

HORAŽD'OVICE TODAY

A reflective visit to Horažďovice

22-26 May 2012

The Westminster Synagogue Scrolls Committee, accompanied by the Curator and the Administrator of the Czech Memorial Scrolls Trust, made a visit to their Scroll town of Horažďovice, together with Shlomo Fischl, one of the few survivors of the Holocaust from Horažďovice.



Shlomo Fischl with Liliane Fredericks

“There will be others who will recall this important visit, but I would like to share with you my feelings and impressions... why these particular scrolls? And what do they represent?”

It was for me a very emotional and moving experience to meet with the people of this town and after to fully appreciate the value, meaning and message of our scrolls. ●

Rabbi Thomas Salamon

Plaque to commemorate the site of the Horažďovice Synagogue

‘The contrast between the past and the present becomes abundantly clear when talking with residents.

We were most cordially greeted by Mayors past and present, the Prachen choir the renovators of former Jewish homes and the architect of the commemorative plaque on the site of the former Synagogue.’

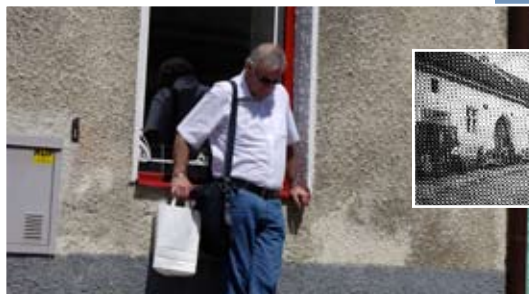
Alberta Strage



‘For those of us who were there, it was a trip never to be forgotten, filled with moments of emotion as Schlomo Fischl led us on a tour of the former Jewish houses.’

Evelyn Friedlander





• The emotional high point of the entire trip was without doubt accompanying Shlomo Fischl on the walk to the railway yard, the walk he had last made in November 1942 when all his friends and relations were herded into wagons bound for Terezin and Auschwitz. •

Valery Rees





“The memorial service at the cemetery, attended by the local councillors as well as our party, was very moving and a fitting culmination to a very emotional day.”

Renée Salamon



“Our visit has strengthened my resolve to preserve these scrolls- not only in the Ark but to ensure that their message is heard and that they remain a bridge between people of all faiths as well as a symbol of goodwill in a world where this is being forgotten.”

Rabbi Thomas Salamon