

**"Northwood Holocaust Memorial Day Events - 11th Year"
Monday 30th January to Thursday 2nd February 2012**

*THE OPPOSITE OF LOVE IS NOT HATE, IT'S INDIFFERENCE
THE OPPOSITE OF ART IS NOT UGLINESS, IT'S INDIFFERENCE
THE OPPOSITE OF FAITH IS NOT HERESY, IT'S INDIFFERENCE
AND THE OPPOSITE OF LIFE IS NOT DEATH, IT'S INDIFFERENCE*

Elie Weisel

SPEAK UP, SPEAK OUT

'First they came for the Communists and I did not speak out...' begins this famous poem by Pastor Niemöller, written in 1946. It highlights the dangers of not speaking up when we experience, see or hear injustice. The last line is so final: 'Then they came for me, and there was no-one left to speak out for me'.

The choices we make in the words and language we use every day should contribute to creating a safe and fair society. Many untold stories of the past have shown that our voices can be taken away. Under the Nazi regime of hatred, 1933-1945, the voices of so many boys and girls, men and women, elderly, disabled and infirm were silenced.

In **1935 The Nuremberg Laws** were introduced by the Nazi Party. Jewish men, women and children were stripped of their right to speak up, to own their own home, to work, to attend school, to have a bank account and keep their own name, among other restrictions placed on them. These anti-semitic laws were said to be established for the Protection of German Blood and German Honour. Jews were deprived of their Citizenship Rights because they were Jewish. Other groups and individuals were persecuted by the Nazis; Trade Unions were disbanded; Roma gypsies were rounded up and sent to concentration camps; homosexuals and those with disabilities were killed.

In recent genocides in Rwanda, Armenia, and Bosnia and in Darfur, people had their voices taken away **and others did not speak up for them**. In Cambodia, ownership of a radio was illegal as it was for Jews under the Nazi regime.

Today we can choose not to be a bystander. We have a remarkable opportunity to **Speak Up, Speak Out** in so many different ways. As well as telling others our opinion on social injustice and cruel regimes, we can use social media campaigns; we can use film and audio and upload these to websites and blogs. We can write to those in power, and organise or join demonstrations and protests to support what we believe in. We can choose to speak up through the language we use and so use our voices for prevention, not persecution. We can choose to challenge those who use words such as 'gay' and 'Jew' as those who use derogatory names as terms of offence.

Speaking Up, Speaking Out is not always easy and in a minority of cases in some countries, those who have spoken up have suffered retribution. But we live in a society where we are able to celebrate the diversity in our communities and encourage change, free from the dangers of state-sponsored hatred. Here, in the UK, we see people choosing to speak out and make a difference in our families, in our schools and in our neighbourhoods. We must respect those who have differing views from ourselves and respect each other.

As the world focuses on the UK in the Olympic year of 2012, we must use our voices to speak up. Discrimination and exclusion are still rife in our communities and we hear of stories of atrocity across the world. Now it is time for us to speak up for what we believe in, for what we understand to be right. We can learn the lessons of the past to create a safer, better future, by coming together to **Speak Up, Speak Out**.



Pastor Martin Niemöller,
(1892-1984)

A German pastor who became disillusioned and opposed to Hitler. In 1937 he was arrested for "not being enthusiastic enough about the Nazi movement"

THANK YOU

Our sincere thanks to each guest speaker who so generously shares their memories. We also thank Hans Jackson for his permission to reproduce some of his paintings which we will use in some of our workshops.

Some comments from Teachers and Students who attended our event in 2011

The girls clearly took a great deal from the day which sharpened not only their awareness of the Holocaust, but encourages them to consider all types of discrimination. The girls had a unique and beneficial experience, the benefit of which they will carry forward into their lives.
St Helen's School Northwood

We looked at the stories of rescuers, using the educational pack and the DVD on Nicholas Winton prior to our visit. The whole event was excellent, of a very high quality and professional.
John Lyon School, Harrow

The event reinforced topics discussed such as "Evil and Suffering" in Years 11, 12 and 13. Hearing the Holocaust Survivor speak made what they have learnt more relevant.
Swakeley's School, Hillingdon

This visit has always been very important to Nower Hill and we are thankful to be invited back every year. The talk from Vera Schaufeld was excellent and made this subject real.
Nower Hill School, Harrow

Your event fits in with the Year 9 History and Humanities in general. We will be doing follow up lessons which will be incorporated into the rest of the lessons on WW2.
Mellow Lane School, Hayes

In PSHCE the students cover the topic of the Holocaust and bullying. We do follow up work on the effect of this visit on them.
Guru Nanak Sikh School Hayes

We were impressed this year with the dignity of the speaker, being "emotionally" challenged by what had happened to Harry and the importance of Harry's personal story.
Bishop Ramsey School, Ruislip

Dear Nelly I thank you for teaching me that hatred and discrimination should always be overcome and we should learn to love all other beings. It is with love that you survived.
Watford Grammar School for Boys

Dear Toby, You've taught me that even through the most obscene hate and suffering we have to remember that labels don't define us. We are all Jews, Hindus, Muslims and Christians but we are all people. My promise to you is that we will make tomorrow better with everyone together.
Student Haberdasher's Aske Girls School"

As Director of Services for Holocaust Survivors and Refugees for Jewish Care I know how essential it is to the Holocaust survivors' well-being that they are listened to, especially by young people. Their peace of mind in the last part of their lives is very much bound up with the transmission of their legacy. They feel they have a duty to pass on their memories of what happened to them and their families during the Holocaust as well as more generally about their lives before and after the Holocaust. To achieve this goal, the survivors need Northwood Holocaust Memorial Day Events.

NHMDE week is helping to bring survivors nearer to those who will carry their legacy into the future by making the survivors central to the annual event around Holocaust Memorial Day. NHMDE is also laying the foundation for the continued transmission of these memories when there are no longer any survivors alive to speak.

As a trustee of the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust I know that we see this initiative as an outstanding example of what can be done to educate young people about the lessons that need to be learned to try and prevent the horrors of racism and genocide.

Judith Hassan OBE

Director of Services for The Holocaust Survivors and Refugees (Jewish Care)

June 2011

Talking about the Holocaust and other such events scared me and made me feel small and insignificant. Sometimes I wish I was part of it so I could share my story and make a difference. Knowledge is wisdom and I hope that in future we do not forget but remember what this world came to. I am black and I have learnt about slavery but the attitudes of everyone differentiate and your story has set a path straight in my head.

St. Margaret's School, Bushey

Thank you for telling your story as it deters people from hatred and helps people to accept that even though we are all different and unique we are all human and 99.9% the same.

Sacred Heart School Ruislip

Dear Barbara Thank you for telling us your story I was thinking to myself how lucky I am because if I was back in your time I would have faced similar things, as I am a young black boy.

Mellow Lane School, Hayes

Dear Jan, my feelings are - respect, appreciation, sympathy, depression, pity, pride, sorrow

Watford Grammar School for Boys

Dear Barbara, You have shown me an even bigger insight into the Holocaust as to why it is seen as a big deal. I just hope this stops the tragedy that happens around the world as these things do currently happen.

St. Dominic's Sixth Form College

Walter I will pass this story on as it should be shared with the world to keep their memories alive.

The Harefield Academy

To share your story and the important moral that hatred and revenge is wrong and that if we were to hate we could be just as bad as them.

Hockerill Anglo European College, Bishop Stortford

Dear Vera Your talk has made me realise that every person or child had people who loved them, and who will feel pain from their loss. All were humans and I will do my best to prevent events like this happening again. Life is too precious.

Northwood College

"It is all too easy to say that our world is dominated by social media. It is all too easy to say that our voice has no affect, that those with power do not listen. It is all too easy to vent rather than go out and use that tension to change what you really ought to change.

Holocaust Survivors do not take the easy path; it is hard, often painful, to speak of their traumatic past. These testimonies have been documented by The Spielberg Foundation for posterity. Many Holocaust Survivors speak up and speak out because they seek change. They speak up and speak out so that the young people who hear them are affected; so that if we experience hate, discrimination and exclusion, we will speak up and speak out.

Freedom starts by meeting a real person who embodies freedom, hearing them speak up and speak out, so that, inspired, you will do the same if you are called upon to do so."

By Rabbi Aaron Goldstein
Senior Rabbi
Northwood and Pinner Liberal Synagogue

"As technology advances at an ever faster pace, we seem to have a greater variety of ways of communicating than ever before. First we had the telephone and telegraph, then Morse code, the radio and television. The internet is already over 20 years old, while mobile phones do not only provide a means of speaking to our friends and family across the world, texting and messaging have brought about a language of their own.

Yet despite this, when our voices are needed the most we often remain conspicuously quiet. The Holocaust was one of the most terrible and challenging periods of our history. Innocent people were attacked because of their religion, race or because they were disabled or homosexual. The perpetrators took away their humanity and with it, their ability to speak out. Many witnesses to this barbarism could have spoken out, but instead retreated into a deathly silence. Perhaps they were frightened, but what is certain is that their indifference allowed the hatred to continue unabated. At the very time that it is necessary to speak out against the immoral behaviour of others, we have a tendency to go suddenly quiet.

What we can learn from this is that while we love speaking on the phone, texting or replying to messages from our friends, but when others have had lost their right to communicate, it is up to us to speak up – speak out and give a voice to those who have had theirs taken away."

By Rabbi Dr Moshe Freedman
Rabbi Northwood United Synagogue

THE HOLOCAUST EXPLAINED

Introducing the new national curriculum related Holocaust education website aimed at KS3/4/5 for the teaching of History, Citizenship, English, PSHE, Philosophy/Critical Thinking/Ethics and RE

Unique student facing multimedia site that supports independent and skills based learning
www.theholocaustexplained.org

“There is not much to report here on the way to heaven.”

Jane Haining



Jane Haining

The story of Jane Haining is the story of a Scottish woman who was deeply committed to her faith and who sacrificed her life for her ideals. It was her calling that took her away from her native Scotland, first to Budapest, and finally to Auschwitz, where she perished.

Born in 1897, on a farm near Dunscore, Dumfriesshire, in Scotland, Jane Haining was appointed matron of the Girls' Home of the Scottish Mission in Budapest, Hungary, in 1932. Haining liked Hungary and Budapest and soon became fluent in the language. She dedicated the remaining 12 years of her life to caring and teaching predominantly Jewish girls in the school next to the Girls' Home. Responsible for 400 children from 6 to 16. By 1940, faced with the worsening situation in Europe, the Scottish missionaries were ordered to return home. Haining refused to leave.

In March 1944, Germany occupied Hungary and soon began to deport the Jews from the Hungarian provinces. Haining was not deterred and stood by her students with great bravery, exposing herself to danger. On April 25, 1944, two Gestapo men appeared at the Mission, searched her office and gave her 15 minutes to get her things ready. She was taken first to Foutca prison, for questioning. Eight charges were laid against her, including working among Jews, visiting British prisoners of war and listening to the BBC. Haining was deported to Auschwitz where she became prisoner number 79467 and was forced into hard labor. Her last message to friends was a postcard asking for food. She ended her letter: “There is not much to report here on the way to heaven.”

Haining succumbed to starvation and the terrible conditions in the camp and died, probably on July 17, 1944. She was 47 years old.

On January 27, 1997, Yad Vashem recognized Jane Haining as Righteous Among the Nations....

Book your places for the 11th Northwood Holocaust Memorial Day Events Monday 30th January to Thursday 2nd February 2012

- Four sessions will be held daily in Northwood, two in the morning and two in the afternoon with additional sessions on two afternoons in Bushey and one day of sessions in Borehamwood.
- Each session will be 2.5 hours and include a talk from a Holocaust Survivor.
- These events are free, non denominational and meet the national curriculum requirements.
- We will offer special workshops for Year 12 & Year 13 students after their success last year.
- NHMDE is funded solely by grants and donations and whilst no charge is made to attend we welcome and are grateful for any donations.