

REPORT OF THE  
OXFORD CENTRE FOR  
POSTGRADUATE  
HEBREW STUDIES

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*Twentieth Academic Year*  
*1991/1992*

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The Oxford Centre for  
Postgraduate Hebrew Studies  
is an associated centre of  
St Cross College

OXFORD CENTRE FOR  
POSTGRADUATE HEBREW STUDIES

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## *Preface*

THE academic year 1991/1992 has been marked by dramatic progress and represents a watershed in the history of the Oxford Centre for Postgraduate Hebrew Studies. Two decades of steady growth and expansion have culminated in a series of striking improvements which form the basis for a new phase in the life and activities of the Centre. At the same time the scholarly work of both the Centre's own Fellows and the many Visiting Scholars continued to represent a major contribution to Jewish scholarship in global terms.

Perhaps the most significant change in the Centre's circumstances arose from the purchase of the Yarnton Manor Estate from the Charles Wolfson Charitable Trust, which had acquired it for the Centre's use at the beginning of 1974. Owing to the generosity of Mr Felix Posen, the Oxford Centre now possesses the freehold of the estate and is thus assured of security of tenure. Sincere thanks are due to the Trustees of the Charles Wolfson Charitable Trust for their great assistance over many years, which has enabled the Oxford Centre to reach its present position.

A second major acquisition during the year was that of a new building especially designed to house sixteen graduate students. This fine new block, which has been generously financed by an anonymous donor, will enable the Centre to increase its annual intake of students on the One-Year Programme in Jewish Studies to thirty. During the summer vacation its four self-contained apartments will provide appropriate accommodation for senior scholars.

The Centre also purchased Exeter Farm, close to Yarnton Manor, which includes an attractive house to serve as the President's residence and a fine stone barn which it is hoped to convert for use as a library. The buildings are set in two acres of ground and the house and gardens will be ideal for entertaining.

The Centre was extremely fortunate in acquiring the Elkoshi library, consisting of some 17,000 volumes, mainly concerned with Hebrew literature in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. This was obtained by a generous grant from the Edith and Ferdinand Porjes Trust. The Centre is deeply grateful to the Trustees for this wonderful addition to its library holdings.

## Preface

Also benefiting the Centre's library resources was the donation of £1 million received from the Leopold Muller Estate. This sum will serve as an endowment for the library, henceforth to be known as the Leopold Muller Memorial Library. The Centre is indebted to the Trustees of the Leopold Muller estate for this act of great generosity.

Throughout the year, the academic programme of the Centre continued unabated. The newly established Qumran Forum, with Professor Geza Vermes as Director, met four times a term, and attracted a wide range of scholars. The One-Year Programme in Jewish Studies was completed by nineteen students from many countries including China and the states of eastern Europe. The standards achieved were very high, and the graduation ceremony was presided over by Lord Young, the Chairman of the Centre's Board of Governors. The first series of the newly established Jacobs Lectures in Rabbinic Thought was given by Rabbi Dr Louis Jacobs and was very well attended. The first in the Frank Green Lecture Series was given by Dr Jonathan Webber under the title 'The Future of Auschwitz', and has been published by the Centre. A public lecture by Dr David Wasserstein of Tel Aviv University entitled 'Jews, Christians and Muslims in Medieval Spain' was heard by a large audience.

One of the longest-running projects of the Oxford Centre, the *Oxford English-Hebrew Dictionary of Current Usage*, is now well into the production process, and will be published by Oxford University Press in 1993. A companion volume, the *Oxford Hebrew-English Dictionary of Current Usage*, will be produced if the necessary financial support becomes available.

The Visiting Scholars programme continued successfully. The number of Skirball Fellowships was doubled, thanks to the generosity of the Skirball Foundation. In addition to enabling senior scholars to come each year from America, these fellowships now make it possible for the Centre to invite scholars in the field of Jewish studies from eastern Europe, as well as a Muslim scholar of Hebrew from an Arab country, year by year. It is hoped that this last fellowship, together with the new journal *Studies in Muslim-Jewish Relations*, will play an important role in mutual understanding.

Two of the Centre's Fellows, Dr David Sorkin and Dr Heinz-Dietrich Löwe, were appointed to chairs at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and the University of Heidelberg respectively. We offer

## *Preface*

them warmest congratulations. At the same time, we welcome Mrs Martine Smith, who has become Student Registrar in place of Mrs Beatrice Lucas.

An Open Day was held at Yarnton Manor on 5 July to mark the 150th anniversary of the Oxford Jewish Congregation. The guests, who numbered around one hundred, heard talks on various aspects of the Centre's research activities given by Dr George Mandel, Mr Ronald Nettler, and Dr Jonathan Webber.

Following my retirement as President at the end of 1992, Professor Philip Alexander, Chairman of the Department of Middle Eastern Studies at Manchester University, will become President on 1 January 1993. He has taken up residence at the Centre as President-Elect in order to facilitate a smooth change-over. At a dinner held on my seventieth birthday on 10 June, I was honoured to receive a portrait which is to hang in the Long Gallery of Yarnton Manor, and to be elected to an Honorary Fellowship of the Centre.

I would like to offer my sincere thanks to the Governors, the Fellows, the staff, and the supporters of the Centre, all of whom have made invaluable contributions to the continuing achievements and impressive progress of the Centre over the years of its existence. I am deeply grateful for their loyal support. Special thanks are once again due to the Chairman of the Fund-raising Committee, Mr Felix Posen, and his colleagues who have continued to work with such devotion to underpin the financial situation of the Centre. I would like to acknowledge the leading role played by the Chairman of the Governors, Lord Young, in persuading the Trustees of the Charles Wolfson Charitable Trust to sell the Yarnton Manor Estate to the Oxford Centre at a very favourable purchase price. I extend my good wishes to Professor Alexander for a long, successful, and happy tenure of office.

DAVID PATTERSON

*President*

## THE FOUNDER PRESIDENT

### *An Appreciation*

ON the occasion of the retirement of the Centre's Founder President, Dr David Patterson, the following tribute was received from Sir Isaiah Berlin:

I have known Dr Patterson since he came to Oxford, that is to say for a great many years, and I know of no man who combines intellectual and personal honesty, kindness, professional integrity, a great deal of common sense, administrative skills, and what I can only describe as goodness of heart to an equal degree.

His success, amazing only to those who perhaps do not fully appreciate his outstanding qualities, is in itself evidence of his gifts.

He is a man of exceptional sincerity and purity of heart. All that he does—the administration of the Oxford Centre, relations with the Trustees, pastoral care of the students, the sharp judgement which he shows in selecting distinguished scholars from Israel and elsewhere to become Fellows of the Centre, relations with the staff—seems to me wonderfully successful. The security of the Centre owes everything to his approach which is at once clear, intelligent, modest and morally moving, and has opened the purses of a good many individuals who, I think, might have resisted a more 'dynamic' or insistent or a less truthful and dedicated applicant. His remarkable success in obtaining the funds—at times very large sums—on which all academic institutions depend, is directly due to his personal character: he is anything but a professional fundraiser. It is his head and his heart which have done it all.

In addition to his work for the Centre, he has done truly original work on nineteenth-century Hebrew literature in Russia—a comparatively neglected field which provided the base without which the modern Jewish renaissance, particularly of the Hebrew language and the culture of contemporary Israel, could scarcely have developed. Here too, his modesty and complete incapacity for self-advertisement have, perhaps, hidden his light under a bushel. I have no hesitation in saying that the bushel should be lifted and the presence of the light revealed.

In short, his combination of moral, academic, and administrative qualities should be the envy of any head of a college or institution in any country. He is a learned, charming, utterly decent and wholly admirable human being, and so, indeed, is his wife, whose devoted activities in the Centre deserve great gratitude and praise.

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## *In Memoriam*

We regret to announce the death of the **Right Revd E. J. Tinsley**, formerly Lord Bishop of Bristol, who was for many years a patron of the British Friends of the Oxford Centre for Postgraduate Hebrew Studies.

We mourn the passing of **Dr Avraham Harman**, Honorary President of the Israeli Friends of the Oxford Centre for Postgraduate Hebrew Studies. Dr Harman, a great friend and supporter of the Centre, served for a decade as the Israeli Ambassador to the United States prior to 1968, when he was appointed Chancellor of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

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The Centre wishes to record its thanks to those individuals and institutions who have given major donations (£5,000 and over) during this year. In addition to the following, the Centre also thanks those who have donated funds anonymously.

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The John S. Cohen Foundation  
The Conanima Foundation  
The Sidney and Elizabeth Corob Charitable Trust  
Mr Harry Djanogly, CBE  
The Doron Foundation  
Professor S. Herbert Frankel  
Mr Leon Gold  
Mr Frank Green  
Mr David Hyman  
Joseph Meyerhoff Memorial Trusts  
Mr Leslie Lavy  
Mr Gerald Leigh  
The Joseph Levy Charitable Foundation

*Sources of Funding*

Mr David Lewis  
Mandel Associated Foundations  
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The Leopold Muller Estate  
Mr Brian A. Myerson  
The Edith and Ferdinand Porjes Charitable Trust  
The Porter Foundation  
The Posnansky Charitable Trust  
The Rayne Foundation  
The Rich Foundation  
The Ronson Foundation  
The Skirball Foundation  
The Sobell Foundation  
Sir Harry Solomon  
The Solon Foundation  
The Star Diamond Charitable Trust  
Mr David Tabatznik  
The Wingate Foundation  
The Rt Hon. Lord Young of Graffham

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# *The Academic Year*

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MICHAELMAS TERM 1991

## **Lectures, Seminars, and Classes**

Introduction to Hebrew and Jewish Studies *Dr Martin Goodman*

The Jews of Islamic Spain *Dr Daniel Frank*

Maimonides: Selections from Mishneh Torah *Dr Daniel Frank*

Jewish History 200 BC–AD 70 *Dr Martin Goodman*

Introduction to Sufi Ideas and Personalities *Mr Ronald Nettler*

Introduction to Yiddish Studies *Dr Dov-Ber Kerler*

Graduate Seminar in Yiddish Studies *Dr Dov-Ber Kerler*

Yiddish Language Classes (Elementary, Intermediate, and Advanced)  
*Mr Johannes Brosi*

Hebrew Language Classes (Intermediate and Advanced) *Mr Yossi  
Ziegler*

Graduate Seminar on Jewish History in the Graeco-Roman Period *Dr  
Martin Goodman, Dr Sebastian Brock, and Professor Geza Vermes*

Graduate Seminar on the Dead Sea Scrolls *Professor Geza Vermes and  
Dr Martin Goodman*

Graduate Seminar on Medieval Jewish History and Literature *Dr  
Daniel Frank, Dr Martin Goodman, and Dr Miri Rubin*

## **Lectures at Yarnton Manor**

The Jews of Ibiza and Formenteras: Involvement in Piracy and Escape  
from the Inquisition *Mrs Gloria Mound* (17 October)

Asymmetry and its Uses: Sovereignty and Voluntarism in Israel–  
Diaspora Relations *Professor Ernest Stock* (31 October)

### *The Academic Year*

Divided We Stand, United We Fall *Rabbi Dr Sidney Brichto* (18 November)

Religion and Politics in Israel *Dr Noah Lucas* (28 November)

### **Special Lectures**

First Frank Green Lecture: The Future of Auschwitz: Some Personal Reflections *Dr Jonathan Webber*, Frank Green Fellow in Jewish Social Studies, Oxford Centre for Postgraduate Hebrew Studies (14 October)

### HILARY TERM 1992

#### **Lectures, Seminars, and Classes**

The Hebrew Literature of the State of Israel: An Introduction *Dr Glenda Abramson*

History of the Jews in Central and Western Europe: 1648–1945 *Dr David Sorkin*

The Jews of Christian Spain *Dr Daniel Frank*

Hebrew Poetry from Medieval Spain *Dr Daniel Frank*

Josephus *Dr Martin Goodman*

Mission and Conversion in Late Antiquity *Dr Martin Goodman*

Graduate Seminar in Yiddish Studies *Dr Dov-Ber Kerler*

Yiddish Language Classes (Elementary, Intermediate, and Advanced)  
*Mr Johannes Brosi*

Hebrew Language Classes (Elementary, Intermediate, and Advanced)  
*Ms Fania Oz and Ms Jennifer Dowling*

Graduate Seminar on Jewish History in the Graeco-Roman Period  
*Dr Martin Goodman, Professor Geza Vermes, and Dr Sebastian Brock*

Graduate Seminar on Medieval Jewish History and Literature *Dr Daniel Frank, Dr Martin Goodman, and Dr Miri Rubin*

Diasporas: Europe's Dispersed Peoples *Dr David Sorkin and Dr Richard Clogg*

## *The Academic Year*

Seminar on The Nature of Religious Experience in Christianity and Judaism *Dr Jonathan Webber (in conjunction with the Alister Hardy Research Centre, Westminster College, Oxford)*

### **Lectures at Yarnton Manor**

Remembering the Holocaust *Dr Isabel Wollaston* (29 January)

Russia Now *Dr Harry Shukman* (11 February)

Dreyfus *Professor Michael Burns* (27 February)

Bialik and the Queen of Sheba *Professor Ezra Spicehandler* (12 March)

### **Wednesday Discussion Group, Yarnton Manor**

*(Convened by Professor Ernest Stock)*

Working with Hebrew Manuscripts in the Petersburg (Leningrad) Library *Professor Hadassa Shy* (8 January)

On Being an Israeli Today *Mr Motti Lerner* (15 January)

Polish-Jewish Historical Misunderstandings *Mr Konstanty Gebert* (22 January)

Revising the Reform Liturgy *Rabbi Chaim Stern* (27 January)

The Hebrew Manuscript Finds of Elephantine Island *Dr Mohamed El Hawari* (15 February)

Working with Ethiopian Immigrants in Israel *Mr Gadi Ben-Ezer* (12 February)

The Italian Government's Policy towards Jews in Occupied France *Professor Daniel Carpi* (19 February)

Perceptions of the Holocaust *Dr Isabel Wollaston* (26 February)

Hebrew Union College: The Literature of Persian Jewry *Professor Ezra Spicehandler* (4 March)

### **Special Lectures**

Jews, Christians, and Muslims in Medieval Spain *Dr David Wasserstein*, University College Dublin/Tel Aviv University (19 March)

TRINITY TERM 1992

**Lectures, Seminars, and Classes**

Readings in Modern Islamic Thought, with Special Reference to Judaism and Zionism *Mr Ronald Nettler*

Jewish History AD 70–425 *Dr Martin Goodman*

Seminar on the Holocaust *Dr Jonathan Webber and Dr Louise London*

Yiddish Language Classes (Elementary, Intermediate, and Advanced)  
*Mr Johannes Brosi*

Hebrew Language Classes (Elementary, Intermediate, and Advanced)  
*Ms Fania Oz and Ms Jennifer Dowling*

Medieval Jewish Biblical Exegesis *Dr Daniel Frank*

Graduate Seminar on Medieval Jewish History and Literature *Dr Daniel Frank, Dr Martin Goodman, and Dr Miri Rubin*

Graduate Seminar on Unpublished Texts from Qumran *Professor Geza Vermes and Dr Timothy Lim*

Graduate Seminar on Jewish History in the Graeco-Roman Period  
*Dr Martin Goodman, Professor Geza Vermes, and Dr Sebastian Brock*

**Lectures at Yarnton Manor**

The Exodus of Ethiopian Jews to Israel via the Sudan: Some Psycho-social Considerations *Mr Gadi Ben-Ezer* (7 May)

Media Decentralization in Israel *Dr Y. E. Amzalak* (21 May)

The Balfour Declaration Today *His Honour Israel Feinstein, QC* (4 June)

**Wednesday Discussion Group, Yarnton Manor**

*(Convened by Dr Louise London)*

Josef Perl's 'The Revealer of Secrets': The Challenge of Translation  
*Rabbi Dov Taylor* (29 April)

On the Eve of Independence Day: S. Y. Agnon and the Founding of the State of Israel *Dr Rivka Ma'oz* (6 May)

The Japanese and the Jewish Problem *Professor Ernest Stock* (13 May)

My Experience with the Hebrew Language *Ms Nurit Zarchi* (20 May)

## *The Academic Year*

Recent Developments in Dead Sea Scrolls Research *Professor Geza Vermes* (27 May)

British Policy on World War II Jewish Refugees *Dr Louise London* (3 June)

### **Special Lectures**

The Jacobs Lecture Series in Rabbinic Thought: The Nature of the Babylonian Talmud *Rabbi Dr Louis Jacobs*

The Babylonian Talmud: A Composite Work (29 April)

The Babylonian Talmud: A Literary Work (13 May)

The Babylonian Talmud: A Comprehensive Work (27 May)

The Babylonian Talmud: A Work Requiring Explication (3 June)

The Second Maxwell Lecture: Auschwitz, Nazi Ideological Imperatives, and Rational Historization *Dr John P. Fox, FRHistS* (30 April)

The Seventeenth Sacks Lecture: The Jew as an Absent-Presence in Late Medieval England *Dr Gloria Cigman* (29 May)

## ONE-YEAR PROGRAMME IN JEWISH STUDIES

### **The Faculty**

Mr Ronald Nettler, Director of Studies, and Mrs Beatrice Lucas, Student Registrar, were responsible for the running of the Programme. In the main, courses were given by Fellows of the Centre and once again the Programme benefited by having courses presented by visiting lecturers and scholars. The latter included Rabbi Dr Sidney Brichto, Professor William Fishman (University of London), Dr Jeremy Hughes (University of Oxford), Dr Louise London (Visiting Scholar), Mr Jeremy Schonfield (London), Professor Ezra Spicehandler (Hebrew Union College, Cincinnati), Professor Ernest Stock (Skirball Fellow), and Dr Isabel Wollaston (British Academy Postdoctoral Research Fellow). Dr Glenda Abramson was Dean of Students.

## **Courses**

All students are required to study Modern Hebrew, Yiddish, or Biblical Hebrew, and courses were presented at all levels. In addition, students were able to select three other subjects a term from those given below, and to undertake detailed research in the form of a dissertation on a chosen subject. The following courses were offered:

- Biblical Anthropology
- British Responses to Jewish Refugees and the Holocaust, 1933–1948
- Hebrew Literature of the State of Israel
- Introduction to Judaism
- Introduction to Modern Jewish History: Central and Western Europe
- Introduction to Yiddish Studies
- Issues of Contemporary Jewry
- Jewish Ceremonial Life
- Jewish History 200 BC–AD 70
- Jewish Immigration: A Survey of the East London Jewish Settlement 1870–1960
- Jewish Religious Responses to the Holocaust
- Jewish–Christian Relations in the Ancient Near East
- Readings in Post-Biblical Hebrew: Maimonides
- Readings in Post-Biblical Hebrew: Medieval Biblical Exegesis
- Readings in Post-Biblical Hebrew: The Medieval Hebrew Poetry of Spain
- Religion and Politics in Israel
- The Bible in Judaism
- The History of Islamic Ideas on Judaism
- The Institutional Structure of American Jewry
- The Jews in Eastern Europe 1772–1939
- The Jews of Christian Spain
- The Jews of Islamic Spain
- The Nature of Religious Experience in Christianity and Judaism
- The Origins of Jewish Nationalism

## **Students**

Seventeen students were registered on the Programme this year. Mr Sarunas Liekis, who was awarded a Soros Scholarship, has now



returned to Lithuania to continue his studies in history. Also from Lithuania were Ms Meta Mikelaityene and Mr Remigijus Juozaitis. Mr Juozaitis has also returned to continue his studies and Ms Mikelaityene is undertaking translation work from Lithuanian into Yiddish.

From China came Mrs Xianju Du and Mr Song Gong, both of whom are university lecturers and intend to return to their country to teach Jewish studies. Mrs Cecilia Engels, who came from Uruguay, has returned with her husband to Argentina, where she intends to pursue a doctorate in Jewish studies. Mrs Fanny Dolfino, also from Uruguay, contributed an extensive knowledge of the Yiddish language to the Programme.

Ms Leah Garrett from the USA has returned to the States to undertake a postgraduate course in the Jewish Theological Seminary of America. Also from the USA was Ms Brenda Martin, whose interest is Jewish social work. Ms Jolanta Kisler from Poland has been accepted for doctoral studies in the University of Oxford. From Switzerland came Mrs Adrienne Guttman. Her specific interest is botany in the Bible.

The Programme welcomed six students from the United Kingdom: Ms Julia Hoffbrand, Ms Jacqueline Miller, Mr Howard Seal, Mrs Julia Shay, Mr Jon Spector, and Ms Diana Sulis.

## **Graduation**

The 1992 graduation ceremony of the One-Year Programme was held on Friday 19 June. The address and presentation of certificates were made by the Chairman of the Board of Governors, Lord Young. Ms Jolanta Kisler responded on behalf of the students.

## **Acknowledgements**

The One-Year Programme would like to record its gratitude to the following benefactors who have assisted with scholarships during the academic year: the Corob Foundation, London; the Doron Foundation, Jerusalem; the Porter Foundation, London; Shea and Gould, New York; Sir Harry Solomon, London; Dr Hermann Voss, Florida; and Lord Young.

## YIDDISH STUDIES

### **The Postgraduate Research Programme**

Ms Helen Beer, a graduate of Monash University in Australia, who has also completed graduate courses on Yiddish literature and folklore at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, and Ms Jennifer Dowling, a graduate of Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio, continued their doctoral research as full-time graduate students at the University. Ms Beer (Worcester College) is working on 'Folk and literary derivations in the ballads of Itzik Manger' and Ms Dowling on the popular narrative genres of pre-modern Yiddish literature from comparative literary, semiotic, and ethnographic perspectives. A third full-time graduate student was accepted by the University for the academic year 1991/1992: Mr Gennady Estraiikh, a native of Zaporozhye in the Ukraine and a resident of Moscow, who is a well-known and respected Yiddish editor and author.

### **The Winter Symposium in Yiddish Language and Literature**

This year's symposium, held at Yarnton Manor from 15 to 17 December, differed from those of the previous six occasions in not having a designated topic. The seventeen papers presented therefore ranged widely over a variety of subjects.

Participants included several of the world's leading academics in Yiddish. Professor Robert D. King from the University of Texas at Austin delivered the keynote address, 'Reflections on Jewish Historiography'. Boris Sandler, from Keshenev (Chisinau), Moldova, spoke on 'The Current Yiddish Literary Scene in the former Soviet Union'. Mr Sandler's novel about the Kishinev Pogroms of 1903 and 1905 shed new light on these atrocities and was acclaimed by the Yiddish press as an important contribution to modern understanding of this period. His position as head of the Moldova Writers' Union enabled him to give participants a unique and valuable insight into the contemporary literary climate in Russia. Other papers covered topics as diverse as 'How the West Was Won' and 'Freud's Vienna: An Outsider's View'.

Professor Edna Nahshon from the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York showed for the first time in Europe a videotaped perform-

ance of *Mekhires Yoysef Shpil*, and the symposium ended with a showing of Boris Sandler's film on life today in the former Soviet Union.

## **The Eleventh Annual Summer Programme in Yiddish Language and Literature**

Over the past eleven years this intensive four-week course has produced over 750 graduates from more than twenty-five countries. The fifty-eight students on this year's course, held from 27 July to 21 August, included a Polish student of Mongolian, a Japanese translator of Isaac Bashevis Singer, and a German High Court judge. Over two-thirds of the participants were under twenty-five years old, demonstrating the resurgence of interest in Yiddish among younger people.

The 1992 faculty comprised Ms Helen Beer of Worcester College, Oxford; Mr Johannes Brosi, Lector in Yiddish at the Oxford Centre; Ms Miriam Hoffman, Lector in Yiddish at Columbia University and Director of the Joseph Papp Yiddish Theater, New York; and Professor Yitskhok Niborski, lecturer at the Paris Seminar in Yiddish Studies and the University of Paris VII (Sorbonne). Professor Niborski acted as Director of Studies in the absence of Dr Dovid Katz on sabbatical leave.

The teaching programme included a series of lectures by Professor Meyer Shub, pioneer head of the Jewish Studies Department in Vilnius University, on the social, economic, and cultural life of Jews in Lithuania between the world wars, illuminated by his personal experiences. The writer Mr Gregori Kanovitch, also from Vilnius, lectured on literature on Jewish topics in the Soviet Union and the development and prospects of Yiddish literature in the Commonwealth of Independent States. Professor S. S. Praver spoke on '*Khazonim, Badkhonim, Naronim*—Episodes and Transition: Points in the History of Yiddish Showbusiness'. Professor William Fishman and Dr Anne Kershen, both from Queen Mary College, London, gave a lecture in two parts on the Anglo-Jewish response to Yiddish-speaking immigrants and the rise and fall of the East End ghetto.

The Joseph Papp Yiddish Theater conducted the programme's drama workshop; at the end of the programme they were joined by Shura Lipovsky from Amsterdam and her music workshop to present a performance based on improvisations in Yiddish at the Burton Taylor Theatre in Oxford.

The programme ended with a graduation ceremony at Yarnton Manor for the participating students.

### **Support for Yiddish Studies**

The Centre wishes once again to record its gratitude to benefactors who have supported Yiddish Studies at the Centre.

Mr Sidney and Mrs Elizabeth Corob continued their generous contribution to the administrative budget. Sir Leslie and Lady Porter, who established the Fellowship in Yiddish Language and Literature at Lincoln College and the Centre in 1988, also maintained their kind support.

Mr Chic and Mrs Dorothy Walk of Los Angeles have continued to fund a series of scholarships to enable deserving students to attend the Summer Programme. Further scholarships have again been provided by the Walter Artzt Foundation of Palm Beach, Florida, enabling students to participate for half the regular fee.

### **Mendel Tabatznik Graduate Scholarships**

For the fifth consecutive year, the annual Mendel Tabatznik Graduate Scholarships enabled talented students from around the world to complete research for M.Litt. and D.Phil. degrees in Yiddish Studies at the University of Oxford, and to carry out specific research and publication projects. Holders of the scholarships for 1991/1992 were Ms Helen Beer (Worcester College), Ms Jennifer Dowling (Wolfson College), and Mr Gennady Estraiikh (St Antony's College).

### **The Tenth Annual Avrom-Nokhem Stencl Lecture**

The Tenth Avrom-Nokhem Stencl Lecture in Yiddish Studies was delivered on 18 August by Professor Itche Goldberg, Editor of *Yidishhe kultur* and Director of the Zhitlovski Foundation, New York. Professor Goldberg spoke on the life and works of the Yiddish poetess Rokhl Korn, to mark the tenth anniversary of her death.

Mr Montague Richardson, former director of the Adler Street Settlement House, took the chair and Professor S. S. Prawer offered the vote of thanks.

### ***Oksforder yidish***

The third volume of *Oksforder yidish* (*Oxford Yiddish*), edited by Dr Dovid Katz, will be published in 1993. This volume includes papers by Yiddish scholars from a dozen countries, including a number by young scholars trained at the Oxford Centre. The assistant editors for volume three are Mr Gennady Estraiikh and Dr Dov-Ber Kerler.

### ***Winter Studies in Yiddish***

The fourth volume of *Winter Studies in Yiddish*, entitled *Politics of Yiddish* and edited by Dr Dov-Ber Kerler, will be published in 1993. It comprises a selection of papers from the three Oxford Winter Symposia in Yiddish Language and Literature held between 1988 and 1991. Subjects covered include cultural history, sociolinguistics, Yiddish literature, Yiddish theatre, and the Yiddish press.

### **The Campaign for Yiddish at Oxford**

The substantial achievements of the Yiddish Studies programme at the Oxford Centre have been attained in the absence of the endowments that are necessary to secure and enhance its activities. The Campaign for Yiddish at Oxford is seeking to attract the funds needed for the endowment of a Department of Yiddish Studies. Substantial sums are sought: for the summer course, \$100,000 per annum, and for the winter symposium \$50,000 (\$1,500,000 would enable the establishment of a named endowment for the summer course, \$750,000 that of a named endowment for the winter symposium). \$1,000,000 is needed to finance the *Oxford Yiddish Dictionary* (to be published, if the funds become available to the Centre, by Oxford University Press); \$20,000 will fund named publications. A named Yiddish Institute requires funding to the sum of \$2,500,000.

### **SKIRBALL FELLOWSHIPS**

The Skirball Foundation has established a programme which funds four visiting fellowships each year. Two of these are reserved for scholars from the United States in any of the following fields: Jewish history in

the English-speaking world, modern Hebrew literature, Jewish-Christian relations, or Jewish-Muslim relations. One fellowship is reserved for Muslim scholars of Hebrew; and one for scholars in the field of Jewish studies from eastern Europe. This year, the electing committee decided to award the latter fellowship to three scholars from different east European countries, for a term each. Accordingly, a total of seven Skirball Fellows were in residence at the Centre during the course of the year, from the following countries: Egypt, Hungary, Lithuania, Poland, and the United States.

#### THE FRANK GREEN PROGRAMME

Mr Frank Green, a private Anglo-Jewish benefactor, established in the early 1980s a programme of academic research and teaching specializing in modern European Jewish history. The programme has been linked to a partnership in this field between the Oxford Centre for Postgraduate Hebrew Studies and the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. The programme has supported academic posts (including the Frank Green Fellowship at the Oxford Centre), young researchers, and international academic symposia.

#### **The First Frank Green Lecture**

As part of the programme, the Oxford Centre organizes a series of annual lectures, the first of which was delivered in Yarnton Manor on 14 October by Dr Jonathan Webber, Frank Green Fellow in Jewish Social Studies at the Centre. The lecture was entitled 'The Future of Auschwitz: Some Personal Reflections'. The Chief Rabbi, Dr Jonathan Sacks, was in the chair. The lecture was subsequently published by the Centre in pamphlet form as the first in the Frank Green Lecture Series.

#### **International Symposium on 'Jewish Identities in the New Europe'**

The second main event of the programme this year was an international symposium on the subject of 'Jewish Identities in the New Europe', organized by Dr Webber and held at Yarnton Manor from 28 June to 1 July. There were twenty-one participants, Jewish and non-Jewish, from

both eastern and western Europe, Israel and the United States; each participant delivered a paper. It was clear from the material presented that the situation of the Jews in Europe is now entering a completely new phase as a consequence of changing political and economic conditions. Particularly noteworthy is the complex position of the Jewish communities of the former Soviet Union.

The proceedings have been accepted for publication by the Littman Library of Jewish Civilization.

### *Participants*

Dr Jonathan Webber (Chairman), Oxford Centre for Postgraduate Hebrew Studies

Professor Geoffrey Alderman, London University

Lord Beloff, Brighton

Dr Margaret Brearley, Institute of Jewish Affairs, London

Professor Julius Carlebach, Hochschule für Jüdische Studien, Heidelberg

Professor Mikhail Chlenov, Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow

Professor Sergio DellaPergola, Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Professor Evyatar Friesel, Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Mr Konstanty Gebert, Warsaw

Dr Daniel Gutwein, Haifa University

Professor Maurice-Ruben Hayoun, University of Strasbourg

Dr András Kovács, Institute for Sociology, Budapest

Dr Igor Krupnik, Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow

Rabbi Dr Norman Lamm, Yeshiva University, New York

Mr Antony Lerman, Institute of Jewish Affairs, London

Rabbi Dr Jonathan Magonet, Leo Baeck College, London

Dr Elisabeth Maxwell, Oxford

Professor Eliezer Schweid, Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Dr David Singer, The American Jewish Committee, New York

Rabbi Dr Norman Solomon, Centre for the Study of Judaism and Jewish-Christian Relations, Birmingham

### THE RICH SEMINAR

In July and August 1992 the second session of the Rich Seminar took place at Yarnton Manor. As in 1991, the topic of the seminar was

'Israel: The First Decade of Independence'. Visiting scholars and students from the United States, Israel, and China joined the discussions with local scholars. Some two dozen papers were delivered, under the chairmanship of Professor Ilan Troen of Ben-Gurion University of the Negev and Dr Noah Lucas of the Centre. The co-chairmen, who organized the conference, are jointly editing the volumes based on the papers for publication by a scholarly press.

***Participants***

Dr Noah Lucas (Co-chairman), Oxford Centre for Postgraduate Hebrew Studies

Professor Ilan Troen (Co-chairman), Ben-Gurion University of the Negev

Professor Eliezer Ben-Rafael, Tel Aviv University

Professor Eliezer Don-Yehiya, Bar-Ilan University

Professor Alan Dowty, Notre Dame University

Mr Ze'ev Drori, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev

Professor Yosef Gorny, Tel Aviv University

Dr Yitzhak Greenberg, Tel Aviv University

Dr Tamar Hermann, Open University of Israel

Professor Ruth Kark, Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Dr Henry Near, Haifa University

Dr David Newman, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev

Professor Dalia Ofer, Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Dr Ilan Pappé, Haifa University

Professor Gabriel Sheffer, Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Professor Russell Stone, American University, Washington DC

Professor Philippa Strum, City University of New York

Professor Melvin Urofsky, Virginia and Commonwealth University

Ms Xianju Du, Tsinghua University, Beijing

Dr Hanna Yablonka, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev

***Additional Visiting Participants***

Professor Walter Ackerman, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev

Professor Arnold Band, Skirball Fellow (University of California at Los Angeles)



Mr Gadi Ben-Ezer, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev

Mr Melvin Joe Cohen, Jewish Agency (retired)

Ms Sonia Lucas, St Antony's College, Oxford

Dr David Patterson, President, Oxford Centre for Postgraduate Hebrew Studies

Professor Ernest Stock, Skirball Fellow (Department of Political Science, Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs; formerly of Brandeis University)

#### INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON 'THE FUTURE OF AUSCHWITZ'

The Oxford Centre collaborated with the Auschwitz State Museum and the Research Center on Jewish History and Culture in Poland of the Jagiellonian University, Kraków, in the organization of an international symposium of Jewish scholars and intellectuals on 'The Future of Auschwitz', which was held in Kraków and Auschwitz on 6–9 April 1992. The symposium was a follow-up to the meeting held in Yarnton Manor in 1990 on the same theme; it was convened and chaired by Dr Jonathan Webber, Fellow in Jewish Social Studies at the Oxford Centre. Sponsorship for the symposium, which was attended by thirty-five participants, came principally from the Polish Ministry of Culture, with the additional support of the Polish–American Joint Commission for Humanitarian Assistance and the Warsaw office of the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung. At the end of the meeting a set of proposals ('The Kraków Proposals') was forwarded to the Polish authorities.

#### *Participants*

Dr Jonathan Webber (Chairman), Oxford Centre for Postgraduate Hebrew Studies

Dr Marc Ellis, Maryknoll School of Theology, New York

Mr Konstanty Gebert, Warsaw

Dr Michael Glazer, Jesus College, Oxford

Mr Gideon Greif, Tel Aviv

Dr Anne Grynberg, Alliance Israélite Universelle, Paris

Mr Henryk Halkowski, Kraków

*The Academic Year*

Mr Paul Halter, Fondation Auschwitz, Brussels  
Mr Ben Helfgott, Yad Vashem Committee, London  
Dr Stanisław Krajewski, Warsaw  
Mr Antony Lerman, Institute of Jewish Affairs, London  
Rabbi Dr Jonathan Magonet, Leo Baeck College, London  
Rabbi Dow Marmur, Holy Blossom Temple, Toronto  
Professor Michael Marrus, University of Toronto  
Rabbi David Novak, University of Virginia  
Professor Antony Polonsky, Brandeis University  
Professor Gillian Rose, University of Warwick  
Rabbi David Rosen, Anti-Defamation League, Jerusalem  
Professor Alvin Rosenfeld, Indiana University  
Dr David Roskies, Jewish Theological Seminary, New York  
Professor Richard Rubenstein, Florida State University  
Mr Rafael Scharf, London  
Rabbi Michael Schudrich, Lauder Foundation, New York  
Professor Chone Shmeruk, Hebrew University of Jerusalem  
Dr Michael Steinlauf, Gratz College, Pennsylvania  
Professor Maria Susulowska, Kraków  
Mr Marian Turski, Warsaw  
Dr Annette Wieviorka, Paris  
Ms Connie Wilsack, The Littman Library of Jewish Civilization,  
Oxford  
Professor James Young, University of Amherst, Massachusetts  
Dr George Wheeler, a research chemist at the Metropolitan Museum of  
Art, New York, attended as a guest of the symposium.

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## *Continuing Activities*

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### THE LIBRARY AND ARCHIVE

This has been an excellent year for the Library. On 10 June Mr Michael Garston, on behalf of the Leopold Muller Estate, presented Dr Patterson with a gift of £1 million for the endowment of the Library. This will make possible the development and maintenance of both Library and Archive. At a ceremony held in October 1992 the Library was officially renamed The Leopold Muller Memorial Library.

Another major event this year was the acquisition from Israel of the Elkoshi collection, bought for the Centre by means of a generous benefaction from the Edith and Ferdinand Porjes Trust. These 17,000 volumes constitute an unparalleled collection of modern Hebrew literature, including long runs of Hebrew newspapers and periodicals.

Among the distinguished visitors to the Library in 1992 were His Excellency Yoav Biran, Israeli Ambassador to the Court of St James, and Mrs Jane Biran, who inspected the Library on 4 March.

### THE OXFORD QUMRAN PROJECT

International developments in the Qumran field moved very rapidly during the year, and this pace was matched by the activities of the Qumran project, coordinated by Professor Alan Crown. The Qumran Room was opened, making the collection of Dead Sea Scrolls texts available to scholars and in particular to the Qumran Forum headed by Professor Geza Vermes. At the opening, a substantial audience heard lectures from Professor Vermes and Professor Emanuel Tov, Editor-in-Chief of the Project.

The international controversy concerning the Dead Sea Scrolls resulted in the Qumran Room becoming a centre of attraction for several

### *Continuing Activities*

film crews; items filmed at Yarnton were shown on television in Israel, the USA, Canada, and Australia as well as in Britain.

Cataloguing the material has become a complex task in view of the amount of missing material, and the Qumran Project had co-operated closely with the Claremont Institute for Manuscripts in setting up a catalogue of the photographs and fragments. Maureen Peacock, Secretary to the Project, worked with the Claremont Institute on this aspect of the work. A preliminary electronic catalogue was made available for users, and shelving of all plates was completed. It was acknowledged that the Centre had acquired an excellent collection through the wisdom and generosity of its sponsors and the efforts of Professor Alan Crown and Dr David Patterson.

The primary purpose of the Project—publication of the Qumran materials in an orderly fashion through Oxford University Press—continued to be met. Scanning equipment was installed and negotiations were begun with the IAA and with OUP for the publication of the collection on CD-ROM disk. Experiments with the scanning equipment showed that the readability of fragments could be enhanced electronically.

Funds for publication were mediated through the Yarnton Fund for the Qumran Project to Professor Tov and thence to a wide group of collaborators, and in the USA through Eugene Ulrich to American collaborators. In consequence of these arrangements, it became possible to revise the publication programme and a tight publication schedule was submitted to the sponsors.

### THE QUMRAN FORUM

The recently created Forum for Qumran Research has already established itself as a leading institution in the international study of the Dead Sea Scrolls.

The Director, Professor Geza Vermes, with the collaboration of Dr Timothy Lim, a Junior Research Fellow of the Centre and Secretary of the Forum, has conducted fortnightly seminars devoted to a pioneering enquiry into unpublished texts of the Dead Sea Scrolls. These meetings were attended by scholars from British and overseas universities, as well as by all Oxford specialists in Qumran research.

### *Continuing Activities*

Four important documents have been scrutinized: unpublished versions of the Qumran Community Rule; the so-called 'son of God' fragment, published in part twenty years ago; a new Hebrew account of the Flood; and a controversial fragment held to describe the killing of a messiah-like figure. This 'messianic' interpretation, advanced by Professor Robert Eisenman of California State University and Professor Michael Wise of the University of Chicago, has been challenged by Professor Vermes, who has drawn on parallels with elements elsewhere in the Qumran Scrolls in arguing that the American scholars' interpretation is founded on a wrong translation of a crucial phrase. An account of the debate arising from this controversy was published in the *Independent* of 27 December; subsequently, both Professor Vermes and Dr Lim were interviewed on television and radio in Britain, Canada, and the USA.

### *JOURNAL OF JEWISH STUDIES*

Internationally recognized as a leading periodical in the field of Jewish studies, the *Journal* is published twice a year under the editorship of Professor Geza Vermes. Volume 43, published in 1992, included over twenty articles and a large number of book reviews.

Substantial space has been devoted to the study of unpublished material from the Dead Sea Scrolls. The Spring 1992 issue of the *Journal* contained a detailed presentation of the seminars' discussions, and also a full list, released for the first time, of the unpublished Dead Sea Scroll texts, together with the names of the respective editors.

### THE INSTITUTE FOR POLISH-JEWISH STUDIES

Following the departure of Professor Antony Polonsky to take up a post at Brandeis University, the Institute has been reconstituted with a new Committee of Management, which includes one Fellow of the Centre as a member (Dr Jonathan Webber, who will also act as Treasurer). Professor Polonsky, until July 1992 the President of the Institute, was subsequently elected Vice-President, as were Professor Władysław

Bartoszewski, Professor Yisrael Gutman, Dr David Patterson, and Dr Zbigniew Pelczynski.

*Polin: A Journal of Polish-Jewish Studies* will from 1994 become a publication of the Centre and will be published by the Littman Library of Jewish Civilization.

*THE OXFORD ENGLISH-HEBREW DICTIONARY OF  
CURRENT USAGE*

Dr Ahuvia Kahane reports that editing of the *Oxford English-Hebrew Dictionary of Current Usage* (OEHDCU) was completed last year, and it is expected that the *Dictionary* will be available in hard covers early in 1993. Compiled according to advanced linguistic and lexicographic principles, it will be the largest and most comprehensive English-Hebrew dictionary of current usage available.

The preparation of two abridged versions of OEHDCU, a *Shorter Oxford English-Hebrew Dictionary of Current Usage* and a *Mini Oxford English-Hebrew Dictionary of Current Usage*, has now begun. Both will be published by Oxford University Press.

Two important projects are now in the initial planning stages: a companion volume to OEHDCU, the *Oxford Hebrew-English Dictionary of Current Usage*; and a substantial collection of machine-readable modern Hebrew texts, the *Oxford Corpus of Hebrew*. The latter will provide the tools required for the production of the Hebrew-English dictionary. As the corpus expands, it is hoped that the *Oxford Corpus of Hebrew* will provide the foundation for a wide variety of linguistic, literary, and lexicographic studies of modern Hebrew.

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### FELLOWS OF THE CENTRE

#### *Dr Glenda Abramson*

Dr Abramson gave lectures and tutorials for the University's BA (Hons) and M.Phil. degrees, and for the Centre's One-Year Programme in Jewish Studies; she is also currently supervising three D.Phil. students. She delivered a series of eight general lectures entitled 'The Hebrew Literature of the State of Israel'.

Dr Abramson gave papers on the 'Poet of the Dark Gate' at a conference on European Jewish Literature at the University of Venice (December); on 'The City in Modern Hebrew Literature' at the conference of the National Association for Professors of Hebrew at York University, Toronto (May); and on 'Urbanism as a Manifestation of Modernism in the Poetry of David Vogel' at a workshop on the teaching of Hebrew literature in English translation, Hebrew University of Jerusalem (July).

Several papers written by Dr Abramson have been accepted for publication in scholarly journals and edited collections. Since October 1990 she has been the editor of the *Bulletin* of the British Association for Jewish Studies. She is an examiner of Hebrew at all levels for the Institute of Linguists and Language Teaching Associates (Foreign Office), and in 1991 was appointed Tutor for Women, St Cross College, Oxford.

#### *Dr Daniel Frank*

During a year which saw renewed interest in Sefardi Jewry, Dr Frank lectured extensively on the history and literature of the Jews in medieval Spain. He offered two sets of lectures on the Jews of Islamic and Christian Spain as part of the Centre's One-Year Programme in Jewish Studies and taught Hebrew texts by Maimonides, Ibn Gabirol, Moses

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Ibn Ezra, Judah Halevi, Abraham Ibn Ezra, and David Kimhi for the Oriental Faculty. Together with Dr Martin Goodman (Reader in Jewish Studies) and Dr Miri Rubin (Lecturer in Modern History), he organized a Graduate Seminar in Medieval Jewish History and Literature at the Modern History Faculty. During the autumn he presented a paper at the seminar entitled '*Leshon ha-Qodesh*: The Attitude of Judah Halevi and His Contemporaries Towards the Hebrew Language'; a revised version of the paper was presented in Cambridge in May. In addition, he offered several more popular talks during the spring and summer: 'Hebrew Manuscripts from Spain in the Bodleian Library' (New Bodleian Library); 'The First Sephardi Diaspora' (South Hampstead Synagogue, London); and 'The Life and Works of Judah Halevi' (The Spanish and Portuguese Jews' Congregation, Lauderdale Road, London).

Dr Frank planned and organized an international conference, 'The Jews of Medieval Islam: Community, Society, Identity', with Professor Mark Geller (Institute of Jewish Studies, London) which was held on 24–5 June in London. In a session on 'Self-Perceptions and Attitudes Towards Others' Dr Frank presented a paper entitled 'The *Shoshanim* of Jerusalem: Exegesis, Prayer, and Communal Identity' which examined the liturgical use of the Psalms by the Karaite Mourners for Zion in tenth- and eleventh-century Jerusalem. It is planned to publish a conference volume. During the academic year 1992/1993 Dr Frank will be on sabbatical leave; his research plans include the completion of his book on Judah Halevi and the revision of several papers on Karaite biblical exegesis.

#### *Dr Martin Goodman*

Dr Goodman gave tutorials and thesis supervision for the M.Phil. degree in Jewish Studies in the Graeco-Roman Period (for which he was also an examiner) and in Judaism and Christianity in the Graeco-Roman World, as well as tutorials for BA students in theology, Hebrew, and Literae Humaniores. He gave lecture series on 'Jewish History 200 BC–AD 70', on 'Jewish History AD 70–425', and on 'Josephus'. He was also involved in teaching the Centre's One-Year Programme in Jewish Studies.

As joint convenor, Dr Goodman organized three seminars during the year: graduate seminars on 'Jewish History in the Graeco-Roman



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Period' and on 'Medieval Jewish History and Literature', and a seminar on 'Religions in the Mediterranean World'. He also gave five seminar papers: on 'Jews and Romanitas' at the Oxford Jewish History Seminar (15 October); on 'Texts, Scribes, and Power in Roman Judaea' at the Oxford Ancient History Seminar (25 February); on 'Archaeology and Popular Religion in late Antiquity' at the Oxford Anthropology and Archaeology Seminar on the Mediterranean (5 March) and at the Birmingham University Seminar on Religion and Society (18 May); and on 'Jews in the Decapolis' at the Oxford Jewish History Seminar (26 May).

Dr Goodman gave several public lectures during the year: on 'Jews and their Past in the Hellenistic Period' at the Royal Irish Academy, Dublin (5 November); on 'Temple and Synagogue in Late-antique Judaism' at the Oxford University Archaeology Society (26 November); on 'The Dead Sea Scrolls' to Birmingham Jewish Graduates (15 January); on 'Mission and Conversion in Late Antiquity' in Oxford (the Wilde Lectures in Natural and Comparative Religion, Oxford University, 20 January–9 March); on 'Jewish Identity in Ancient and Modern Times' at the Jewish Historical Society of England, Birmingham branch (16 February); on 'Jews, Jesus, Christians, and Rabbis' at the Council of Christians and Jews, Oxford branch (17 March); on 'Jewish Identity from Antiquity to the Present' at the Yarnton Discussion Group (27 May); and on 'Why was the Second Temple Destroyed?' at the New Synagogue in Birmingham on 12 July (the Sklair Memorial Lecture). He attended the conference on 'Literacy and Power in Antiquity' at Christ Church, Oxford (June–July) and the conference of the British Association of Jewish Studies at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge (July).

In December Dr Goodman ended a five-year term as Hon. Secretary of the British Association for Jewish Studies. He was also a member of the sub-committee set up by the Association to formulate national policy on Jewish Studies in British universities. He was invited to join the editorial board of *Arbeiten zur Geschichte des Antiken Judentums und des Urchristentums*, published by E. J. Brill.

Dr Goodman's research has continued to revolve around questions of Jewish identity in the Roman empire and attitudes to mission and conversion. He has also worked extensively on Jewish attitudes to literacy in late antiquity. He has begun work on a book intended for

ancient historians, in which he will try to bring the history of the Jews into the forefront of study of the Roman world in the early imperial period.

***Dr Ahuvia Kahane***

Dr Kahane's efforts in the academic year 1991/1992 have concentrated on the final phases of the production of the *Oxford English-Hebrew Dictionary of Current Usage*, and on expanding the Centre's lexicographic activities.

During the year Dr Kahane gave a paper entitled '*The Oxford English-Hebrew Dictionary and the Paradox of Modern Hebrew*', which later appeared in the proceedings of the seminar in honour of Naky Doniach, edited by David Howlett and Gloria Cigman and published by the Centre. A paper entitled '*Ben-Yehuda, Wharf, and Frankenstein*' given in 1990/1991 is forthcoming in the proceedings of the International Conference on Language Revival, edited by T. V. Parfitt and to be published by Harwood Academic Publishers. Both papers discuss the theory and history of Modern Hebrew lexicography.

Apart from his lexicographic interests Dr Kahane has also been active in the field of classical studies. His paper '*The First Word of the Odyssey*' is to appear in the 1992 issue of *Transactions and Proceedings of the American Philological Association*; his review of Marco Fantuzzi's *Richerche su Apollonio Rodio* (Rome, 1988) is forthcoming in the 1993 issue of *Classical Review*. Dr Kahane's book *The Interpretation of Order: A Study of the Poetics of Homeric Repetition* is being published by Oxford University Press in the Oxford Classical Monographs series.

Dr Kahane is an active translator and editor in Hebrew. He has edited Benjamin Shimron's unabridged Hebrew translation of Polybius' *Histories*, the first volume of which has now been published in Israel by Mossad Bialik (Jerusalem, 1992). Dr Kahane's Hebrew translation of Homer's *Odyssey* is now being typeset and will be published in 1993 by Keter, Jerusalem. His English translation (from Hebrew) of Micha and Orna Bar-Am's *Painting with Light: The Photographic Aspect in the Work of E. M. Lilien*, about the turn-of-the-century Zionist artist Lilien, was published in Tel Aviv earlier this year.

***Dr David Katz***

Dr Katz was on sabbatical leave for the academic year 1991/1992. He spent the year writing, on a sheep farm in North Wales, with interrup-

tions for research trips to Lithuania and Belorussia, New York, and Israel. In addition to his scholarly output, Dr Katz began publishing Yiddish fiction.

***Dr Dov-Ber Kerler***

In Oxford, Dr Kerler organized the weekly graduate seminar in Yiddish Studies and taught the course 'Introduction to Yiddish Studies' for both the University and the Centre's One-Year Programme in Jewish Studies. He also taught Yiddish for the One-Year Programme, including 'Readings from Sholem Aleichem' for the advanced students. He tutored and examined an extended BA essay on the poetry of Itzik Manger for the BA Option Paper 'Modern Yiddish Literature' in the Faculty of Medieval and Modern Languages, and throughout the year supervised three postgraduate students for that Faculty.

From March to June Dr Kerler also taught an intensive course in Yiddish language for two groups of freshmen and advanced undergraduates as part of the new Programme in Jewish Studies at the Russian State University of Humanities in Moscow. This course was co-organized and run by the Jewish Theological Seminary of America and Yivo, New York. During his stay in Moscow, his native city, Dr Kerler established contacts with several scholars working in or otherwise involved with Jewish Studies in Russia and the Commonwealth of Independent States. Many of these new contacts were made possible by virtue of his temporary attachment to the new university and its innovative Jewish Studies programme, the first of its kind at any university in Russia.

Together with Dr Dovid Katz and Ms Marie Wright, Dr Kerler planned and organized the Seventh International Oxford Annual Symposium in Yiddish Language and Literature, which was held in December.

During the year, Dr Kerler finished work on his book, *Origins of Modern Literary Yiddish*, to appear in the Modern Languages Monographs series published by Oxford University Press. He also edited the fourth volume of *Winter Studies in Yiddish* and was assistant editor of the third volume of *Oksfordser yidish*, both to be published early in 1993, and served on the editorial board of *Yivo bleter* (new series), volume 1, published by the Yivo Institute for Jewish Research, New York. He is currently working on two projects for publication: first, the

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compilation and editing of *Mayn tatns vayngortn*, a collection of articles and critical appraisals of Yosef Kerler's poetry, to be published on the occasion of his seventy-fifth birthday, in Yiddish and Hebrew; second, the preparation of an introductory textbook on Yiddish.

#### ***Dr Timothy Lim***

Dr Lim has been involved in the running of the Qumran Forum, of which he is secretary, and the fortnightly seminars on unpublished Dead Sea Scrolls held at Wolfson College. He is currently revising his doctoral dissertation for publication by Oxford University Press.

#### ***Dr Heinz-Dietrich Löwe***

During the academic year Dr Löwe supervised two D.Phil. students preparing theses in Jewish history: one working on 'Jewish Middle Class and Intelligentsia Politics from 1905 to 1914 in Russia', and one on 'The Rise of a Jewish National Consciousness among Polish Jews during the 1860s and 1870s'. He gave a lecture course on 'The History of the Jews in Eastern Europe, 1200–1939' for the University and also for the Centre's One-Year Programme in Jewish Studies. He ran a class on Russian history which introduced the history paper 'Russia and the Soviet Union, 1856–1939' to the first-year students for the M.Phil. in Russian studies, and taught students individually for the papers in Russian History for the periods 1685–1865 and 1865–1965. He also acted as chairman of examiners for the M.Phil. in Russian Studies. Together with Michael Hurst of St John's College he ran a seminar on 'Fascisms' which introduced the preconditions for the development of fascism in different forms in different countries as a basis for wide-ranging discussion with the students. Together with Dr Catherine Andreyev of Christ Church he ran a research seminar on 'Reform from Above and Social Movements in Russia, 1861 to 1914'.

In February Dr Löwe presented a paper entitled 'From Charity to Social Policy: The Emergence of Jewish Self-help Organizations in Russia, 1800–1914' at an international conference of Polish, Israeli, and German historians on 'Poles, Jews, and Germans: An Uneasy Neighbourhood' at Freiburg University. He also co-organized a conference in Oxford of historians from Paris and Oxford on 'Problems of Russian Identity', where he opened the series of talks with a paper on 'Nation-building, National Identity, and Russian Nationalism'. At an

international conference on Antisemitism at the Technical University in Berlin he presented a paper on 'The Tradition of Russian Antisemitism'.

Dr Löwe's book *The Tsars and the Jews: Reform, Reaction and Antisemitism in Russia, 1772-1917* has gone to press and should appear early in 1993.

At the end of the academic year 1991/1992 Dr Löwe left Oxford to take up a chair in Eastern European history at the University of Heidelberg. On departing he thanked the Centre, and in particular its President, Dr David Patterson, and the Fellows, for their support and stimulation during his Fellowship.

### *Dr Noah Lucas*

Dr Lucas lectured in the Social Studies Faculty of the University on 'Israeli History and Politics' and on 'Israeli Foreign Policy', and taught a course on 'Religion in Israeli Politics' for the Centre's One-Year Programme in Jewish Studies.

Dr Lucas supervised an M.Phil. thesis in Middle Eastern Studies for the Faculty of Oriental Studies, and lectured on Israel to the M.Phil. class in Middle Eastern Studies at St Antony's College. He also supervised a D.Phil. probationer in the Faculty of History and addressed the history seminar at St John's College in May. In addition, at the invitation of their various colleges, he gave individual tuition in the University to ten postgraduates and undergraduates.

In December Dr Lucas attended a meeting in Cambridge of the Middle East Libraries Committee of BRISMES, and represented the Centre at the Hebraica Libraries Group annual meeting held in Manchester in April.

In November Dr Lucas took part in the Adult Education Programme of Finchley Reform Synagogue and in January he lectured on Jewish religious extremism in Israeli politics for the 21st Century Trust's international leadership programme. Dr Lucas also gave interviews on BBC radio and on Middle East television, and wrote briefing reports on Israel for Oxford Analytica. In May he lectured on Israel for a day school on the Middle East conducted at Rewley House, and in June he addressed a meeting of Mapam in London on the Israeli elections. In July he was elected for a four-year term to the editorial advisory board of the Middle East Library published by Cambridge University Press.

Dr Lucas was co-organizer and co-chairman, with Visiting Fellow

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Professor Ilan Troen of Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, of the second session of the international Rich Seminar on Israel in the 1950s, held at Yarnton Manor in July and August. Dr Lucas and Professor Troen are editing the multi-volume collection of seminar papers of the 1991 and 1992 sessions.

Dr Lucas has contributed a chapter on religion in Israeli politics to a forthcoming book; also soon to appear in print is a paper on comparative immigration laws delivered at a conference held at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev in May 1991.

#### ***Dr George Mandel***

In January Dr Mandel was appointed to a Hebrew Centre Lectureship in Oriental Studies at Oxford University. He lectured and gave tutorials during the year on the history of Jewish nationalism, as part of the University undergraduate curriculum and for the Centre's One-Year Programme in Jewish Studies. He also completed the editing of an English translation of Eliezer Ben-Yehuda's autobiography, *A Dream Come True*, which is to be published by the Westview Press.

#### ***Mr Ronald Nettler***

Mr Nettler continued his research on modern and contemporary Islamic thought concerning Judaism. This is part of his general work on the history of ideas in Muslim-Jewish relations. He also continued his research on medieval Islamic mystical thought, with a specific emphasis on prophecy and the place of the biblical prophets in this mystical tradition.

Mr Nettler taught courses on Muslim-Jewish relations and various aspects of Islamic religious thought, medieval and modern, in the Faculty of Oriental Studies. He tutored both undergraduate and graduate students in these subjects and supervised the research of students reading for the M.Phil. and D.Phil. degrees. He also continued supervising a Ph.D. student from the Faculty of Oriental Studies, Cambridge University, in Islamic mystical thought.

Mr Nettler completed editing the first volume of the new publication, *Studies in Muslim-Jewish Relations*, which is now in production. The second volume is well under way and should go to press sometime early in 1992. The new *Encyclopedia of the Modern Islamic World* (to be published by Oxford University Press) invited Mr Nettler to contribute

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a substantial entry on 'Islam and Judaism' as well as several other pieces. Mr Nettler was invited to participate in a panel discussion on modern Islam at the annual meeting of the British Society for Middle Eastern Studies, St Andrews University, in July; he spoke on aspects of modern Qur'anic exegesis.

#### *Dr David Patterson*

The President continued his work to foster the growth and development of the Oxford Centre. He attended a meeting of the Senate of the Hochschule für Jüdische Studien in Heidelberg and acted as chairman of the annual workshop on the teaching of Modern Hebrew literature in English translation in Jerusalem under the auspices of the International Centre for University Teaching of Jewish Civilization, of which he is a member of the Board of Regents. He delivered the closing remarks at the Eleventh Summer Programme of Yiddish Studies and he also took part in the two-month Rich Seminar on Israel in the 1950s. He gave a paper at a seminar at the School of Slavonic Studies, London, and delivered four lectures at a summer seminar for visiting Americans at Yarnton Manor. He successfully negotiated additional Hebrew Centre lectureships at Oxford University. He is currently negotiating with the University for recognition of the Oxford Centre's One-Year Programme in Jewish Studies as a diploma course at Oxford University. He was elected as an Honorary Fellow of the Oxford Centre for Post-graduate Hebrew Studies.

#### *Dr Alison Salvesen*

In April, Dr Salvesen was appointed Hebrew Centre Lecturer in Oriental Studies. She worked part-time for the remainder of the academic year after a spell of maternity leave, and taught a variety of courses in Syriac and Aramaic at the Oriental Institute, and one on Jewish-Christian relations in Ancient Mesopotamia for the Centre's One-Year Programme in Jewish Studies. She also examined an M.Litt. thesis on early Jewish interpretations of Genesis 1-4, with Dr Martin Goodman as her co-examiner.

Dr Salvesen delivered a number of papers on various topics: in November she spoke on 'The Role of Women in the Writings of St Ephrem the Syrian' for the Women in Antiquity Seminar in Oxford, and the following month she addressed the Society for Jewish Study

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and the Council of Christians and Jews in London on 'Two Ancient Bible Translations: Jewish or Christian?', along with Dr Michael Weitzman of London University. In August she presented a paper on 'Spirits, Holy and Otherwise, in Jacob of Edessa's version of 1 Samuel' at the Twelfth Symposium Syriacum in Cambridge.

At present she is working on a chapter for a book edited by Dr Stephanie Dalley on the legacy of the culture of Babylon and Nineveh. She continues to act as Treasurer for the British Association for Jewish Studies, and from October she will be the Hugh Pilkington Research Fellow in Biblical Studies at Christ Church, Oxford University.

#### *Dr David Sorkin*

During the year Dr Sorkin lectured in London on 'The Two Faces of Moses Mendelssohn' as part of the Institute of Contemporary History's series of talks on Central European artists and writers. He participated in the dedication of the Braun Chair in Prussian Jewish history at Bar-Ilan University in Israel with a paper on 'The Spirit of Prussian Jewry: The Dual Legacy of Berlin', and attended a conference in Leipzig on sources for Jewish history in the archives of the former German Democratic Republic. He also co-organized a seminar in Oxford with Dr Richard Clogg on 'Diasporas: Europe's Dispersed Peoples', at which papers were given on the Irish, Polish, Italian, Scottish, German, Greek, Armenian, and Jewish diasporas.

Two volumes appeared in the Jewish Society and Culture series Dr Sorkin edits for Blackwell Publishers, Oxford: *The Germans and the Final Solution: Public Opinion under Nazism*, by David Bankier, and *Jews and the German State: The Political History of a Minority, 1848-1933*, by Peter Pulzer.

At the end of the academic year Dr Sorkin left the Centre to become Weinstein Professor of Jewish History at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

#### *Dr Jonathan Webber*

As the Frank Green Fellow in Jewish Social Studies, Dr Webber delivered on 14 October at Yarnnton Manor the first Frank Green Lecture; his paper, entitled 'The Future of Auschwitz: Some Personal Reflections', was subsequently published by the Centre. He was local organizer and co-chairman of the Frank Green Programme's 1992



international symposium, held at Yarnton Manor on 28 June– 1 July on the subject of 'Jewish Identities in the New Europe'; the proceedings, which he will edit, have been accepted for publication by the Littman Library of Jewish Civilization.

Dr Webber's teaching activities in Oxford this year included a course on Biblical Anthropology he taught in Michaelmas Term for the Centre's One-Year Programme. He was also involved this year with organizing three sets of seminar series. He co-chaired (with Dr Gordon S. Wakefield of the Alister Hardy Research Centre, Westminster College) a series on 'The Nature of Religious Experience in Christianity and Judaism', held weekly at the Centre throughout Hilary Term. The second was a seminar on the Holocaust, at which six papers were given at the Centre during Trinity Term, which was organized and chaired together with Dr Louise London, a visiting scholar at the Centre. Dr Webber gave one of the papers (on 4 May), which was entitled 'Jewish Intellectuals on the Future of Auschwitz: Ethnographic Reflections on a Symposium (Poland, April 1992)'. The third was the weekly seminar on 'Identity and Ethnicity' that he has organized for several years (with Shirley Ardener and Tamara Dragadze) at the Institute of Social and Cultural Anthropology; it met throughout Michaelmas and Hilary terms. The theme for the series in Michaelmas was 'The Transmission of Culture in Exile and Diaspora'. The theme for the Hilary series was 'Contemporary Christian Identities', at which Dr Webber gave a paper on 14 February entitled 'Symbolizing Christian Identity: The Controversy over the Carmelite Convent at Auschwitz'.

Other papers he gave during the course of the year included a lecture on 2 December entitled 'Modern Jewish Society', arranged in the framework of a series on Jewish Studies held at the Oriental Institute, and a paper on 'European Ethnic Relations in Extremis: The Case of Auschwitz and its Impact on the Ethnographic Complexities of Modern Poland', which was given at the social geography seminar of the School of Geography on 28 February. Dr Webber's other teaching activities included tutorials in modern Jewish sociology; acting as supervisor for two M.Phil. students (one in Modern Jewish Studies and one in Social Anthropology); and tutoring an undergraduate student in Politics. He examined two doctoral theses: one for the Faculty of Oriental Studies, Oxford University, and the other for the Faculty of Theology, University of Birmingham. He also examined for the Faculty

of Modern Languages, and was an examiner for the M.Phil. in Modern Jewish Studies in Trinity Term.

Dr Webber continued with his research on Auschwitz and his active involvement with the museum there. At the end of October he went to Poland for a week in order to attend the third meeting of the International Council of the Auschwitz State Museum, and to participate in discussions convened by the museum's director to try to resolve the long-standing problem of the text of the new inscription on the international monument in Auschwitz-Birkenau. (The expenses for this trip were underwritten by Congregation Sof Ma'arav of Honolulu, Hawaii.) During his visit he was appointed a member of a special task-force committee to oversee the changes in Birkenau being proposed by the museum, under the chairmanship of Mr Miles Lerman, of the United States Holocaust Memorial Council; and he also attended the first meeting of the International Council of the new Catholic Centre of Information, Encounter, Dialogue, Education, and Prayer in Auschwitz.

Later in the year Dr Webber convened and chaired an international symposium of thirty-five Jewish scholars and intellectuals on the subject of 'The Future of Auschwitz' (as a follow-up to the previous symposium on this theme, held in Yarnton Manor in May 1990). The symposium was held in Kraków and Auschwitz on 6-9 April, under the auspices of the Research Center on Jewish History and Culture in Poland of the Jagiellonian University, Kraków, in collaboration with the Auschwitz State Museum and the Oxford Centre. It was sponsored principally by the Polish Ministry of Culture, with the additional support of the Polish-American Joint Commission for Humanitarian Assistance and the Warsaw office of the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung. The symposium produced a formal set of proposals ('The Kraków Proposals'), which Dr Webber signed on behalf of the participants and forwarded to the Polish authorities. Following the symposium he led a three-day visit to sites of Jewish interest in the countryside of southern Poland, and on 15 May a letter from him on Polish attitudes to the Auschwitz site was published in the *Jewish Chronicle*.

Dr Webber returned to Auschwitz twice more during the course of the year: to attend a further meeting of the International Auschwitz Council (on 1-2 June), and to attend a meeting of its praesidium on 7-8 September. He made research visits to the sites of three other former Nazi concentration camps (Dora-Mittelbau (Nordhausen), Theresien-

stadt, and Buchenwald); and he completed the editing, with Connie Wilsack, of an English-language edition of the photographic album *Auschwitz: Crime against Humanity*, to be published in 1993 by Indiana University Press for the Auschwitz State Museum, and wrote an article for it, entitled 'Auschwitz Today: A Personal Essay'.

The research on Poland that Dr Webber has been undertaking since 1988 received recognition during the course of the year in the award of two important public grants. The first of these was a personal research grant worth £40,000, awarded by the Economic and Social Research Council for a three-year project entitled 'Ethnic Identities in Europe after Auschwitz: The Case of Polish-Jewish Relations'. This award came about within the framework of a special East-West Initiative of the Council, to support social science research into eastern Europe during the period of transition after the fall of communism; Dr Webber attended a one-day conference organized by the Initiative in London on 11 June. The second award, worth approximately £90,000, was made by the Tempus office (Trans-European Mobility Scheme for University Studies) of the European Commission in Brussels for the academic year 1992/1993. This grant was made to support a project Dr Webber devised entitled 'Civil Society and Social Change in Europe after Auschwitz'; it concerns the cultural management of ethnic pluralism and minority identities, with particular reference to the case of the Jews. Dr Webber will administer the project on behalf of the Oxford Centre in collaboration with the University of Oldenburg, Germany, principally for the purpose of a staff retraining programme in Oxford and Oldenburg for Polish students, teachers, and administrative staff from the Institute of Sociology of the Jagiellonian University, Kraków, and the Auschwitz State Museum. The European Commission put up the funds in this project for a total of thirteen travelling scholarships and six brief teaching visits during the coming academic year.

Reports on Dr Webber's work on Auschwitz appeared in the *Jewish Chronicle* on 17 July, the *Oxford Mail* on 2 July, and the *Oxford University Gazette* on 16 July; a lengthy review of his ideas was published in *La Gazette juive* (Basel) on 17 September, and a full-page report appeared on the back page of *The Times Higher Education Supplement* on 21 August. He was interviewed on BBC Radio Oxford on 24 July.

During the course of the year Dr Webber was appointed a member of the honorary committee of the international conference being

organized in March 1993 by the Jewish Historical Institute, Warsaw, on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising. He was also elected Treasurer of the Institute for Polish-Jewish Studies, Oxford, a member of its management committee, and a member of the editorial board of *Polin: A Journal of Polish-Jewish Studies*.

Other conferences which Dr Webber attended by invitation during the course of the year included a small international workshop entitled 'Vergegenständlichte Erinnerung', which was held at the Kulturwissenschaftliches Institut, Essen, on 12–13 December, and an international workshop on 1–2 September arranged by Professor Ernest Gellner of Cambridge University at the Central European University, Prague, on the subject 'Nationalism and Liberalism'. He also attended the second international conference of the European Association of Social Anthropologists, held in Prague on 28–31 August on the theme of 'Social Anthropology in a Changing World', where he was the convenor and chairman of a workshop on 30 August of about fifty participants on 'Anthropological and Ethnographic Issues in the Study of Jewish Society'. Nine papers were presented, by scholars from six countries (from both eastern and western Europe, as well as from Israel); Dr Webber gave the introductory paper to the workshop, entitled 'Modern Jewish Identities'. It was the first international meeting of its kind, and the Association's executive committee subsequently accepted Dr Webber's proposal for the establishment, under its auspices, of a Standing Committee of anthropologists and ethnologists concerned with the European Jewish heritage.

Dr Webber continued this year with his activities in the wider community. He gave a lecture, entitled 'The Cycle of the Jewish Year', in the Religious Experience and Community section of the leadership training course for the Assembly of Masorti Synagogues (New London Synagogue, 15 March); he was a member of the Research Advisory Panel of the United Synagogue Review, the full report of which was published in September 1992; he travelled to Paris, at the invitation of the local journal *Pardès*, to speak on 'L'Avenir d'Auschwitz', at the Alliance Israélite Universelle on 9 June; and he spoke on 'Polish-Jewish Relations' at the Yarnton Manor Open Day, an event to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Oxford Jewish Congregation, on 5 July. As in previous years, he participated in Oxford's annual interfaith service, which in 1991 was held at his suggestion at the Oxford Jewish

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Centre for the first time, to mark One World Week; he read a blessing that he composed especially for the occasion (22 October). He continued throughout the year with his tutorials on the Song of Songs with a nun from the Convent of the Holy Incarnation, Oxford; and in January he gave two lectures to the convent's community on the subject of the Jewish Passover, followed on 5 February by a demonstration *seder* attended by about thirty of the sisters.

Dr Webber likewise continued this year as a member of the executive council of the Royal Anthropological Institute, and as Managing Editor of *JASO: Journal of the Anthropological Society of Oxford* and of its Occasional Papers Series. He served as Director of Publications for the Oxford Centre and as in previous years organized the annual exhibition of Centre publications at Jewish Book Week, held in London in March; he also was elected member of the Centre's Library Committee. He was supervising editor of the Centre's *Annual Report* and of the *Centre Piece* newsletter. In Wolfson College he was elected member of the General Purposes Committee and the Domestic and Premises Committee. He was elected this year to the executive committee of the British Association of Jewish Studies and was appointed Hon. Treasurer of the Decennial Conference of the Association of Social Anthropologists of the Commonwealth, to be held in Oxford in July 1993. He acted as reader for the anthropological journal *Man*, for the MIT Press of Cambridge, Massachusetts, and for the Littman Library of Jewish Civilization. He published two articles and completed work on two further articles.

### VISITING SCHOLARS

#### *Professor Arnold Band (Skirball Fellow)*

During a stay of seven weeks at the Centre in summer 1992 Professor Band was involved in several projects.

He made progress in his continuing work of re-reading Agnon's post-1930 fiction in search of Freudian echoes. Having demonstrated in several published articles that Agnon was reading Freud at that time, he is now systematically going through the fictional works Agnon wrote in that period to reassess them in the light of this discovery. As part of this research he studied Anne Hoffman's post-structuralist analysis of Agnon, which has a significant Lacanian bias.

In preparation for a paper to be written on Berdiczewski's 'Parah Adumah', Professor Band read several articles on the story and a part of Marcus Moseley's doctoral dissertation on autobiography that deals with Berdiczewski. He also rewrote an article on Yehoshua's *Mar Mani* in preparation for its inclusion in a volume of essays on that novel now being prepared by Dr Nitzah Ben-Dov of Haifa University.

Professor Band participated in the Rich Seminar in July and August, for which he prepared a paper. He found this an excellent opportunity to observe the difference in approach between scholars working in the social sciences (the majority of the participants) and scholars of literature such as himself.

### ***Mr Gadi Ben-Ezer***

During this academic year as a Visiting Scholar at the Centre Mr Ben-Ezer was also affiliated with the Refugee Studies Programme at Queen Elizabeth House, Oxford University. He worked on the preparation of a book on the Ethiopian Jews' exodus to Israel via the refugee camps in the Sudan from 1978 to 1985 and its relation to their adaptation in Israel. In the main this involved analysing the stories of adolescents and young adults collected in a research project during recent years. In addition to giving an account of the Ethiopian Jewish exodus, the book will examine, through a multi-disciplinary approach, the meaning of the exodus for the migrants, its reconstruction into a narrative and myth, and the way it affects their lives and inter-group relations in Israeli society now.

Mr Ben-Ezer also completed work on his Hebrew textbook, *Kemo or bakad*, and saw it published in June 1992. This book, which summarizes thirteen years of the absorption of Ethiopian Jews into Israel, and ten years of Mr Ben-Ezer's own work as a clinical psychologist with the Ethiopian community, is a basic text for anybody intending to work with Ethiopian Jews, as well as for students and scholars of Israeli society.

Also during the year Mr Ben-Ezer gave presentations at the Centre on 'Culture and Illness' and on 'Ethiopian Jews' Exodus from a Psycho-social Perspective'. He also lectured at the University, in (among others) the Refugee Studies Seminar on Forced Migration at Queen Elizabeth House and the Race and Ethnic Relations Seminar at St Antony's College. In London he gave talks at the Jewish Refugee

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Council and Youth Aliya Associates. He was invited to present papers to the staff of the Bernard van Leer Foundation in the Netherlands and to various forums in Canada.

Some of these presentations are now being prepared for publication in various books and journals. During the course of the year he revised his paper on 'Anorexia Nervosa, or an Ethiopian Coping Style' (first published following an international conference on 'Children in War') for republication in a special issue of *Refugee Studies* on refugee children.

At the beginning of the year Mr Ben-Ezer went to Germany, where, together with Dr Bar-On, he taught the last part of a three-year project in which Israeli and German students met separately and jointly in both countries in an attempt to develop a concept of 'Partial Relevance' of the Holocaust. This project stemmed from a hypothesis put forward by Dr Bar-On that the Holocaust has 'over-relevance' for Israelis while the Second World War has 'under-relevance' for Germans. It is hoped that it will lead to a new way of teaching in both countries that can be applied to studies of the Second World War and the Holocaust.

During the year at the Centre Mr Ben-Ezer benefited from the opportunity to discuss various research topics with members and other Visiting Scholars and to use the Centre's facilities for research and writing.

#### *Professor Daniel Carpi*

During his stay at the Centre, Professor Carpi completed the writing of the introduction and conclusion of his book *The Stance of the Italian Authorities towards the Jews in France and Tunisia, 1940–1943*, which is to be published in Hebrew by the Zalman Shazar Centre. He also edited the English translation of this book and prepared it for press. Professor Carpi wrote two essays: 'A Yiddish Contract Written in Sixteenth-century Verona', for inclusion in the forthcoming Professor Ch. Shmeruk Jubilee Volume, and 'Regulations of the Seventeenth-century Venice Community', to appear on the forthcoming Professor S. Simonson Jubilee Volume. He also checked the translation into Hebrew of Ze'ev Jabotinsky's letters of 1914–19, as well as preparing the critical apparatus of the volume in which they are to appear. The first volume, which includes letters from 1898 to 1914, was published in April 1991 in the Zionist Library series of Mossad Bialik.

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#### ***Dr Mohamed El Hawary (Skirball Fellow)***

In this academic year Dr El Hawary was in residence at Yarnton Manor as the first Egyptian, Arab, and Muslim academic to come to the Centre as a Visiting Scholar.

During his period at Yarnton, Dr El Hawary was able to pursue his work on Hebrew manuscripts, examining those held in the Bodleian Library in Oxford, the British Library in London, and the Taylor-Schechter Genizah Research Unit at Cambridge University Library. He made extensive use of Oxford's library facilities to further his research, spending time in both the Kressel collection at the Centre and the Oriental Institute, Faculty of Theology, and Ashmolean libraries.

Dr El Hawary also took a full part in the lecture and seminar programmes of the Centre. He contributed to the regular Wednesday evening discussion groups, speaking on 'The Origins of the Jewish Colony in Elephantine', and attended seminars on 'The Dead Sea Scrolls: Unpublished Texts from Qumran', led by Professor Geza Vermes. He attended many lectures on Judaism, Christianity and Islam, and historical and religious studies, including the series on 'The Nature of the Babylonian Talmud' given by Rabbi Dr Louis Jacobs.

While at Oxford, Dr El Hawary was invited by Professor Avihai Shviti, the Head of the Department of Modern Arabic Studies at the University of Leeds, to give two lectures on 'Circumcision in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam', and 'Sabbath and Friday in Judaism and Islam'.

Dr El Hawary felt the year of his Fellowship to be an extremely rewarding and fruitful period.

#### ***Mr Konstanty Gebert (Skirball Fellow)***

During his stay in Yarnton Mr Gebert pursued his research on Jewish perceptions of Poland from the end of the Second World War to the present. His original intention of basing his study on the coverage of Poland in the *Jewish Chronicle* and the *American Jewish Yearbook*, based on the assumption that these two publications would be characteristic of what much of Diaspora Jewry knew and thought about Poland, was found to be over-ambitious, because of the volume and range of material available. He therefore decided to restrict himself to the coverage of the *Jewish Chronicle* and to adopt a cut-off date of 13 December 1981 (the date of the military takeover in Poland).



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In examining this material Mr Gebert has found a number of extremely interesting features: a curious mixture of acute analysis and unreflective stereotype, of in-depth reporting and straightforward factual errors, all sustained over the years studied. While it is too early to formulate hypotheses, he believes that he will be able to point out patterns in the *Chronicle's* coverage which may be indicative of a more general image of Poland.

Mr Gebert also took the opportunity to attend many of the lectures and seminars held at the Centre and at the University, and to benefit from many helpful discussions of his own work and more general issues with other scholars.

### *Professor Daniel Grossberg*

Dr Grossberg spent the three months from July to September at the Centre pursuing his research for a book on 'Personification in the Hebrew Bible', a subject which he plans to address both as a literary trope and as an expression of how the ancient Hebrews viewed the world around them. This work was facilitated by the ready access to classical Christian and Jewish literature as well as modern critical scholarship provided by Oxford's libraries. Dr Grossberg also valued the opportunity to engage in discussions with other scholars in the field.

During this period Dr Grossberg presented a paper and class at the Yakar Educational Foundation in London on the subject of 'Wisdom Personified as a Woman of Valour'.

### *Mr Arne J. Hobbel*

During this academic year Mr Hobbel has published material on the New Testament, Midrash, and Jewish mysticism and the *Heikhalot* literature.

### *Professor Shlomo Kugelmass*

During the three months that he was associated with the Centre, Professor Kugelmass was working on the latest results of the Israeli High Risk for Schizophrenia research project supported by the US National Institute of Mental Health. This project is a long-range developmental study of children of schizophrenic parents and carefully

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matched normal controls selected to make possible a comparison of city and kibbutz rearing. Some of this material is expected to be included in forthcoming articles in the *Schizophrenic Bulletin*. The Centre arranged for Professor Kugelmass to have access to services at the Oxford University Computer Centre, which enabled interactive communication with colleagues at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and the Oranim Kibbutz Research Centre in Israel, and the Laboratory of Psychopathology at the National Institute of Mental Health in Bethesda, USA. During this period Professor Kugelmass was in close contact with Dr Gordon Claridge, a member of the Oxford University Department of Experimental Psychology, who is working on related problems.

While at Oxford, Professor Kugelmass was notified that an article written in collaboration with three other scholars (L. J. Braine, L. Shauble, and A. Winter), 'The Representation of Depth of Children: Spatial Strategies and Lateral Biases', had been accepted for publication in the journal *Developmental Psychology*. This article described the results of a large cross-cultural study involving children from the USA and Israel, with a particular focus on the effect of reading directionality—left to right for the American children and right to left for the Israeli Jewish and Arab children.

#### *Mr Motti Lerner (Visiting Writer)*

During the six months that Mr Lerner spent in residence at Yarnton he hoped to gain a fresh perspective on Israel while detached from the minutiae of everyday life there. Indeed, while in Oxford he found himself able to write a drama about a small village in Israel with more involvement and attentiveness than while living near Tel Aviv.

The period also provided him with a valued opportunity to meet members of the Jewish community in Britain and to gain some understanding of Jewish life in this country. He feels that this experience will enrich his future writing.

#### *Dr Louise London*

During the Hilary and Trinity Terms Dr London taught a new lecture and seminar course on 'British Responses to Jewish Refugees and the Holocaust, 1933–1948' to the postgraduate students taking the

Centre's One-Year Programme in Jewish Studies. In Trinity Term she also proposed and organized, in conjunction with Dr Jonathan Webber, a seminar series on the Holocaust, and gave a seminar on her own work as part of the series. In the same term she organized and chaired the Centre's weekly Wednesday evening discussion group.

During the year Dr London successfully completed her Ph.D. thesis; the diploma was formally conferred on 17 June. She has since embarked on turning the thesis into a book, doing further library and archival research at the Public Records Office, Kew, and the Middle Eastern Centre at St Antony's College, Oxford. Negotiations with a publisher have begun.

Dr London was elected a Research Associate of the Refugee Studies Programme (RSP), Queen Elizabeth House, Oxford University, for the academic year 1991/1992. In this capacity she participated in the RSP seminar series on forced migration, chairing one session, and advised on various aspects of the work of the RSP. She was also tutor to a history undergraduate of St Catherine's College.

### *Dr Rivka Ma'oz*

During her period at the Centre during Trinity Term and the summer, Dr Ma'oz worked on a book on Peretz Smolenskin which she is co-editing with Dr David Patterson. The book consists of lectures given at the conference held in Yarnton in summer 1991 to mark the 150th anniversary of Smolenskin's birth.

Dr Ma'oz made extensive use of the facilities offered by Oxford's libraries, including the Kressel collection at the Centre, in preparing papers for two international conferences in which she participated. At the first, a conference on the writer Y. L. Gordon held in April at Tel Aviv University, she lectured on the relationship between Gordon and Smolenskin, his editor and fellow-writer. Later, in June, she presented a paper on S. Y. Agnon as explicator of his own text to the International Conference on University Teaching of Hebrew Language and Literature at York University, Toronto.

Dr Ma'oz also gave a public talk at Yarnton on the eve of Independence Day, taking as her subject Agnon's attitude to the establishment of the State of Israel. During the summer she attended the Rich Seminar on Israel in the 1950s.

***Mrs Ofra Perlmutter***

In the academic year 1991/1992 Mrs Perlmutter worked on two chapters of her thesis, 'Hebrew Studies in Oxford and Cambridge in the Eighteenth Century'. The first concerns addresses given to royalty in Hebrew by Oxford and Cambridge Universities. Over ninety such addresses composed during the eighteenth century were presented to the monarchs of England in the Address Books that were compiled. The second deals with Hebrew-English or Hebrew-Latin grammar books published in the eighteenth century, asking such questions as how widespread interest was in these books among the general public, and how many different editions there were.

During this period Mrs Perlmutter also worked on a book of Hebrew verse about England, which will be published in translation.

***Rabbi N. Fred Reiner***

Rabbi Reiner continued and expanded his research on Christian David Ginsburg, the nineteenth-century Biblical and Masoretic scholar. His earlier research, conducted at the Oxford Centre, has led to two papers presented at the International Organization for Masoretic Studies.

The 1992 research expanded on the relationship between Ginsburg and Isaac Salkinson, a colleague in missionary work and translator of Shakespeare, Milton, and the New Testament into Hebrew. Rabbi Reiner's research explored the relationship between Ginsburg, Salkinson, and Peretz Smolenskin and other Haskalah figures.

Another part of the research centred on a relationship between Ginsburg and M. W. Shapira, a nineteenth-century antiquities dealer. Ginsburg was centrally involved in the celebrated Shapira Affair in which a scroll of Deuteronomy that Shapira offered for sale to the British Museum in 1883 was judged by Ginsburg to be a forgery. In a third part of the research at the Bodleian Library and at the British Library in London, Rabbi Reiner reviewed works by Ginsburg, as well as personal journals and correspondence.

He also attended the twelfth annual Congress of the International Organization for Masoretic Studies held in conjunction with the International Organization for the Study of the Old Testament in Paris on 19 and 20 July.

Rabbi Reiner anticipates publishing the results of his summer's research.

***Professor Raymond Scheindlin***

Professor Scheindlin's main project during the month he spent at Yarnton was research on the Hebrew poets of fifteenth-century Spain. These poets remain largely unknown to the scholarly world, many of their important works never having been published. While at the Centre, Dr Scheindlin divided his time between studying such of their works as have so far been published and transcribing certain of their unpublished works from manuscripts in the collection of the Bodleian Library.

This study was undertaken in connection with the commemoration of Spanish Jewry that has been such a prominent focus of attention among scholars of Judaica during 1992; the results of the research were written up in a paper to be read at an academic conference in November 1992 and will be published in the conference proceedings. This is believed to be the first paper to be devoted to the literary appraisal of this group of poets.

Professor Scheindlin also spent some time translating into English verse a long poem by the Spanish Jewish courtier and rabbi of the eleventh century, Samuel the Nagid. This poem, which describes a battle at which the poet was present and reveals his attitude as a Jew towards the public events of the day, is an important document of the political, intellectual, and religious life of the Jews of Muslim Spain. Dr Scheindlin's translation is accompanied by an introduction explaining the poem's cultural background and significance.

Professor Scheindlin's presence at Yarnton enabled him to consult with Mr Ronald Nettler of the Centre about several projects in which they have a common interest. These include the new *Journal of Jewish-Muslim Relations*, of which Mr Nettler is Editor and on the editorial board of which Professor Scheindlin serves; and the planning of a fifth workshop on Jewish-Muslim relations which it is proposed to hold at Yarnton in summer 1993.

***Professor Aaron Shaffer***

During the past year Professor Shaffer has been engaged in identifying, copying, and describing several hundred fragments of Sumarian literary and religious text which were excavated at Ur (of the Chaldees) by Sir

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Leonard Woolley just after the First World War, and are now kept in the British Museum. These texts are written on clay tablets in cuneiform script, mostly in Sumarian but also in Akkadian, and are of the utmost importance in reconstructing the early intellectual life of the first documented civilization, as evinced in its literature. The hand copies of the texts, together with an extensive descriptive catalogue, will be published by the British Museum.

#### ***Professor Shlomo Shoham***

During his stay in Oxford Professor Shoham published a Hebrew version of *Valhalla Calvary and Auschwitz* and corrected the manuscript and proofs of his *Gnosis Kaballa and Existentialism*. A French version of *La Marque de Cain* was published; also in French, Editions l'Age d'Homme published his *Tolède et Jérusalem*. A further volume, *The Interdisciplinary Study of Violence*, was accepted for publication. His text on the sociology of crime has been published in the USA.

Professor Shoham's manuscript on *Le Pont de Promethe*, which deals with the relationship between consciousness and quantum mechanics, is ready for publication in French; its Hebrew version has been accepted for publication in Israel.

Professor Shoham has also collected considerable material for his major work on the methodology and hermeneutics of mythology.

#### ***Professor Meyer Shub (Skirball Fellow)***

While in Oxford, Professor Shub prepared a series of lectures on 'The History of Jewish Philosophical Thought'; gathered bibliographical material for a further set of lectures on 'The Mussar Movement in Lithuania: Israel Salanter and the Yeshiva of Kovno (Slobodka)'; and gave a series of four lectures on 'The History of the Jewish Community in Lithuania, 1918–1940'. He wrote two articles, on 'Sa'adya Gaon: The Founder of Jewish Dogmatical Theology and Religious Philosophy' and 'The Ideas of Zionism in Lithuania', and carried out bibliographical research for a further article on 'Eliyahu Kremer (The Gaon of Vilna): The Greatest Eighteenth-century Jewish Thinker'.

#### ***Professor Hadassa Shy***

In 1991/1992 Professor Shy spent most of her sabbatical year at the Centre, collecting material for Tanhum's Lexicon to Maimonides'

Mishneh Torah. After having examined the manuscripts in the Saltikov–Schedrin Library, St Petersburg, where the largest collection in the world of Tanhum's manuscripts is kept, she compared the material found there—thirty-five manuscripts of his Lexicon—with the material in the Bodleian Library. Having realized the importance of these manuscripts for the final version of Tanhum's Lexicon, she returned to St Petersburg to examine them further.

Professor Shy also visited Germany to tape-record the speech of people whose vocabulary still includes elements of Yiddish, and gathered material from the Bodleian Library to further this research.

***Professor Ezra Spicehandler (Skirball Fellow)***

Professor Spicehandler delivered three lectures during his stay at Yarn-ton: 'Judeo-Persian Literature During the Il Khan Dynasty in Iran (Thirteenth and Fourteenth Centuries)', on 3 March at the Oriental Institute; 'Abraham in the Poetry of Babai ben Luft, the Seventeenth-century Judeo-Persian poet', on 4 March at Yarn-ton; and 'Bialik and the Queen of Sheba: The Shigsa Complex', on 12 March at the Yarn-ton dinner. He also taught during Hilary Term a course on Contemporary Hebrew Poetry which was attended by four students and two auditors.

Professor Spicehandler continued working on his two-volume biography of Hayyim Naham Bialik, and translated into English three of Bialik's stories. These will be published by the Centre as the second volume of a two-volume work (the first volume is being prepared by Dr David Patterson). He also worked on the preparation of the projected volume two of *The Modern Hebrew Poem Itself*.

A scholarly article by Professor Spicehandler on 'Hebrew at Hebrew Union College' was accepted for publication in the Festschrift in honour of Dr Patterson's seventieth birthday. He published a review of Alan Mintz's *Banished from their Father's Table* and wrote three articles in Hebrew on the Hebrew movement in the United States, to appear in the Festschrift marking the seventy-fifth anniversary of the Histadruth Ivrih of America.

***Rabbi Chaim Stern***

During his stay at the Oxford Centre, Rabbi Stern worked on two volumes in the field of liturgy. As co-editor of the new prayerbook of the Liberal Movement (*New Service of the Heart*) he completed work

on the Experimental Edition and went beyond it, completing perhaps half the total volume. Rabbi Stern also began and completed the manuscript of *Gates of Prayer for the Home*, to be published by the Central Conference of American Rabbis in 1993. Both volumes feature new liturgical materials and gender-inclusive English.

While at the Centre, Rabbi Stern spoke at the Liberal Jewish Synagogue in London on several occasions, discussing his current work, and also lectured in Oxford.

***Professor Ernest Stock (Skirball Fellow)***

Professor Stock's aim in coming to Yarnton for the academic year 1991/1992 was to embark on a new approach to Israel–Diaspora relations. This project, which marks a departure from the emphases in his previous work on the Jewish Agency and the politics and mechanics of Diaspora fund-raising for Israel, involves a more analytical approach to the subject, seeking to explore the problems and dilemmas which arise when a sovereign state interacts with voluntary communities in other countries. The tools and concepts used in this work are derived in large measure from Professor Stock's academic specialist field of international relations.

This subject was broached in a public lecture delivered at Yarnton Manor in November 1991. Subsequently Professor Stock examined the pertinent literature, making use of the collection in the Centre's Kressel library as well as those of the Bodleian and other University libraries in Oxford and the Institute of Jewish Affairs library in London. These researches convinced Professor Stock that though there is ample literature on Israel–Diaspora relations, there is room and justification for his chosen approach.

The Rich Seminar on Israel's first decade of independence offered an opportunity to present the first results of the research to a scholarly audience and to obtain their reactions. Professor Stock therefore gave a paper entitled 'Politics and Philanthropy: Modes of Interaction between Israel and the Diaspora'.

Professor Stock contributed to the One-Year Programme in Jewish Studies by teaching a course on 'The Institutions of the American Jewish Community'. He also organized and chaired the Wednesday evening discussion groups during Michaelmas and Hilary terms; his own talk was on the impressions he had formed of the Jewish



community in Japan during several visits to that country in recent years. The talk focused on the striking contrast between Japan's status as a world power and the almost total anonymity of its Jewish community. Professor Stock also analysed the classic symptoms of antisemitism that have appeared in Japan during the past decade, and the reactions to it.

***Dr Zsuzsa Szarvas (Skirball Fellow)***

Dr Szarvas spent Michaelmas Term 1991 in Yarnton as an east European Skirball Fellow. During her stay she concentrated on developing her work on rural Jewish life in Hungary: by focusing on local communities, she studied the process of Jewish social history in the context of the totality of inter-group relationships and investigated the economic, social, and cultural role of the Jewish population in local Hungarian communities. In the future she hopes to publish some of the results of her research.

Dr Szarvas spent most of her time in different libraries, including the Kressel collection, looking for publications on the history of central-eastern European Jewry, and for anthropological studies connected with her subject matter which are not available in Hungary. Dr Szarvas also took part in some courses in the One-Year Programme in Jewish Studies (Biblical Anthropology, Introduction to Judaism), which gave her wider knowledge both at a general theoretical level and in her particular studies.

***Rabbi Dov Taylor***

Rabbi Taylor spent five months at the Centre while on sabbatical leave from his congregation, commencing in January 1992. He came to work on a translation of and commentary on Joseph Perl's early nineteenth-century Hebrew novel, *Megalleh Temirin* (Revealer of Secrets). While at the Centre, he completed all of the research as well as the first draft of the translation, which he expects to publish in due course.

While at the Centre, Rabbi Taylor taught a course on 'Varieties of Rabbinic Literature' for the Oxford Jewish Congregation.

***Professor Ilan Troen***

Together with Dr Noah Lucas, Professor Troen organized and chaired the second Rich Seminar on Israel's first decade of independence. The

organizers were fortunate in being able to assemble outstanding senior researchers, talented younger scholars, and promising postgraduates from a variety of disciplines, including Hebrew literature, history, geography, sociology, anthropology, and political science. Much effort was devoted to ensuring that the seminar functioned well, and that both individual and collective requirements were met.

In addition to chairing many sessions, Professor Troen participated actively in two presentations, one concerning physical and social planning in the 1950s and the other the uses of social science research by the Israeli government. Together with Dr Lucas, he worked on editing the papers from the seminar for publication.

Professor Troen completed the preparation for publication of a study on the return of Germans and Jews from the former Soviet Union to their respective homelands. This work should appear during the academic year 1992/1993 and is provisionally entitled *Zuwanderung und Eingliederung von Deutschen und Juden aus dem Gebiet der Ehemaligen Sowjetunion in Deutschland und Israel*.

### ***Dr Isabel Wollaston***

A year-long attachment to the Centre as a British Academy Post-doctoral Research Fellow enabled Dr Wollaston to develop her research on remembrance of the Holocaust. In the course of the year, she was invited to give lectures to the Lightfoot Society at the University of Durham; the Department of Religious Studies, University of Lancaster; and Oxford University Women's Studies Committee. An article, 'Remembering the Holocaust', will be published in *Theology* in 1993. During her year at the Centre, Dr Wollaston also co-edited a volume of conference proceedings, *The Sociology of Sacred Texts*, to be published by Sheffield Academic Press in 1993.

In addition, Dr Wollaston taught courses on 'Jewish Religious Responses to the Holocaust' for both the M.Phil. in Modern Jewish Studies and the One-Year Programme in Jewish Studies. She also contributed papers to the course on 'The Nature of Religious Experience in Christianity and Judaism' and the Holocaust seminar, and was guest speaker at one of the fortnightly dinners at Yarnton Manor.

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#### *Ms Nurit Zarchi (Visiting Writer)*

During a six-month stay at the Centre, Ms Zarchi edited three books for children which have since been published, and continued work on a fourth book to appear shortly. Her stay at the Centre also facilitated discussions with British publishers on the possibility of publishing her work in English translation.

# Publications

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- FRANKEL, S. HERBERT, *An Economist's Testimony: The Autobiography of S. Herbert Frankel*, 1992.
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- , ed., *Klal-takones fun yidishn oysleyg*, Oxford: Oksforder Yidish Press in co-operation with the Oxford Centre for Postgraduate Hebrew Studies, 1992.
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- 'Lenor', *Yidishe kultur*, vol. 54, no. 1 (Jan.–Feb. 1992); vol. 54, no. 2 (March–April 1992).
- 'Mayn tate Menke Katz', *Goldene keyt*, no. 132 (1991).
- 'Menke Katz: der kemfer far a frayer yidisher poezye', *Forward*, 1 Nov. 1991.
- 'Menke Katz un zayne Dray shvester', *Yidishe kultur*, vol. 54, nos. 4 (July–Aug. 1992) and 5 (Sept.–Oct. 1992).
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