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A Legend - Harry Ellis

Solicitor and Community Leader

Harry was born 1916 in Monmouthshire, where he studied to become a solicitor, qualifying in May 1939. An exciting year for Harry, as he married his childhood sweetheart Amy a few months later.

Harry was a well-known member of the Bournemouth Law Community, serving as President of the Bournemouth and District Law Society in 1973. He was a leading partner in a number of law firms including Ellis Jones.

Harry joined the Bournemouth Hebrew Congregation in 1940 and served in various board positions for the next 70 years. He was elected as Treasurer aged 31, and then went on to be President five times. In 1965 he became a Trustee, and then a Senior Life President and Trustee, a position he held until his death. Harry was proud to tell everyone that he attended every AGM.

He was instrumental in the development of the shul it needed more space. He was a leading figure in the purchase of the Windsor Hotel which was adjacent to the synagogue building. It was eventually knocked down and replaced by the Murray Muscat Centre, the Menorah Suite and the rooms above, which were initially used as cheder classrooms and two residential flats.

Harry saved the Hannah Levy House from closure in the 1980s when Jewish Care withdrew their support. Under his counselling and guidance the home continued for over another thirty years.

Harry ELLIS, died 24/12/2016 aged 100. He is survived by his son Jonathan and grandchildren Hannah, Daniel, Noah and Daisy.