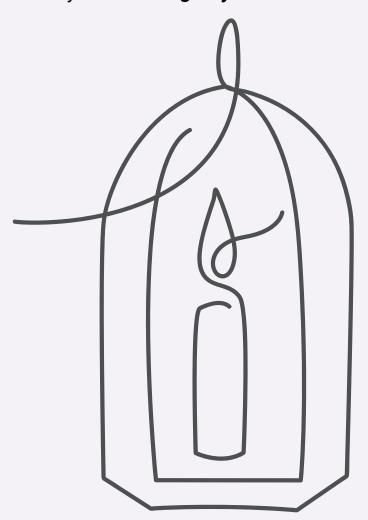
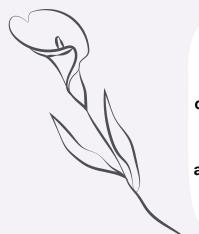
HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY

The Holocaust Memorial Day Trust theme for this year is 'Fragility of Freedom'.



MONDAY 29 JANUARY - 10:30AM WAR MEMORIAL GARDEN CHURCH WALK, BURGESS HILL Freedom means different things to different people. In every genocide, those targeted for persecution have their freedom restricted and removed, before many of them are murdered. This is often a subtle, slow process. There are ten stages of genocide, which demonstrate that genocide never just happens. A climate is created in which a perpetrator regime can remove freedoms.





Not only are the freedoms of those being targeted removed, the freedoms of others are also restricted, preventing people from challenging the regime. Despite this, in every genocide, there are those who risk their freedom to help others, preserve others' freedom, or stand up to the regime.

Freedom can be restricted in many ways:
Freedom of Religion and to self-identify
Freedom of Movement
Freedom of Reproduction
Freedom of expression
Freedom to live

2024 marks the 30th anniversary of the genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda, in which the world stood by as Hutu extremists shattered the fragile freedom in Rwanda, culminating in the murder of over one million Tutsi in one hundred days.

ORDER OF SERVICE

A Welcome from Councillor Richard Cherry, Leader of Burgess Hill Town Council

A reading from Lesley Urbach of Generation2Generation

A Reading from Rabbi Gabriel Kanter-Webber, from Brighton and Hove Progressive Synagogue

The Story of Vali Racz - read by a student from Burgess Hill Academy

The Story of Alec Ward - read by a student from Burgess Hill Girls

'Belsen Silence' by Iolo Lewis - read by Helen Underwood-Lewis

A Reading from Father David, from St John the Evangelist

A Reading from Irene Balls of Amnesty International

LAYING OF THE STONES

by attending pupils from Burgess Hill Academy and Burgess Hill Girls

To conclude the service, we will all say together in unison the following quotation from Yehuda Bauer:

"Thou shalt not be a victim, thou shalt not be a perpetrator, but, above all, thou shalt not be a bystander."

It is a misconception that liberation from the perpetrator regime means the end of suffering and the start of a free life.

Whilst allied liberators freed Holocaust survivors from the physical imprisonment of concentration camps, prisoners found themselves alone, unable to return home, and having to move to a new country, learn a new language and rebuild their lives from scratch.





WYBERLYE - A SANCTUARY FOR REFUGEE CHILDREN IN BURGESS HILL:

Between 1939 and 1940/41, up to 50
Jewish girls from Germany, Austria and
Czechoslovakia stayed at Wyberlye
Ladies Convalescent Home. The home
was run by the Grand Order of the Sons
of Jacob, a Jewish-friendly society.

The Grand Order of the Sons of Jacob agreed to provide refuge for Jewish girls from Nazi-occupied Europe at its AGM at the end of December 1938. The Matron of the Convalescent Home looked after the children. Military authorities requisitioned the premises in early February 1941, and the children were returned to Central Movement.

