

TALKS

Redland Green Bowling Club, Redland Green Rd, Redland, Bristol BS6 7HE
Tickets £3 DAVAR members • £4 concessions • £6 non-members

INTERNMENT OF GERMAN JEWS ON THE ISLE OF MAN DURING WORLD WAR TWO Thursday 10 October • 7.30 pm

David Memel • Bristol

During the second war German Jews living in Britain were classified as enemy aliens, and in 1940 many were interned in camps on the Isle of Man. These included David's father and father in law, and David has recently visited the sites of the camps. He will discuss the historical background to the internments, and the experiences of internees, mainly based on the accounts of his family. Despite the loss of freedom, many interesting experiences resulted, including living with a famous artist and a lion tamer.



David Memel was chair of Limmud Bristol South West 2018 and is a committee member of Davar. He is a retired GP.

HERE I AM; CAPTURING THE STORIES OF THE SOUTH WALES JEWISH COMMUNITY

Thursday 14 November • 7.30 pm
Colin Heyman & John Minkes • Cardiff

There have been two projects in Cardiff over the last 10 years that have used oral history to capture the stories of the Cardiff Jewish community, as well as preserving written records. The talk will look at how we went about it and some of the advantages of oral history, and will give some fascinating snippets from the stories people had to tell. It will also look at what we learnt about identity and belonging and the diversity of experience of the community, from the last Barmitzvah in a synagogue in Cologne ten days before Kristallnacht to the first Jewish wedding in Kidwelly, a village in West Wales.



Colin Heyman was involved in the Hineni Oral History project which started the work in 2009 and John Minkes of the Jewish History Association of South Wales has continued the work over the last three years. In our other lives, Colin is a trainer and facilitator, John a retired criminologist. Our other joint activity is going to see Cardiff City play.

TALKS

MEDICINE IN ANCIENT JUDAISM: WHY DOES G-D ATTEMPT TO KILL MOSES IN EXODUS 4?

Thursday 12 December • 7.30pm
Lindsey Askin • University of Bristol

Directly after the burning bush scene, G-d inexplicably tries to kill Moses (Exodus 4:24-26). Fortunately, Moses' life is saved by Zipporah's enigmatic "Bridegroom of Blood" ritual. Commentators both ancient and modern have proposed many solutions by filling in the gaps, proposing reasons such as Moses' failing courage or procrastination. But what did this episode mean in its original setting? This talk will look at how G-d's attempt on Moses' life is better understood in the broader historical context of ancient medicine. In this talk, Dr Askin will draw upon recent research from her current project, Medicine in Ancient Israel and Early Judaism, to explore how and why the Bible's portrayals of medicine and healing seems so mysterious and distant to us.



Dr Lindsey A. Askin is Lecturer in Jewish Studies, University of Bristol. She is the author of *Scribal Culture in Ben Sira* (Brill, 2018), which is based on her doctoral thesis (University of Cambridge, 2012-16). Her research interests include mental illness and medicine in the Bible and ancient Judaism, scribal culture and literacy, Ben Sira, the Dead Sea Scrolls, and the Book of Jubilees.

DAVAR

FILMS & TALKS

Autumn 2019 Programme



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IN BRISTOL & THE SOUTH WEST

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Data Protection • The information you give us will be used solely for maintaining our membership list and administering activities for members.

FILMS

THE ORPHEUS CINEMA • Northumbria Dr. Henleaze BS9 4HN

Tel: 0117 962 5852 • www.scottcinemas.co.uk

TICKETS: £5.80/£4.80 concessions and students

Films start at 8pm (no ads or trailers).

Open to DAVAR and non-DAVAR members.

DISOBEDIENCE

Wednesday 25 September • 8pm

UK 2017, 114 mins, English

Director Sebastian Lelio with Rachel Weisz, Rachel McAdams, Alessandro Nivola



The question of whose disobedience, and what kind of disobedience it is, are at the heart of this absorbing and moving love story from Chilean director Sebastián Lelio based on the novel by Naomi Alderman. The drama takes place in the Orthodox Jewish community of north London. Weisz is Ronit, a young photographer evidently living a fashionable and bohemian lifestyle in New York. Out of the blue, she receives some bad news from back home that her father, a much-respected rabbi, has died. Ronit's return resurrects her past relationships with Dovid (Alessandro Nivola), her father's favourite pupil, who is now a much admired young rabbi himself. The other is with Esti, beautifully played by Rachel McAdams, who was Ronit's only ally in youthful rebelliousness back in the day. This is a richly satisfying and powerfully acted work.
(modified from Peter Bagshaw, Guardian)

A BAG OF MARBLES (un sac de billes)

Wednesday 30 October • 8pm

France 2017, 113 mins, French, German, Russian, Yiddish

Director Christian Duguay featuring Batiste Fleurial, Dorian Le Clech

Last year this film was sold out, so we are reshowing it. Canadian director Christian Duguay explores the horrors of World War Two from the perspective of two young Jewish boys living in Nazi-occupied France in *Un Sac de Billes* (A Bag of Marbles). Based on the acclaimed memoirs of the same name by Joseph Joffo, *A Bag of Marbles* is a lavishly shot



production that is brilliantly acted and is a gut-wrenching reminder of one of history's darkest chapters. Following the fall of Paris to Nazi Germany during World War II, brothers Maurice (Batiste Fleurial) and Joseph (Dorian Le Clech) are forced to leave their close-knit Jewish family behind for the free-zone along the French Riviera.

Despite the grim war scenes and the dark subject matter, Duguay has created a lavishly shot film that boasts stunning cinematography, lush locations and beautiful period costumes. The film beautifully balances the high stake tension with some sweet and endearing moments between the two brothers and celebrates their innocence. While the film is a dark reminder of a terrible page in our history, its heart-warming story reminds us that there are still good people in our darkest moments (*modified from Daniele Foti-Cuzzola*)

BACK TO BERLIN

Wednesday 27 November • 8pm

Israel, Germany and others 2018, 76 mins subtitled, English, Hebrew, Romanian, Polish

Director Catherine Lurie with Yoran Maron

Following eleven modern-day Jewish bikers on an epic journey from Tel-Aviv to Berlin, crossing nine European countries and 4,500 km in twenty-four days. Their mission, to deliver the Maccabi torch to Hitler's infamous 1936 Olympic stadium, for the opening ceremony of the 2015 European Maccabiah Games.

These riders follow in the tracks of the early 1930s bikers who set out from Tel Aviv to all corners of Europe. En route, each country holds a chilling resonance for our motor-cycling Holocaust survivors, descendants of survivors and the grandson of a 1930s Maccabiah Rider. Stories of defiance and survival are revealed, as well as those of horrifying tragedy.



As resurgent populism and anti-Semitism once again rear their ugly heads, this film brings an important message through the voice of those who have been personally affected by one of the darkest pages in human history. This isn't simply a "Jewish" story. It is the story of people overcoming the worst from fellow man to restate our common humanity.