

Mayor of Basingstoke and Deane
Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council
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The Worshipful Mayor Councillor David Leeks

invites you to attend the marking of Holocaust Day Memorial Service

27th January 2024

at 10:00am

The theme for 2024's Holocaust Memorial Day is Fragility of Freedom

'That is when the trouble started for the Jews. Our freedom was severely restricted by a series of anti-Jewish decrees'

Anne Frank, diary entry, Saturday 20 June 1942 – reflecting on May 1940 when the Germans arrived in the Netherlands





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HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL SERVICE

09.59am 10:00am 10.01am The Mayoral Party arrives at the War Memorial Bugler* sounds for start of 1-minute silence Bugler* end of 1-minute silence

Welcome and address by the Mayor's Chaplain, Reverend Steve McKay

The Mayor, Cllr David Leeks and Leader of the Council, Paul Harvey will lay a wreath at the War Memorial on behalf of the Basingstoke and Deane Borough in remembrance of those who suffered at the hands of others.

The Mourner's Kaddish will be read by Mr Michael Cohen (The Kaddish is a deeply meaningful prayer that expresses and reflects the values of the Jewish people)

A Poem, will be read by Mayoress Amanda Leeks 'First They Came for the Jews' by Martin Niemoller

Prayers follow by the Mayor's Chaplain

10.15am

The Mace Bearer leads the Mayoral Party back to Council Offices

* The Bugler will be playing a few lines of 'The Partisans' Song

('Zog nit keynmol az du geyst dem letstn veg' (Never say that you are walking the final road), also known as 'The Partisans' Song', is perhaps the best-known of the Yiddish songs created during the Holocaust. It was written by the young Vilna poet Hirsh Glik and based on a pre-existing melody by the Soviet-Jewish composer Dimitri Pokrass. Inspired by the news of the Warsaw ghetto uprising, the song was adopted as the official anthem of the Vilna partisans shortly after it was composed in 1943 and spread with remarkable rapidity to other ghettos and camps. The song is powerful and defiantly optimistic, acknowledging Jewish suffering in the past and present, and urging the Jewish people to continue fighting for their survival. It is one of the most frequently performed songs at Holocaust commemoration ceremonies.)