



## Barbara Sieratzki 1926-2018

Barbara Sieratzki, z.l., was born in Cracow. After the German invasion, she escaped to Prague and later to Bratislava, and then Budapest, and completed high school in Hungary using a Christian ID. She was arrested by the Gestapo in June 1944 and survived Mauthausen, together with her mother Gusti Tennenbaum. After

liberation by the Russian Army, Barbara became a student at the Philosophical Faculty of the University of Budapest but soon, because of financial needs and her natural talent for languages, became an interpreter for the Jewish Agency and subsequently a liaison officer to the British Army in Bergen Belsen.

In 1949, Barbara married Heinrich Sieratzki and together they built a new life and raised a family in Frankfurt am Main, working first in textiles and subsequently in property. After her husband's early

death, Barbara managed the business on her own. In 2007 Barbara moved to London.

Barbara had a long record of supporting academic programmes in Israel. In 2010, she met with HU President Prof. Menahem Ben-Sasson, who kindled her interest in Revivim, an innovative honours programme that targets the revival of Jewish Studies in secular Israeli schools. It offers the brightest and most dedicated students the opportunity to complete a BA and MA in Jewish Studies at HU, as well as teacher certification, in just four years of study.



Barbara is lovingly remembered by staff and students of the Revivim Programme.

Main picture: Barbara with students Dikla Hodefi, Meytal Blumenthal, and Shir Doctorman.



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<https://www.bfhu.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Future-2018-19-Website-version5.pdf>

## The Revivim Programme at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Revivim is an innovative honours programme of the Hebrew University, Israel's foremost centre of advanced learning and research that targets Israel's brightest and best future educators. Each year, a rigorous selection committee accepts only a limited number of students, who are required to maintain a high academic average to remain in the programme. Revivim offers these excellent students the opportunity to complete a B.A. and M.A. in Jewish Studies, as well as teacher certification, in four concentrated years of study. Revivim students commit to teach in the secular Israeli school system for a minimum of four years following their graduation.

The programme is a response to a challenge: in today's Israel, high school students are often unfamiliar with basic Jewish sources and question their relationship to Jewish culture and values. In the face of this growing existential crisis, there is an urgent need to re-introduce Israeli youth to their rich heritage in order to strengthen their Jewish identity and enable their active participation in the future of the Jewish people.

In schools across Israel, Revivim's graduates create positive experiences that allow young adults to discover the diverse and inspiring nature of Jewish history, and develop a meaningful, creative relationship with Jewish culture. Currently, over 180 Hebrew University Revivim graduates are teaching in more than 100 schools throughout Israel

<https://en.revivim.huji.ac.il/>