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Defiance — and fear

● Manchester's Jews express their shock, pain and solidarity after terror attack

BY ROSA DOHERTY

▶ RABBIS JOINED imams and priests for a vigil on the streets of Manchester on Tuesday, the day after a suicide bomber killed at least 22 people — including children — and left 59 others injured.

"There is nothing like the horror of hearing that news," said Rabbi Warren Elf of Manchester Reform Synagogue. "But at a time like this it is very important to bring people together."

Rabbi Elf, who is community development officer of the Manchester Faith Network, added: "The person who carried out this attack didn't care who they hurt. We want to stand together and say 'we do'."

The vigil was a few hundred metres away from where Salman Abedi had detonated a deadly device at Manchester Arena the night before.

The thousands who gathered were not only paying tribute to the dead. They were also showing defiance and looking, positively, to the future.

People of all faiths and none made new friends and joked with strangers. But while the general mood was defiant, there was also a sense of fear among the city's Jewish community.

That feeling was palpable along Leicester Road in Salford, home to Brackmans kosher bakery.

Community Security Trust volunteers manned the street corners nearby, and mothers with buggies did not want to stop and chat. Suzie, 50, said she was "terrified" of a secondary attack targeting Jews. "We are living in scary times. CST was outside the school today. It is scary for us and our children."

Her 19-year-old daughter, Sheva, add-

ed: "CST make you feel like someone is looking after you. I don't feel safe here. It feels safer in Israel because you know there everyone looks out for you. Here we feel like the minority, like we could be next."

Jonny Wineberg, vice-president of the Jewish Representative Council, said his feelings were "indescribable" as he heard about the attack, knowing his daughter was attending the pop concert targeted by the suicide bomber.

"You can't imagine what that feels like as a parent. Like any parent would, the second I heard the news, I tried to call my daughter. It felt like forever till she picked up but then she answered and we knew she was ok. Other parents were not so lucky."

Yeshiva students Asher Benarroch, 16, and Moishe Halpern, 18, were among those who came to pay tribute in Manchester.

Tzitzit tucked neatly into their trouser pockets, the teenagers had cycled the two miles from Prestwich to join the crowd.

Mr Benarroch said: "We are in shock. We came to see people here and pay our respects. We want to show that faith is not going to separate us from our friends."

The teenager said that in Manchester's strictly Orthodox community, in the north of the city, the feeling was "very tense."

"There is extra security everywhere and we weren't allowed out of the yeshiva yesterday after the attack. It was very scary."

"To know five minutes up the road there was a terror attack is very frightening."

CST increased its patrols in the city's



Jewish pensioner Renee Rachel Black, 93, is comforted by Imam Sadiq Patel as they pay their respects at a vigil in Manchester on Tuesday

Trump: big dreams, no substance

ANALYSIS
BY ANSHEL PFEFFER

▶ DONALD TRUMP left Israel on Tuesday afternoon after 28 hours of pro-Israel speeches, fighting talk on terror, out-loud dreaming about peace — but very little of actual substance.

In his concluding speech at the Israel Museum in Jerusalem, he promised his listeners that both Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas want to make peace, but did not supply any details of how that may be achieved.

The Palestinians will have been disappointed that at no point during his visit — not even during his short stop in Bethlehem to meet Mr Abbas — did he publicly raise the idea of a Palestinian state or Israel's 50-year-old occupation of the West Bank.

The Israeli government was very pleased with Mr Trump's many gestures of support and his promises to join them and the Sunni Arab states in their struggle against Islamist terror and Iran. However, he made no sign of changing the American policy on not recognising Jerusalem as Israel's capital or fulfilling his campaign promise to move the US Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. Even during his visit to the Western Wall on Monday afternoon, no Israeli officials — except the "Kotel Rabbi" — were allowed to accompany him. That does not mean

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TRAVEL EXPLORE

Sandy Rashty heads into the mountains to discover a different side to this sunsoaked island, where agrotourism is helping to save Cypriot traditions

When John Papadouris returned to his hometown in the Cypriot mountains, he was devastated by its condition.

The scenic forests and rich scents of local fruit remained but he found the economy dwindling, the younger generation fleeing in search of jobs and the roads in a state of disrepair.

In short, the ancient mountain village of Kalopanayiotis — once a key stop for pilgrims — was at risk of becoming a lost one. But this story has a happy ending.

Determined to “revive” the village, the civil engineering magnate invested heavily in the area, and encouraged financial backers to do the same. Now, as Mayor of the village and owner of the local four-star hotel — the Casale Panayiotis — he has watched it bloom.

It is here, in the hotel’s bespoke library, that we are told the story. Like so many tourists, from both the UK and Israel, we have travelled up long winding mountain roads to stay at the boutique resort, located in the heart of the village.

“It is an amazing place for tourists, but it has also done so much for the local economy,” explains hotel

manager Freda Yannitsas. “People in the village benefit from jobs at the resort, and they also use the lighting on the roads that has been put up by Mr Papadouris. It’s a real restoration project.”

Chefs use local produce to prepare traditional recipes, including doima, baklava, haloumi cheese with fig jam and the heartwarming mougendra (a combination of lentils and rice, topped with sweet potato).

Guests can buy honey from local beekeepers, wine from nearby vineyards and traditional sweet-treats, made by elderly women whose recipes date back generations. And group tutorials are on offer. We are introduced to one lady, who sits down on a veranda, to prepare glyko koutailou (orange peel preserve).

We watch as Mrs Aliki (also the vil-

GETTING THERE

► 10 nights on Cyprus costs from £2,149 per person with Sovereign, including three nights at Casale Panayiotis and a week at the Anassa Hotel, B&B, plus flights from Gatwick with EasyJet, airport security fast pass and access to No 1 Lounges (where available). Based on departure of June 20. www.sovereign.com

Cyprus Green

Swap the beach for the Troodos mountains, where Casale Panayiotis is based



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PHOTO COURTESY CASALE PANAYIOTIS

lage seamstress) expertly peels the fruit, and then twists the peel to prepare the jam. Luckily, she has dishd out a pre-made batch, encouraging us to dip the peel in water to remove some of the syrup and enjoy the sweet-treat in the sun.

There can be few better places than this secluded mountain spot to escape the frenzy of the city. Hiking boots on, we take a nature walk around the area. From a black-cloaked bearded monk in an 11th century chapel, we learn about the culture and traditions that still influence the village and the effort that has gone into preserving the Unesco-listed St John Lampadistis monastery.

We walk along carefully marked footpaths past mineral springs, through the forest and greenery until we come across an old mill, once used to make bread but now a homage to what used to stand.

But for me, the highlight of the 43-bedroom wood-beamed and stone-walled resort was walking through an oasis by Mr Papadouris’ summer home. There, guests are given a chance to fish in a pond for the village’s famed trout and pick an array of fruits — from pomelos to oranges, kiwis, cherries and sweet lemons — to be turned into juice, or used by the chefs. Flowers decorating tables at the hotel’s two restaurants are grown here too.

For those looking for pure relaxation, there’s the Myrliantoussa Spa too. Steam room, sauna and spectacular massage aside, the sealed “snow room”, layered with ice and fluffy snow is popular with those brave enough to



Gazing out to the coast at The Anassa

PHOTO COURTESY THE ANASSA

try the hot-to-cold experience, proven to boost circulation.

Once you’ve had your fill of seclusion, the beachfront Anassa Hotel lies a two-hour drive down the mountain — and a world away.

The five-star hotel is all about exclusivity with former guests including the King and Queen of Belgium, Leonardo DiCaprio and Rod Stewart, popular with everyone from Israeli guests to honeymooners and young families.

Here the emphasis is on luxury and pampering. The varied food at the eight restaurants and bars is superb; Cypriot yogurts, scented honey, fresh-squeezed juices, nuts and fruits served with a dollop of finesse at breakfast.

Buggies are on-call 24-hours a day

to ferry guests across the well-lit and fountain-laden resort. Young parents arrive without worrying about packing nappies or baby bottles — everyday child amenities come with the hotel’s family-friendly “baby-light” package. More than that, the child day care services encourage kids to pick fresh rosemary, olives and oranges — which they are later able to cook with.

The 166-rooms are heavenly too. Designed in light blue and white with light wood, most overlook the blue sea, some with their own private infinity pool. Given nothing is an inconvenience, it is no surprise 40 per cent of guests are repeat-bookers.

With nearby Paphos named this year’s European Capital of Culture, the special events taking place mean

there are even more reasons to explore the city this year — if you can resist the temptation to stay put.

“No one really leaves — not even to go out. We can take them if they want, but there is so much to do here, why would they?” explains one member of staff. “Unless they want to take a walk on the beach or a boat out to the sea — that is wonderful.”

I have to agree. Given time-constraints, I regrettably can’t take advantage of any of the three scenic walking trails. Instead, I’m forced to spend my short stay at a five-course lunch following a series of pampering treatments in the child-free Thalassa spa, complete with a therapeutic jet pool.

Mountain, beach or city culture, the only difficulty is tearing yourself away,