

ETZ CHAYIM GALLERY at NPLS

29 January - 31 March 2012

Faces in the Void: Czech Survivors of the Holocaust

**An exhibition of poetry and photography by
Jane Liddell-King & Marion Davies**



This project explores the impact of politics and place on past and present Jewish life from the most tragic to the redemptive.

During the Communist era following the Holocaust 1,564 Czech Torah Scrolls were rescued from Prague, brought to London, restored where possible and loaned around the world.

The Scroll on loan to Jane's synagogue initially led us to the small town of Pardubice near Prague. There we met survivors and their families who shared their unique stories.

From this beginning we have pursued individual and intersecting stories. The result is a project revealing the renewal and variety of Jewish life within the Czech Republic in the wake of the Shoah and the Communist regime.

Developing the project in England, we collected further stories from Czech survivors such as the 104 year old pianist Alice Herz-Sommer and Vera Gissing. Vera was one of 700 Czech Jewish children rescued by Sir Nicholas Winton to whom she introduced us.

The resulting images and poems bring to life intersecting testimonies so that the Czech Jewish community becomes a marker for other minority communities. The audience comes face to face with both the reality of prejudice that leads to genocide and the possibility of recovery and regeneration.

Viewing by appointment only
Northwood and Pinner Liberal Synagogue
Oaklands Gate, Northwood, HA6 3AA
01923 822592 barfisher@btinternet.com