw us as strangers in our own land. And yet, there were among them, those Greeks who did love and did help and did rescue, and me and my husband owe our lives to them, to the ones that helped, to the ones that hid, to the ones that risked their lives to take in Jews in their homes pretending they were relatives from the village, to the ones who created the fake documents thus helping the Jews survive. And we are grateful for their acts of lovingkindness and righteousness.

Prior to the screening we had the privilege of listening to a beautifully orchestrated Rebetiko performance by the band of Israeli musician Tomer Katz, who partnered with the visiting Greek musician and singer Sotiris Papatrayannis. They played and soulfully sang authentic Rebetika songs to which a handful of us danced in joy.

But do not ever take that outer display of joy as pure, genuine joy. It is a joy of survival blended with the pain of the loss of all those who perished.

Salonica is to many of us not the madre d'Israel, as the city is commonly known in Judaism, but rather the *madre de l'amor y de la dolor*, i.e. the mother of love and pain. Salonica is to Greek Jews the blend of love and pain we have felt from our homeland, to our bones. And today what consoles us is that Thessaloniki's current mayor, Yiannis Boutaris, along with the Jewish community's president, David Saltiel, are partners in acknowledging locally and internationally the pre-war Jewish presence and contribution to the city. The recent restoration of the central synagogue Monastirioton, which my husband had the privilege of being the project architect for, is only one of the steps they are taking together to ensure that the city's dwindling 1,000-member Jewish presence will be sustained and safeguarded to the future to tell its story.



Vasilis Tsitsanis - Συννεφιασμένη Κυριακή / Cloudy Sunday (with English lyrics.) Written and executed by Vasilis Tsitsanis during the German occupation. For many those days of the dark Nazi occupation this song became a national anthem.. It is a song with a huge meaning and subliminal message. Countless of times this song has played at taverns and "clubs" during the occupation, even with Greek speaking German officers or Gestapo staff present. This song evaded their censorship and has become a symbol of a bloody era.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wIDg aXS 7U



Salonica—Thessaloniki



GREEK SOLDIERS march behind a monument for the Holocaust during the annual memorial day in Thessaloniki in 2009.. (photo credit:REUTERS)



International Toast

From Guido De Weerd

On the Rotary Club of Grantham Lincolnshire, UK



384 years ago, on the 4th of January 1643, the famous philosopher Isaac **Newton was**

born in a small manor in Wollsthorpe near Colsterworth, a very small city in Lincolnshire, some 170 km to the north of London.

Wollsthorpe Manor is a typical small land estate, built in the 17th century.

Because of his merits in the fields of



mathematics and physic, Newton is considered as one of the most famous scholars of all times.

Today we concentrate on his

discovery of universal gravitation.

Newton saw an apple falling to the ground. His Biographer William Stukeley described this situation in 1726 with the following words: " ... after dinner, the weather being warm, we went into the garden, & drank tea under the shade of some apple trees, only he, & myself. Newton told me, "why should that apple always descend perpendicularly to the ground," «why should it

not go sideways, or upwards? But constantly to the earth's center? Assuredly, the reason is, that the earth draws it...»"

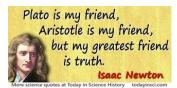


Grantham is

also considered as the hometown of Isaac Newton, because he attended Grammar school therebetween

1655 and 1660.

Newton died in 1727.





Guildhall in Grantham with the Statue of Newton

There are some Rotary Clubs in Lincolnshire,.

We choose today the RC of Grantham, which is a market town some miles to the north in Lincolnshire.

The club belongs to the District 1070.

The Rotary Club of Grantham was founded on the 23rd of April 1931 by 22 members of the town's business community.

One of the Founder Member was Alfred Roberts who was the Father of the first UK lady Prime Minister, Margaret Thatcher, who was born in Grantham.



Thatcher Shop

Today the Club has 50 members and during the years, has founded three other clubs in Grantham, Sleaford, and Bourne.

The President for 2016/2017 is Neville Thompson. The friends meet every Monday at 12.50 pm at the Urban Hotel, Swingbridge Road, Grantham.



Since 1990, The Rotary Club of Grantham organizes a yearly event: the prestigious Swim Marathon. This year 222 teams and 1300 swimmers took part and pledged a staggering £28,437, which was raised to £32,000 when all the money and Gift Aid was collected. Sponsors covered all the costs of the event. In total the club gained more than 550.000 Pounds, 90 % go directly to local charities and good causes!







JOGGLING THE MIND!



Types of Igneous Rock

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U	E	D	R	R	В	Α	S	Α	L	T	R	I	Т
F	G	0	0	Α	P	L	I	Т	Ε	Ε	L	E	Т
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Т	R	0	C	Т	0	L	I	Т	Ε	I	В	Т	T
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Play this puzzle online at : http://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/59/

NEW WORD FINDER

dhquitaer

NEW WORD FINDER

QUIEAHCTMS

See all the words!!!

http://wordsolver.net/solve#!q=QUIEAHCTMS&dic=d_twl&type=st_anagram&ml=10



Happy Hour



Teacher: How old is your father?

Kid: He is 6 years.

Teacher: What? How is this possible?

Kid: He became father only when I was born.

(Logic!! Children are quick and always speak their minds.)

TEACHER: Maria, go to the map and find North America.

MARIA: Here it is.

TEACHER: Correct. Now, Class, who discovered America?

CLASS: Maria.

TEACHER: Glenn, how do you spell 'crocodile?'

GLENN: K-R-O-K-O-D-I-A-L'
TEACHER: No, that's wrong

GLENN: Maybe it is wrong, but you asked me how I spell

it.

(I love this child.)

TEACHER: Donald, what is the chemical formula for water?

DONALD: HIJKLMNO.

TEACHER: What are you talking about? DONALD: Yesterday you said it's H to O.

TEACHER: Clyde, your composition on 'My Dog' is exactly

the same as your brother's. Did you copy his?

CLYDE: No, sir; It's the same dog.

(I want to adopt this kid!!!)

TEACHER: Harold, what do you call a person who keeps on

talking when people are no longer interested?

HAROLD: A teacher.







Thanks to all friends for sending in their contribution to the Happy

Jerusalem Rotary Club

Weekly Lunch Meetings are at the YMCA, 26 King David St, Jerusalem Wednesdays at 13:00. The last Wednesday of each month is a dinner meeting at 19:00.

Meetings are conducted in English.

Visiting Rotarians and other guests are welcome.

Luncheon/Dinner costs: NIS 75, students and lone soldiers: NIS 50, children under 18: NIS 30.

For Kosher meals please book in advance. For this and other enquiries please contact us through the Contact section on the website.

Please visit our website: www.rotaryclubjerusalem.org

