

# **Report of the Oxford Centre for Postgraduate Hebrew Studies**

**TWELFTH ACADEMIC  
YEAR 1983-84**



**Edited by  
RICHARD JUDD**

# **Oxford Centre for Postgraduate Hebrew Studies**

Yarnton Manor, Yarnton, Oxford OX5 1PY

45 St. Giles', Oxford OX1 3LP

*The Oxford Centre for Postgraduate Hebrew Studies is one of the  
associated centres of St. Cross College.*

## **Editorial**

The year 1983–4 has seen the continuing expansion of the Oxford Centre for Postgraduate Hebrew Studies. The number of the Centre's Fellows has increased from four to seven, with an additional three soon to be appointed, and the range of subjects covered has grown accordingly. The academic staff of the Centre and the extensive 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. Since its inception the Centre has offered facilities to over 250 scholars from 4 continents, who as a result have produced 370 publications, including 80 books.

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. 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.

As this is the last *Annual Report* to be written by the present editor, perhaps I can add a personal note. It is a source of great satisfaction to have seen the Centre develop from one room in the Oriental Institute of Oxford University into one of the world's finest institutions in Hebrew and Jewish studies. It will be a pleasure in the future to read of further developments, expansion and consolidation.

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# Academic Staff for the Year 1983 – 84

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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.

Professor S. H. Frankel, Professor Emeritus of Economics of Underdeveloped Countries, University of Oxford, and Emeritus Fellow of Nuffield College.

## *Senior Associate Fellows*

Professor J. W. Burbidge, Master, Champlain College, Trent University, Ontario.

Professor C. M. Carmichael, Cornell University.

Professor S. Davidson, F.R.C.Psych., Tel Aviv University.

Professor M. Herzog, Chairman, Department of Linguistics, Columbia University.

Professor B. S. Jackson, Liverpool Polytechnic.

Professor T. Muraoka, Department of Middle Eastern Studies, University of Melbourne.

Professor C. Rabin, the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

Professor H. Rogger, Chairman, Department of History, University of California at Los Angeles.

Professor Dr P. Schäfer, Institut für Judaistik, Free University of Berlin.

Professor M. Stern, the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

Professor E. Ullendorff, FBA, School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London.

Professor M. H. Vogel, Department of History and Literature of Religions, Northwestern University.

## *Jacob & Shoshana Schreiber Fellow*

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

## *Fellow in Jewish Studies of the Graeco-Roman Period*

Dr L. J. Archer, Junior Research Fellow, Wolfson College, Oxford.

*Barnett Shine Fellow in Yiddish Studies*

Dr D. Katz, University College, London.

*David Hyman Fellow in Modern Jewish Studies*

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

*Fellow in Jewish Social Studies*

Dr J. M. Webber, Junior Research Fellow, Linacre College, Oxford.

*Fellow in Hebrew and Aramaic Studies*

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

*Frank Green Fellow in Modern Jewish History 1848–1948*

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

*Editor of the Journal of Jewish Studies*

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

*Editor of the Jewish Law Annual*

Professor B. S. Jackson, Liverpool Polytechnic.

*Visiting Scholars*

Mr Y. Bronowski, *Haaretz*, Tel Aviv.

Professor S. Davidson, F.R.C.Psych., Tel Aviv University; Medical Director,  
Shalvata Mental Health Centre, Hod Hasharon, Israel.

Professor M. Herzog, Chairman, Department of Linguistics, Columbia  
University.

Dr S. Kamin, the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

Professor E. D. Shapiro, Joseph Solomon Distinguished Professor of Law,  
New York Law School.

Professor E. Spicehandler, Hebrew Union College, Cincinnati.

*Visiting Lecturers*

Dr L. Jacobs, Leo Baeck College, London.

Dr L. Kochan, F.R.Hist.Soc., Bearsted Reader in Jewish History, University  
of Warwick.

Dr T. V. Parfitt, School of Oriental and African Studies, University of  
London.

Dr T. Rajak, University of Reading.

### *Summer Visiting Scholars*

Dr D. Boyarin, Ben Gurion University of the Negev.

Dr M. Cohen, Department of Political Science, Baruch College of the City University of New York.

Mr G. Kressel, Holon, Israel.

Dr S. Nash, Hebrew Union College — Jewish Institute of Religion, New York.

Dr Y. Salmon, Ben Gurion University of the Negev.

Mr & Mrs A. Sened, Kibbutz Revivim, Israel.

Professor B. Wasserstein, Brandeis University.

### *Visiting Scholars for shorter periods*

Dr D. Aberbach, Linacre College, Oxford.

Mr A. M. Al-Dausari, Department of Near Eastern Studies, University of Manchester.

Dr H. Ben-Shammai, the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

Mr M. Broshi, Keeper of the Shrine of the Book, Israel Museum, Jerusalem.

Mr D. De Vries, Tel Aviv University.

Mr & Mrs S. Du-nour, The David Yellin Teachers' Seminary, Jerusalem.

Professor H. Fisch, Bar Ilan University.

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Professor A. Huss, the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

Rabbi S. Karff, Department of Religious Studies, Rice University.

Mr J. Z. Lurie, formerly of *Hadassah* magazine, New York.

Professor T. Muraoka, Department of Middle Eastern Studies, University of Melbourne.

Dr B. A. Parker, Department of Semitic Studies, University of Sydney.

Professor M. Pelli, Yeshiva University, New York.

Professor M. Schwarz, Tel Aviv University.

Professor M. H. Vogel, Department of History and Literature of Religions, Northwestern University.

### *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.

### *Archivist*

Ms H. Safran, London School of Economics.

*Assistant Librarian/Archivist*

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

*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.

*Photographic Consultant*

Mr C. W. Band, University of Oxford.

*Associate Scholar*

Dr E. Lieber, Green College, Oxford.

*Bursary Holder*

Mr E. Shaltiel, Wolfson College, Oxford.

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 seventh year as Accounts Officer. The admirable contribution of the Steward and Housekeeper 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 reception and presentation for Mr & Mrs Roberts, held at Yarnton Manor to celebrate their ten years of work there, is described later in this *Report*.

# PROGRESS REPORT OF PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN BY THE CENTRE FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 1983 –84

1. *The Library.* Within the constraints of a shortage of shelving space, the library 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 over 100 books on loan on occasions. Mr Kressel, the founder of the collection, spent the summer of 1984 inspecting the progress made and was very satisfied, although anxious about the lack of shelving for expansion.

It was announced at a meeting of the Library Committee on 20 November 1983 that an anonymous benefactor, who had been impressed by the collection, had offered to meet the architect's fees for designing an extension to the library. This offer was gratefully accepted and an architect spent a weekend at Yarnton Manor working with the Librarian and drawing up plans. It cannot be stressed too strongly that the need for extra space is urgent, the more so since Mr Kressel has expressed the desire to ship over several thousand more volumes as soon as possible.

Dr D. Sala has kindly donated a computer to the library and it is hoped to transfer the catalogue, which is at present maintained on cards, to this method. The first steps have been taken to design a programme for this work, which will have to take cognizance of the fact that the library contains books in at least 7 languages and 3 alphabets.

Dr Mandel, Mr Judd and Ms Safran attended the third meeting of the *Hebraica Libraries' Group* at the Bodleian Library, Oxford, on 21 March 1984. Mr Judd sent details of the library, following a request, to the *APTAPL Handbook of Libraries*.

Space problems have meant, of course, that we have had to be very careful about accepting donations of books. However, we did accept with gratitude volumes offered by the Commemoration Committee for Cracow (through Mr S. Leser, Chairman), Professor S. Davidson, the Department of Musicology of Tel Aviv University, Dr S. Huppert, Mr B. Jaffe, Professor M. L. Klein, Mrs D. Parkes, Dr A. Paucker, Dr E. Yapou (enabling us to complete our set of the literary journal *Ammot*) and Mr L. Yudkin.

2. *The Archive.* Ms H. Safran writes:

The microfilming project, with which we have been almost entirely

occupied since last January, is now in full swing. We have overcome the problems which accompanied the initial stages of the project. One major problem was that the reels had a tendency to come out too dark, or on other occasions the light was not even throughout the reel. Correcting mistakes on the reel created another difficulty. On occasion newspaper cuttings are filmed the wrong way round, or some are missed altogether, which requires removing the defective parts from the reels, re-filming the necessary cuttings, and inserting them in the correct place. Both these problems, and others, have now reached a satisfactory solution with the assistance of Micromedia which is carrying out the filming.

The microfilming is proceeding smoothly now, and we have completed 31 reels, which make up about one third of the estimated total. We expect we need about one more year to complete the project.

Last April we were visited by Miss A. D. Crews, of the British Library Board, and Dr D. Goldstein, who is in charge of the Hebrew books and manuscripts in the British Library. They conveyed their full satisfaction at the progress made and their appreciation of the enormous effort we have put into this project.

The microfilming project notwithstanding, we have maintained the regular service for readers and visitors. As in previous years, we have welcomed a great number of visitors who were impressed by the uniqueness of the collection. Among various scholars who consulted the material in the Archive was Dr Y. Salmon from Ben Gurion University, a regular reader, who spent a great deal of time looking at the files on Smolenskin and his contemporaries. Dr S. Nash worked intensively examining the material on two Hebrew writers, wishing he could spend the whole year in the Archive. Professor M. Pelli was interested in 18th and 19th century Hebrew writers and journalists. Before his departure, he was kind enough to write to the archivists that he was most impressed by the 'efficiency, by the order in the Archive, and by the availability of materials. The services at the Archive are much better, and more modern, than in many an archive'.

### 3. *The Oxford English-Hebrew Dictionary of Current Usage.*

Mr N. S. Doniach, OBE, writes:

Some two months before the return to Israel of the two Israeli writers Benjamin Tammuz and Joshua Kenaz, Yoram Bronowski, literary critic of the Israeli newspaper *Haaretz* joined our editorial team. Bronowski, who has had considerable experience as a translator, has been an invaluable helper in the revision of the draft translation of our English text into live Hebrew not least because of his awareness of current usage in Israel today.

In the present and final revision of the draft Hebrew text which

Bronowski shares with me we have been continually aware of the needs of the users of the dictionary and have constantly had to remember that current usage is never static. As Samuel Johnson wrote in 1755 'No Dictionary of a living tongue can ever be perfect, since while it is hastened to publication, some words are budding, and some falling away.'

In assembling a bilingual dictionary we have had to bear in mind that since language describes a user's reaction to his environment English and Israeli backgrounds are also different. It follows that nuances of usage rarely have precise equivalents in the target language. Words which denote the same objects or concepts will also have different connotations in Hebrew and English. Moreover it not infrequently happens that the Academy of the Hebrew Language has failed to oust many loan words still generally used in the sciences.

The editor has continued to supervise the typing of the English text and checked the entry for the internationally accepted phonetic symbols which provide the Hebrew speaking user with a guide to the current pronunciation of the English headwords. We are now working on the letter M which means that we have reached the half-way mark in the final version of our copy.

4. The *Journal of Jewish Studies*, edited by Dr Geza Vermes and published by the Oxford Centre, continues to appear regularly. Volume XXXV (1984) is now complete. It includes 15 articles (ranging from Merkavah Mysticism to Ernest Renan) together with the usual amount of book reviews, short notices and bibliographical surveys.

5. *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 classes have been given, to large numbers of students, by Mrs Nili Bareli.

6. *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 1983 Mr Michael Falter spoke on his role as the publisher of the facsimile edition of the famous Kennicott Bible. Mr Donald B. Williams, the Chairman of an industrial tribunal, spoke on 'Judaism and Labour Law'. Professor Shamaï Davidson entitled his lecture 'The Psycho-Social Trauma of the Holocaust in the life-cycle of the survivors and their children'.

In Hilary Term 1984 Dr Martin Goodman delivered a learned paper 'The Origins of the Jewish Revolution against Rome'. Dr David Naveh spoke on the Camp David Agreement and Dr Alexander Knapp gave a talk, with tape-recorded reconstructions, on 'Jewish Music in the First Century'. Mr John Ray travelled from Cambridge to give a stimulating paper on the subject 'The Jews in Ancient Egypt' and Dr Chava Turniansky closed the series with a lecture entitled 'Old Yiddish Bible Traditions'.

In Trinity Term Professor Ezra Spicehandler gave a lecture with the title 'The Persecution of the Jews in Iran in the Seventeenth Century as a Model of Jewish Reaction to Crisis'. Professor Mikhl Herzog concluded the series with a fascinating description of his work compiling the atlas of Yiddish dialectology.

7. 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, literary critics and one cartoonist. 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 12 October 1983 Dr David Aberbach read a paper entitled 'Irresponsibility and Disaster in the Fiction of A. B. Yehoshua', and on 9 November Dr Glenda Abramson, Jacob and Shoshana Schreiber Fellow at the Centre, lectured on 'The Politicization of Drama in Israel'. On 23 November Mr Yoram Bronowski, the respected literary critic of the newspaper *Haaretz*, addressed a particularly distinguished audience on the subject 'Some Aspects of the Impact of Gershom Scholem's Thought on Israeli Intellectual Life'. In Hilary Term both speakers were attached to St. Antony's College, Oxford. Mr Ilan Pappé entitled his paper on 25 January 1984 'The Arabs in Israel. Patterns of Political Behaviour, 1948-1977' and on 8 February Mr Ignacio Klich delivered a paper under the title 'Israeli-Latin American Relations since the Nineteen-Seventies'.

8. The *Hebrew Literature Project*. The Oxford Centre is to be involved in a global project to encourage the teaching of modern Hebrew literature, both in the original and in translation. The project is part of a programme being carried out by the Jerusalem-based International Center for University Teaching of Jewish Civilization, which operates under the aegis of the President of Israel, Mr Chaim Herzog. Following a meeting between Professor Moshe Davis, the Academic Chairman of the International Center, and Dr David Patterson, the President of the Oxford Centre, it was announced that Dr Patterson will be Director of the Project and Dr Glenda Abramson, the Jacob and Shoshana Schreiber Fellow in Modern Jewish Studies at the Centre, will be its Co-ordinator.

The major thrust of the project is to investigate and encourage the teaching of modern Hebrew literature both in the original and in translation at university level in the English-speaking world.

9. 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 FBA, University Lecturer in Aramaic and Syriac, who also serves on the Centre's Academic Advisory Committee.

In Michaelmas Term 1983 Dr P. S. Alexander spoke on 'The Targum as translation' and Dr Brock himself entitled his paper 'On editing the Peshitta of Isaiah'. The titles of the other papers were 'Josephus' portrait of Jesus reconsidered' by Dr Vermes; 'Jewish communities in a pagan world: conflict or integration?' by Dr T. Rajak; 'Women and death in Graeco-Roman Palestine' by Dr L. Archer; and 'Chronicles as a transition stage between biblical and postbiblical Judaism' by Dr S. Japhet.

In Hilary Term 1984 Dr Brock opened the series with a paper 'Early Syriac homilies on Genesis 22' and the titles of the other papers were 'Aristocratic politics in Judaea (A.D. 60–70)' by Dr M. Goodman; 'The Talmudic argument' by Rabbi Dr L. Jacobs; 'Talmudic Hermeneutics' by Dr P. S. Alexander; 'R. Shmuel ben Meir ("Rashbam") – the portrait of an exegete' by Dr S. Japhet; 'Rashi on the Song of Songs against the background of Christian Bible exegesis' by Dr S. Kamin; and finally Dr Vermes himself on 'The new Old Testament Pseudepigrapha'.

On 6 March 1984 Professor J. H. Charlesworth conducted an additional seminar with the title 'The Pseudepigrapha, Early Judaism, and Christian Origins'.

10. *Four New Fellowships at the Oxford Centre*. Four major Fellowships in

Jewish Studies were established at the Oxford Centre during the last academic year.

Dr Dovid Katz, who previously held a two-year Fellowship in Yiddish, has been appointed to a Fellowship named in honour of Mr Barnett Shine, of London, to mark the occasion of the latter's eightieth birthday. This is the first full-time university-level appointment in Yiddish in the United Kingdom. Dr Katz has, among other things, been responsible for running the highly successful *Oxford Summer Programmes in Yiddish*.

Dr Léonie Archer, previously a Junior Fellow of the Centre, has been awarded a five-year Fellowship commencing on 1 April 1984 in Jewish Studies in the Second Temple Period. Dr Archer is researching the social and legal position of women in Jewish society in inter-testamental and mishnaic times. She has also been appointed to a Junior Research Fellowship, from 1 October 1984, at Wolfson College, Oxford.

Dr Jonathan Webber, who was hitherto the Israel Brodie Memorial Junior Fellow at the Oxford Centre, has been appointed the Fellow in Jewish Social Studies at the Centre. He has simultaneously been appointed to a Junior Research Fellowship at Linacre College, Oxford.

Dr Richard White, of Queen's College, Oxford, who was Research Assistant at the Oxford Centre until last year, has been appointed to a Fellowship in Hebrew and Aramaic Studies.

These appointments bring the total number of Fellows of the Oxford Centre to seven. As well as their academic research, all the Fellows carry out teaching duties, both within the University and outside it.

11. *Sponsorship of International Conferences.* Previous issues of this *Annual Report* have stressed the Oxford Centre's commitment to the sponsoring of international conferences over an imaginative range of subjects. Topics featured in the past have included Jewish Art, Jewish Law, Yiddish Language and Literature (twice) and Modern Hebrew Literature. This year the Oxford Centre was the co-sponsor, together with other distinguished bodies, of three important international conferences, while its Faculty played a leading role in two others.

12. The Oxford Centre and the Institute of Jewish Studies at University College, London, co-sponsored a conference on 'The Changing Character of Jewish Authority in the Modern Age' which took place in the Darwin Theatre at London University on 18–19 July 1984. The conference organizers were Dr Mark Geller of University College, London, and Dr Steve Zipperstein, Frank Green Fellow at the Oxford Centre. The opening address was delivered by Lord Mishcon, DL, and among the main speakers were Professor Chimen Abramsky, Dr Lionel Kochan and Mr Bill Williams. A number of younger scholars gave papers, among them Dr

Joel J. Cahen of the Jewish Historical Museum of Amsterdam. The papers focussed on the theme from a social, political and cultural perspective. Among the topics discussed were the transformation of the modern rabbinate, the impact of secularization on the traditional Jewish oligarchy, social conflict in European Jewish society, and the influence of Zionism on the reshaping of Jewish political authority. A reception for speakers at Yarnton Manor on the evening of 19 July was followed by a spirited discussion led by Mr David Feldman of Churchill College, Cambridge. The Oxford Centre has been invited to co-sponsor another conference together with the Institute of Jewish Studies in June 1985 on 'Jewish Community and Assimilation in Nineteenth-Century Europe' and several scholars from Israel, the United States and the Continent have already been invited to participate. The conference organizers will be Professor Jonathan Frankel of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Dr Mark Geller of University College, London, and Dr Steve Zipperstein, Frank Green Fellow at the Oxford Centre for Postgraduate Hebrew Studies.

13. The European Association for Jewish Studies held its Second Congress at Hertford College, Oxford, on 22–26 July 1984. A sizeable contribution to the success of this Congress was made by scholars who are, or have been, connected with the Oxford Centre. Furthermore the President of the Association, Dr Geza Vermes, has served as a Governor of the Oxford Centre since its foundation.

Among the papers given by scholars connected with the Centre may be mentioned the following. Dr Robert Hayward, who spoke on 'Prophets and Scribes in the Targum of Jeremiah', was a Junior Fellow of the Centre from 1975–7, and now lectures at Durham University; Dr Gabrielle Sed-Rajna, who gave a Plenary Address 'Methodology in the Study of Jewish Art', was a Visiting Scholar at the Centre in 1980; Drs Léonie Archer and Richard White, as mentioned above, are Fellows of the Oxford Centre; Dr Tessa Rajak, who spoke on 'Jews in the Public Life of the Greek *Polis*' is a Visiting Lecturer at the Centre; Dr Martin Goodman was a Junior Fellow of the Oxford Centre from 1976–7, and now lectures at Birmingham University; Dr Steve Zipperstein, who spoke on 'Haskalah, Heresy and Apostasy in 19th Century Russia' is the Centre's Frank Green Fellow in the Jewish Experience in Europe, 1848–1948; finally, Dr Lionel Kochan, who delivered the concluding Plenary Address on 'Methodology in the Study of Modern Jewish History', has been a Visiting Lecturer at the Oxford Centre for many years.

14. Immediately following the Congress described in the preceding paragraph, Hertford College was the venue for another important

Conference. This was the Annual Conference of the British Association for Jewish Studies, which took place from 26–27 July 1984 with the general theme *The Great Leap Forward: Modern Hebrew Literature 1890–1914*. The programme of the Conference illustrates with exceptional clarity the leading position that the Oxford Centre occupies in the field of Hebrew studies in Britain. All of the four speakers at the Conference have connections with the Centre, and by coincidence the President of the British Association for Jewish Studies for 1984 was Dr David Patterson, the Founder-President of the Centre.

For his Presidential Address, Dr Patterson chose to speak on 'Formative Works of Lasting Significance – The Role of Joseph Hayyim Brenner'. The second paper, 'Loss and Separation in Mendele, Bialik and Agnon', was delivered by Dr David Aberbach, who was until last year the Dr Israel Feldman Memorial Junior Fellow at the Oxford Centre.

On 27 July Dr Glenda Abramson lectured on 'The Use of Imagination in the Poetry of Bialik and Tschernichowsky' and Dr Jonathan Webber gave a paper entitled 'The Concept of Language Revival: The Case of Modern Hebrew'. Both the speakers are Fellows of the Oxford Centre.

15. The Oxford Centre has long been committed to fostering the academic study of Jewish Law. From 1978, when the first volume appeared, *The Jewish Law Annual* has appeared in connection with the Centre. It is now published by E. J. Brill and the Boston University School of Law in association with the Oxford Centre and the International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists. The Jewish Law Association, an international association of scholars, holds regular international conferences of which previous ones took place in Jerusalem in 1980 and New York in 1982. In conjunction with the Oxford Centre for Postgraduate Hebrew Studies the Jewish Law Association held its Third International Conference in Oxford from 29 July to 1 August 1984.

Papers at the conference included such topics as artificial heart implantation, self-help and violence, ethical standards for public officials and Jewish rights in medieval Yemen. Participants came from many countries, with a dynamic contingent from Italy. On 31 July the Oxford Centre hosted a reception for the participants at Yarnton Manor, after which Professor Bernard S. Jackson delivered a major paper entitled 'A Semiotic Approach to Biblical Law'. As many of the participants expressed a desire to see the Centre's Kressel Library and Archive, they were given an introduction and tour by the Centre's Librarian, Mr Richard Judd.

The programme for the conference was drawn up by Professor Jackson, of Liverpool Polytechnic, and the administration handled by Jean Nightingale, the Administrative Secretary of the Oxford Centre for Postgraduate Hebrew Studies. It was decided at the conference to elect a

new Chairman of the Jewish Law Association, Professor S. M. Passamaneck, and a new Executive Committee.

16. One of the most important international conferences ever held on the subject of Polish-Jewish Relations in Modern History took place at Somerville College, Oxford, from 17–21 September 1984, when more than 100 Jewish and non-Jewish scholars examined the subject in minute detail. Pope John Paul II and the Chief Rabbi, Sir Immanuel Jakobovits, sent messages to the organizers and participants wishing them success.

The conference was sponsored by the Oxford Centre for Postgraduate Hebrew Studies, All Souls College, Oxford, the School of Slavonic and East European Studies, London University, the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, the Diaspora Research Unit, Tel Aviv University, The Russian and East European Studies Council, Yale University and the Institute of Jewish Affairs, London.

The opening addresses were delivered by Dr Antony Polonsky of the London School of Economics, the Chairman of the Organizing Committee; Dr Stephen J. Roth, Director of the Institute of Jewish Affairs; and Professor Jozef Gierowski, Rector of the Jagiellonian University, the oldest university in Central Eastern Europe. A message was read out from Sir Patrick Neill, QC, Warden of All Souls College and Vice-Chancellor-elect of Oxford University.

The papers by the distinguished speakers were divided into seven subject areas. These were *The Historical Context up to 1795*; *The Partitions 1795–1918* (chaired incidentally by a Fellow of the Oxford Centre, Dr Zipperstein); *The Interwar Period*; *Literature* (chaired by Professor Czeslaw Milosz, laureate of the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1980); *The Second World War*; *The Postwar Period*; and finally *Ethnology*.

Immediately after the section on *Ethnology* the Oxford Centre for Postgraduate Hebrew Studies hosted a reception for the participants at its elegant Yarnton Manor estate. Professor Milosz gave a lecture, before a capacity audience in the Long Gallery, entitled 'Personal Perspectives'. This included readings in both Polish and English. (It is an interesting coincidence that the other Nobel prize winner who has lectured under the Centre's auspices, Isaac Bashevis Singer, was also Polish-born and has written mainly on life in Poland.)

Dr David Patterson, President of the Oxford Centre, and Dr Steve Zipperstein, the Centre's Frank Green Fellow in the Jewish Experience in Europe, served as members of a distinguished organizing committee for the planning of the conference. The Chairman of the organizing committee was Dr Antony Polonsky of the London School of Economics and the Secretary was Mr Maciej Jachimczyk of Campion Hall, Oxford. Among the participants, to single out only two, were Dr Jerzy Turowicz,

editor of *Tygodnik Powszechny*, the only independent Catholic magazine in the Communist bloc. It was founded in February 1944 when the Russians were still on the streets of Cracow and was the paper which first published articles by a young priest named Karol Wojtyla in the 1950s. Professor Wladyslaw Bartoszewski, of the Catholic University of Lublin, was one of the founders of the Zegota Relief Council for Jews in Poland, 1942–45, the only such organization in Nazi-occupied Europe; he was awarded the Yad Vashem Medal for his work.

It seems not unimportant to quote the brief statement issued in advance by the organizers. 'The organizers are aware that this is not the first attempt at such a conference. But it appears that such conferences were in the past often marred either by a one-sided "confrontational approach" or by steering clear of topics which were deemed to be too sensitive. The Organizing Committee will endeavour to overcome difficulties of that nature and will aim to secure a format which will not only stimulate a creative, academic debate, but will also inspire further research in both the methodology and content of the subject.'

So outstandingly successful was this conference that an international editorial board has been formed to sponsor a journal devoted to the study of Polish-Jewish relations. It will be called *Polish Jewish Studies: An Interdisciplinary Journal*, and it has been decided that Dr Polonsky will serve as Editor, Dr Zipperstein as Associate Editor and Mr Jachimczyk as Managing Editor.

17. The Oxford Centre actively encourages imaginative developments in the cross-fertilization of ideas. An opportunity arose in the Academic Year 1983–4 with the presence as a Visiting Scholar at Yarnton Manor of Professor Shamai Davidson. Professor Davidson is a clinical psychologist and Medical Director of the Shalvata Mental Health Centre in Israel; his experience has been with the traumas of Holocaust survivors in Israel. Together with two of the permanent Fellows of the Oxford Centre, Dr Abramson and Dr Zipperstein, he organized, in Hilary Term 1984, a Seminar on *Interdisciplinary Approaches to the Holocaust*. This was named 'The Bernard Schwartz Holocaust Memorial Seminar' in honour of Mr Bernard Schwartz of New York.

Professor Davidson himself opened the series with a paper on 'Socio-Psychological Perspectives'. At the second seminar, on 'Jewish Behaviour and Response', he spoke jointly with Rabbi Dr Albert Friedlander of Leo Baeck College, London. The third seminar, on 'Literary Responses', was conducted by Mr Yoram Bronowski, the distinguished literary critic of the Israeli newspaper *Haaretz*, together with Professor Ezra Spicandler of Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, Cincinnati. A leading Israeli author closed the series in Hilary Term with

a paper on 'Literary Responses'; Mr Aharon Appelfeld is the author, among other books, of *Badenheim 1939*, the English translation of which was published in 1981.

By common consent the series, which consistently drew capacity audiences, was a remarkable and memorable one. It was accordingly decided that the Seminar would be continued in Trinity Term, again with the title *Interdisciplinary Approaches to the Holocaust*. Professor Davidson conducted two seminars on the subjects 'Societal Responses in Israel' and 'Responses of the "Second Generation"'. The final paper, entitled 'On Speaking about the Holocaust or Holocausts', was given by Mr Alan Montefiore, Herbert Samuel Fellow, Jowett Lecturer and Tutor in Philosophy at Balliol College, Oxford.

18. On 15 October 1983 the Centre was host at Yarnton Manor to the Chiltern Heraldry Society, who had expressed a desire to hold a meeting and lecture there. The Centre welcomes the use of the manor house by groups who appreciate its architectural interest, and the visit of the Heraldry Society is to become an annual event.

Later the same day, a group of architectural historians and experts in furniture visited Yarnton Manor. They were given a tour of the manor house and the Centre's Library by Mr Richard Judd, the Librarian, and in particular expressed high regard for the conversion of the barn into a library. The visit took place at the suggestion of Mr Derek Day, ALA, Librarian of the Social Studies Faculty Centre in Oxford University.

19. The Oxford Centre was pleased to welcome Dr and Mrs Davide Sala to lunch and a tour of Yarnton Manor on 16 October 1983. Dr Sala is an expert on computers and a prominent member of the Sephardi community in London. He was able to meet several of the Centre's Governors, including the Rt. Hon. Lord Blake, and was shown the Kressel Library by the Librarian, Mr Judd, and the Kressel Archive by Ms Hannah Safran, the Archivist. As has been mentioned above, Dr Sala has kindly donated a computer for use in the Centre's Library and Archive (The Kressel Collection), and the Governors are grateful for this generous act. Among the other guests at the lunch were Professor and Mrs E. Donald Shapiro, of New York, and Mr Jay Grimm, also of New York.

20. On 6 November 1983 a lunch party was held at Yarnton Manor at which the Centre's distinguished guests included Sir Zelman and Lady Cowen, Sir Jack and Lady Lyons, Mr and Mrs Victor Hochhauser, Mr and Mrs Jonathan Lyons, Mr and Mrs Jacob Schreiber and Mr and Mrs Hyam Morrison. Those of the guests who had not previously seen it were given a tour of the Kressel Library by Mr Judd, the Librarian.

21. The fact that the following day a social evening was held at Yarnton Manor for the Oxford branch of the *Council of Christians and Jews* symbolizes the close rapport between the Oxford Centre and this group. In each of the three terms of the past academic year the *Council* has held its seminars on alternate Wednesdays in the Centre's teaching rooms at 45 St. Giles', and the Centre is happy to make its premises available to such a worthwhile group. The Annual General Meeting of the Oxford branch of the *Council* was also held on the Centre's premises, this time at Yarnton Manor, on 26 June 1984. This was followed by a social attended by about 35 people, including two of the Centre's Founder Governors, Dr David Patterson and Dr Geza Vermes. At the conclusion of the evening Dr Vermes, on behalf of the *Council of Christians and Jews*, thanked the Oxford Centre for its consistent encouragement and hospitality.

22. On 13 November 1983 22 visitors, who had been studying under the auspices of the Spiro Institute, and led by Mrs Chana Finklestone, came to Yarnton Manor for a lecture and dinner. They were welcomed by Dr George Mandel, David Hyman Fellow of the Centre, who gave them an introduction and tour of the Kressel Library and Archive. After supper Dr Steve Zipperstein, Frank Green Fellow in the Jewish Experience in Europe 1848–1948, delivered a lecture to them with the title 'The Post-Holocaust Jewish World, 1945–47'.

23. A reception was held at Yarnton Manor on 27 November 1983 to mark the eightieth birthday of Emeritus Professor S. Herbert Frankel, who is Chairman of the Centre's Board of Governors and has been a supporter of the Centre since its inception. It was attended by the Governors and staff of the Centre as well as many of Professor Frankel's friends from Oxford. Sir Zelman Cowen, Provost of Oriel College, recalled his friendship of long standing with Professor Frankel. On behalf of the Vice-Chairman of the Board, Mr Alan Jones, who was prevented from speaking by an indisposition, Professor Cecil Grayson, FBA, praised Professor Frankel's deep commitment to the Oxford Centre. The Centre's President, Dr David Patterson, described Professor Frankel as 'a tower of strength', and announced that the Centre had elected him to an Honorary Fellowship. This is only the third Honorary Fellowship that the Centre has bestowed; the other honorands are Professor Salo Baron and Professor David Daube. As well as a scroll announcing the Fellowship, Dr Patterson presented Professor Frankel 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. In a vote of thanks, Professor Frankel made the point that his years as Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Oxford Centre for Postgraduate Hebrew Studies had been the happiest of his life.

24. Dr Michael Bar-Zohar, MK, a member of the Defence and Foreign Affairs Committee of the Knesset, was invited to Britain for two weeks by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. He expressed the wish to visit the Oxford Centre, and a visit was arranged through the agency of the Central Office of Information. He was driven to Yarnton Manor on 30 November 1983, where Dr Patterson and Mr Judd spoke to him about the work of the Centre and showed him the Kressel Library. Ms Hannah Safran, the Archivist, showed him the Kressel Archive. As Dr Bar-Zohar has been both a journalist and a Lecturer in Political Science, as well as being the author of the standard biography of David Ben-Gurion, he was deeply impressed by the quality of the Kressel Collection as a research tool.

25. On 11 January 1984 a reception was held in Yarnton Manor to mark the publication of Mr Benjamin Jaffe's book *Deyoknah shel Eretz Yisrael 1840-1914* (A Portrait of Eretz Israel 1840-1914). This work, which is published by Dvir & Carta, contains more than sixty photographs and line-drawings, as well as several maps. Much of it was written while its author was a Visiting Scholar at the Centre in 1979-80. Mr Jaffe has since done sterling work for the Centre as the Vice-Chairman of the *Israel Friends of the Oxford Centre*, and the editor wishes him a speedy return to good health.

26. In the past Yarnton Manor has been found an ideal setting for poetry readings, and this tradition was continued on 13 February 1984. T. Carmi, the well known Hebrew poet and editor of the widely acclaimed *Penguin Book of Hebrew Verse*, read from his new book of poems *At the Stone of Losses*. Carmi's verse was translated from the Hebrew by Grace Schulman. The poetry reading attracted a large audience and was much discussed. Reviewing the book in *The Times Literary Supplement* of 31 August 1984 Jon Silkin wrote that some of the poems 'show Carmi's ability to capture physical phenomena with the fugitive purity of child-like apprehension'.

27. Mr Abba Eban, MK, the former Foreign Minister of Israel, visited Yarnton Manor on 26 February 1984 and delivered a lecture to a large and distinguished audience in the Long Gallery. The occasion marked the publication of Mr Eban's book *The New Diplomacy. International Affairs in the Modern Age*. Mr Eban entitled his lecture 'The New Diplomacy' and discussed the main themes of the book, at the same time enlivening his account with fascinating personal recollections from his own career. Mr Simon Reiss acted as host on behalf of the Balfour Diamond Jubilee Trust, which arranged the lecture.

Mr Eban's talk was preceded by a brunch, before which Mr Michael Falter gave a short illustrated lecture about his project, described elsewhere in this *Report*, to publish a facsimile edition of the famous manuscript Hebrew Bible, MS Kennicott 1 of the Bodleian Library.

28. The World Council of Synagogues and the M'Sorati Association organized a four-day conference on the subject 'Conservative Judaism in a New Era of Jewish History'. On 28 March 1984 their programme embraced a visit to the Oxford Centre for Postgraduate Hebrew Studies at Yarnton Manor. Some thirty delegates came, led by Mrs Judy Trotter of London. Ms Sally Arkley welcomed them on behalf of the Centre, and Dr George Mandel gave them an introductory talk about the Kressel Library and Archive; this was followed by tours of the Library and Archive given by Mr Judd and Ms Safran. Mr Michael Falter then delivered an illustrated talk on his project of publishing an exact replica of MS Kennicott 1 of the Bodleian Library. The delegates had lunch in the dining-room of Yarnton Manor, during which they were addressed by Dr David Patterson, the President of the Oxford Centre. Among the distinguished guests it was a pleasure to welcome was Professor Alexander Scheiber, Principal of the Jewish Theological Seminary of Budapest.

29. *The Eleventh Sacks Lecture*. At Yarnton Manor on 24 May 1984 Professor E. Donald Shapiro, the Joseph Solomon Distinguished Professor of Law at the New York Law School, delivered the *Eleventh Sacks Lecture* before an audience of 100 invited guests. He chose for his title 'The Jewish View of Birth and Death'. Dr David Patterson, President of the Oxford Centre, proposed a vote of thanks, and then called upon Dr Samuel Sacks to speak. Dr Sacks, together with his late wife Dr Elsie Sacks, founded the lecture series in 1972 in celebration of their fiftieth wedding anniversary. Dr Sacks expressed his pleasure at the dynamic growth of the Oxford Centre since those early days. The *Lecture* was followed by a buffet supper, after which Mr Richard Judd, the Centre's Librarian, opened up the Kressel Library for some guests who had asked to see it, among them incidentally some fellow librarians in related fields.

Before the *Lecture* Mr Michael Falter spoke briefly about his project to produce a facsimile of the Kennicott Bible.

30. *The Oxford Centre and St. Cross College*. The Oxford Centre is one of the Associated Centres of St. Cross College, Oxford, and enjoys a close relationship with it. On 7 June 1984 the Fellows and Academic Staff of the Centre attended the *St. Cross College Lecture* in the Ruskin Lecture Room of the Ashmolean Museum. The speaker was Dr Samuel J. LeFrak,

Chairman of the Board of the Lefrak Organization in the USA. Dr Godfrey Stafford, CBE, FRS, Master of St. Cross College, was in the chair. Speaking to a capacity audience of over 100, Dr LeFrak divided his lecture into three parts: an illustrated talk about the three cities he has built, emphasizing urban renewal of derelict sites; a formal lecture emphasizing self-sufficiency for middle-income groups; and questions and answers. The general title of the lecture was 'The Challenge of the 21st Century in a Changing World', a challenge which Dr LeFrak stressed should 'be met and solved by bold thinking and independent action'. The *Lecture* has been published.

The previous day Dr LeFrak had been the guest of honour at a reception and luncheon at the Centre's premises at Yarnton Manor, at which he was able to meet the Centre's Fellows and the staff of the Kressel Library and Archive.

31. *Recital at Yarnton Manor.* The Chilingirian String Quartet gave a recital in the Long Gallery at Yarnton Manor on Sunday 17 June 1984, under the auspices of the Centre. Since its formation in 1971, the Chilingirian String Quartet has become one of the most active string quartets on the international scene. While in Britain, the Quartet is associated with the Gardner Centre for the Arts at the University of Sussex where they coach chamber-ensembles and give lecture demonstrations. Their recital at Yarnton Manor, at which they played Mozart's String Quartets numbers K499, K589 and K590, was universally agreed to have been outstanding. Over 100 guests were present, and before the recital Ms Hannah Safran, the Centre's Archivist, gave tours of the Kressel Library and Archive. The day concluded with a buffet supper. The Centre is grateful to Mr David Hyman and Mrs Jennifer Wingate who were, as in previous years, the organizers of the concert, ably assisted by Mrs Vivienne Chatterjee.

32. On 25 June 1984 a surprise party was thrown at Yarnton Manor in honour of Mr & Mrs J. C. Roberts, to celebrate the fact that they started work at the Manor ten years ago to the day. Their contribution to the Oxford Centre has been invaluable and inimitable. Literally hundreds of scholars have benefited from their attention, and in return they themselves have been profiled in the Israeli press.

The party, which was the brainchild of Mrs José Patterson, was kept secret from the Roberts's by a ruse; they were invited to a tea party by Dr Dovid Katz and Ms Evi Versieux while the preparations were being made at the Manor itself. Professor S. Herbert Frankel, the Chairman of the Centre's Board of Governors, presented them with a silver tray and a cheque. The tray was engraved with a dedication from the Oxford Centre

for Postgraduate Hebrew Studies. Mrs Patterson and Dr David Patterson also spoke. The reception was attended by over fifty people, including all the residents and staff of Yarnton Manor and many of the Centre's Fellows.

33. *Memorial Meeting for Professor Uriel Tal.* Some fifty of his fellow scholars attended a Memorial Meeting for the late Professor Uriel Tal at Yarnton Manor on Sunday 1 July 1984.

Professor Tal, who occupied the Jacob M. and Shoshana Schreiber Chair of Contemporary Jewish History at Tel Aviv University, was the Yad Vashem Fellow in Modern Jewish History at the Oxford Centre during the academic years 1979–81. In 1982 he was elected the first Senior Associate Fellow of the Oxford Centre for Postgraduate Hebrew Studies. His best known book is his monumental *Christians and Jews in Germany: Religion, Politics and Ideology in the Second Reich, 1870–1914*, but during his stay at the Oxford Centre he also completed the draft of a major monograph *Political Theology in Germany prior to the Holocaust*. On the latter work he wrote, typically, to the present writer 'It is only thanks to the tranquil and inspiring atmosphere at Yarnton Manor that I was able to finish writing such a long – alas not necessarily great – book'.

Dr David Patterson opened the Memorial Meeting with one minute's silence, and then spoke about the moral influence of Professor Tal. He was followed by Dr Arnold Paucker, Director of the Leo Baeck Institute, who announced that the *Leo Baeck Year Book* will publish in its issue for 1985 the deceased's article on the attitude of the Confessing Church to Judaism. Mr Jacob Schreiber and Professor Shamai Davidson spoke next. Dr Geza Vermes recounted his personal experience of working with Professor Tal from his own standpoint as the editor of the *Journal of Jewish Studies*.

Psalm 103 was then read in Hebrew by Mrs C. Shaltiel and in English by Dr G. Abramson.

In conclusion, Mr Liam Abramson played the saraband from the D Minor suite for solo cello by Bach.

34. *The Festival of Flowers at Yarnton.* For the weekend of 20–22 July 1984 the Centre's premises at Yarnton Manor were beautifully decorated throughout with flowers. A similar display was mounted in St. Bartholomew's Parish Church, which adjoins the manor house. By permission of the Oxford Centre for Postgraduate Hebrew Studies, the flowers inside the manor house were arranged by the Oxford Flower Arrangement Club of NAFAS and sponsored by the Rolls Royce Enthusiasts Club. *The Festival of Flowers*, which had been put together with intricate care and patience, attracted a large number of visitors. All

the proceeds were for charity.

35. *The Oxford Programme in Yiddish*. Last year's *Annual Report* described the consolidation of Oxford as one of the world's major centres for the study of Yiddish. From 1979 the Oxford Centre has hosted the quadrennial *International Conference on Research in Yiddish Language and Literature* and from 1982 the annual *Oxford Programme in Yiddish*. The Centre has also facilitated the essential research on the collection of Old Yiddish books in the Bodleian Library, a collection which contains many unique items and is the most complete in the world.

In what represents the first full-time academic appointment in Yiddish in the United Kingdom, the Centre now has its own Fellow in Yiddish, Dr Dovid Katz. Among the many achievements of this energetic young scholar has been the founding of the intensive one month summer course in Yiddish language and literature known as *The Oxford Programme in Yiddish*. This year the third *Programme* was held from 6 to 31 August and attracted a record number of 62 students from nine countries. The Faculty was also enlarged to provide an even wider coverage of subjects.

The number of instructors this year was increased to five. These were Mr Chris Hutton, 26, of Wolfson College, Oxford and Columbia University, New York; Dr Dovid Katz, Barnett Shine Fellow in Yiddish Studies at the Oxford Centre for Postgraduate Hebrew Studies and Director of Studies for the *Programme*; Mr Dov Ber Kerler, a graduate in Yiddish Literature from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, who has just become Oxford University's first D.Phil. candidate in Yiddish studies; Mr Yitskhok Niborski, lecturer in Yiddish literature at the University of Paris VII; and Ms Elinor Robinson, of Columbia University and the YIVO Institute for Jewish Research, New York. It was noted that the programme featured the world's youngest faculty, and one of the most qualified. An entirely new development this year was the twice-weekly seminar on the history of all languages created by Jews, conducted by the world's leading authority on comparative Jewish linguistics, Professor Paul Wexler of Tel Aviv University.

The heart of the *Programme* was the intensive language instruction each morning from 9.30 to 1 p.m., which was divided into four levels: *Yiddish I* (elementary), *Yiddish II* (intermediate), *Yiddish III* (advanced) and *Yiddish IV* (higher advanced – a seminar on literature, stylistics and teacher training). In addition to extensive written daily homework at all four levels, students in the two higher levels were required to submit longer term papers. Topics chosen this year included the rise of the New York Yiddish theatre, the history of Yiddish folksong, and the impact of Yiddish on modern Dutch. Mr Niborski gave a course on the thematics of

mysticism in modern Yiddish literature while Dr Katz concentrated on the evolution of modern Yiddish stylistics.

In addition to workshops, Yiddish films and folk-music sessions, the afternoon and evening programme of supplementary activities featured a series of lectures by distinguished speakers. On 8 August the doyenne of the London Yiddish stage, Ms Anna Tzelniker, spoke vividly 'On the History of the London Yiddish Theatre'. The following day Mr William J. Fishman, Senior Fellow in Political History at Queen Mary College, University of London, delivered the Second Annual Avrom-Nokhem Stencl Lecture in Modern Yiddish Literature, with the title 'Morris Winchevsky and *Dos poylishe yidl*: 100 Years in Retrospect'. Winchevsky (1856–1932) was the first great Yiddish poet of London and the founder, exactly 100 years ago, of the first socialist Yiddish newspaper in this country. In contrast, the Avrom-Nokhem Stencl Lecture is named after the last great Yiddish poet of Whitechapel, A. N. Stencl (1897–1983). Stencl's poetry was itself analysed meticulously by Professor S. S. Praver, FBA, Taylor Professor of the German Language and Literature in the University of Oxford. Professor Praver entitled his lecture, which was delivered on 13 August, '*Dos finfte rod funem vogn?* Problems of a Yiddish Poet in London'. Dr S. J. Zipperstein, Frank Green Fellow at the Oxford Centre, lectured on 'Social and Cultural Characteristics of the Russian Pale of Settlement' and the following day, 16 August, Sholem Aleichem was honoured by a lecture commemorating the 125th anniversary of his birth in 1859. Dr Schneier Levenberg, the head of the Jewish Agency in Britain and an authority on Yiddish literature, entitled the lecture 'Sholem Aleichem: Man, Writer and Zionist'. Speaking in Yiddish, he laid stress on the humorist's celebrated visit to London in 1906 which resulted in his well-known chapter *London, farvos brenstu nisht?* (London, why don't you burn down?) recounting the struggles of the Whitechapel Jewish community. The vote of thanks was offered by Mr Hersh Smoliar, the Yiddish author who led a number of partisan groups in the forests of Eastern Europe during World War II. Mr Ian Mikardo, MP for Bow and Poplar, and Mrs Mikardo were among the guests at the lecture. Mr Hayim Pinner, the Secretary-General of the Board of Deputies, presided.

Another lecture in Yiddish was given by the veteran journalist I. A. Lisky, the editor of *The Jewish People*. On 20 August he addressed the *Oxford Programme in Yiddish* on the subject 'Tendencies in the History of the London Yiddish Press 1884–1984'. He concentrated on the social and political attitudes of various editors and journals since 1931, the year he settled in England.

On 22 August Mr Fishman made a second contribution to the *Programme*. He led the students on a historical walking tour of the East End of London, starting from the Whitechapel Art Gallery. Whitechapel

played a pivotal role in the westward expansion of Yiddish literature in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The following day Professor Carey S. Crantford introduced the students to a parallel phenomenon, in a lecture entitled 'The Persistence of Sephardi Culture and Vernacularism in the New World'.

The graduation ceremony took place at Yarnton Manor on 31 August 1984, and was addressed by Dr David Patterson, President of the Oxford Centre for Postgraduate Hebrew Studies. After the distribution of the Certificates of Completion (in English and Yiddish) a huge bouquet was presented to Ms Jean Nightingale, in recognition of her outstanding efforts in ensuring that the *Programme* ran efficiently.

So great is the level of interest in this intensive course that plans are being finalized for *The Oxford Programme in Yiddish 1985*.

36. *Classes in Yiddish*. As in previous years, the Centre provided classes in Yiddish throughout the year to members of the University and the wider public at its teaching rooms in the centre of Oxford. Classes were given at Elementary, Intermediate and (for the first time) Advanced Level by Dr Dovid Katz, the Barnett Shine Fellow in Yiddish Studies at the Oxford Centre for Postgraduate Hebrew Studies.

37. *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. It has become a tradition that *Summer Colloquia* take place in the President's study at Yarnton Manor, at which the Summer Visiting Scholars of the Oxford Centre conduct seminars on a topic within their focus of research.

During the summer of 1984 the Yarnton Manor estate was occupied by a group of younger scholars of great ability, and it was from among these that the speakers were chosen. The series was organized and chaired by the Librarian of the Centre, Mr Richard Judd. Care was taken as far as possible to avoid clashes with the lectures held under the auspices of *The Oxford Programme in Yiddish*, described in paragraph 35 above.

The series opened with a well-researched paper by Dr Mitchell Cohen with the title 'First Clash: Origins of the split between Left and Right in Israeli politics'. The paper analysed the emergence of Jewish and Zionist political parties, the early evolution and rise of the Zionist Labour Movement and its conflict with the right wing Revisionists in the late 1920s and 1930s. It analysed the differing Zionist agendas of Ben-Gurion and Jabotinsky and sought to explain the political victory of Labour as part of the prehistory of Israeli political parties.

Dr Daniel Boyarin followed with a stimulating lecture (in Hebrew)

entitled 'Literary Criticism and Text Criticism – A New Edition of the Mekhilta'. Giving examples from Lauterbach's edition of the *Mekhilta of R. Ishmael*, he showed how the biblical *lemmata* are totally integrated into the *darshan's* discourse. A new edition, he said, would need the joint skills of two disciplines, the skill of the philologist and the skill of the aesthetic critic. He stressed that a different sense is hidden in the manuscripts which was not fully recognized in the two previous scientific editions. Good as these are in their way, they failed to recognize the *literary* value in the variants among the manuscripts.

Professor Bernard Wasserstein, whose book *Britain and the Jews of Europe, 1939–1945* has become required reading on the subject, lectured on 'The Anglo-Jewish Leadership in the Nazi Period'. Professor Wasserstein began with the important point that there were no ethnic lobbies in British politics, in contrast to the situation in the USA. Although information about the persecutions of Jews was published from an early date on the front pages of the *Jewish Chronicle*, full recognition came slowly. The lecturer's conclusion was that any judgement on the behaviour of the Anglo-Jewish leadership during 1939–45 must be grey, not black and white; and he cited the fact that the Anglo-Jewish community spent over £3,000,000 on housing refugees in the United Kingdom.

38. The 6th Hebrew Scientific European Congress was organized by Brit Ivrit Olamit at University College, London, from 10 to 13 September 1984. Among the lectures given was one by Dr George Mandel, Fellow of the Oxford Centre, who spoke in Hebrew on Ben-Yehuda and Professor Joseph Halévy. On 13 September the Congress moved to the Oxford Centre's premises at Yarnton Manor, where after lunch and a speech of welcome by Dr David Patterson, two more lectures were given in the Long Gallery.

39. *Publications of the Oxford Centre*. The First Annual Avrom-Nokhem Stencl Lecture in Modern Yiddish Literature was delivered before the *Oxford Programme in Yiddish* on 4 August 1983. The lecturer was Professor S. S. Praver, FBA, Taylor Professor of the German Language and Literature in the University of Oxford, and the lecture has now been published by the Oxford Centre for Postgraduate Hebrew Studies. Professor Praver's text, in which he described Stencl, the poet of Whitechapel, as a 'great and complex modern poet', includes an appendix of Stencl's poetry in the original Yiddish. The lecture was edited and seen through the press by Dr Dovid Katz, the Oxford Centre's Fellow in Yiddish Studies.

The Dov Biegun Memorial Publications Fund was established at the

Oxford Centre through the munificence of Mrs Biegun and Mr Katzin. It has been used to defray the printing costs of some of the Centre's publications. 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, was published in March 1984. The printing of other papers is scheduled for 1985. The publication of the *Oxford Centre Papers* is made possible by a grant from the Dov Biegun Memorial Publications Fund, for which the Centre would like to record its gratitude.

The Oxford Centre publishes a regular newsletter to inform a wider public of its activities and achievements. Four issues have already 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. The text is written by Dr George Mandel, Fellow of the Oxford Centre, with assistance in editing from Mr Richard Judd, the Centre's Librarian. The newsletter, which is called *Centre News*, also receives support from the Dov Biegun Memorial Publications Fund. At the time of writing, *Centre News no. 5* is ready for the printer. Anyone who would like to receive the newsletter – there is no charge – is invited to contact the Development Officer at 45 St. Giles', Oxford.

40. *The Kennicott Bible*. On 20 October 1983, in the series of after-dinner talks at Yarnton Manor, Mr Michael Falter gave a lecture which created almost a sensation. Mr Falter is a London publisher of facsimile editions who, together with his wife Linda, has decided as a labour of love to reproduce an exact facsimile of one of the most beautiful Hebrew illuminated bibles in the world.

MS Kennicott 1 of the Bodleian Library, Oxford, was described by Cecil Roth in the *Encyclopaedia Judaica* as 'one of the most lavishly and expertly illuminated of all medieval Hebrew manuscripts'. The manuscript, written by Moses Ibn Zabara in north-western Spain in the fifteenth century, contains a completely vocalized text of the Bible

together with David Kimchi's grammatical treatise *Sefer Mikhlol*. 238 out of the 922 pages of the Bible contain illustrations by Joseph Ibn Hayyim, and the text of *Sefer Mikhlol* is written within magnificently decorated arcaded pages. It employs the lavish use of 'carpet pages', each of unique design, and upon close examination some of the illustrations are found to consist of the minute script known as micrography. Because of its value and beauty, access to it is severely restricted to recognized historians of Jewish art. Consequently Mr Falter felt, in consultation with the Bodleian Library, that he would like to attempt a facsimile that reproduced it exactly in every detail and colour, not excluding the minutely worked leather box-binding.

The process began in the photographic laboratory of the Bodleian Library itself, where each page was carefully photographed so as to avoid the appearance of curvature of the spine and any distortion of the colours due to their passing through glass. Much to his disappointment, Mr Falter found that the British printing industry was incapable of producing a reproduction of the quality required, but he was fortunate in finding an Italian printer, without whom the project would have had to be abandoned. Despite the tradition of English binding, a similar disappointment occurred in this area, until the atelier of a Milanese binder produced a superb reproduction solely from photographs. Production of the bibles will begin in December 1984 and the last one will be finished in May 1985. The Falters will stay in Milan to supervise the printing.

The original suggestion that the Kennicott Bible was above all worthy of reproduction was made by Dr David Patterson, President of the Oxford Centre for Postgraduate Hebrew Studies, who arranged the necessary introduction with the authorities in the Department of Oriental Books at the Bodleian Library. The Oxford Centre has been happy to assist this project in other ways and further information about it is available from the Development Officer at 45 St. Giles', Oxford.

41. *Press Coverage of Activities and Progress.* Developments at the Oxford Centre for Postgraduate Hebrew Studies, particularly the historic progress in Yiddish studies, have understandably attracted a lot of comment in the press around the world. Coverage during 1983–84 included articles and reports in *The Times Higher Education Supplement*, the *Jewish Chronicle*, *The Jewish Quarterly*, *New Society*, *Jerusalem Post*, *Jewish Week* (New York), *Australian Jewish News*, and the Yiddish press in many countries including the *Jewish Daily Forward* (New York), *Kanader odler* (Montreal), *Undzer vort* (Paris), *Folks-shtime* (Warsaw), and *Yisroel shtime* (Tel Aviv). An interview with Dr David Patterson, President of the Oxford Centre, appeared in the Israeli newspaper *Yedioth Ahronoth* on 6

January 1984; in it Dr Patterson stressed how so many of Israel's leading writers have produced major work while staying at the Oxford Centre. On a lighter note, Professor Moshe Pelli, who stayed at Yarnton Manor during June 1984, published an entertaining account of his visit in *Hadoar* of 24 August 1984. He was clearly very impressed by the institution, though his contrast between the accessibility of the Kressel Collection and the formality of the Bodleian bemused the present writer.

42. *Video Film about the Centre.* A video film has been made about the work of the Oxford Centre for Postgraduate Hebrew Studies. It is available on all major world systems. For further information please contact the Centre's Development Officer, Sally Arkley, at 45 St. Giles', Oxford.

43. *The Junior Year Abroad Programme.* From October 1985 the Oxford Centre for Postgraduate Hebrew Studies will offer a Junior Year Abroad Programme in Jewish Studies. This one-year course will be designed with third-year undergraduates at North American universities in mind. Many such universities encourage their students to spend the third year of their undergraduate programme at universities overseas, following courses for which they can obtain credits with their home university. Enquiries should be sent to The Director, *Junior Year Abroad Programme*, 45 St. Giles', Oxford.

44. *New Governors.* The Oxford Centre for Postgraduate Hebrew Studies is pleased to announce that Mr Charles Hurwitz, of Houston, Texas, and Professor George Kozmetsky, of Austin, Texas, have been elected to the Board of Governors.

45. *The Israel Friends of the Oxford Centre.* Mr I. Navon, formerly President of the State of Israel, Professor M. Many, President of Tel Aviv University and Professor D. Patinkin, President of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, have agreed to join the Honorary Council of the *Israel Friends*.

Sixty former Visiting Scholars of the Oxford Centre met at Hebrew Union College, Jerusalem, on 29 December 1983 for their second Annual Reunion. The meeting was chaired by Professor Chaim Rabin and addressed by Dr David Patterson and Mr G. Kressel. The Reunion was preceded by a meeting of the Committee of the *Israel Friends* at which Dr Patterson gave a report of the Oxford Centre's activities. The *Israel Friends of the Centre* hope to establish a Scholarship to enable an Israeli doctoral student to spend a year studying at the Centre.

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 two former Presidents of Israel 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.

46. The *American Friends of the Oxford Centre*. Professor E. Donald Shapiro, the Joseph Solomon Distinguished Professor of Law at the New York Law School, has become the Chairman of the *American Friends of the Oxford Centre for Postgraduate Hebrew Studies*. Professor Shapiro was a Visiting Fellow of St. Cross College, Oxford, and a Visiting Scholar of the Oxford Centre during Hilary and Trinity Terms 1984. As mentioned in paragraph 29 above, he delivered the *Eleventh Sacks Lecture* at Yarnton Manor on 24 May 1984. Professor Shapiro succeeds Mr Leo Kramer, whose services as Chairman of the *American Friends* have been greatly valued by the Centre.

On 6 October 1983 Dr David Patterson, the President of the Oxford Centre, addressed a meeting of the *American Friends* at the home of Ken and Sandy Brown in Highland Park, Illinois. Another meeting of the *American Friends* took place on 6 December 1983 at the home of Rabbi Daniel Silver in Cleveland, Ohio.

The Centre was pleased to welcome Dr and Mrs J. Rechtschaffen, of New York, who stayed in the Guest House at Yarnton Manor during November 1983. They were entertained to lunch in Charlbury by the Centre's Librarian, Mr Richard Judd. Dr Rechtschaffen is an Associate of the Centre. Another distinguished guest was Mr T. H. Lehman, also of New York, who visited the Oxford Centre in March 1984. Mr Lehman attended one of the sessions of the Centre's *Interdisciplinary Seminar on the Holocaust* during his visit, and took an active part in the discussion. The two new Governors of the Oxford Centre, whose election was mentioned in paragraph 44 above, also visited Oxford during 1984. Professor and Mrs G. Kozmetsky toured the Centre in April, and on 5 July 1984 a lunch party was held at Yarnton Manor in honour of Mr and Mrs C. Hurwitz. Dr and Mrs Robert L. Kuhn, together with their son, visited the Oxford Centre in September 1984. Dr Kuhn, who is from New York, expressed particular interest in the Centre's Kressel Library and discussed it with Mr Judd, the Centre's Librarian.

47. Substantial donations have been made to the Oxford Centre for Postgraduate Hebrew Studies by the Charles E. Hurwitz Philanthropic Fund and the RGK Foundation of Austin, Texas, for which the Centre wishes to record its gratitude.

48. Mr Daniel Rose, his wife Joanne and uncle David Rose made significant contributions to the Barnett Shine Fellowship in Yiddish, for which the Oxford Centre wishes to express its gratitude.

49. The Oxford Centre for Postgraduate Hebrew Studies is grateful for a large donation from the Abe and Harry Sherman Foundation.

50. Mr H. Djanogly has made a generous subvention to assist the completion of *The Oxford English-Hebrew Dictionary of Current Usage*, a report about which appears in paragraph 3 above.

51. 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 G. ABRAMSON continued her normal teaching and examination duties for Oxford University. She attended a 10-day workshop at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem run by the International Center for the Teaching of Jewish Civilization in the Diaspora from 9–19 July 1984. She read a paper entitled 'The Tragic Sense in Contemporary Hebrew Literature' to the Second Congress of the European Association for Jewish Studies, which was held in Oxford in July 1984; as mentioned in paragraph 14 above, she also addressed the Annual Conference of the British Association for Jewish Studies later the same month. She was one of the three organizers of the Seminar *Interdisciplinary Approaches to the Holocaust*, and in October 1983 was appointed to the Executive Committee of St. Cross College, Oxford. Her article 'Amichai's God' was published in *Prooftexts* 4, 1984, pp. 111–126.

MR A. M. AL-DAUSARI worked in the Kressel Library at Yarnton Manor researching the life of the Oriental Jews at the turn of the century. This work is complementary to his research on the Hebrew novelist Yehuda Burla (1886–1969), whose writings deal extensively with the life of the Oriental Jews.

DR L. J. ARCHER, who was formerly a Junior Research Fellow at the Oxford Centre, was appointed Fellow in Jewish Studies of the Graeco-Roman Period. At the same time she was awarded a Junior Research Fellowship at Wolfson College, Oxford. She continued her research on women in the Inter-Testamental and Mishnaic Period and contributed to the teaching of the M.Phil. and M.St. degrees in Graeco-Roman Jewish Studies. She collected material for an updated edition of the Centre's

*Bibliography of Publications*, and continued work on the index of 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. Through the Oxford University Computing Service she produced computerized typesetting and camera-ready copy of the necessary Hebrew and Greek script for the *Journal of Jewish Studies*, and of the English text for the *Journal of the Anthropological Society of Oxford (JASO)*. Public addresses last year, on various aspects of women's lives in the Second Temple Period and beyond, were given, amongst others, to the Society for Jewish Study: Symposium on Women in Jewish Literature and Thought (London); the University of Wales Annual Staff Symposium: Perspectives on Women (Gregynog); the History Workshop Centre for Social History (Oxford); Oxford University Women's History Group; and the graduate seminar *Problems of Jewish History and Literature*, chaired by Dr S. P. Brock and Dr G. Vermes. Dr Archer co-organized and contributed to the Second Congress of the European Association for Jewish Studies, held at Hertford College, Oxford, in July 1984.

MISS S. J. ARKLEY is at present working on an article on 'The Origins of the Jewish Dotal System'.

DR H. BEN-SHAMMAI has defined his research in the following terms:  
My main field of research is Judaeo-Arabic Literature, especially theological and exegetical works of the Middle Ages, and with special emphasis on Karaite works. The original purpose of my coming to Oxford was to work on a number of Karaite Arabic manuscripts which at the moment cannot be photocopied, and can therefore be worked on only at the Bodleian Library. These manuscripts bear a considerable importance for the study of early Karaite biblical exegesis. Having fulfilled this aim, and at the same time also some additional undertakings, which will result in at least one article (yet to be written), I can say that my visit, which lasted for about five weeks, was fruitful indeed. I feel obliged to add a few words in praise of the staff of the Centre, who so kindly and efficiently made my sojourn in Oxford so very pleasant.

DR D. BOYARIN has submitted the following report:

My tenure at Yarnton was spent examining in detail the Genizah fragments of *Mekhilta de-Rabbi Ishmael* in the Bodleian Library. The physical and palaeographical studies necessary for the edition are now complete in so far as the Bodleian documents are concerned. Two lectures were delivered – one at the European Association for Jewish Studies on the textual relationship of the *aggadah* in the two *Mekhiltot*;

the other at Yarnton Manor on the literary status of the verses quoted in the *Mekhilta*.

MR Y. BRONOWSKI worked on *The Oxford English-Hebrew Dictionary of Current Usage* but also kept writing his weekly articles in the Israeli paper *Haaretz*, adding to his usual range of literary subjects the new topic of English life and letters. His project of writing an essay about Gershom Scholem's scholarly and literary *oeuvre* made rather slow progress on account of the new avenues opened for him by Oxford libraries and by the Kressel Collection in Yarnton. During a visit to the Bodleian Library he was kindly shown the famous Oxford manuscript of the medieval French poem *Chanson de Roland*, which excited him to such a degree that he began to attend Dr Nicholas Mann's lectures on the subject of the *Chanson*. Subsequently he tried to translate it into a sort of medieval Hebrew roughly equivalent to the language of the original Norman French poem. The first part of the Hebrew translation of the *Chanson* is going to be published in the January 1985 issue of *Moznayim*, the literary review of the association of Hebrew writers in Israel. Mr Bronowski hopes to get on with his translation and possibly finish it during his stay in Yarnton Manor.

DR G. J. BROOKE, who was a Junior Fellow of the Oxford Centre during the academic year 1977–8, has kindly written to inform us that he has been appointed to the Lectureship in Inter-Testamental Literature at Manchester University. The Centre congratulates Dr Brooke and looks forward to many more learned publications from his pen.

MR M. BROSHI is currently working on a book on the population of ancient Palestine. During his stay in Oxford he worked intensively in the Ashmolean Library. He lectured to the graduate seminar *Problems of Jewish History and Literature*, chaired by Dr Geza Vermes, on 'The Historical Demography of Palestine'.

DR M. COHEN delivered a major paper, 'First Clash: Origins of the Split between Left and Right in Israeli Politics', to the series of *Summer Colloquia* at Yarnton Manor, the conclusions of which are summarized in paragraph 37 above. The lecture will be published. Dr Cohen continued as editor of *Jewish Frontier*, the American Labour Zionist journal. He edited and wrote an introductory essay for *Class Struggle and the Jewish Nation: Selected Essays in Marxist Zionism by Ber Borochov*, which was published in 1984.

PROFESSOR S. DAVIDSON organized and conducted the seminar at the

Oxford Centre entitled *Interdisciplinary Approaches to the Holocaust* during Hilary and Trinity terms. The seminars he conducted personally dealt with the socio-psychological perspectives of the Holocaust, the behaviour and responses of the Jewish victims, societal responses in Israel and the responses of the second generation. He lectured and gave a workshop at the Department of Psychotherapy at the Warneford Hospital on the clinical sequelae of the Holocaust and the psychotherapeutic implications among the survivors and their families. He conducted a monthly supervision seminar for the London Jewish Welfare Board social work team and also for the Raphael Centre counselling service on psychotherapeutic work with refugees and survivors and their children. He gave lectures on the subject of the psycho-social trauma of the Holocaust and psycho-social problems in Israel in various frameworks such as the Oxford Psychoanalytic Forum, the Israel Medical Association, and the Arbours Association. In Stockholm, at the invitation of the Swedish Red Cross, Professor Davidson gave seminars and advised on the treatment and rehabilitation of torture victims. He conducted seminars for the Stockholm Jewish Welfare Board social workers and psychologists on treating refugees and survivors and their families, and conducted a seminar for the second generation (children) of survivors in Stockholm. In New York, at the invitation of the American Short Term Therapy Center, he gave seminars on the lessons of the Holocaust for the prevention of nuclear disaster.

At Yarnton Manor he worked on a book on the psycho-social trauma of the Holocaust. He writes that the Centre's Kressel Library and Archive at Yarnton Manor were of great help in providing contemporary material. He also prepared a paper on bereavement in Israel following war, Holocaust and terrorism, to be published as a monograph in the Cruse Academic Papers Series.

He conducted a research project on the impact of the Holocaust on the children of the survivors. This involved a comparative study of 20 children of survivors with a control group of 20 children of similar cultural background. This project was completed as the first stage in an ongoing cross-cultural comparative study of patterns of adaptation in children of survivors in Britain, Holland, Sweden, Germany, Israel and North America. A dissertation entitled 'The Long-Term Effects of the Holocaust on Children of Survivors' was successfully completed in London by an Oxford psychology student for a B.Sc. in Psychology.

MR D. DE VRIES stayed at Yarnton Manor from May to July 1984 and wrote up part of his Ph.D. thesis 'The Labour Movement in Haifa, 1920-1933'. He concentrated in particular on the formation of workers' unions, one of the earliest foundations of the evolving organizational

structure of the *yishuv*. His research dealt with the questions of how the unions were formed, who joined them, who dominated them and, finally, how they became instruments of the bureaucratization of the labour movement.

MRS M. DU-NOUR used the libraries in Oxford to learn about recent work in Discourse and Conversation Analysis. Her stay at Yarnton Manor also helped her to advance the planning of her research for her Ph.D. thesis for the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, which is on theatrical dialogue in contemporary Hebrew plays. On completion of the thesis she hopes to publish parts of it in the form of a book.

MR S. DU-NOUR used his stay at Yarnton Manor to continue with the writing of his forthcoming book on contemporary Jewish life. He writes that he benefited enormously from exchanging thoughts and ideas with the other scholars present at the Oxford Centre at the same period. He also took advantage of his stay in the United Kingdom to submit the English translation of his novel *One Exile More*, which has already been published in Hebrew, to Weidenfeld and Nicolson.

PROFESSOR H. FISCH has written directly as follows:

During my two months' stay at the Centre I have been pushing on with my current project which is for a book on biblical poetics and interpretation to be entitled *Poetry with a Purpose*. I have been working on this for over a year and I expect it will take me a year longer to complete. I managed whilst at Yarnton to prepare a first draft of a central chapter on Job. During this period in Oxford I also accepted invitations to give lectures and seminars at six universities: Edinburgh, Birmingham, Liverpool, East Anglia, Sussex and Sheffield. A majority of these lectures were on topics related to the Bible as literature and they enabled me to get valuable reactions to some of the ideas I have been exploring in the last months.

PROFESSOR M. HERZOG worked on volumes I and III of the *Language and Culture Atlas of Ashkenazic Jewry*, of which he is the Director. He gave a fascinating lecture at Yarnton Manor illustrating the compilation of this major atlas of Yiddish dialectology. He continued his work on the organization and implementation of the *Great Dictionary of the Yiddish Language*, of which he is Editor-in-Chief. Under the auspices of the Faculty of Medieval and Modern Languages and Literature of Oxford University Professor Herzog delivered a lecture 'Language Geography at a distance: the case of Yiddish' in the Taylor Institution on 8 May 1984.

PROFESSOR A. HUSS worked on the translation from German into Hebrew of various scattered writings of Gershom Scholem. These writings, from the years 1917–1933 and referring to various subjects, have not been published before in any language and will be collected into a volume to be published soon by Am Oved. They provide a great deal of information about the inner development and the attitudes of a unique and prominent personality in the field of modern Hebrew studies.

MR R. C. JUDD assisted in the editing of many of the Centre's publications, including *Oxford Centre Papers* and *Centre News*, and compiled and edited this *Annual Report*. He organized and chaired the *Summer Colloquia* at Yarnton Manor during August 1984. His review of Michael N. Dobkowski (ed.) *The Politics of Indifference* was published in the *Journal of Jewish Studies* vol. XXXV, no. 1 (Spring 1984).

DR S. KAMIN converted her Ph.D. thesis for the Hebrew University of Jerusalem into a book to be called *Peshuto shel Mikra u-Midrasho shel Mikra*. It will be published by the Magnes Press and examines Rashi's exegetical categorization with respect to the distinction between *Peshat* and *Derash*. Dr Kamin served as a tutor on medieval Jewish exegesis and lectured both at Leo Baeck College, London, and the Oxford seminar *Problems of Jewish History and Literature* chaired by Dr G. Vermes. Both lectures dealt with various aspects of the relationship between Rashi's exegesis on the Song of Songs and Christian exegesis on the same book. She continued her research on the relationship between medieval Jewish and Christian exegesis of the Old Testament, and wrote three book reviews which will appear in the *Journal of Jewish Studies*.

RABBI S. KARFF completed a first draft of an essay entitled 'The I and the We: Judaism's Resources for Personal Religion'. The essay addresses the question of how a tradition which regards the concept of Israel as an ontological entity accommodates the individual Jew's need for a personal relationship to the sacred. Rabbi Karff focused on rabbinic midrash and medieval *musar* literature, and he writes that it was a rare privilege to examine portions of Israel Al-Nakawa's *Menorat ha-Ma'or*, a 14th century work whose only extant manuscript is part of the Bodleian Library (Ms. Opp. 146).

DR D. KATZ served as Director of Studies of *The Oxford Programme in Yiddish* and taught the courses *Yiddish III* and *Yiddish IV* which formed part of it. He taught classes in Yiddish throughout the year at the Centre's teaching rooms in the centre of Oxford. In December 1983 he represented the Oxford Centre at the Annual Meeting of the American

Association of Professors of Yiddish in New York City, and at a series of meetings in Amherst, Massachusetts, during January 1984 he negotiated an agreement in principle with the National Yiddish Book Center for the one-time purchase of a ready made library in Yiddish Studies. This would serve the needs of Oxford students studying Yiddish as an option towards the BA in Modern Languages, the M.St. and M.Phil. in Modern Jewish Studies, and for M.Litt. and D.Phil. research degrees; the purchase will be effected, on behalf of the Taylorian Library, as soon as the necessary funding materializes. Meanwhile he co-ordinated a book-collection project to enhance the Yiddish holdings of the Taylorian Library. Dr Katz worked with Professor Mikhl Herzog (who was a Visiting Scholar at the Centre for 1983–4) on Volumes I and III of the *Language and Culture Atlas of Ashkenazic Jewry*. He delivered a lecture entitled 'From Regensburg to Oxford: the first thousand years of Yiddish' before Oxford B'nai B'rith, and co-ordinated public relations on the Centre's historic progress in Yiddish Studies. His contribution 'Hebrew, Aramaic and the Rise of Yiddish' was published in J. A. Fishman (ed.) *Readings in the Sociology of Jewish Languages* (Leiden, 1984) pp. 85–103, and he edited and saw through the press Professor S. S. Praver's *A. N. Stencl: Poet of Whitechapel*, which was the first Annual Avrom-Nokhem Stencl Lecture in Modern Yiddish Literature delivered before the *Oxford Programme in Yiddish* during 1983. Aptly, it was published by the Oxford Centre itself in July 1984. Dr Katz reviewed Joshua A. Fishman (ed.) *Never Say Die! A Thousand Years of Yiddish in Jewish Life and Letters* (The Hague, &c., 1981) in a review article entitled 'On the Sociology of Yiddish' in *Jewish Frontier* (New York), vol. li, no. 2 (541), (February 1984) pp. 25–7.

Under work in progress, Dr Katz did further work on his forthcoming book *Christian Studies in Yiddish, 1514–1862*, and his *Yiddish I. An Introductory Grammar* is to be published by Duckworth of London. The Tagore Institute of Creative Writing, Besantnagar, Madras, India is to publish an essay of his on Yiddish language and poetry, and his article 'Joseph Herz and Western Yiddish of the Early Nineteenth Century' will appear in *Nachrichten für den jüdischen Bürger Fürths* (published by the Israelitische Kultusgemeinde Fürth). His essay on the historical reconstruction of the Semitic component in the earliest Yiddish, with special reference to phonology, will appear in a volume edited by Professor B. Hrushovski of Tel Aviv University, and an essay on the genres of pre-nineteenth century studies in Yiddish will be part of the forthcoming Festschrift in honour of Sol Liptzin, edited by Mark Gelber of the Ben Gurion University of the Negev.

DR E. LIEBER continued to edit and translate the hitherto unpublished medieval Hebrew encyclopaedia attributed to Asaph the Physician.

Because of the length and complexity of the work, this task must take several more years to complete. It has resulted in a number of publications on medieval Jewish medical history, including one on Asaph which has been accepted by *Dumbarton Oaks Papers*.

DR G. MANDEL continued to be Fellow in Charge of the Kressel Library and Archive. He edited issues 3 and 4 of *Centre News*, the newsletter of the Oxford Centre for Postgraduate Hebrew Studies. He organized and chaired the Seminar *Life and Letters in Contemporary Israel*, of which four sessions took place in Michaelmas Term 1983 and two in Hilary Term 1984. Dr Mandel continued his research into the Revival of Hebrew and the life of Eliezer Ben-Yehuda (1858–1922). He wrote two papers in 1983–4 which are due to be published in 1984–5. One is provisionally entitled 'Why did Ben-Yehuda suggest the Revival of Hebrew?' and is intended for a book on the Revival being edited by Dr T. V. Parfitt. The other is entitled 'Ben-Yehouda à Paris' and should appear in *Les nouveaux cahiers*, Paris. As in previous years, Dr Mandel taught and supervised students for the M.Phil. in Modern Jewish Studies at Oxford University, and began teaching for the newly-established M.St. course in Modern Jewish Studies. He was granted six months' study leave by the Centre, which began in June 1984.

PROFESSOR T. MURAOKA spent much of his time on the preparation in conjunction with Dr Mandel of the final draft of his English translation of Eliezer Ben-Yehuda's autobiography, which the Oxford Centre is going to publish shortly. He also travelled to Holland to give lectures at the Universities of Utrecht, Leiden, Amsterdam, and the Free University on 'The recently discovered bilingual (Assyrian-Aramaic) inscription' and 'Aspects of the recent studies on the Targums'. He went up to the Universities of Durham and Newcastle to give a lecture on the bilingual inscription and 'A non-atomistic approach to the Septuagint'. His book *A Greek-Hebrew/Aramaic Index to I Esdras* was published by Scholars Press in 1984.

DR S. NASH has defined his research in the following terms:

During my stay at the Oxford Centre I did research on two figures, Reuben Brainin (1862–1939) and Ya'akov Rabinowitz (1875–1948). The Kressel Collection was immensely helpful to me in adding to my bibliography. In the case of Brainin I discovered material which is not to be found either at the Genazim Archive in Tel Aviv or in Brainin's personal archive at the Jewish Public Library in Montreal. I intend to utilize the material for a paper to be delivered at the forthcoming

World Congress of Jewish Studies in the summer of 1985 on the topic 'Two *Mitnaggedim* and their Migrations'.

DR B. A. PARKER concentrated his research on medieval exegesis, in particular the pre-Masoretic interpretation of the Bible. He examined what system of vocalization and syntax is used by the Versions (Greek, Latin, Syriac and Aramaic) as well as the Talmud and Midrash. He continued his explorations of ancient and medieval mysticism, focusing on the negotiation of the boundary between mind and body, sleeping and waking.

PROFESSOR M. PELLI, during his short stay at Yarnton Manor, had the opportunity to proceed with the *Me'assef* Annotated Bibliography Project, working at the Bodleian Library as well as at the Kressel Archive. He surveyed the holdings of the Kressel Archive especially on 18th and 19th century Hebrew *Haskalah* writers. He conducted preliminary discussions about the possibility of collaborating in the project to compile a *Bibliography of 18th and 19th Century Hebrew Periodicals*, and met informally with students and faculty to discuss *Haskalah* topics. He wrote a review of a book by Yitzhak Ben-Ner, and, as mentioned above, wrote an article about the Kressel Archive for *Hadoar*.

PROFESSOR U. RAPPAPORT has furnished a copy of the chapter that he finished updating with Professor W. D. Davies at Yarnton Manor. By a happy coincidence they were both Visiting Scholars at the Oxford Centre during the winter of 1980–1. The chapter is 'Numismatics' in *The Cambridge History of Judaism* (W. D. Davies and L. Finkelstein, eds.) vol. 1, pp. 25–59. Professor Rappaport's chapter was favourably reviewed as 'a thorough survey' in *The Times Literary Supplement* of 16 November 1984. His research on John of Gischala, mentioned in this *Annual Report* for 1980–1, has seen the light as an article 'John of Gischala in Galilee' in *The Jerusalem Cathedra* no. 3 (1983) pp. 46–57.

DR Y. SALMON worked intensively in the Kressel Archive reading through the material on Perez Smolenskin (1840 or 1842–1885), the Hebrew novelist, editor and publicist. He also examined the material on lesser-known contemporaries and associates of Smolenskin, on which he found the holdings of the Archive particularly strong. As he discovered material which is apparently not to be found elsewhere, Dr Salmon plans to return to the Kressel Archive to complete this research.

PROFESSOR M. SCHWARZ continued his work on a new translation from the Arabic into Hebrew of Maimonides' *Guide of the Perplexed*. During the

time he was staying at Yarnton Manor he translated chapters XIII–XLIII (13–43) of Part I of the *Guide*. He took part in the Second Congress of the European Association for Jewish Studies, the Conference of the British Association for Jewish Studies and the Third International Conference of the Jewish Law Association. With typical generosity, Professor Schwarz has insisted that I enter into the *Report* his expression of thanks to all the staff of the Centre's Library and Archive.

YONAT & ALEXANDER SENED have submitted the following report on their joint work:

We have almost completed here a novel (written together, as all our books) which we started during our previous stay in Yarnton Manor in summer 1981. We have not decided on the title yet, but the main theme of the book is a retrospective view of the years in the Warsaw Ghetto, as seen by two characters, a man and a woman, living in Israel in the eighties. The novel will be published in 1985. Alexander has also done the editing of the third volume of Professor Gershon Shaked's *History of Hebrew Fiction 1880–1980*; of a monograph on the artist Yitshak Danziger (by Dr Mordecai Omer), and a monograph on the painter Aviva Uri (by Dorith Levite). Yonat has been going through a draft (by Noel Canin) of the English translation of our previous book, *Land Inhabited*.

PROFESSOR E. SPICEHANDLER lectured during Hilary and Trinity terms 1984 in the Faculty of Oriental Studies at Oxford University on the writings of Bialik. He completed a scientific edition of the 17th century Judeo-Persian chronicle by Babai ibn Lutf, providing a Hebrew translation with notes and introduction. The chronicle describes the religious persecution and martyrdom of Persian Jews under Shah Abbas I (1588–1629). Professor Spicehandler continued work on his forthcoming book on Bialik, which will require about two years' more work. He wrote an article on 'Contemporary Hebrew Poetry 1960–1980'.

DR G. TELPAZ. The Librarian was pleased to notice that the research which Dr Telpaz completed during the year and a half he stayed at Yarnton Manor has been published as a book. His *Israeli Childhood Stories of the Sixties* explores the reflection of childhood experience in Palestine and Israel in stories written in or around the 1960s by S. Yizhar, Nissim Aloni, David Shahar and Amalia Kahana-Carmon. It has appeared in the Brown Judaic Studies series.

PROFESSOR M. H. VOGEL was working on, and practically finished, an article entitled 'The Tenets of the Resurrection of the Body and the

Immortality of the Soul in the context of Jewish Theology'. He also re-worked his paper on 'Luther's attitude to the Jews and Judaism', which he had delivered in New York in October 1983.

PROFESSOR B. WASSERSTEIN has written that the main purpose of his visit to Yarnton Manor was to utilize the resources of the Kressel Collection and of the Bodleian Library in connection with two research projects: 1) A biography of Herbert Samuel, 1st Viscount Samuel (1870–1963); and 2) a study of the Jerusalem question in international diplomacy since the Crimean War. He was enabled to make progress with both these projects during his visit to Yarnton and anticipates that the projects will result in published work in due course.

DR J. M. WEBBER continued as Israel Brodie Junior Research Fellow at the Centre, teaching students in Modern Jewish Sociology for the M.St. and M.Phil. degrees in Modern Jewish Studies at Oxford University. He gave two *shiurim* at Leo Baeck College, London: one on 'The Sale of Joseph' and one on 'Nazirites' – both lectures being a combination of biblical exegesis and modern anthropological commentary. In Hilary Term 1984 he gave a series of nine lectures at the same institution on the history, social life and politics of the religions and communities of modern Jerusalem. On 5 December 1983 he spoke at the Old Testament Seminar, University of Sheffield, on 'The Relevance of Biblical Models for a Contemporary Anthropology of the Holy City'; and on 14 May 1984 he addressed the Seminar *History and Ethnicity: Selected Cases* at St. John's College, Oxford, on the subject 'Jerusalem Revisited'. Together with Mr Herminio Martins, of St. Antony's College, Oxford, he organized and chaired, in Hilary Term 1984, a series of eight seminars on the subject 'Modernity and Post-Modernity: Interdisciplinary Perspectives', held at the Human Sciences Centre under the auspices of the Social Studies Faculty of Oxford University; in Trinity Term 1984, he similarly organized and co-chaired a one-day workshop on the same subject. At the Conference of the British Association for Jewish Studies, held at Hertford College, Oxford, on 27 July 1984 he read a paper on the subject of the revival of Modern Hebrew. On 3 February 1984 he delivered the opening address, entitled 'Religions in the Holy Land: Conflicts of Interpretation', at a Conference on Religions in Conflict, organized by the Royal Anthropological Institute, London. In May 1984 he was sent by the British Council to Paris for consultations with the Laboratoire d'Ethnologie et de Sociologie Comparative of the C.N.R.S. under the leadership of Professor J. Pitt-Rivers; on 3 May he delivered a paper in French at the University of Paris X, Nanterre, entitled 'Qu'est-ce qu'une renaissance de langue: le cas de l'hébreu moderne'. His continuing involvement with Jewish

community affairs this year included two *shiurim* which he gave at the Hampstead Garden Suburb Synagogue in North-West London. In the course of the year he was elected Member of the Association of Social Anthropologists of the Commonwealth, to a Junior Research Fellowship at Linacre College, Oxford, and to a Fellowship in Jewish Social Studies at the Oxford Centre. He continued as senior editor of the *Journal of the Anthropological Society of Oxford (JASO)*, of which the three issues for 1983–4 were published, and as general editor of the *JASO Occasional Papers Series*, of which the second and third volumes were published during the year – one on Death in Portugal, and one commemorating the centenary of the Pitt Rivers Museum in Oxford. The book he compiled and edited, *Research in Social Anthropology 1975–1980*, was published this year by the Royal Anthropological Institute, London.

DR E. YAPOU, who was a Visiting Scholar at Yarnton Manor in the summer of 1982, has informed me that the research he was engaged in has now been published. His study on 'Human Rights in International Disputes: The Trieste Precedents' appeared in the *Israel Yearbook on Human Rights* (1983). Dr Yapou points out that the 'Trieste Problem', which represented a real danger to peace over a long period, found its final solution in the freely negotiated Treaty of Osimo of 1975 between Italy and Yugoslavia, based on four international conventions on Human Rights, including the Universal Declaration on Human Rights and the Helsinki agreements.

DR S. J. ZIPPERSTEIN, the Centre's Frank Green Fellow in Modern European Jewish History, continued to teach 'The Jewish Experience in Europe, 1848–1948' and to supervise the research of postgraduate students. He also lectured on European Jewish History at the Department of Hebrew and Jewish Studies, University College, London, where he is on the Faculty. Dr Zipperstein began work this year on a survey of Russian Jewish history from the late eighteenth century to the present day which he will write together with a Soviet specialist, Professor Zvi Gitelman of the University of Michigan. At the same time Dr Zipperstein is at work on a study of Russian and Polish Jewry during World War I and he has been invited to submit an article on the subject for a forthcoming issue of the Hebrew University annual *Studies in Contemporary Jewry* which will be devoted to the period of the Russian revolution. He has also been invited to contribute the chapter on 'Russian Jewish Cultural Life, 1772–1855' for the collective history of Russian Jewry being prepared in Hebrew and English-language editions for the Open University of Israel. His article 'Jewish Enlightenment in Odessa: Cultural Characteristics, 1794–1871', published originally in *Jewish Social Studies* (Winter 1982),

will appear in Hebrew translation in a collection of essays on the Russian Haskalah that Dr Emmanuel Etkes of the Hebrew University has prepared for the Shazar Institute. He has written reviews over the last several months for *Social History*, *The Russian Review*, and *Soviet Jewish Affairs*. Dr Zipperstein served on the Organizing Committee for the International Conference on Polish-Jewish Relations in Modern History which took place in Oxford in September 1984 and he chaired the session devoted to the period of the partitions. He was subsequently invited to serve as the Associate Editor of the new academic review, *Polish Jewish Studies: An Interdisciplinary Journal*. He served as the co-coordinator of a conference (sponsored by the Oxford Centre and the Institute of Jewish Studies) on 'The Changing Character of Jewish Authority in the Modern Age' which was held at University College, London, on 18–19 July 1984. Together with Professor Jonathan Frankel of the Hebrew University, he hopes to plan another conference to be held in June 1985 on the theme 'Community and Assimilation in European Jewry, 1815–1881'. Over the course of the last year Dr Zipperstein has given scholarly papers at the European Association for Jewish Studies; Indiana University; University College, London; and the Association for Jewish Studies. Dr Zipperstein also spoke this year for the Oxford Jewish Society's Colloquium in Jewish Studies; the Oxford branch of the Council of Christians and Jews; the Spiro Institute; and the Institute of Jewish Affairs.