

REPORT OF THE
OXFORD CENTRE FOR
POSTGRADUATE HEBREW
STUDIES

ELEVENTH ACADEMIC
YEAR 1982-83



edited by
RICHARD JUDD

Editorial

The institution whose activities are recorded in the following pages was founded in 1972 as a Centre associated with Oxford University, and it is also an Associated Centre of St. Cross College, Oxford. Yarnton Manor (illustrated on the cover) and its 9 adjoining cottages serve as a residential research centre as well as housing the important Kressel Library and Archive. In Oxford itself St. John's College has made available a teaching and administrative centre in the heart of the city and the University. The academic staff of the Centre and the teaching they provide in Oxford University are listed below, as are the many major projects, regular seminars, language classes, summer programmes and international conferences that the Centre makes possible. The Centre has offered facilities to over 220 scholars from 4 continents, who as a result have produced 350 publications including 75 books. Two separate chapters below record the Centre's service to the community and to the growth in Yiddish studies.

What of the future? First and foremost is the need to establish an endowment fund of three million pounds to guarantee the long-term existence of the Centre and underwrite its activities. This capital sum will be sufficient to enable the interest to meet the Centre's financial requirements. In order to form a group of permanent scholars who—together with the President—will act as the hub of the Centre, five additional Fellowships, to be held by distinguished scholars, are required. The establishment of ten Junior Fellowships for doctoral and post-doctoral students would enable the best young scholars internationally to spend between one and three years at the Centre. The Library and Archive should be expanded and underpinned financially.

So quick has been the pace of development this year that this *Annual Report* is twice as long as last year's. None the less, it is possible that I have inadvertently omitted some details. If so, I can only say that I did try to make this record as complete as possible, and repeat that I am happy to receive information at any time.

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Oxford Centre for Postgraduate Hebrew Studies

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Academic staff for the year 1982–83

President

Dr D. Patterson, Cowley Lecturer in Post-Biblical Hebrew, University of Oxford, and Fellow of St. Cross College.

Honorary Fellows

Professor S. W. Baron, Professor Emeritus of Jewish History, Literature and Institutions, Columbia University.

Professor D. Daube, formerly Director of the Robbins Hebraic and Roman Law Collections and Professor in Residence at the School of Law, University of California.

Fellow in charge of the Kressel Library and Archive

Dr G. Mandel, sometime Dean of St. Peter's College, Oxford.

Jacob & Shoshana Schreiber Fellow

Dr G. Abramson, Fellow of St. Cross College, Oxford.

Frank Green Fellow in Modern Jewish History 1848–1948

Dr S. J. Zipperstein, Research Fellow, Wolfson College, Oxford.

Fellow in Yiddish Studies

Dr D. Katz, University College, London.

Editor of the Journal of Jewish Studies

Dr G. Vermes, Reader in Jewish Studies, University of Oxford and Professorial Fellow of Wolfson College.

Senior Associate Fellow

Professor U. Tal, Tel Aviv University.

Visiting Scholars

Professor J. W. Burbidge, Trent University, Ontario; Talmudic logic.

Dr A. D. Crown, University of Sydney; Hebrew and Samaritan palaeography.

Dr G. Fuks, University of Haifa; Second Temple period.

Professor B. R. Goldstein, University of Pittsburgh; history of science.

Dr A. Kloner, Department of Antiquities, Jerusalem; archaeology of ancient Israel.

Dr C. L. Meyers, Duke University; biblical commentary and women's studies.

Professor E. M. Meyers, Duke University; biblical commentary and archaeology.

Junior Fellows

Dr D. Aberbach, Linacre College, Oxford (Dr Israel Feldman Memorial Junior Fellow in Modern Hebrew Literature).

Dr L. Archer, University College, London (from February 1983).

Ms S. J. Arkley, Birmingham University (until January 1983).

Dr Y. Goldstein, Everyman's University, Tel Aviv (Aaron Djanogly Memorial Junior Fellow).

Dr J. M. Webber, St. Antony's College, Oxford (Israel Brodie Memorial Junior Fellow).

Visiting Lecturers

Dr L. Jacobs, Leo Baeck College, London; Jewish theology.

Dr L. Kochan, University of Warwick; Jewish history.

Dr T. V. Parfitt, School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London; modern Hebrew literature.

Dr T. Rajak, University of Reading; Jewish history in the Graeco-Roman period.

Summer Visiting Scholars

Professor Z. Ankori, Tel Aviv University; medieval Jewish history.

Judge N. H. Behr, Ramat Gan; lexical studies.

Rabbi D. Cohn-Sherbok, University of Kent; Judaism and Third World theology.

Dr M. Fruchtmann, Tel Aviv University; linguistics and literature.

Professor M. H. Goshen-Gottstein, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem and Bar Ilan University; biblical studies and Semitic languages.

Dr H. Near, Haifa University; kibbutz studies.

Dr M. Rosenak, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem; contemporary Jewish theology.

Dr S. A. Singer, DePaul University, Chicago; kabbalistic manuscripts.

Professor D. Vital, Tel Aviv University; history of Zionism.

Visiting Writers

Joshua Kenaz, Esq.

Benjamin Tammuz, Esq.

Visiting Scholars for shorter periods

The Centre has been pleased to offer hospitality to an increasing number of scholars wishing to use its facilities, among them the following:

- Dr M. Baruch, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem.
- Mr C. Bermant, writer and journalist, Jerusalem.
- Dr D. Boyarin, Ben Gurion University of the Negev.
- Professor M. Davis, Institute of Contemporary Jewry, Jerusalem.
- Mr K. Gardosh, Cultural Attaché, Embassy of Israel, London.
- Dr Z. Klein, Department of Psychiatry, University of Chicago.
- Professor I. Kolatt, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem.
- Mr I. Navon, Ex-President of the State of Israel.
- Dr C. F. Whitley, University College of North Wales, Bangor.
- Mr L. I. Yudkin, University of Manchester.

Library Consultant

Mr R. A. May, Senior Assistant Librarian, Bodleian Library and Leonard Stein Lecturer in Medieval Hebrew, University of Oxford; Fellow of St. Cross College.

Librarian

Mr R. C. Judd, Keble College, Oxford.

Assistant Librarian

Dr A. Simhony, St. Antony's College, Oxford.

Archivist

Ms H. Safran, London School of Economics.

Assistant Archivist

Mr J. Freund.

Visiting Archivist

Mr G. Kressel, Holon, Israel.

Dictionary Consultant

Mr N. S. Doniach, OBE, Oxford University Press.

Honorary Computing Consultant

Mr A. Jones, Lecturer in Islamic Studies, University of Oxford, and Fellow of Pembroke College.

Editor of the Jewish Law Annual

Professor B. S. Jackson, Liverpool Polytechnic.

Photographic Consultant

Mr C. W. Band, University of Oxford.

Research Assistant

Dr R. T. White, The Queen's College, Oxford.

Dr Vilem Klein Bursary for Modern Jewish Studies

Miss P. Stone, Worcester College, Oxford.

Graduate Student

Ms D. Middleton, Edinburgh University.

The help of the office staff is gratefully recorded.

Ms J. Nightingale has exceeded the call of duty in ensuring the efficient running of the office and administration; her contribution to *The Oxford Programme in Yiddish* is recorded below. Mrs I. Goodwin has faithfully completed her sixth year as Book-keeper. The admirable contribution of the Steward and House-keeper of Yarnton Manor, Mr J. C. and Mrs E. Roberts, and of their assistants Mr D. Burnett, Mr P. Peacock and the ladies, to the welfare of the Centre is also gratefully recorded.

The Library

Within the constraints of its shortage of space, the library has had a moderately successful year. A full service to readers was maintained, and the facility whereby scholars resident at Yarnton Manor can borrow books was heavily used, with an average of 100 books on loan at any one time.

However, the simple fact is that there are too many books in too small a space. There are 30 tea-chests and 14 cardboard boxes full of books, as well as innumerable heaps of books on the floor, and yet very little spare shelving to put them on. This situation has dictated a strategy of the ruthless disposal of all duplicate copies, and even the withdrawal from the shelves of older books superseded by recent scholarship. The latter policy, however, has to be pursued cautiously, since in some subjects (particularly biblical studies) the older books are still of value. The space liberated allowed the Librarian to process all the books heaped on the floor of the Yiddish room, as well as the contents of a dozen cardboard boxes. It also enabled Dr Simhony to sift through 15 of the tea-chests and catalogue the books for which space could be found; in the process she filled 2 tea-chests with duplicates. In one section, *Rabbinics*, the overcrowding is so bad that the Librarian built a unit of lightweight shelving to provide 5 extra shelves for books in constant demand, such as an English translation of the Talmud.

Dr Mandel and Mr Judd explained the importance of the library for research to several hundred visitors.

Mr Judd attended the Conference and Annual Meeting of the SCONUL Advisory Committee on Orientalist Materials on 10 January 1983, a useful programme devoted to problems of conservation, and also the second meeting of the Hebraica Libraries' Group on 22 March 1983, where two lectures were delivered on Hebrew bibliography.

Space problems have meant, of course, that we have had to be very careful about accepting donations of books. This is unfortunate, because we have been forced to decline several kind offers of books which would have fitted into the library well. However, we did accept with gratitude the donation by Mr Alfred Rubens of his superb *A Jewish Iconography*, and the two magnificent reports *Ancient Synagogue Excavations at Khirbet Shema'* and *Excavations at Ancient Meiron* given to the library by Professors Eric and Carol Meyers at the close of their stay at Yarnton Manor. Significant donations were also accepted from the Rt. Hon. Lord Beloff FBA, Mrs A. Biegun, Mr W. Frankel CBE, Dr M. Fruchtman, the *Journal of Jewish Studies* through its editor Dr G. Vermes, Mrs S. Stein

(much material on, and books by, the late Professor Harry Austryn Wolfson of Harvard) and Dr T. Tsamriyon. In the other direction, the Librarian donated some books to the Bodleian after it was agreed they were more germane to that library than to Yarnton.

The Archive

Ms H. Safran writes:

For the Archive this was a particularly important year. The British Library Board accepted our request to finance a project to put the entire Archive on microfilm. The acceptance of this project by the British Library Board, which entails a grant of £8884, emphasizes the importance of the Archive on a national scale; a copy of the microfilm will be purchased by the BLB Reference Division.

Our regular work, however, continued to demand time and attention. The number of press-cuttings increased daily, new files were opened and service to readers and visitors was maintained throughout the year. Hundreds of people, individually and in groups, from England and abroad, have come to visit. They were all given a guided tour and were most impressed by the collection and the work done here.

Academic readers continued to come to us or send us postal enquiries. Amongst others we had Professor D. Vital from Tel Aviv University who came to Yarnton to look through the entire pamphlets collection. Professor I. Kolatt from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem came to us for the third time. He checked large sections of the catalogue and looked for references in hundreds of different files. Information by post was sent to people in England and abroad in response to various enquiries; for example Professor M. Brawer, the Dean of the Faculty of Humanities in Tel Aviv University, wrote to us for information on his father, A. J. Brawer, in order to complete a bibliographical list of his writings, which is about to be published in a memorial volume. Dr Z. Ilan wrote to us from London ' . . . It is nice to know that there is a place somewhere where someone will always be ready to give help; for that you should be blessed.' Dr Y. Salmon, from Ben Gurion University in the Negev, acknowledged with thanks the Centre and the Archive in his article on Y. M. Pines, published by Everyman's University in Tel Aviv. This article was based on material found by Dr Salmon in the Archive on his last visit.

Although the Archive does not lack new material waiting to be

sorted out and organized (about 25 tea-chests), we have been accepting small donations. One such donation came from Dr L. Jonathan Cohen FBA, Fellow of Queen's College, Oxford, who gave us papers, newspaper cuttings, photographs and manuscripts of his late father the Anglo-Zionist leader Israel Cohen. Most of this material has already been filed and organized.

Special emphasis has been given to the preparation of the Archive for microfilming. This task is important and unique. It will enable us to produce as good a copy as possible. Every file is being checked, dates are being marked in the front and special markings are being used in order to enable the operator to follow our instructions. This important project will allow us to keep the cuttings in the present state of preservation. Future readers will have access only to the microfilm copy. The present project will cover the entire Archive up till 1977. In our request to the British Library Board we have mentioned the fact that the Archive is an ongoing collection and we expect to microfilm again every few years.

The Oxford English-Hebrew Dictionary of Current Usage

Mr N. S. Doniach writes:

Since last October this project has been able to profit from the continued assistance of Benjamin Tammuz and Joshua Kenaz with the checking and revision of the Hebrew text as well as with the writing in of the finalized Hebrew on the typed English text. This process has been speeded up during the last nine months by the allotment of different letters to Tammuz and Kenaz. Thus the work has proceeded on seminar lines with the editor acting as chairman.

The initial drafting of the English and Hebrew texts was completed early in 1983 while checking and revision are now well on the way to reaching the half-way mark. The editor has supervised the typing of the English and checked the entry of the internationally accepted phonetic symbols which provide the Hebrew speaking user with a guide to the current pronunciation of the English head words. The academic printing department of the Oxford University Press is at present getting estimates for the typesetting and in particular investigating the possibility of computer preparation of camera ready copy.

The Journal of Jewish Studies

The *Journal of Jewish Studies*, edited by Dr Geza Vermes and published by the Centre, continues to appear regularly. Vol. XXXIV (1983) is now complete. It includes 13 articles (ranging from the Decalogue to Hannah Arendt) together with the usual amount of book reviews, short notices and bibliographical surveys.

Growth in Yiddish Studies at Oxford

The past year has seen the consolidation of Oxford as one of the world's major centres for the study of Yiddish. The Oxford Centre has hosted both the *Second International Conference on Research in Yiddish Language and Literature* and the second *Oxford Programme in Yiddish*. In his speech to the closing session of the *Conference* Professor Chone Shmeruk, head of the Yiddish Department of the Hebrew University, stressed the new supremacy of Oxford—particularly with its rich resources of Yiddish books and manuscripts in the Bodleian Library—when he said that a suggestion that a future international Yiddish conference be held on an American campus had been turned down. He confirmed that Jerusalem and Oxford would remain the venues for such future gatherings. The Centre now has its own Fellow in Yiddish, Dr Dovid Katz, a popular and energetic figure to whom much of the credit for the developments must be attributed.

As a direct result of the founding of the Oxford Centre, Yiddish is being included to an increasing extent in the courses offered by Oxford University. Last year's *Report* mentioned its inclusion as an option in the M.Phil. degree in Modern Jewish Studies. During the last academic year Yiddish has been incorporated into two more Oxford degrees, the Master of Studies (M.St.) in Modern Jewish Studies and the BA in the Honour School of Medieval and Modern Languages. Among the required reading for the option in the latter degree are now Ber Borokhov's *Di úfgabn fun der yidisher filológye* and selections from the poetry of R. Ayzland, A. M. Dilon, M. L. Halpern, Z. Landoy, M. Leyb, H. Leyvik, Y. Y. Shvarts, A. N. Stencl and M. Vintshevski. Study is also required of works by Isaac Bashevis Singer such as *A tógbukh fun a nisht gebóyrenem* and *Der yid fun bovl*. These developments would be impossible without the existence of the Oxford Centre, which provides the academic staff to teach the courses.

The History of Yiddish at Oxford

In a very real sense, the study of Yiddish at Oxford became possible when in 1829 the Bodleian Library purchased the famous Oppenheimer Library for £2080, a price which has been described as the best bargain in the history of bookselling. Rabbi David ben

Abraham Oppenheimer (1664–1736), chief rabbi of Prague, had devoted more than half a century to the formation of his library. A lover of books from his early youth, Oppenheimer undertook long journeys to obtain rare manuscripts or books. He visited the fairs at Leipzig, was in close touch with printers and book dealers and spent lavishly from his great wealth (inherited and received from his wives); after his death one of his grandchildren put the collection up for sale. Although Moses Mendelssohn had valued it at between 50,000 and 60,000 thaler, it was finally sold for the ridiculously low sum of 9,000 thaler to the Bodleian Library.

This collection of over 5,000 books and manuscripts contains the best library in the world of Old Yiddish books printed from the 1530s (the beginning of printing in Yiddish) onwards. In quite a few cases it contains the one surviving copy in the world. When the Oxford Centre was established in 1972, it was very much in the minds of the founders that the Centre could facilitate and co-ordinate the essential research on this collection. Accordingly, the Centre joined forces with the Yiddish Department of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem both to produce a descriptive catalogue of these books and to put the rarest ones on microfiche. In 1979 the Centre convened the first *International Conference on Research in Yiddish Language and Literature*, which was so successful that it was decided to make it a quadrennial event. It is in this context, therefore, that the Centre held the second *International Conference* in 1983.

The Second International Conference on Research in Yiddish Language and Literature

Over 100 of the world's leading authorities in Yiddish studies convened at Somerville College, Oxford, for the second *International Conference*. It was sponsored jointly by Columbia University, New York; Hebrew Union College; The Hebrew University of Jerusalem; The Max Weinreich Center for Advanced Jewish Studies, YIVO Institute for Jewish Research; McGill University, Montreal; and the Oxford Centre for Postgraduate Hebrew Studies. Three world-famous scholars formed a committee, ably assisted by Dr Dovid Katz, to plan the programme. They were Professor Chone Shmeruk, head of the Yiddish Department at the Hebrew University, Dr David Patterson, President of the Oxford Centre, and Professor Mikhl Herzog of Columbia University and

the Max Weinreich Center at YIVO.

The crowded programme was divided into 12 sessions spread over the five days of the conference, and a total of 69 papers were delivered. Each of the 12 sessions was devoted to a specialized area, though due to the large number of participants and the many special requests concerning the scheduling of individual papers it was occasionally necessary to violate the rules of thematic and chronological order.

In addition to research papers on recent theoretical advances in the history of Yiddish language and literature, and Yiddish folklore, the *International Conference* served as a forum for reports on projects in progress, some of which are of historic importance to Yiddish studies. Editorial meetings were held on the unabridged *Great Dictionary of the Yiddish Language*, of which four massive volumes (of the projected twelve) have already appeared. The *Great Dictionary* is edited jointly in New York and Jerusalem. Professor Mikhl Herzog of Columbia University in New York discussed the latest progress of the *Language and Culture Atlas of Ashkenazic Jewry*. As a further measure of international co-operation in Yiddish studies today, Volume II of the *Atlas* is being prepared in co-operation with the Oxford Centre for Postgraduate Hebrew Studies.

The conference began, on 10 July 1983, with a speech of welcome from Dr David Patterson. Immediately afterwards the first of the 12 sessions began when Dr Hugh Denman of the Queen's University of Belfast chaired five papers on 'Music and Folklore'.

On 11 July Professor Wolf Moskovich of Jerusalem chaired six papers under the title 'Old(er) Yiddish Language and Literature'. Professor Edward Stankiewicz of Yale University chaired six papers on 'Syntactic and Phonological Problems of Yiddish', and the evening session 'Modern Yiddish Literature, I' was chaired by Professor Seth Wolitz of the University of Texas at Austin.

On 12 July Professor Herzog himself presided over six papers on 'The Slavic Component of Yiddish' and the two remaining sessions of the day were devoted to Sholem Aleykhem, chaired respectively by Professors Ruth Wisse and Herbert Paper.

On 13 July Professor Dov Noy and Dr Chava Turniansky, both of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, chaired two sessions 'Modern Yiddish Literature, II' and 'Modern Yiddish Literature, III'. The evening was devoted to six papers on the subject 'Sociology, History, and Geography of Yiddish'.

The morning session on 14 July was given over to six papers on 'Modernistic Literary Groups and Poets' and in the afternoon Professor Robert King chaired six papers on a wide variety of subjects.

The final session of the conference moved to Yarnton Manor for a celebration of the 70th birthday of the leading Yiddish poet Avrom Sutzkever. Professor Shmeruk presided and Professor

Wisse lectured on Sutzkever's poetry. Sutzkever himself then read from his poetry in Yiddish and translations into English by Professor Praver followed. The poetry reading attracted an audience of over 120.

The close of the conference was signalled by the presentation of a huge bouquet to Ms Jean Nightingale, in recognition of her outstanding efforts in ensuring the programme ran efficiently. The delegates stayed for a glass of wine in the grounds of Yarnton Manor. As this was one of the most beautiful evenings of a glorious summer, they were able to look back on a conference which all agreed had been outstandingly successful and had maintained throughout a remarkable level of enthusiasm and interest.

The Oxford Programme in Yiddish

In 1982, for the first time, the Oxford Centre organized a Summer Programme in Yiddish Language and Literature. The brainchild of Dr Dovid Katz, the Centre's Fellow in Yiddish, it was extraordinarily successful and attracted 44 participants from 9 countries. In recognition of this it was decided to make it an annual event, and the second programme took place in Oxford between 1 and 26 August 1983. These programmes are made possible through the generosity of Mr David Djanogly, a prominent member of the Sephardi community in London, and they are dedicated to the memory of his father Aaron Djanogly (1904–80). This year the programme attracted 50 students from 11 countries, and was enlarged in other ways.

The programme comprised sixty hours of intensive language instruction for each of the four levels taught — Yiddish I (elementary), Yiddish II (intermediate), Yiddish III (higher intermediate) and Yiddish IV (advanced). The emphasis throughout was on the acquisition of active speaking and writing abilities, although considerable attention was also devoted to the history of Yiddish language and literature and the major trends of 20th century Yiddish *belles-lettres*. An-ski's *Dybbuk*, Sholem Aleichem's *Kasrilevker progrés*, two of Lamed Shapiro's impressionistic short stories set in New York city and works by Soviet Yiddish masters Moyshe Kulbak and Dovid Berglson were among the texts studied. At the request of the students, extra-curricular afternoon seminars were added on Yiddish grammar and the history of Old Yiddish literature. A new feature of the programme was the sixteen-hour course on the history and structure of Yiddish folksong taught by Dr Ruth Rubin, author of *Voices of a People: the Story of Yiddish Folksong*, and a leading authority on the subject.

Besides Dr Rubin, the four instructors on the course were Professor Eugene Orenstein of McGill University, Montreal, a specialist in modern Yiddish literature; Dr Dovid Katz, Fellow of the Oxford Centre and a specialist in Yiddish linguistics; Ms Elinor Robinson, a graduate of the universities of Cambridge and Columbia and a published author of Yiddish fiction; and Mr Chris Hutton, 25, a graduate of Oxford and Columbia now specializing in the philosophy of language. The administrative director was Ms Jean Nightingale, whose prodigious energy and dedication were vital to the programme's success, and whose efforts beyond the call of duty were sincerely appreciated.

If the four instructors were all in their twenties or thirties, so were most of the students. Daniela Leoni, 25, of Modena in Italy recently completed a pilot translation of one of the works of Mendele into Italian. Four German students in their early twenties, Ina-Maria Ruck, Susanne Theilen, Martina Tuente and Susanne Wollek, formed a contingent from the University of Münster. Delphine Bechtel and Carole Ksiazenicer, both in their mid-twenties and from Paris, took the course at the advanced level. The oldest student was Carl Cowl, 83, who taught a conversation workshop as well as continuing his activities in an international context. Finally Professor Takeo Hirose, a Russian history specialist at the University of Tokyo, travelled all the way from Japan to attend the course.

The programme also included an impressive list of cultural activities such as guest lectures and Yiddish films; for reasons of space I can mention only two. Mr William Fishman, Fellow of Queen Mary College at London University, took students on a historical tour of the old East End of London, pointing out how and where leading Yiddish writers worked and struggled during their London years. The highlight of the lecture series was the First A. N. Stencl Lecture in Modern Yiddish Literature, established this year to commemorate the life and creativity of the beloved Yiddish poet of Whitechapel. The lecture was delivered by Professor S. S. Prawer FBA, Taylor Professor of the German Language and Literature in the University of Oxford, to an audience of 200 in the Ashmolean Museum; the size of the audience, incidentally, is just one of many indications of the intense and growing interest in Yiddish particularly among the young. In his address Professor Prawer stressed that Stencl was much more than a folk personality, rather a great and complex poet whose works will endure alongside the classics of modern literature.

The graduation ceremony took place at Yarnton Manor on 26 August 1983. The guest speaker was Dr S. Levenberg, head of the Jewish Agency in Britain, who traced the progress of Yiddish in England from Whitechapel to Oxford University. Ms Sally Arkley, the Centre's Development Officer, addressed the graduation,

acquainting the summer programme's students with the work of the Centre. Ms Arkley expressed the Centre's warm gratitude to Mr David Djanogly for generously endowing both this and last year's summer programme. So dynamic (and so enjoyable) was *The Oxford Programme in Yiddish* that plans are already in train to repeat it in 1984.

Other Developments in Yiddish

As in previous years, the Centre continued to provide classes in Yiddish at its teaching rooms in the centre of Oxford. Classes were given throughout the year at an Elementary and Intermediate Level by Dr Dovid Katz.

Two *Seminars in Yiddish Studies* were held during Michaelmas Term 1982. On 21 October Dr M. N. Rosenfeld, a bibliographer from London, spoke on the subject *The Shpigl in Old Yiddish Literature*. On 2 December Mr Hermann Süß, of Fürstenfeldbruck, near Munich, lectured under the title *Apologetics for the Use of Yiddish in Old Yiddish Printed Books*. Mr Süß is the bibliographer who succeeded in unearthing the long-lost private library of Johann Christoph Wagenseil (1633–1705), a Christian orientalist who published an anthology of Old Yiddish literature in Königsberg in 1699, which has remained indispensable to historians of Yiddish. A number of ingenious deductions in the course of bibliographical detective work led Mr Süß to Erlangen University Library, where he found the collection replete with numerous extremely rare Yiddish books. Mr Süß has become a frequent and popular visitor at the Centre.

Dr Katz has organized a Yiddish Book Collection Project to build a small but high quality mini-library at 45 St. Giles' for the use of the Centre's students and staff, and of the annual *Oxford Programme in Yiddish*. Mr William Fishman and Mr Josef Herman have already donated valuable books. The new mini-library is being developed in close consultation with the Bodleian and Taylorian Libraries in Oxford. Dr Katz has also organized a parallel project in London to build a reference section for Yiddish language and literature at the Library of the City Literary Institute. This collection, consisting of about 200 volumes, is completely catalogued and in wide use. The Institute has expressed its warm appreciation to the Oxford Centre for its help in this project.

Finally, a Yiddish-Hebrew type element or 'golfball' for use on left-to right, right-to-left and reversible IBM Selectric typewriters has just been produced. While Hebrew golfballs have been available for some time, the new Yiddish-Hebrew golfball is uniquely

equipped with all the necessary letters, digraphs and diacritics for producing not only professional-looking Yiddish and fully-pointed Hebrew but also Judezmo (Ladino). The new golfball was designed by Hugh Denman, who teaches Yiddish in the Germanic Languages Department of Queen's University, Belfast, in consultation with the Oxford Centre for Postgraduate Hebrew Studies.

Service to the Community

One of the most important tasks undertaken by the Oxford Centre is the diffusion of scholarship to the wider community. This is a process, of course, which takes at least three forms. In the first place, there is the public speaking and lecturing undertaken by the academic staff and visiting scholars of the Centre. At any one time the Centre's visitors will include internationally acknowledged experts in several fields and besides, say, lecturing at the British Academy and Cambridge, the scholars make an effort to reach a much wider audience, particularly in London. Many of these lectures can be found reported in the columns of the *Jewish Chronicle*, others in the final section of this *Annual Report*.

A second 'outreach' of the Centre is through its many publications. I mention here only one, the internationally recognized *Journal of Jewish Studies*. This scholarly journal of very high quality, edited by Dr Geza Vermes and published by the Centre, is the only one of its calibre in the United Kingdom.

The third main channel of communication is for visitors to come to the Centre. Regrettably, in the last year, far more groups of people have applied to come to Yarnton Manor than we could possibly have accommodated. None the less, particularly during the summer months, coach parties were arriving at the rate of about two a week. Other visitors, of course, are welcomed as individuals or in small groups. As the Librarian, I reckon to meet very nearly a thousand people a year, but the total number of visitors must be higher. I now record the details of the seven largest groups to visit, not least as an illustration of their diversity.

The West Coast Group of the American Friends of Tel Aviv University, on a cultural mission to Israel, stopped over in London for 48 hours. Expressing a desire to inspect the leading British institution in Hebrew studies, they were brought to Yarnton Manor on 27 April 1983 by Mrs Cherry Torrance of the Tel Aviv University Trust. About thirty people came, among them some of the leading figures from Hollywood. Ms Sally Arkley, Development Officer of the Centre, explained to them the thrust of the Centre's research projects. Subsequently Mr Jacob Freund and Mr Richard Judd demonstrated the unique resources of the Centre's Kressel Collection. As the visitors were intrigued by a seventeenth-century English manor house, Mr J. C. Roberts gave them a guided tour and a short talk on the manor's history. They had discussions with many of the Visiting Scholars of the Centre over a buffet supper.

On 2 May 1983 fifty-two members of the Delta Society, led by Mrs Chana Finklestone, visited Yarnton Manor. The Delta Society

took its name from the fact that the number of its founders was four, and delta is the fourth letter of the Greek alphabet; it is 'a cultural society for professional Jewish people aged between 35 and 50'. Ms Sally Arkley gave an introduction to the Centre's work and Ms Hannah Safran, Mr Jacob Freund and Dr George Mandel gave them a guided tour of the Kressel Library and Archive. Finally Mr J. C. Roberts spoke to them on the history of the manor house.

Two days later nineteen ladies from London, all members of the Child Resettlement Fund—Emunah, visited Yarnton Manor. They were led by Mrs Fay Kornbluth and Mrs Devorah Wineman. Dr Mandel explained to them the work of an academic research institute in Hebrew studies and Mr Roberts talked about the manor and its history. The party visited the Library and Archive, under the guidance of the staff of the Kressel Collection.

On 15 May 1983 the Centre was host to the meeting of past Presidents of the Midland Region of B'nai B'rith. Over forty guests were present, some from as far away as Birmingham, Leicester and Wolverhampton. Ms Sally Arkley explained the work of the Centre and the guests later visited the Kressel Library and Archive with Mr J. Freund and Mr R. C. Judd as their guides.

On 30 May 1983 the Centre welcomed a party of 52 people led by Mrs Marjorie Glick. They were the Jewish Research Group of the Edmonton Hundred Historical Society. Founded in 1978, the Group aims to promote an understanding of how the local Jewish community of North London has developed and also to preserve records. Ms Arkley gave them a talk on the Centre's work, Dr Mandel gave them a Library tour and Mr Freund and Ms Safran a tour of the Archive. After a picnic lunch in the delightful setting of the manor gardens they left for Oxford to see some of the documents of Hebrew interest preserved in the Muniment Room of Merton College.

The Friends of the Jewish Museum, London, organized a visit to Oxford on 7 July 1983. After a talk by Mr R. A. May of the Bodleian Library about the outstanding collection of Hebrew manuscripts housed there, the party came to Yarnton Manor in two coaches. Dr G. Mandel, Fellow of the Centre, welcomed them and spoke to them in the long gallery on the history and achievements of the Centre. Afterwards Mr. R. C. Judd, the Centre's Librarian, showed them important printed books in the Centre's library and the staff of the Kressel Archive explained the facilities for research there. Since there were over eighty guests the party had to be broken up into smaller groups and the talks given, as it were, in shifts. From Yarnton Manor the party went on to visit the Ashmolean Museum in Oxford.

The following week, on 13 July, about 36 members of the Daphna Group of WIZO visited Yarnton Manor. In view of the numbers,

Dr Mandel decided to lead the group to the lecture room in the long gallery and speak to them there. He gave a short introduction to academic research in Hebrew studies, and the contribution the Centre was making to it. Mr Judd then led the group to the library and showed them a display of rare books in Hebrew and Yiddish. Finally the Archive staff demonstrated the newspaper cuttings and other reference material in the Kressel Archive.

The Centre actively welcomes these visits from the wider community, and will gladly provide an academic speaker and a tour of the Kressel Collection to any group which is interested. Beyond any doubt the audiences profit immensely, many visitors remarking that they have been introduced to an area of learning that they never knew existed. There is, though, a very heavy demand for these talks and to avoid disappointment the secretaries of groups are asked to make arrangements with us well in advance.

Activities of the Oxford Centre for the Academic Year 1982–1983

1. *Classes in Modern Hebrew.* Right from its inception, the Oxford Centre has viewed the teaching of fluent modern Hebrew, both written and spoken, as absolutely central to its purpose. Every year classes have been given at 45 St. Giles' at three levels, Elementary, Intermediate and Advanced. Beginners also have the use of a language laboratory. The classes have been extremely popular both with members of the University and the wider public. It is scarcely possible to conceive of the teaching of modern Hebrew at Oxford without the contribution of the Centre and its faculty.

During the past academic year, the burden of the teaching has been undertaken by Dr Glenda Abramson, the Jacob and Shoshana Schreiber Fellow at the Oxford Centre. In Michaelmas Term 1982 she undertook the teaching at all three levels, including the language laboratory. In Hilary and Trinity Terms 1983 she was assisted by Mrs Z. Bab, who taught the Intermediate level, and Mrs C. Shal-tiel, who taught the Advanced level.

2. *Talks at Yarnton Manor.* One of the ways in which the visiting scholars at the Centre share the subject of their research with a wider public is to give evening lectures at Yarnton Manor. The lectures, which are preceded by coffee, are open to the public and not infrequently attract large audiences; the discussion after them often proceeds late into the night. In addition, visitors are able to view the Library and Archive after the lecture is over.

In Michaelmas Term 1982 Professor Eric Meyers, Director of the Graduate Program in Religion at Duke University, gave an illustrated lecture on 'The Ark in Ancient Jewish Art', and Professor John Burbidge, Master of Champlain College at Trent University, Ontario, spoke under the title 'Is there a relation between grammar and the way people think about things? A proposal regarding Hebrew'. Professor Alice Eckardt of Lehigh University called her talk 'Discerning Some Patterns in Jerusalem's History' and Dr Amos Kloner, of the Department of Antiquities, Jerusalem, gave an excavation report with slides on 'Underground Hiding Complexes from the Bar-Kokhba War in the Judaeon Shephelah'.

In Hilary Term 1983 Dr Alan Crown of Sydney University spoke on 'Australian Jewry: its origins and achievements', a once-neglected subject which is now attracting scholarly and archival atten-

tion. Dr Carol Meyers of Duke University explained lucidly how archaeology can throw light on subjects such as the one of her talk, 'Village Life in the Galilean Highlands in Talmudic times'. Dr Steve Zipperstein, Frank Green Fellow at the Oxford Centre, combined elegance and learning in a paper on 'Russian Jewish Intellectuals and the Image of the City'. Finally Mr Eli Shaltiel, of Tel Aviv University and the publishing house Am Oved, outlined the problems of a biographer in a talk 'Writing a Zionist Biography — Pinchas Rutenberg: a case study'.

In Trinity Term Mrs Gertrud Seidmann opened the series with an illustrated lecture on 'Jewish Marriage Rings'. Mrs Seidmann is a contributor to the *Connoisseur* and the *Burlington Magazine*, and has described engraved gems for the Ashmolean Museum in Oxford. Dr Gideon Fuks delivered an erudite paper entitled "‘Where have all the freedmen gone?’ On an anomaly in the grave-inscriptions of the Jews of Rome'. Professor John Burbidge concluded the series when he spoke on one of his fields of research, 'Fackenheim's existentialism and the Holocaust'.

3. *Distinguished Visiting Lecturers*. Professor Edward Ullendorff, Vice-President of the British Academy, has described the Oxford Centre as 'an institution with which even the greatest of Hebrew scholars are proud to be associated'. In fact, on two consecutive days in May 1983 two such scholars delivered lectures in the Long Gallery at Yarnton Manor. The first of these was Professor David Noel Freedman, a cardinal figure in the world of biblical scholars and Director of Studies in Religion at the University of Michigan. Professor Freedman gave his lecture at the suggestion of Professor Eric Meyers, one of the Centre's Visiting Scholars for the academic year 1982–83, and was introduced by Professor James Barr, FBA, Regius Professor of Hebrew in the University of Oxford. Before an audience of over 30 biblical scholars from English universities Professor Freedman lectured on 'The Law and the Prophets: Formation and Transformation of the Hebrew Scriptures'. The speaker was thanked by Professor E. W. Nicholson, Oriel Professor of the Interpretation of Holy Scripture at Oxford. Dr Richard White, Research Assistant at the Oxford Centre, was instrumental in arranging the lecture and sending out announcements to university departments from Aberdeen to Exeter.

4. *The Tenth Sacks Lecture*. The following day, 26 May 1983, Professor Salo Baron, the doyen of Jewish historians and the author of the monumental *Social and Religious History of the Jews* in 17 volumes, delivered the Tenth Sacks Lecture at Yarnton Manor. In the

chair was Sir Zelman Cowen, AK, GCMG, GCVO, K.St.J., QC, Provost of Oriel College, Oxford. Professor Baron, Professor Emeritus of Jewish History, Literature and Institutions at Columbia University, addressed 180 distinguished guests on the subject 'Jewish Minority Rights: Some New Possibilities'. The lecture is to be published. It was announced after the lecture that Professor Baron had received an honorary fellowship of the Oxford Centre to celebrate not only his delivery of the Tenth Sacks Lecture but also, coincidentally, his 88th birthday.

Professor Baron was the guest of the Centre for some days and on 24 May 1983 Dr Geza Vermes hosted a reception for him at Wolfson College, where he was able to meet some Oxford academics and Governors of the Centre.

The previous Sacks Lecture, *The Ten Commandments* delivered by Professor Calum Carmichael, has now been published and is available from the Centre.

5. *Visit of the former President of Israel.* The Oxford Centre was deeply honoured to welcome Mr Itzhak Navon, shortly after his retirement as President of the State of Israel, as an official guest from 22 to 27 June 1983. Mr Navon was accommodated in the Guest House at Yarnton Manor, and participated in a full timetable of meetings, lectures and social events. As the day of his arrival coincided with the ancient ceremony of Encaenia at Oxford University, he was able to meet important dignitaries at the Chancellor's Garden Party, and later attended St. Cross College Garden Party. He was deeply impressed with the Kressel Library at Yarnton Manor and later the Librarian, Mr Judd, introduced him to Mr R. A. May, Senior Assistant Librarian and in charge of Hebrew collections at the Bodleian Library. Mr May showed him the rich collection of Hebrew manuscripts there, described in the *Encyclopaedia Judaica* as 'still perhaps qualitatively the most important in the world'.

After a dinner in his honour at Yarnton Manor on 23 June, Mr Navon spoke on the importance and history of Sephardi culture. As is well known, Mr Navon himself was the first Sephardi to be elected President of Israel.

On June 25 he was entertained to dinner at Oriel College, Oxford, by the Provost, Sir Zelman Cowen, the former Governor-General of Australia and now a Governor of the Centre. Another distinguished guest was Mr A. N. Pritzker, the philanthropist, from Chicago.

The following day two keynote lectures were delivered in the Long Gallery at Yarnton Manor. Before an audience of well over 100, Mr Pritzker spoke on 'The Experience of a Jewish Family in America'. Mr Navon then gave a talk entitled 'Welding a Nation'.

In the talk, which was widely reported, Mr Navon expressed concern at the attitude of the Jewish people towards Israel and towards its own problems. On the other hand, he was optimistic that 'Israel was capable of finding solutions and that the age of miracles was not past'. Sir Zelman Cowen was in the chair and it was a pleasure to see in the audience members of the *Young Friends of the Oxford Centre*.

After the lectures the speakers and audience were entertained to a buffet lunch, and many people expressed an interest in viewing the Library and Archive at Yarnton Manor. Accordingly Dr Mandel, Mr Judd and Ms Safran gave guided tours of the collections.

The Centre would like to thank Mr Anthony Goldstein and Miss Vanessa Green for their initiative and dedicated hard work which contributed so much to the occasion.

6. The Seminar *Life and Letters in Contemporary Israel*. From its inception the Centre has worked to foster academic discussion in Oxford University on the culture and institutions of the State of Israel. For many years the Centre has been responsible for the seminar *Life and Letters in Contemporary Israel*, which takes place under the auspices of the Faculty of Oriental Studies and is held in the Centre's teaching rooms at 45 St. Giles'. The distinguished speakers invited to give papers have included leading writers, political scientists and literary critics. The seminar is chaired and organized by Dr George Mandel, Fellow of the Centre, and the quality of the papers has been consistently high and the subsequent discussion lively.

On 19 January 1983 Dr Avi Shlaim, of the University of Reading, gave a paper on 'Israeli Politics and the Arab-Israel Conflict'. On 2 February Mr Leon Yudkin of Manchester University, the distinguished writer on modern Israeli literature, spoke on 'Current Israeli Literature: in search of past and future'. On 16 February a paper 'The Political and Defence Strategy of Israel in the Light of the War in Lebanon' was delivered by Dr Amnon Sella of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Finally on 2 March Mr Eli Shaltiel, of Tel Aviv University and Wolfson College, Oxford, spoke on 'The Idea of Partition as a Solution to the Jewish-Arab Conflict in Palestine'.

7. The Seminar on *Modern Jewish History and Society*. On the initiative of two young scholars attached to the Centre, a new seminar with this title was held in Hilary Term 1983. Dr Jonathan Webber and Dr Steve Zipperstein arranged an interesting series of papers which attracted a large and attentive audience, as well as much favourable comment. Dr Bryan Wilson, Fellow of All Souls

College, delivered the first paper examining 'The concept of secularism' and Dr Joanna Weinberg, of Leo Baeck College, spoke on 'The origins of modern Jewish historiography'. Dr Zipperstein himself contributed a paper on 'The pace of Jewish modernization in Western, Central, and Eastern Europe'. The titles of the other papers were 'The Jewish emergence from "powerlessness": traditional and modern Jewish political life', by Dr Julius Carlebach of the University of Sussex; 'Anti-Semitism as a modern phenomenon' by Professor Julius Gould of Nottingham University; 'The Jerusalem school of Jewish historiography' by Professor Chimen Abramsky of University College, London; 'The problem of readjustment: Jewish modernity in sociological perspective' by Dr Jonathan Webber; and finally 'The case for modern Jewish history: towards a definition of the field' by Dr Lionel Kochan of the University of Warwick.

8. The Centre's premises in Oxford have played an increasingly vital role over the years in the teaching of Hebrew in the University. This academic year, as previously, the Centre was host to the graduate Seminar *Problems of Jewish History and Literature*. This Seminar is conducted at the highest level and has a well-deserved international reputation. It is directed by Dr Geza Vermes, Reader in Jewish Studies in the University and a founder Governor of the Centre, and by Dr Sebastian Brock, University Lecturer in Aramaic and Syriac, who also serves on the Centre's Academic Advisory Committee. Among the highlights of this year's Seminar was a paper given by Dr Vermes himself, in which he described his labours, in collaboration with Professor Fergus Millar of London University, in undertaking the massive task of revising and updating Emil Schürer's *The History of the Jewish People in the Age of Jesus Christ (175 B.C.–A.D. 135)*.

9. *Three New Fellowships at the Oxford Centre*. Three major Fellowships in Jewish Studies have been established at the Oxford Centre for Postgraduate Hebrew Studies, one by Mr Frank Green, one anonymously and one by Mr David Hyman.

Mr Green has offered the sum of £20,000 per annum for ten years in order to establish a Fellowship devoted to the Jewish Experience in Europe, 1848–1948. This subject has recently been accepted by Oxford University as an option in the course for the degree of M.Phil. in Modern Jewish Studies, and has appeared for the first time in the lecture list of the University's History Faculty.

Dr Steve J. Zipperstein has been appointed the first holder of the Fellowship, from 1 October 1983. Dr Zipperstein at present holds the Yad Vashem Fellowship at the Centre, which will be incor-

porated into the new Fellowship.

In a separate but related benefaction, Mr Green has offered the Hebrew University an annual sum of \$40,000 for ten years. It is hoped that part of this will be used to fund an interchange between Oxford and Jerusalem of senior scholars, post-doctoral and doctoral students working in the same subject area as that covered by the Frank Green Fellowship.

At a reception in honour of Mr and Mrs Green, held at Yarnton Manor on 13 March, presentations to them were made by Dr David Patterson, on behalf of the Oxford Centre, and Mr Ben Helfgott on behalf of the Forty-Five Aid Society, of which Mr Green is an honorary member. The Centre presented Mr and Mrs Green with a specially-made wooden box designed by Yaffa Azaz, with a picture of Yarnton Manor engraved on it by a process using a laser. The gift of the Forty-Five Aid Society was a decanter inscribed by Roman Halter with a dedication to the recipients.

Mr Simon Reiss, who has succeeded Frank Green as chairman of the Yad Vashem Committee, spoke about Mr Green's work for the Committee, and Dr Zipperstein spoke about the importance of Fellowships such as the Frank Green Fellowship in helping to bring Jewish Studies into the curriculum of Oxford University.

The second new Fellowship at the Centre has been created with a donation of £20,000 a year for five years. It will be a Research Fellowship for a scholar working in the field of Hebrew or Jewish Studies, either in the modern period (since the French Revolution) or the Graeco-Roman period.

The third new Fellowship will be named after Mr David Hyman, of London, a member of the Centre's Board of Governors and the Chairman of the Council of the Yarnton Trust. He has established a Fellowship at the Oxford Centre with a donation of £20,000 per year for five years. The Fellowship commenced on 1 October 1983 and is held by Dr George Mandel, an Oxford-trained scholar who took his doctorate at Balliol College. Dr Mandel is working on a field of research central to the Oxford Centre's interests, the revival of Hebrew as a spoken language, and also the early life of Eliezer Ben-Yehuda (1858–1922), who played a leading role in that revival.

10. *New Governors of the Centre.* Five new appointments have been made to the Board of Governors of the Oxford Centre.

Sir Sigmund Sternberg, JP, of London, is the Chairman of the Friends of the Centre. He is also the Honorary Treasurer of the Council of Christians and Jews, Chairman of the International Council of Christians and Jews, and a Governor of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

The Right Honourable the Lord Blake, FBA, the noted historian

and biographer of Benjamin Disraeli, has been Provost of The Queen's College, Oxford, since 1968, and Pro-Vice-Chancellor of Oxford University since 1971.

Dr Godfrey Stafford, CBE, FRS, F.Inst.P., a distinguished physicist, has been Master of St. Cross College, Oxford, since 1979. The appointments of Lord Blake and Dr Stafford mean that there are now four past or present Oxford Heads of House on the Board of Governors. The others are Sir Isaiah Berlin, who was President of Wolfson College from its foundation until 1975, and Sir Zelman Cowen, the Provost of Oriel College.

Mr Frank Green has been appointed an Israeli Governor of the Centre. Mr Green was Chairman of the Yad Vashem Committee of the Board of Deputies from 1979 to 1983 before settling in Israel. His benefactions both to the Oxford Centre and to the Hebrew University of Jerusalem are mentioned in the previous section.

Dr R. E. White is Fellow and Treasurer of St. Cross College, and was Junior Proctor 1981–82. Dr White takes the place on the Board of Dr E. J. W. Whittaker, who has retired from university service. The Centre would like to record its thanks to Dr Whittaker for his service on the Board of Governors and wishes him a happy retirement.

11. *Recital at Yarnton Manor.* Tang Yun and Christopher Cox gave a violin and piano recital in the Long Gallery at Yarnton Manor on Sunday 19 June 1983, under the auspices of the Centre. Tang Yun, who is from Shanghai, was 'discovered' by Isaac Stern. Christopher Cox, her permanent accompanist, is originally from Yorkshire. They played works by Tartini, Brahms, Bach and Saint-Saens and were warmly applauded by the 100-strong audience for an outstanding performance given at less than 24 hours' notice after Jeremy Menuhin, who was originally to have given a piano recital, was taken ill. The Centre is grateful to Mr David Hyman and Mrs Jennifer Wingate, who were, as last year, the organizers of the concert.

12. *The Oxford Centre at St. Cross College.* The Oxford Centre is an associated centre of St. Cross College, and enjoys a close relationship with it. To symbolize the formal association the Master and Fellows of St. Cross invited the Fellows and academic staff of the Centre to a reception on 22 June 1983, which was much appreciated.

13. *Summer Colloquia at Yarnton Manor.* The Oxford Centre, resembling in this respect the University of Buckingham, organizes

a Summer Term during the Long Vacation between the customary three. In the summer of 1983 the Yarnton Manor estate was filled to capacity with visiting scholars, and, following the tradition established by Drs Carl Voss and Richard White, the scholars arranged a series of colloquia at which they gave talks on their major focus of research. Many visitors attended these discussions and there was a general feeling (with which I concur) that the calibre of the papers was outstanding.

Dr Henry Near, of Haifa University and Oranim, the College of Education of the kibbutz movement in Israel, set a very high standard to follow when he opened the series with a paper on 'Post-utopian thought in the kibbutz'. He examined the extent (if any) to which 'utopian' thinking had influenced the kibbutz movement at its inception, and was still influencing it; although he gave a masterly treatment of the theoretical side of this question, he interspersed his own translations of the recollections of the *vatikim* or founders of the kibbutz.

Professor Zvi Ankori, of Tel Aviv University, entitled his paper 'Travelling with Benjamin of Tudela: some new solutions to old difficulties'. He addressed himself to a question which has puzzled scholars for over a century: what exactly *is* the extraordinary *Book of Travels* written by Benjamin of Tudela in the 12th century? Rejecting some of the suggestions of earlier scholars, Professor Ankori located it securely in the context of the developing international commerce of the Middle Ages.

Professor David Vital, the author of the scholarly history of Zionism of which two volumes have so far been published by Oxford University Press, gave a learned and entertaining paper on 'Israel Zangwill and modern Jewish nationalism'. In the course of this he made the point that Zangwill was more influential in his own day than may now appear to us.

Professor Moshe Goshen-Gottstein, of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, concluded the series with a paper 'Modern Jewish Bible Research: Aspects of Integration'. This was a magisterial survey, before a distinguished audience, of the contacts between Jewish and Christian exegesis, with particular reference to the Protestant Reformers.

A curious coincidence among the speakers this year was that Dr Near and Professor Vital had both studied at New College, Oxford, at the same time.

14. *Centre News*. The Oxford Centre has decided to publish a regular newsletter to inform a wider public of its activities and achievements. The first three issues have now appeared, and have been praised for their attractive appearance and lightness of touch. The

credit for the layout must go to Mr Harry Blacker (perhaps better known as the cartoonist Nero) who kindly offered to design it without charge; the Centre would like to put on record its appreciation of this. The text is written and edited by Dr George Mandel, Fellow of the Oxford Centre. Anyone who would like to receive *Centre News*—there is no charge—is invited to contact the Development Officer at 45 St. Giles', Oxford.

15. *Further Publications.* Substantial additions have been made to the Centre's list of publications during the last academic year.

The Oxford Centre for Postgraduate Hebrew Studies and the Jewish Historical Society of England are the joint publishers of *Sir Moses Montefiore. A Symposium*, edited by V. D. Lipman. This work contains the lectures delivered at Yarnton Manor on 15 June 1980, when more than thirty people took part in a symposium on the life and work of one of the greatest figures in Anglo-Jewish history. The symposium brought together scholars from the Centre and elsewhere with others interested in Sir Moses, including members of his family. The lecturers were Dr R. D. Barnett, Dr Aubrey Newman, Dr Tudor Parfitt, Dr V. D. Lipman, Professor U. R. Q. Henriques, and Mr Benjamin Jaffe.

Publication of the symposium was delayed by a burglary at the offices of the Oxford Centre, when the tapes on which the lectures and discussions had been recorded were stolen. The various contributors kindly agreed to provide complete texts of their talks, and generous donations from Mr and Mrs D. Franklin and Mr A. L. Shane enabled the cost of printing to be met.

Previous issues of the *Annual Report* have mentioned the series of books the Centre has been publishing in conjunction with Allanheld, Osmun Publishers (more recently Rowman & Allanheld) of New Jersey. These beautifully designed books have a small line-drawing of Yarnton Manor on the title-page. Two more titles in the series have appeared this year. *A Jewish Life under the Tsars. The Autobiography of Chaim Aronson, 1825–1888* was published in January 1983. Chaim Aronson was a clockmaker and inventor, born in Lithuania in 1825, who subsequently settled in St. Petersburg and eventually—in 1888—emigrated to the United States. His memoirs, nearly 500 handwritten pages in Hebrew, were preserved by his family until one of his granddaughters, Helen Aronson Perlman, brought them to the notice of Dr David Patterson. As a result of Dr Patterson's enthusiastic interest, the memoirs have now been published in an English translation by Dr Norman Marsden.

The second addition to the series is *State and Society in Roman Galilee, A.D. 132-212*, by Martin Goodman. Dr Goodman has

examined, with great learning and judgement, society and administration in Galilee between the Bar Kokhba war and the proclamation of universal Roman citizenship in the year 212. The author clearly possesses a total mastery of Latin, Greek, Hebrew and Aramaic. Dr Goodman, who now lectures at Birmingham University, was a Junior Fellow of the Centre and spent a year on the Yarnton Manor Estate working on the subject of this book.

Since the first year of the Centre's activities it has been the custom for visiting scholars, during their stay at the Centre, to talk to an audience of laymen and non-specialists about some aspect of their research. These lectures take place in the Long Gallery of Yarnton Manor in the evenings, after one of the dinners that are held at the Manor every two weeks or so during the university term. The lecturers have included members of the Centre's permanent staff as well as visitors. In response to many requests, the Centre has now begun to make some of these lectures available in printed form under the general title 'Oxford Centre Papers'. The first one, *Modern Capitalism and the Jews*, by the Chairman of the Centre's Board of Governors, Professor S. H. Frankel, was published in March 1983. The second, *Who was Ben-Yehuda with in Boulevard Montmartre?* by Dr George Mandel, has just been printed and others are scheduled for 1984. The 'Oxford Centre Papers' are edited by Dr Steve Zipperstein, Frank Green Fellow in Modern European Jewish History at the Centre. Their publication is made possible by a grant from the Dov Biegun Memorial Publications Fund, for which the Centre would like to record its gratitude.

On 30 October 1980 a ceremony took place at Yarnton Manor to inaugurate the Jacob and Shoshana Schreiber Fellowship in the History of Contemporary Judaism at the Oxford Centre. Lord Blake, Provost of Queen's College, expressed gratitude on behalf of the University of Oxford for Mr and Mrs Schreiber's endowment, and two lectures followed under the title 'Changing Approaches to Society in Nineteenth Century Hebrew Literature and Jewish Thought'. These were delivered by Dr David Patterson and Professor Uriel Tal, and Mr Schreiber himself made the closing remarks. The complete text of the proceedings, including the two lectures, was published jointly by the Oxford Centre and Tel Aviv University in September 1983.

In the summer of 1981, to mark the seventieth birthday of Mr G. Kressel, who built up the Kressel Library and Archive now housed at the Centre, a guide *The Kressel Collection* was published. Although specifically planned to illustrate an exhibition of material chosen from the Library and Archive, the guide was so informative that it has served well as a general introduction to the Kressel Collection for visitors and enquirers. When the stock was exhausted it was decided to publish a second edition, on the one hand removing

the emphasis on the 1981 exhibition, and on the other updating the contents to take account of the work achieved during the intervening two years. Accordingly, a second edition of *The Kressel Collection* was published by the Oxford Centre in September 1983; as before, the text was entirely written by Dr George Mandel.

The research and writing pursued under the aegis of the Oxford Centre for the last eleven years has resulted in an immensely long list of publications. In an effort to gain some bibliographical control over this mass of material, Dr Richard White used the Oxford University computer to produce, early in 1983, *A Bibliography of Publications 1972–1982*. Working with Mr Alan Jones, Fellow of Pembroke College and the Centre's computer consultant, Dr White has located hundreds of publications in seven languages (including Hungarian). The *Bibliography* was designed in a format to match this *Annual Report*, and had to be reprinted within months of its appearance; analytical bibliographers had better note that the reprint has a green cover in place of a white one. Dr White expressed his gratitude to Mr R. A. May, Mrs B. L. Smith, Dr Dovid Katz and of course Mr Jones for their assistance in different ways. Of its nature any bibliography of this kind needs constant updating and Dr White told me that he plans to return to Oxford for this purpose. I quote from his preface 'this bibliography does not represent a complete record of the first decade since much untitled work is still in progress. It is hoped that in due course a revised edition of this list will present a more accurate picture. In the meantime the present version may give some indication of the extent to which the Centre has been able to promote Hebrew and Jewish Studies'.

16. The Dr Israel Feldman Memorial Junior Fellowship in Modern Hebrew Literature has been established at the Centre. The Fellowship is intended to encourage postdoctoral research on modern Hebrew literature. For the academic year 1982–83 the holder was Dr David Aberbach.

17. The Aaron Djanogly Memorial Junior Fellowship has been established at the Centre by his son, Mr David Djanogly. For the academic year 1982–83 the holder was Dr Y. Goldstein.

18. The Dr Vilem Klein Bursary for Modern Jewish Studies has been established at the Centre. The Bursary is intended to assist graduates who plan to read the M.Phil. degree in Modern Jewish Studies at Oxford University. For the academic year 1982–83 the holder was Ms P. Stone of Worcester College, Oxford.

19. The Centre has been host many times to the Oxford branch of the Council of Christians and Jews. On 15 November 1982 Dr and Mrs G. Vermes welcomed 28 members to Yarnton Manor on behalf of the Oxford Centre. In Hilary and Trinity Terms 1983 the fortnightly seminars of the Oxford branch were held in the Seminar Room at 45 St. Giles', the Centre's premises in the city centre.

20. The Centre was host, on 5 June 1983, to the 24th meeting of the *Hebrew Translation Workshop*. Convened by Dr Risa Domb, who lectures on modern Hebrew literature at the University of Cambridge, the *Workshop* tackles problems in translating contemporary Hebrew literature, and includes in its number many accomplished translators.

21. The Oxford Lodge of B'nai B'rith held its first ever Book Fair on 21 November 1982, which was officially opened by Sir Zelman Cowen, the Provost of Oriel College. Dr George Mandel and Dr Richard White contributed a display of books produced by the Centre's staff and the visiting scholars at Yarnton Manor.

22. Jewish Book Week 1983 was celebrated at Stanmore Synagogue from 5 to 9 March, and featured a large exhibition of books. Dr Mandel and Dr White arranged that all the Centre's publications were on display as well as the many volumes of the Brown Judaic Studies series, for which the *Journal of Jewish Studies* is agent in this country.

23. The *Friends of the Oxford Centre* have made two appointments connected with the future development of the Centre. Rabbi Sidney Brichto has been named as Adviser on Development, and Ms Sally Arkley as Development Officer. The duties of the Development Officer are to assist the President in matters concerning fund-raising, publicity, and the organization of functions, and to liaise with the Adviser on Development. Ms Arkley is in the final stages of writing her doctoral thesis on 'Women and Property: The Jewish Legal View in the Second Temple Period', and for the past two years has been a Junior Fellow at the Centre.

24. The *American Friends of the Oxford Centre* have continued to develop. The Chairman of the American Friends, Mr Leo Kramer, together with Mrs Kramer, hosted a dinner in Washington for

Dr David Patterson on 26 February 1983. The distinguished guests, who included the Honorable Arthur J. Goldberg, a former US Ambassador to the United Nations, were able to hear about the work of the Centre from Dr Patterson. On the following evening, Mr and Mrs Ralph Rothstein were hosts at a reception attended by some forty invited guests at which Dr Patterson spoke about the Centre, illustrating his talk with slides. On 24 April 1983 Mr and Mrs M. Jacobs hosted a meeting in Chicago at which Dr Patterson was able to explain to a different audience the achievements of the Oxford Centre. These meetings reflect the growing interest in the Centre across the Atlantic.

A new form of involvement with the Oxford Centre, known as the Associate Programme, has been inaugurated in the United States. The aim of the programme is to support the activities of the Centre and at the same time to forge personal links with it. Each associate will receive complimentary copies of all the Centre's publications, as well as invitations to the public events which the Centre holds throughout the year. The associate will be invited to the annual Convocation of Associates to be held at Yarnton Manor in the presence of distinguished international personalities. Associate programmes will be set up in other countries in the near future.

25. The *Israel Friends of the Oxford Centre* held a meeting on 2 December 1982 to mark the Centre's tenth anniversary. The meeting, in the Hall of the Israel Academy of Arts and Sciences, was attended by about eighty people, including nearly all the Israeli scholars who have at any time been visiting scholars of the Centre at Yarnton. A number of them spoke about the Centre's contribution to the advancement of scholarship, and a letter of support from President Navon, the President of the State of Israel, was read out.

Unfortunately Dr Patterson, the President of the Oxford Centre, was at the last minute prevented by illness from travelling to Jerusalem to attend the meeting.

The Israel Friends, whose Chairman is Professor Chaim Rabin, of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, now has over seventy members. The Honorary President is Mr A. Harman, Chancellor of the Hebrew University. The Honorary Council consists of Professor Ephraim Katzir, the former President of the State, and the Presidents of Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, Haifa, Ben Gurion and Bar Ilan Universities. The Oxford Centre is probably unique in the Diaspora in enjoying Israeli patronage of such distinction.

26. From time to time the Centre's magnificent premises at Yarnton Manor attract the attention of antiquaries and architec-

tural historians. In this connection *The Oxford Times* carried a photograph of and article about the manor in its issue of 7 January 1983. Also *Yarnton Parish News* no. CCXL (August 1983) contained a history of Yarnton and its manor house, from which I quote: ' . . . ten years ago this year the Oxford Centre for Post-graduate Hebrew Studies moved in. They have concerned themselves with restoring the buildings, and the Italian style gardens as laid out ninety years ago; and we have also to thank them for the restoration of our ancient Clerk's House'.

27. The Centre has recently received a donation of \$25,000 from the RGK Foundation of Austin, Texas. The Foundation was established in 1966 to provide support for medical and educational research. The Chairman of the Board, Dr George Kozmetsky, and the President and Treasurer, Mrs Ronya Kozmetsky, paid a visit to the Oxford Centre in May 1983. They were present at the tenth annual Sacks Lecture.

28. The Centre was pleased to welcome Dr and Mrs Davide Sala to lunch and a tour of Yarnton Manor on 16 October 1983. Among the other guests were Lord and Lady Blake, Professor and Mrs E. Donald Shapiro of New York and Mr Jay Grimm, also of New York. Dr Sala has been kind enough to donate a computer for use in the Centre's Library and Archive. The Board of Governors would like to express their warmest thanks to Dr Sala for his generosity.

29. Among the distinguished overseas visitors to the Centre were Professor Alan Scott and Mrs Sybil Scott of Austin, Texas, and Mr Gerald Tell and Mrs Bernice Tell of Bethesda, Maryland. They were shown the Yarnton Manor estate by Ms Sally Arkley. Mr and Mrs N. Shapiro, of Chicago, were entertained to a dinner by Dr and Mrs Patterson; Mrs Barbara Shapiro is the Chairman of the Chicago branch of the American Friends of the Oxford Centre.

30. Finally, the Centre would like to express its sincere gratitude to the Trustees of the Charles Wolfson Charitable Trust, to Mr David Hyman, the Chairman of the Yarnton Trust, Sir Sigmund Sternberg, the Chairman of the Friends of the Oxford Centre, and all the many benefactors and well-wishers whose generous contributions and support in many ways make the work of the Centre possible.

Individual Reports of Scholars and Staff of the Oxford Centre for Postgraduate Hebrew Studies

Editor's note: The entries which follow do not include the activities of people associated with the Centre who hold full-time appointments at Oxford University. I have only listed scholars whose work at Oxford was made possible by the Oxford Centre for Postgraduate Hebrew Studies. Moreover, details which have been mentioned earlier are not repeated here.

DR D. ABERBACH filled in for Dr Patterson during his sabbatical leave and taught a number of university courses in Hebrew Language and Literature. He also taught courses in Modern Hebrew Literature at Cambridge University. As the Dr Israel Feldman Memorial Junior Fellow at the Oxford Centre, he began a full-length study of the Hebrew fiction of Mendele Mokher Seforim (S. J. Abramowitsch); at present he is continuing this work with the support of a British Academy award. He saw his book on S. Y. Agnon through the various proof stages, and it will shortly be published in the Littman Library series by Oxford University Press. He also completed the final draft of a book on H. N. Bialik, which has now been accepted for publication, likewise by the Littman Library and OUP. In addition, he has continued work on an anthology of biblical poetry in translation and a study of *Loss and Separation in Literature* (the latter under the auspices of the British Academy). He published an article 'Screen Memories of Writers' in *International Review of Psychoanalysis* 10, 1 (1983) pp. 47–62, and an essay 'Marx and his tormented vision' in the *Jewish Chronicle* of 11 March 1983. His 'Chaplin: Of Crime and Genius' appeared in *Encounter* (May 1983) pp. 86–92.

DR G. ABRAMSON co-ordinated the undergraduate teaching programme as well as teaching courses in modern Hebrew literature, modern Jewish history, courses for the M.Phil. in Modern Jewish Studies, and Hebrew language. Dr Abramson has had two articles accepted for publication in the USA, by *Midstream* and *Prooftexts*, and was a contributor this year to *The Encyclopaedia Britannica* on Hebrew Literature. Together with Dr Tudor Parfitt she translated Yehuda Amichai's *Great Tranquillity*, which was published by Harper and Row on 9 November 1983. She lectured to various institutions in Oxford and Birmingham on topics related to modern Hebrew literature and in January 1983 she gave her inaugural Fellow's address at St. Cross College, entitled 'The Sociology

of Jewish Humour'. Dr Abramson is currently working on a book on contemporary Hebrew poetry, using material to be found mainly in the Kressel Archive at Yarnton Manor.

PROFESSOR Z. ANKORI, during his eight week summer stay at Yarnton Manor, continued to research the history of Greek Jewry under Ottoman Turkish domination in the 16th and 17th centuries. He was also busy editing the first volume in the *Annual Lecture Series of the Chair for the History and Culture of the Jews of Salonica and Greece* at Tel Aviv University, which is due to appear in 1984. Professor Ankori is the incumbent of the chair since its establishment eight years ago and the editor of this series as well as of a companion series of *Monographs of the Chair*. As mentioned earlier, he delivered a paper on Benjamin of Tudela to the series of Summer Colloquia at Yarnton Manor; the paper forms part of a broader *Prolegomenon* to the 12th-century Spanish Jewish Itinerary.

DR L. ARCHER has contributed the following entry:

My thesis, *The Social and Legal Position of the Jewish Woman in Palestine during the Inter-Testamental and Mishnaic Period: A Survey of Life from Birth to Marriage*, was examined on 1 May 1983, and I was awarded the degree of Ph.D. the same month from the University of London. Over the summer I received and accepted an offer from JSOT Press (Monograph Series) to publish the work. At the moment I am working on extending the original research in order to present a complete survey from birth to death, and it is in this extended form that the thesis will be published. Since finishing the Ph.D. I have also been working on producing the index to the revised edition of E. Schürer's *The History of the Jewish People in the Age of Jesus Christ*, edited by G. Vermes, F. Millar and M. Black, and have had an essay on 'The Role of Women in Jewish Religion, Ritual, and Cult in Greco-Roman Palestine' published in *Images of Women in Antiquity*, edited by A. Cameron and A. Kuhrt (Croom Helm, 1983). I presently hold a Junior Research Fellowship at the Centre, continue my work, contribute to the Vermes-Brock graduate seminar series, and do Hebrew and Greek computer typesetting for the *Journal of Jewish Studies*.

MS S. J. ARKLEY continued writing the final draft of her Ph.D. thesis entitled *Women and Property: The Jewish Legal View in Second Temple Palestine*, which is near completion. She edited five children's stories in English written by the Israeli novelist Benjamin Tammuz.

DR D. BOYARIN worked on the palaeography of Genizah frag-

ments of the Mekhilta. Many of these fragments are preserved in the Bodleian Library at Oxford, others at Cambridge University Library.

PROFESSOR J. W. BURBIDGE has written directly as follows:

Over the past nine months, I have been working on the reasoning used by the Rabbis in selected passages of the Mishnah and the Babylonian Talmud, and on the way this reasoning came to be expressed in their language. As well, I have worked on a paper relating the earlier philosophical writing of Emil Fackenheim to his later interest in the Holocaust and Israel. Other than the two talks I gave at Yarnton Manor, I read a paper at City University, London. While I am writing, may I express my appreciation to the staff of the library. You have provided me with a great deal of advice and answered my questions. I have appreciated your courtesy and good humour.

PROFESSOR A. L. ECKARDT, with leave of absence and some financial support from Lehigh University Research Institute, remained in Oxford during Michaelmas Term 1982 to begin the research and writing on a full-length study of the history of Jewish-Christian relations. The study will give equal attention to the two sides of the relationship, will examine the impact of the two faiths on each other and the internal theological positions of each *vis-à-vis* the other over the centuries.

DR M. FRUCHTMAN has defined her research in the following terms:

During the summer of 1983 at Yarnton Manor I had the opportunity to work in tranquillity, and so brought several projects to fruition. I wrote two chapters of the book *Sugyot ve-Sugim be-Sifrut ha-Yeladim ha-Ivrit* (Questions and Genres in Hebrew Children's Literature), which I am writing with Dr Miri Baruch of the Education Department at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem—our first book about children's literature was published in 1982 and the second edition in 1983. I also wrote some parts (as examples) of my next book, which will be about linguistics and literature, to enable me to show them to my potential publisher ('Papyrus', at Tel Aviv University). I completed an 18 page article in Hebrew 'Linguistics and Modern Literature: Stylistic Studies in Contemporary Hebrew Poetry' which I hope will appear in the memorial book for the late Dov Iron of the Departments of Hebrew and Arabic at Tel Aviv University. Visiting the Bodleian Library led me to some manuscripts of medieval poetry, the language of which I intend to submit to further scrutiny. I have also made use of the important work done at Yarnton

Manor on the revival of the Hebrew language as I am in the process of writing an item on this subject for Everyman's University.

DR G. FUKS delivered two papers to the graduate seminar *Problems of Jewish History and Literature* directed by Dr Geza Vermes. The lectures were entitled 'On the Credibility of a Note in Josephus' and 'Again on the Episode of the Golden Roman Shields at Jerusalem'. His lecture at Yarnton Manor, 'Where have all the Freedmen Gone? (On an anomaly in the Jewish grave-inscriptions from Rome)', is to be published in the Autumn 1984 issue of the *Journal of Jewish Studies*. His book *Greece in Erez Israel: The History of Scythopolis* was published in Hebrew by Yad Ben-Zvi in Jerusalem in March 1983 while Dr Fuks was staying at Yarnton. He has further research still in preparation.

PROFESSOR B. R. GOLDSTEIN gave a colloquium on the subject 'Methodological issues in the study of Astronomy before 1600' to the History of Science and Medicine Research Colloquia. This took place in the Danson Room at Trinity College, Oxford, on 23 November 1982.

PROFESSOR M. H. GOSHEN-GOTTSTEIN has submitted the following report:

During Summer Term 1983 I once again had the pleasure of making Yarnton the centre of my work for about six weeks. This time I was able to prepare a draft of three chapters for my study of the history of Hebrew and biblical studies in the period from 1475 to 1550. The rural quiet of Yarnton contributed, as always, to the working through of materials checked in the Bodleian.

This is part of an ongoing attempt, over the years, to use some weeks in the summer to finalize research carried out over the past two decades—and, I am afraid, it will still take a bit more. No publication will result immediately.

MR B. R. HOFFMAN takes great pains (*o si sic omnes*) to send me details of his publications. Unfortunately, for reasons of space, I can quote only one paragraph from his letters to me, which I transcribe with pleasure:

I also had a particularly good year in terms of publications. This month the Bar Ilan University Press published my first book, entitled *The Failure of British Military Policy Within Palestine, 1939–1947*. It is the first of a series of books that will be published by The Menachem Begin Institute for the Study of Underground and Resistance Movements at Bar Ilan. I should also point out that this study was researched and written during the time that I was directly associated with the Centre and living at Yarnton as a

Conder Scholar. I have, of course, made appropriate reference to the Centre in the book's acknowledgements. I have also undertaken to have a complimentary copy of the book sent to the Centre. A second book, jointly authored, entitled *Terrorism in Latin America* is to be published by The Rand Corporation in the summer of 1983.

MR R. C. JUDD reviewed Yehuda Nini's *Teiman ve-Zion* in the *Journal of Jewish Studies* vol. XXXIV, no. 2, and contributed short notices of 14 other books to the 'Books Received' section. A review of Michael N. Dobkowski (ed.) *The Politics of Indifference* will appear in a forthcoming issue of the same journal. He also compiled and edited this *Annual Report*.

DR D. KATZ, besides his extensive teaching duties and supervision of postgraduate students in Oxford, taught Yiddish Language and Literature at elementary, intermediate and advanced levels at the City Literary Institute in London. His 'Der semítisher khéylek in yídish: a yerúshe fun kadmóynim' appeared in Y. Ziper and Kh. Shpilberg (eds.) *Kanáder yídisher zámlbukh* (Montreal, 1982) pp. 110-16; this is an abstract of a longer work placed before the First International Conference on Research in Yiddish Language and Literature at Oxford, 6-9 August 1979. He contributed the article 'Yiddish Dialectology' to *Dialektologie. Ein Handbuch zur deutschen und allgemeinen Dialektforschung* [=Handbuch zur Sprach- und Kommunikationswissenschaft, Bd. I] (Berlin & New York, 1983) pp. 1018-41. His extensive survey of Yiddish lexicography from the eleventh to the nineteenth century, under the title 'Di éltère yídishé leksikografíe: mekóyres un metódn', will see the light in vol. XXXVIII of *Yídishé shprákh*, and his article 'On the Sociology of Yiddish' will appear shortly in *Jewish Frontier*. He has supplied the entries 'Yiddish Language' and 'Yiddish Literature' to *The Encyclopaedia Britannica*, and an essay 'Hebrew, Aramaic and the Rise of Yiddish' will be included in Joshua A. Fishman (ed.) *Readings in the Sociology of Jewish Languages* to be published by Mouton in The Hague. His seminal paper placed before the Second International Conference on Research in Yiddish Language and Literature held at Oxford in July 1983, with the title 'Yídish in tsvélfth un dráytsetn yorhúndert: di evidénts fun hebréyishe un arámishe ksavyádn', was a study of the pointing systems of a number of twelfth and thirteenth century Hebrew and Aramaic manuscripts emanating from Ashkenaz, with a view to their relevance to the early history and geography of Yiddish.

Under work in progress, Dr Katz is writing the article 'Western Yiddish' for M. I. Herzog (ed.) *The Language and Culture Atlas of Ashkenazic Jewry* vol. II (Philadelphia, forthcoming) and is collect-

ing a series of writings which will be given the title *Christian Studies in Yiddish, 1510–1862*. Finally, Duckworth of London have agreed to publish his *Yiddish I. An Introductory Grammar*.

MR J. KENAZ worked on the Oxford English Hebrew Dictionary of Current Usage, but did not neglect his literary interests and continued work on the novel he has been writing for the last year and a half. This novel, *Hitganvut Yehidim*, has already been announced in the publishers' prospectus and will be published in 1984 by Am Oved in Israel. Mr Kenaz also translated several chapters of Rabelais' *Gargantua* from French into Hebrew, the translation being published in *Moznayim*, the literary review of the association of Hebrew writers in Israel. This was in the way of a pilot project for Am Oved who have invited Mr Kenaz to translate the whole book.

DR Z. KLEIN used the memorial (*Yizkor*) volumes in the Kressel Collection to add to the material he is gathering on the role and function of the town fool in the now vanished European Jewish communities. The *Yizkor* books, prepared by *émigrés* and survivors of the Holocaust, often include photographs and memoirs of town 'characters', including its madmen. The books are invaluable sources of information about these unfortunate men and women whose lives seemed almost to picture the coming destruction and to reflect the perplexity of a world unable, in any event, to survive the pressures of modernity.

DR A. KLONER gave a lecture illustrated with slides entitled 'Underground Hiding Complexes from the Bar-Kokhba War in the Judean Shephelah' at the Institute of Jewish Studies, University College, London on 1 December 1982. In Hilary Term 1983 he delivered a paper 'The Howat Rimmon Excavations: A Synagogue and a Village in the Roman and Byzantine Periods' to the graduate seminar *Problems of Jewish History and Literature* organized by Dr G. Vermes and Dr S. P. Brock, and he spoke to the Palestine Exploration Fund and Anglo-Israel Archaeological Society on 'Rockcut Tombs in Jerusalem' at the Rooms of the Society of Antiquaries, Burlington House, London, on 1 March 1983. He lectured on 'Ancient Synagogues' at the Conference on Biblical Archaeology Today held at Cherry Hill, New Jersey, on 18 April 1983, and at Oriel College, Oxford, he gave a talk 'Recent Archaeological Discoveries in Jerusalem' to the Anglo-Israel Student Association on 8 June 1983. His study 'The Third Wall in Jerusalem and the "Cave of the Kings" (Josephus, *War*, v, 147)' will appear in two languages: in Hebrew in the book for Zev Vilnay in 1983 and in English in *Levant* in 1985. His article 'A Monument from the Second Temple Period west of the Old City of Jerusalem'

will be published in *Eretz-Israel* vol. 18 (the Avigad volume), and his paper 'Iron Age Rockcut Tombs in Jerusalem' will be printed in the *Bulletin of the Anglo-Israel Archaeological Society*, 1983. He reviewed M. J. S. Chiat's *Handbook of Synagogue Architecture* in the *Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies* vol. 46 part 3 (1983) pp. 540–42, and used his stay at Yarnton Manor to write part of his forthcoming book *Hiding Systems from the Bar-Kokhba War in the Judaeen Shephelah*.

PROFESSOR I. KOLATT has written to me directly as follows:

I spent nine days in the Centre and went through many files of the Kressel Collection. I found a lot of bibliographical information concerning the history of Zionism and the new *Yishuv*. The press cuttings are informative and suggestive. My thanks to the staff.

DR G. MANDEL continued to be the Fellow in Charge of the Kressel Library and Archive, and in Hilary Term 1983 organized and chaired the Seminar *Life and Letters in Contemporary Israel*. He edited the first three issues of *Centre News*, the newsletter of the Oxford Centre for Postgraduate Hebrew Studies, and his editorial duties also embraced the second edition of the guide *The Kressel Collection*, published in September 1983. His paper in Hebrew to the Fourth Hebrew European Scientific Conference on Hebrew Language and Culture, held at the University of Warsaw 11–14 August 1980, has been published on pages 62–5 of the conference proceedings under the title 'The revival of the language from a socio-linguistic point of view'. He delivered a paper 'Ben-Yehuda in Paris' to the meeting of the Brit Ivrit Olamit convened in Paris from 18 to 21 October 1982, and in Michaelmas Term 1982 addressed the Seminar *History and Ethnicity: Selected Cases* held at St. John's College, Oxford, on 'Modern Jewish Identity'. On 9 February 1983 he lectured to the 'Leadership Academic Programme' in London on the subject '1910 to 1920 in the History of Zionism'; this was the second lecture in a series called 'Eight Fateful Decades'. On 1 March he spoke to the Oxford Interdenominational Action Committee for the Release of Soviet Jewry about his visit to Hebrew teachers in the USSR. Dr Mandel continued to teach for the M.Phil. course in Modern Jewish Studies at Oxford University, and served on the Academic Advisory Council of the Oxford Centre for Postgraduate Hebrew Studies, to which he was elected in summer 1982.

DR C. L. MEYERS writes:

I am very happy to report on the excellent progress I have made on several projects during 1982–83, while I have been in residence at the Centre in Yarnton. I am a recipient for this year of a US Government National Endowment for the Humanities Fellow-

ship to study 'Gender Roles in Biblical Israel'. As a Visiting Fellow in Women's Studies at Queen Elizabeth House at Oxford, I have greatly advanced my research on that topic. In the fall, I revised a paper on that subject, which will appear in the *Journal of the American Academy of Religion*: 'Procreation, Production, and Protection: Male-Female Balance in Early Israel'. In addition, I have been at work on a collaborative project with Eric M. Meyers: the *Anchor Bible* volume on Haggai, Zechariah, and Malachi for Doubleday. In another joint effort, E. Meyers and I have advanced our writing of the excavation report on the *Ancient Synagogue at Gush Halav*. I have also written several reviews, for the *Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies* of the University of London and for the *Catholic Biblical Quarterly*, and have contributed a short paper to the *Bulletin of the Anglo-Israel Archaeological Society*. Finally, I have delivered several lectures and seminar papers: 'The Ark in Jewish Art' at the Jewish Studies Seminar, Oxford, October 1982; 'Visual Art and Political Realm in the Solomonic Empire' at the Old Testament Seminar, Oxford, January 1983; 'Village Life in Talmudic Times in the Galilean Highlands' at the Anglo-Israel Archaeological Society, London, January 1983 (with E. M. Meyers); 'The Social Setting of Haggai and Zechariah' at the Old Testament Seminar, University of Sheffield, February 1983; and 'Gender Roles in Earliest Israel' at the Women's Studies Seminar, Queen Elizabeth House, Oxford, March 1983.

PROFESSOR E. M. MEYERS writes:

The bulk of my work this year has been devoted to the Doubleday *Anchor Bible* Commentary on Haggai and Zechariah 1-8 with Carol L. Meyers. We have completed more or less the first volume of a two volume work that will also include Deutero-Zechariah (chapters 9-14) and Malachi. In addition, I completed a paper for the N. Avigad Festschrift in the *Eretz Israel* series: 'The Shelomith Seal and the Judean Restoration: Some Additional Considerations'. As First Vice-President for Publications of the American Schools of Oriental Research (ASOR), I have had to run an office in Durham which publishes four academic journals and several monograph series. As editor of *Biblical Archaeologist* I prepared volume 46 numbers 1-3 while at Yarnton. I also made substantial progress on the final report of the *Ancient Synagogue at Gush Halav* with my principal collaborator, Carol L. Meyers. It will be published by ASOR. During my stay at the Centre I have also been a Fellow at Wolfson College where I have partaken of a variety of academic and non-academic privileges. I have found the College affiliation to be a most rewarding aspect of a most satisfactory year. During my stay

at the Oxford Centre I read these scholarly papers: 'The Priestly Torah in Haggai 2:10–14' at the Old Testament Seminar, Oxford; 'Ancient Synagogues in Eretz Israel' at the Jewish Studies Seminar, Oxford; 'Village Life in Talmudic Times in the Galilean Highlands' at the Anglo-Israel Archaeological Society, London (with Carol L. Meyers); 'The Social Setting of Haggai and Zechariah' at the Old Testament Seminar, University of Sheffield (with Carol L. Meyers); 'Village Life in Ancient Galilee in the Light of Recent Excavations' at the University of London (Jewish Studies, Classics, Archaeology); 'Ancient Synagogues in Galilee in the Light of Recent Excavations' at the Annual General Meeting of the Palestine Exploration Fund, London; and 'Challenges in Archaeological Publication' at the ASOR Plenary Symposium, New York. I want to say also that both of us have enjoyed living at Yarnton enormously and have benefited from the opportunity of working in Oxford and the UK.

MS. D. MIDDLETON has submitted the following report:

My time at Yarnton Manor was spent working on my Ph.D. thesis for Edinburgh University. The subject of my thesis is Jewish speculative thought on creation and it focuses on *Midrash Aleph Beth* and the *Alphabet of Rabbi Akiba*. My stay at Yarnton enabled me to study some of the manuscripts at the Bodleian Library which are of great importance to my research. A Faculty of Arts Scholarship from Edinburgh University provided the financial support for my work here and also made it possible for me to carry out research at the Microfilm Institute at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem in the autumn of 1982 and June and July 1983.

DR H. NEAR, during his short time at Yarnton Manor, completed *The Kibbutz and European Jewry*, which has been accepted for publication in a collection of papers to be published by the Project for Kibbutz Studies, Harvard, towards the end of 1983. He also completed the following four papers: 'I—Thou—We: Buber, the Kibbutz, and Collective Consciousness'; 'The Kibbutz as a Movement for Social Change'; 'You Were Lucky, Jim' (Reminiscences of an Anglo-Jewish Youth); and 'Experiment and Survival: the origins of the kibbutz'. He concluded his letter to me with the following interesting comment:

For me, all this is a sign of quite unusual and amazing fecundity. In some measure, of course, it is the result of my nine months in Harvard, with the opportunities for study and intellectual stimulation which I had there; but there is no doubt that the atmosphere of Yarnton, with its very permissive framework, formed an ideal background for the actual mechanics of writing. The library

was also helpful in crystallizing the final form of some of these papers.

DR M. ROSENAK worked on a revised version, in English, of a previous Hebrew essay-paper on the options of Orthodox Jewish education in the contemporary setting. The article will be entitled 'Torah and Derech Eretz Education in our Generation'. He wrote an article on 'The Theological Significance of the State of Israel' for a volume edited by Paul Mendes-Flohr and Arthur Cohen on contemporary Jewish theology. Dr Rosenak concludes 'I found the Manor Library very useful in both areas and wish to thank you and the entire staff, especially Hannah and Avital, for their cordial assistance'.

DR S. A. SINGER worked on a kabbalistic manuscript in the Bodleian Library of the work *Tomer Devorah* (The Palm Tree of Deborah) by Moses Cordovero (1522–70). He discovered some significant variations in the text between the manuscript and the later printed editions of the work.

MR B. TAMMUZ worked on the Oxford English Hebrew Dictionary of Current Usage at the same time as continuing his literary activity. He wrote a long and detailed Introduction to a volume of Bialik's *Collected Prose*, to be published in Israel by the Ministry of Culture and Education in the 25 volume series 'Hebrew Literary Heritage'. He wrote more chapters of his next book *The Chameleon and the Nightingale*, and he started and finished a novel entitled *Jeremiah's Inn* to be published in Israel soon. His novel *Minotaur*, which was written in Hebrew entirely at Yarnton Manor, was translated into English by Kim Parfitt and Mildred Budny and published by Enigma Books in 1983. It was reviewed in *The Times* (28 April 1983) in these terms: 'To reveal more of this superbly made, beautifully written novel would be to cheat the reader of very real pleasure . . . It is an entirely admirable fiction whose translators deserve high praise for their scrupulous service to a remarkable and brilliant author'.

PROFESSOR D. VITAL has defined his research as follows:

My principal interest at present is international politics/diplomacy during the First World War with particular reference to Britain, the Near East and the Zionist movement. There are a number of important collections of private papers at the Bodleian (Asquith's, Milner's, etc.) which I have wanted to look at. My stay at Yarnton made that possible. While here I also took the opportunity to see part of the Kressel Collection, the pamphlets particularly. Many of those I saw were unknown to me and some

are likely to prove very useful. I should add that my stay at Yarnton was—as I had expected—extremely agreeable and profitable; and my wife and I are indebted to the staff for their unfailing courtesy and help.

DR J. M. WEBBER gave two *shiurim* at Leo Baeck College, London: one on the 'Death of Sarah' and one on 'Purity'—both lectures being a combination of biblical exegesis and modern anthropological commentary. He gave a series of nine lectures at the same institution on 'Modern Jewish Society', and spoke to the Oxford branch of the Council of Christians and Jews on 'Jewish Attitudes to Gentiles in the Modern World'. He gave a lecture for the Balfour Diamond Jubilee Trust, London, to an audience arranged by the Zionist Federation, with the title 'The Jewish Response to Zionism in America'. Dr Webber was elected a Fellow of the Royal Anthropological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland, and served as a consultant for the Social Science Research Council to prepare a report on current graduate research in social anthropology at universities in the UK; he was also a consultant for London Weekend Television for documentaries on Jewish subjects. He continued as senior editor of the *Journal of the Anthropological Society of Oxford (JASO)*, of which the three issues for 1982–83 came out regularly, and was general editor of the *JASO Occasional Papers Series*, of which the first volume was published during the year on African Oral Literature. His paper 'Between Law and Custom: Women's Experience of Judaism' was published in Pat Holden (ed.) *Women's Religious Experience* (London, 1983).

DR R. T. WHITE completed and saw through the press *A Bibliography of Publications 1972–1982*, listing the work pursued under the aegis of the Oxford Centre. He reviewed A. van der Heide's *The Yemenite Tradition of the Targum of Lamentations, Critical Text and Analysis of the Variant Readings* in *Journal of Jewish Studies* vol. XXXIV, no. 1 (Spring 1983) pp. 106–8, and also A. Brenner's *Colour Terms in the Old Testament* in vol. XXXIV, no. 2 (Autumn 1983) pp. 215–16; a further review will appear in a forthcoming volume. He translated into English a German study of the Dead Sea *Temple Scroll*, and used the optical character reader at the Oxford University Computing Centre to store a number of Aramaic texts with a view to making a concordance. A number of publishing houses have expressed the wish to publish his doctoral thesis on the language of the Targum to Chronicles and Dr White began the preparation for this. He delivered a paper 'The Dragon and his Witnesses in a Forgotten Liturgy' to the graduate Seminar *Problems of Jewish History and Literature*. He typeset Greek and Hebrew for the *Journal of Jewish Studies* and, with the co-operation of

Mrs Catherine Griffin, typeset a sample page for *The Oxford English-Hebrew Dictionary of Current Usage*.

DR S. J. ZIPPERSTEIN, who has completed his second year as Yad Vashem Fellow in Modern Jewish History at the Oxford Centre, was elected in Hilary Term 1983 to be the first incumbent of the Frank Green Fellowship in Modern European Jewish History. He was also elected to a Research Fellowship at Wolfson College, Oxford. Among the articles completed by Dr Zipperstein over the course of the last year are 'Haskalah, Cultural Change, and Nineteenth-Century Russian Jewry: A Reassessment' (already published in *Journal of Jewish Studies* vol. XXXIV no. 2, Autumn 1983) and '“Assimilated” Nineteenth-Century Odessa Jews in Polemical Literature' (to be published in *Moving Centres of Modern Hebrew Literature*, edited by G. Abramson and T. V. Parfitt). He has also written reviews for *The Russian Review*, *Journal of Jewish Studies*, and *Studies in Contemporary Jewry*. His book, *Society and Culture in Nineteenth-Century Jewish Odessa, 1794-1881*, completed at Yarnton Manor, will be published within the year by Stanford University Press. Dr Zipperstein is presently at work on several projects including a paper on 'Apostasy, Haskalah, and the Transformation of Joseph Rabinovich' which will be delivered at a conference devoted to the theme of 'Christian Missionaries and Jewish Apostates' sponsored by Indiana University in May 1984. He is at work on a study of Russian and Polish Jewry during World War I, and he is writing the entry on 'Ashkenazic Jewry' for the forthcoming multi-volume *Encyclopedia of Religion* (edited by Marcea Eliade). Dr Zipperstein delivered several scholarly papers this last year. He spoke at the first congress of the European Association for Jewish Studies, the Faculty Seminar on East European Jewish History of the Hebrew University, Jerusalem, at the Russian Studies Seminar of St. Antony's College, Oxford, and the School of Slavonic and East European Studies, University of London. During the summer of 1983 he was Visiting Assistant Professor of History at the University of California at Los Angeles. He has also lectured at Jewish Book Week, the Oxford University Drama Society, the Limmud Conference, and the Leo Baeck Lodge of B'nai B'rith. His teaching for the Faculty of Oriental Studies of Oxford University has included the instruction of the newly-introduced course 'The Jewish Experience in Europe, 1848-1948' and 'The Rise of Jewish Nationalism'. He served as joint co-ordinator of the *Seminar on Modern Jewish History and Society* sponsored by the Oxford Centre during Hilary Term 1983.