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UK

E-NEWS

Rescue-Return-Restore

April 25



GETTING READY!

We hear from Ezra's Ukraine Director that, in the light of current peace talks, the Jewish Agency is beginning to prepare for a big push in Aliyah. No-one has clear numbers of who might want to take advantage of the borders opening up when a peace deal between Russia and Ukraine would allow it.

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PAT AT CHINESE CHURCH

On Palm Sunday, Pat was invited to speak at Glasgow Chinese Grace Church and give a presentation of Ezra's ministry. The service featured flag-dancing, assembling a Seder plate and hearing about the Jewish traditions at Passover.

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Making new friends: George and Igor.





SCOTTISH CONFERENCE

On the last Saturday in May, we are hosting our long-awaited Scottish Conference together with Prayer for Israel organisation. Pat, as well as the Director of Prayer for Israel, Paul Smith, will be speaking at the event and give updates and key prayer points to pray for at this time. The conference will take place in Mossneuk Parish Church, East Kilbride, from 10.30am till 4pm on 31st May. The Conference is free, no lunch is provided but we would still like to ask all to register online, on Prayer for Israel website <https://prayerforisrael.co.uk/scotland-prayer-bible-day/>. You may also join for a part of the day only, as it fits your schedule.

ON CHINA, DOWN-UNDER AND ISTANBUL

Many years ago, Mel Hoelzle, the founder of Ezra International, and Michael Utterback, Director of Ministry to Israel, were involved in helping individuals to leave China for Israel. However, proving Jewishness in China is very difficult and hence, Aliyah from China is almost impossible. Yet, many of our Chinese friends are praying for Israel, for Aliyah and the Jewish people.

Leandro, one of our European Reps, is currently in New Zealand gathering a new network of support for Ezra, after having also visited Australia (picture on front top). Please pray for success for his trip and for new supporters being raised from down-under!

Finally, teams met in Istanbul at the end of March to encourage each other in faith. We thank God for a successful team gathering! In the picture at the front page low on left is a UK Board member making friends with Igor, Ezra Moldova Rep, in Istanbul.

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According to Israel's Ministry of Aliyah and Integration, from Passover 2024 to Passover 2025, 27,281 made Aliyah. The highest number of these came from Russia (15,188) and after that from USA, France and Ukraine.

Among the new repatriates were one from South Korea, one from Kenya, one from Zambia and also the last guardian of the synagogue in Kabul, Afghanistan (the last Jew from Afghanistan!).

Men to leave Ukraine

The Jewish Agency states that the number of Jewish people wishing to leave Ukraine when borders open for men could be between 6,000-20,000. Currently, men between the ages of 18-60 cannot leave Ukraine due to the war. Also, while the war continues there are no operational airports in Ukraine. Two or three of the airports could be back in use quite quickly after a ceasefire is agreed. It's possible that some men could leave immediately, wishing to join their wives and families who are already in Israel, but some would need to prepare paperwork and get passports. Many men of military age right now are afraid to renew their passports as they would come to the attention of the authorities as possible deserters.

Pray for peace in Ukraine! Pray for all the relevant Jewish and Christian organisations to be ready for an increase in Aliyah when the time comes!

Saving a life



Larysa is an amazing woman, full of energy and optimism, even at the age of 80! Larysa had made sandwiches for the road for everyone, on our way to the airport. On the way, there was a 3 hour delay. In the bus there was a man in poor physical condition, with an oxygen tank. He was struggling to breathe; Larysa sat closer to him and chatted with him. He was a former military man, like her two former husbands. She took him by the hand. The man came to life, blossomed next to this beautiful person. Larysa treated the revived old man with her sandwiches. Later both arrived safely in Moldova and from there to Israel!