

» Hanukkah celebrations

Representatives from different faiths mark festival, children learn about customs and Association of Jewish Refugees marks 70th anniversary

Candles lit in wish to dispel hatred across the world

by **Kathrin Ebeling**
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» A number of special events marked the beginning of Hanukkah celebrations with the lighting of the first menorah candle.

At the Liberal Jewish Synagogue in St



■ **Speaker Dr Charlotte Knobloch and Andrew Kaufman, chairman of the Association of Jewish Refugees, at the German Embassy**

John's Wood, leaders of Jewish, Christian, Muslim and Hindu faiths joined US Ambassador Louis Susman and Israeli Ambassador Daniel Taub for a ceremony last week.

Rabbi Alexandra Wright said: "It was really amazing. It felt like there were so many different faith communities joining together to form a little corner of the world where everybody lit a candle to dispel hatred."

Some of the 200 guests included pupils studying religious education at Queens Park Community School.

Visitors

The Jewish Museum London in Albert Street, Camden Town, celebrated the beginning of Hanukkah by inviting visitors into the newly refurbished in-house café. Among kosher specialities, guests joined staff for the candle lighting ritual at the museum.

To mark the founding of the Association of Jewish Refugees (AJR) in July 1941, the German Embassy hosted a cel-



■ **Slurik Remer, Head of Jewish Studies, Yaakov Kramer and Shloimy Briefand at the Kisharon Day School**

ebration, which members of the AJR's West Hampstead branch attended.

Dr Charlotte Knobloch, former President of the Central Council of Jews in Germany, gave a talk entitled Jewish Life in Germany Today to the 150 attendees.

Rabbi Danny Bergson led prayers and guests were invited to enjoy Hanukkah ladkes

and doughnuts.

AJR chairman Andrew Kaufman, from Belsize Park, said: "We are all enormously grateful to the ambassador for his warm and generous hospitality and for joining in the celebrations for the AJR's 70th anniversary."

Children at the Kisharon Day School in Finchley Road learned about the customs and tradi-

tions of Hanukkah.

They were taught how to make oil by a touring cold press olive oil workshop before setting light to the first candlewick on the menorah with their teacher.

Hanukkah is the Jewish winter festival of light and celebrations began on December 20 and lasted until yesterday (December 28).

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■ **Café manager Mei Lam Im, Costantin Garrgata, also from the café, Anne Cowen, trustee and chairwoman of Friends of the Jewish Museum, Daisy Poole, retail manager, and Leonie Warner, FOH manager, at the Jewish Museum in Camden Town**

Picture:
Polly Hancock

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■ **Marjorie Susman, wife of US ambassador, Rabbi Alexandra Wright, Daniel Taub, Israeli ambassador, Olivia Goldenberg, Lily Lazarus and US ambassador Louis Susman at the Liberal Jewish Synagogue in St John's Wood**

Picture: Nigel Sutton