

Kehila

The **Mosaic** community magazine | **Monthly**

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August 2014

RENEWING THE SOUL

An Experiential Workshop
For The High Holy Days
day to reflect, remember and return

Sunday 14th September 2014

1:30 pm - 5:30 pm

39 Bessborough Road, Harrow, HA1 3BS

With

Esther Aronsfeld

**Rabbi Kathleen de Magtige-Middleton
& Rabbi Frank Dabba Smith**

To book your place email admin@mosaicreform.org.uk or
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Suggested Tzedakeh donation of £10

In this Issue

3 A Rabbi's Word,
by Rabbi Kathleen Middleton

4 Reports from the Chairmen
of the three shuls

5 Barbara Grant's address to
past MNS Chairmen

6 Jewish Journey to
Copenhagen

7 Rabbi Frank Dabba Smith -
20 years ordained

8 Living Wage
Preparing for the High Holydays

9 Len and Joan Snow
Shofar training

10 Mosaic Moments

12 HaMakom's Tzedakah Fair

13 Kiev Koppers /Mitzvah Day
Kehila Quiz

14 Mosaic Events

15 What is Mosaic?
Get in Touch

About our members

HEMS

SPECIAL BIRTHDAYS IN AUGUST:

Chloe Vinacour (9)
Mark Hartstone (50)
Paulette Sachon (50)
Linda Langley (70)

MAZELTOV TO:

Paul & Laura Kaye on their 20th wedding anniversary
Enrique & Deborah Rafalin on their 20th wedding anniversary

GET WELL TO:

Stephanie Rosen

CONDOLENCES TO:

Julie Dysch on the death of her father,
Alan Schiller

HWPS

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS:

Judith Sonnenberg

MAZAL TOV TO:

Inge Harwood on the birth of her great-grandson
Joy and David Pearson on their diamond wedding anniversary
Jeanette and Gerald Shindler on their diamond wedding anniversary
Ron Collins on the birth of a new grandson, born to his daughter Daniella and her husband Christian Lagueux in Montreal, Canada

GOOD LUCK IN THEIR NEW HOMES:

Judith & Clive Dexter
Angela & Philip Brand

SPECIAL BIRTHDAYS :

Stanley Rosenthal
Phyllis Michie
Helena Woolf

CONDOLENCES TO:

Carol and Leslie Winston and their family on the recent passing of Milcie Dobson, the last surviving founder member of what was originally known as Wembley & District Liberal Synagogue.

GET WELL WISHES TO:

Linda Benson
David Pearson

Mosaic Reform

MAZAL TOV TO:

Adela Sefton on the birth of her great-grand-daughter, Hannah.
Ros Franks on the birth of her grand-daughter, Maya Gabrielle.
Sue & Harold Shupak on the birth of their grand-daughter, Abbie Annette.
Jennifer & Joe Schneider on the birth of their grandson, Hudson Zico.
Annette & John Ashmele on the birth of their grand-daughter, Hannah Lyra
Val & Tony Fineberg on the birth of their grand-daughter, Holly.

SPECIAL BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES:

Maya Shackell (7)
Barry Freeman (80)
Angela Donn (70)
Thelma Rose (102)
Linda Turner (70).
Marion Weihs (90)
Veronica & Michael Lansman on their 50th wedding anniversary.
Paula & Jeffrey Rogers on their 40th wedding anniversary.

GET WELL WISHES TO:

June Cass
Sylvia Wiseman

GOOD LUCK IN THEIR NEW HOMES TO:

Barbara Wrightman
Jo Piler
Katie & David Leigh-Ellis

CONDOLENCES TO:

Valerie Maltz on the death of her husband, Leon.
June Cass on the death of her husband, Gerald



Welcome

It is at times like this that the limitations of paper-based services are most apparent. The situation in Israel is uppermost in the minds of us all while we are preparing this magazine, and yet we know that anything we say will be over-taken by events and made redundant long before Kehila drops through your letter-box. So, do not take our silence on the subject as anything approaching indifference. In the words of the Siddur - *send God's truth to the leaders of the people of Israel to guide them with wisdom and understanding.*

Next month we will be heavily into the High Holy Days – the Rosh Hashanah edition of our big-sister magazine 'seasonal Kehila' (as we have come to call it) will be distributed on 18th September and, rather than have a Kehila-Monthly very shortly before and after, it has been decided that the next monthly edition will be that for November, distributing on 30th October. There will be a double helping of birthday wishes to look forward to in that.

Thank you to our many and varied contributors and to those who have commented on our offering. As Humphrey Phillips said (which we think is complimentary!) *"Congratulations on an amazing transformation – Bimah was a comfortable read, Kehila is exhausting!"*

Martin Simonis and Judy Silverton (Joint Editors)

Send your articles, pictures, letters etc to
newsdesk@choosmosaic.org

Copy date for the November issue of Kehila-Monthly is Sunday 19th October. Copy date for Rosh Hashanah issue of Kehila is 1st September. Material received after this date will have to be held over until the next issue.

Views expressed in this Newsletter do not necessarily reflect those of the officers or council of Mosaic or its constituent synagogues.

A Rabbi's Word

By Rabbi Kathleen Magtige-Middleton of Mosaic Reform

Rediscovering our Centre of Moral Narrative Gravity

Last month, Adrian and Lindsey Cohen, Barbara Grant and I attended the annual two-day seminar at Leo Baeck College, 'Summer Institute for Leadership'. It was the first time that representatives from two of the three synagogues of Mosaic sat down together to do some focused work on the future of Mosaic. The seminar was led by the charismatic author and educator, Rabbi Dr Lawrence Hoffman. 'Rabbi Larry', as he prefers to be called, was ordained in 1969, and since 1973 he has taught at Hebrew Union College in liturgy, ritual and spirituality, as well as theology and synagogue leadership. Rabbi Larry is the co-founder of 'Synagogue 200' a 'trans-denominational project to envision the ideal synagogue as moral and spiritual centre for the 21st Century and Synagogue' and of 'Synagogue 3000', which seeks to engage the next generation 'through a relational approach, featuring strong communities with transformed synagogues at their centre'.

Rabbi Larry believes that a great number of people see no ultimate value in synagogues. Without ultimate value, they have no loyalty beyond the services the synagogue offers (school, youth group etc.). Many synagogues, and to some extent we too, focus their entire raison d'être on providing programmes, hoping that if they do more and do it better, they will engage and maintain more members. Rabbi Larry, however, assured us that most synagogues do pretty much the

same thing, and, although they have to do what they do well, it will not automatically attract, engage or inspire members. It is not what synagogues do, but what they are; their values; what they stand for and what their members profess to believe in, which inspires and builds loyalty.

Join the Jewish Conversation; be surprised by its relevance and help make a difference

According to Rabbi Larry, synagogues need to define their own 'moral space' in order to identify what they represent. Synagogues need to define for themselves a new, bold, Jewish vision to become the centre of 'Moral Narrative Gravity' to link in with the spiritual needs and identity of its individual members, to help them define what it is to be a (Post-)Modern Jew.

In order to achieve this, Synagogues



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should provide greater opportunities for 'transformative learning' by formulating a new conceptual framework, because most of us construct our identities ('our stories', as Rabbi Larry calls them) through the metaphors by which we live our lives. Thus, synagogues can focus more on the things which really matter; on the things that provide meaning for people who seek meaning in a world which is becoming increasingly shallow and disconnected.

Transformative learning is not easy. When we try to express something profound, words often fail us, and we resort to symbolic language and metaphors. Larry calls words 'symbolic place holders', because, the metaphors we often employ in such situations are generally theologically uncomfortable, but we still need to use them to stretch our thinking and to move the conversation forward.

How then does a community bring about transformative change? By asking deeper questions, and by starting a conversation with its leaders and members to find out what really matters to them. With all this in mind, we were invited to spend 15 minutes together to work on a 'vision statement' and this is what we came up with for Mosaic:

Join the Jewish Conversation; be surprised by its relevance and help make a difference.

All four of us felt inspired and invigorated by the seminar and quite ready to start the 'conversation'. I hope you will all join in too.

Reports from the Chairmen



Neil Mendoza



Adrian Cohen



Barbara Grant

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Neil Mendoza - Chairman of Hatch End Masorti Synagogue

Another month passes and we enter the relatively quiet summer period before the Yom Tovim. However, all is not so quiet for Council! Following the recent thought-provoking planning day, discussions have been ongoing as to how best serve our members' shul requirements, what people particularly like about HEMS and how to make it better. Under the guidance of former chairman Robert Pinkus, a small group will look into overall "macro" questions. In parallel with that, there will be a series of email surveys, designed to ask the HEMS membership about their views on services, social events and other activities. There will even be a prize draw to encourage participation in each survey!

One innovation for HEMS will be the development of a telephone network, so that members can be regularly informed about events and activities and so that views and opinions can be easily gathered, collated and then

reported back to Council. Please step forward if you wish to join the group of callers for this project.

On a separate note, Council met with Matt Plen (Chief Executive) and Clive Sheldon (Joint Chair) from our umbrella organisation, "Masorti Judaism", to discuss the resources and support that is available to our small community. Many view the strengthening of these ties as important, particularly given the ever-growing voice of the Masorti movement across British Judaism.

Finally, a date for your diaries; please keep free the evening of Sunday 23rd November for another of our popular HEMS supper quizzes (or is it quizzim?). It is likely to prove very popular, so look out for more information in the coming months. In the meantime, keep your fingers crossed and enjoy the British summer!

“Let us all make a difference”
Adrian Cohen

Adrian Cohen – Chairman of Harrow and Wembley Progressive Synagogue

I recently had the privilege of attending the Summer Institute, a two-day seminar run by the Leo Baeck College, on the theme of Jewish Leadership. My wife Lindsey and I, together with Rabbi Kathleen and Barbara Grant, Chair of Mosaic Reform, made up the Mosaic delegation. The seminar was a joint Liberal/Reform project to ensure that Jewish lay leadership at synagogue level could avail itself of the latest research into how successful synagogues thrive and the pitfalls to avoid. Around a hundred lay leaders and Reform/Liberal rabbonim met and discussed issues such as membership, how to recruit more members and, more importantly, the need for each community to have its own vision.

One strong theme from the seminar was the need

to “adapt rather than adopt” – an acknowledgement that any change that is introduced must not be lifted off the shelf and simply shoehorned into a community, but rather adapted to the individual and specific needs, which vary widely from community to community.

It certainly proved to be a very valuable experience; we felt energised by all the other delegates and the wonderful presentations given by Rabbi Larry Hoffman, and also we came to appreciate that other communities are facing the same issues as us. For myself, the most important message that emerged from the seminar was the need for a strong vision for our future. Well, we certainly have that vision here at Mosaic; a vision of pluralism, tolerance, openness and inclusivity. However, that is not enough. While those qualities are admirable and absolutely vital to our success, they in themselves are the starting point of how we treat and interact with each other in Mosaic. If that is where we stop, then we will fall short. We must interact more fully with the outside world. We must be more involved in social action with projects that really help people in need, whether locally, such as the Harrow Food Bank or on the larger world stage, such as Friends of the Earth Middle East and their absolutely vital work on sharing water resources in Israel, Palestine and Jordan. So, if you have any ideas of other worthwhile projects, please contact me.

Ultimately, as individuals and a community, we will not be judged solely by how hard we prayed, for what we said or professed our principles to be – but by how we helped to make a difference in this world. Let us all make a difference.

Barbara Grant – Chairman of Mosaic Reform

With the month of June already behind us, we have now seen the longest day come and go. For most of us, it was a long restful Shabbat while others got up early to watch the sun rise. I always find it strange to think that the summer is now past its peak when there are still a couple of months to enjoy. After all, Mosaic Hamakom, our cheder, is only just finishing term for the summer break and many of our members are looking forward to holidays both at home and abroad. But before we know it, the Yom Tovim will be with us and already many people in the Shul are working hard in preparation.

July 5th was a memorable occasion when all ex-chairmen and women of Middlesex New Synagogue were invited for a special Mosaic Reform Shabbat morning service to acknowledge and thank them for all their hard work in the Synagogue over the years. Simultaneously, HWPS was marking 20 years since their Rabbi, Frank Dabba Smith, was granted Semicha and we then enjoyed a celebratory Mosaic Kiddush after the two services.

As I write, I am part way through attending the Leo Baeck College Summer Institute with Lindsay and Adrian Cohen from HWPS and Rabbi Kathleen. We are privileged to be in the company of Rabbi Larry Hoffman, a most enlightening and inspiring speaker, who is encouraging us to think differently about the way in which we lead our Synagogues.

Mosaic is a new concept for us all and this period of transformation is a challenge

for us all. There is a place for each and every one of our members and we are looking forward to your joining us in creating our new community.

The following address was given by Mosaic Reform Chairman, Barbara Grant, on the occasion of the service to honour the past chairmen of Middlesex New Synagogue on 5th July

In 1959, a small group of like-minded families in the Wembley and Harrow area got together to create a new Reform Jewish congregation. They initially met in local hired premises and after a few years, and a large amount of arm twisting to raise funds, were able to purchase a site here in Bessborough Road. Fast forward 55 years and we are today located in that same site, but in a very different world. A modern world of integrated, pluralistic values, a materialistic world of instant gratification, but still a world in which poverty, strife and injustice are so very much in evidence. The role of the Synagogue is just as important now as it was all those years ago.

And today, we in this Synagogue find ourselves at a crossroads - a physical crossroads in which Harrow is no longer at the epicentre of north-west London Jewish life, but very much an urban cousin. For many years we have pondered how best to address these changes in our demography and, during the last few months, our members voted overwhelmingly in favour of dissolving Middlesex New Synagogue and creating a dynamic new Reform Congregation,

and becoming part of a new and exciting unique venture, namely Mosaic. Mosaic is a collaboration of three Synagogues - Reform, Liberal and Masorti who have committed themselves to forming a new entity, in order to share many common aspects of Synagogue life, while retaining their identities as independent Jewish Congregations.

Mosaic comprises many different pieces, where each part enhances and brings out qualities in those around it, to create something entirely new, and this is the model for our new Community. Mosaic, meaning literally “from Moses” is an ethos for our community – it emphasises the depth and qualities that each individual adds to our entire picture, as we continue to practise and teach, and pass on to our children the ethos that guided our founders in Middlesex New.

While all this is happening, we need to stop and think how we have reached today. 55 years of dedicated leadership has brought us here and we have much to be thankful for. We have benefitted from the foresight and dedication of 26 chairmen and women to whom we owe so much for getting us this far. That is why you have all been invited to join us on this unique occasion. This is our opportunity to say ‘thank you’ to each and every one of you.

Sadly, Gordon Benjamin, our very first Chairman and Basil Amswych, who served the Synagogue in the late 60s, are no longer with us but we are delighted that Gordon's daughter and Basil's granddaughter and son have been able to join us. Gordon and Basil, together with Sidney de Metz, Aubrey Smith, Joe Barnett, George Lang, Simon Levi, Jack Franses, Seymour Gura are all sadly no longer with us, but they are all remembered with fondness and appreciation for their

hard work and dedication which has helped us reach this crossroads in our history. We are also delighted that so many of you have joined us this Shabbat morning to give us this opportunity to thank you in person for the part you played in this journey of Reform Jews in this corner of North West London. You have given your time selflessly for the benefit of this community, and for the future of Reform Jewry, and we are so very grateful.

Walter Lippman, an American journalist wrote, ‘The final test of a leader is that he leaves behind him in other men, the conviction and the will to carry on.’ You have done that. You have all risen to that challenge and your bequest to this Community is to leave us on the very brink of an exciting, unique phase of our life. As a Community, we are all deeply grateful to you for getting us this far, and our pledge is to take Mosaic Reform, Middlesex New as was, to new heights, as we continue to serve the Community. And for this we thank you, most sincerely.

Every Shabbat morning we sing L'dor V'ador, and remind ourselves of our obligation to pass on our knowledge and our values to the next generation. Our challenge is to continue to develop Mosaic Reform into an even stronger Community, of which our forefathers will be proud.

May I now ask Ann Simon, Victor Davis, Felicity Amswych, Gordon Smith, Hanne Friedman, David Leibling, David Simon, Woolf Heyman, David Safir, Mark Phillips and Harry Grant, together with their families, who have of course played a significant part in all this, to come up to the bimah for a communal blessing. At the same time, we will of course remember those chairmen and women who, for a variety of reasons, are not able to be here with us today.

Jewish Journey to Copenhagen 19-22 June



This picture (courtesy of FDS) was made in Gilleleje Harbour next to the monument commemorating the rescue of nearly 2,000 Danish Jews. In the photo is Else from the Gilleleje Museum (3rd from left) and Tove (at far right) who was hidden as a small child by altruistic citizens of Gilleleje.

By Michael Reik

Gill and I joined 11 others, including our leader, Rabbi Frank, and his wife Cathy Dabba-Smith, on a most enjoyable trip to Copenhagen to learn particularly how the Jews of Denmark were saved from Nazi Persecution during the Second World War.

After an initial day on the Thursday traipsing all over Copenhagen city, we set off Friday morning by train for Gilleleje - the little port in the north of Denmark, via Elsinore (where Hamlet's castle sits).

During a delicious lunch of local fish we were introduced to Tove Warchaffsky - the heroine of our story.

We left the pretty port and climbed up a gradual hill to a number of fascinating small houses, each able to tell an unbelievable tale of wartime heroics. The first stop was outside a Mr Jacobson's shop, where a manhole has been placed with a Magen David design, to commemorate his raising the alarm when the Nazis came in October 1943. There are seven such manholes in Gilleleje to recall places of heroism.

After seeing a further house (in fact, a barn) along the road in which many Jews had been hidden, we arrived at the house where Toveage was living when aged three. Tove's parents together with a further 7000+ Jews escaped by boat to Sweden in October 1943 and left Tove with Ketty and Svend Andreasen, as they believed she would be safer with them than having to travel over the rough seas to Sweden. In

“ The Danes were the only nation in Western Europe to ensure their Jews were treated no differently to any other citizens during the war ”

fact, a total of 148 young Jewish children stayed with foster parents throughout the war, thus ensuring their survival. When the war was over, Tove went to live with her mother in Copenhagen for a while, but she retained a longing to return to Gilleleje.

At the age of 18, in 1958, Tove finally moved back to Gilleleje and was adopted by her foster parents. She converted to Christianity and was baptised. She lives there to this day; she is married, and very happily tells her life story to anyone who wishes to hear it. She has three children and her younger son has converted to Judaism.

On October 2nd, when 2000 Jews escaped the Nazis by small boats to Sweden, there were 86 that could not be taken. So they were all taken to the church, where they hid in the attic for many days.

Unfortunately, they were betrayed and were all taken away by the Nazis on

October 6th to Theresienstadt.

The Danes were the only nation in Western Europe to ensure that the Jews were treated no differently from any other citizens during the war. The King of Denmark himself went out of his way to be as difficult as possible when Hitler decided that the Jews should be rounded up in October 1943.

In total, about 500 Jews were sent to Theresienstadt out of 7800 and of the 500, nearly 90 per cent were saved, almost certainly due to the King's personal intervention.

We left Gilleleje feeling most privileged to have shared Tove's story and then by train again, arrived for Shabbat evening service at Shir Hatzafon, the Progressive Community in Copenhagen.

An enjoyable service, not too different from our own, was then followed by a Chavurah supper, which through Frank's great choice of 4 kilos of smoked fish and the local community's provision of a non-meat meal, meant that over 40 of us ate, drank and schmoozed together as only tired, but happy Jews do at the end of a busy week.

On Sunday morning June 22nd, we completed the Jewish Journey with a visit to the Jewish museum, designed by Daniel Liebeskind, where we learnt about the Jews of Denmark who gained the right to equal citizenship around 1828 and continue to enjoy that privilege to this day.



Rabbi Frank in Israel

Rabbi Frank Dabba Smith attended three conferences in Israel in support of the practical peacemaking efforts by Friends of the Earth Middle East. One discussion

concerned the topic of water hygiene in Gaza, where 90% of drinking water is non-potable and levels of gastronomic and kidney disease are disproportionately very high.

Rabbi Frank also participated in the Ha-Aretz Israel Conference for Peace,

in which 2,000 registered delegates from Israel and abroad attended. This conference featured speeches by President Shimon Peres and other prominent politicians, as well as journalists and writers, such as renowned Israeli author, David Grossman.

Finally, Rabbi Frank took part in a session of the FoEME's International Advisory Committee in support of continued efforts relating to water-peace in the region. Shown here are FoEME staff, board and IAC members from Israel, Palestine and Jordan. Needless to say, the presence and involvement of Rabbi Frank and three other IAC members at this critical time was greatly appreciated.

Rabbi Frank Dabba Smith 20 years since ordination

By Hana Schlesinger

In Shabbat morning 5th July, HWPS commemorated twenty years since our Rabbi, Frank Dabba Smith, received smicha. It was a joyful occasion, not least because Frank has spent the last 17 years with us as our spiritual leader. His wife, Cathy, and their three children, Miriam, Lewis and Sarah, are deeply embedded in the life of our community and Frank is our friend and inspiration.

Rabbi Frank spoke of his PhD studies on altruism during the Holocaust and his special connection with the Leitz family in Wetzlar, owners of the Leica factory. He mentioned his photographic work and exhibitions (this was his profession before entering the rabbinate). His local connections with leaders of other faiths, Brent Council and the Police as Chairman of the Brent Multi-Faith Forum for many years and his exciting work with the

Friends of the Earth, Middle East (FoEME) are shared and welcomed by members of the community. Frank appreciates the interest and support given him as he works in these local, national and international fields.

Rabbi Frank cares deeply about the pastoral side of his rabbinic responsibilities and believes he has conducted 300-400 funerals over the years, as well as many happier events for families and individuals. He is encouraged by people's bravery and humour in difficult situations. He is delighted that HWPS's move to Bessborough Road, starting with the amalgamation of the Chedarim, has been so successful and takes a keen interest in the future development of the Mosaic community.

Individual members and friends have benefitted immensely from trips

abroad, organised by Frank and Cathy on the trail of our Jewish heritage in Spain, Italy, Ukraine, Poland, New York and, most recently, Denmark. All members of the Kabbalat class have explored Berlin thoroughly as part of their Holocaust studies.

Rabbi Alexander Duchovny, chief Progressive rabbi of Ukraine, our dear friend and one-time student rabbi, was with us. He thanked Rabbi Frank and the congregation for our long-standing friendship and support and gave a detailed, succinct and pointed picture of the troubled situation in Ukraine today. We all said the prayer for the Tzar

from "Fiddler on the Roof".

Adrian Cohen, Chairman of HWPS, in his address spoke of Frank's great intellect, his kindness and sensitivity and his uncanny ability to think on his feet. He presented Frank with an inscribed book of photographs, "Proud Flesh", by Sally Mann, with which he was delighted. After the shehecheyanu for this happy occasion, we all went downstairs as usual to join Mosaic Reform for Kiddush. Cathy made a superb, gluten-free chocolate cake for all to share.

We wish Rabbi Frank mazal tov and many more years with us at HWPS in good health.

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Living Wage and Social Injustice

By Kevin and Olivia Ziants



One of the subjects I touched on for last month's account of the LJ Biennial weekend was the matter of the Living Wage Campaign. This I feel is worthy of an article in itself.

There was a session on this theme and the subject of Social Injustice led by Charlotte Fischer from Citizens UK. The Living Wage is one of the roots of Liberal Judaism. Did you know that Martin Luther King was at a Living Wage rally on the day he died – calling for an issue Lily Montagu campaigned for 50 years earlier?

We started off with introductions. I mentioned I work in Social Services and immediately opined my view on the appalling salaries Care Workers earn for the work they do. This hit a raw nerve with Charlotte too. She later signposted me to this website www.icareaboutcare.org.uk which I recommend.

There is a false assumption that certain people cannot speak up for themselves. However, a civil society has the power to change the market, not the other way round. This is best explained with examples of some of Citizen UK's campaign.

1 A well-known high street bank was known to give Student Loans at a high rate of interest. If this was not paid back within a set period, the debt was sold on to a company, who would use more ruthless means at a higher premium to recover the debt. Post student life, many were consequently in a poverty trap from

which they could not escape. Reasonable means to persuade the bank that these methods were unjust fell on "deaf ears". So direct action was taken. On the busiest day of year, Christmas Eve, 100 nuns

entered their Oxford Street branch, queued up to open an account with a 1p deposit and then queued up to close it. Then they continued by re-opening and closing another account and so on, completely sabotaging any other custom. Security was powerless to act as there was nothing illegal taking place and even if it was, how do you escort 100 nuns out of the building? Senior workers were aware of this, an explanation was provided and as a result, they switched their debt recovery process to fairer methods.

2 A global financial corporation had an AGM announcing great results. The cleaner for the Chairman's office member put his hand up to speak and stated the difficulties he was experiencing with his low wages. The board tried to fob him off with market forces, blah blah blah. He persisted, saying we share the same office and persisted further until he received a satisfactory answer. This organisation is now Living Wage accredited.

3 Cleaners for MPs were encouraged to leave a note on their desk introducing themselves, explaining what they earn and how difficult it was to live on that wage. Some even met them outside House of Commons gates. 8 MPs are now Living Wage accredited as a result.

Charlotte explained that no individual can change the world but with small steps,

using our Rabbi Frank's words, chipping away to win minor battles can achieve so much.

The Living Wage is calculated, based on a basket of necessities, at £8.80 an hour for London. I've recommended to our Council the 3-way movement should all be Living Wage accredited, as our statement for standing up for justice.

Getting ready for the High Holydays

(See advert on front page)

By Esther Aronsfeld

This is the time of year when, according to tradition, we are encouraged to do some serious soul-searching. Renewing the soul (see the advertisement on the front page) is a practical, hands-on workshop for greater personal and spiritual well-being which supports us to live a better, more compassionate and meaningful life. As Reb Nachman said: 'If you won't be better tomorrow than you were today, what need do you have for tomorrow?'

Renewing the soul focuses on the key steps of the T'shuvah process and includes a range of activities to help us assess what's been going on in our lives over the past 12 months, areas where we have fallen short of the mark, what we need to do to get back on track, what stops us from moving forward, and how we can heal relationships that have gone a bit pear-shaped. The workshop also draws on some of the High Holyday liturgy.

Renewing the soul is open to all members of the Mosaic community who would like to spend some time in a safe and supportive environment, preparing for this special period of reflection and renewal.



Len and Joan Snow – two lives lived well

By Mary Vulkan

We recently said farewell to Joan Snow, only seven months after the death of her husband Len. They were a remarkable couple, who were early members of Wembley and District Liberal Synagogue. Married for over 70 years, they both reached the age of 90 and were well known in local political circles. From 1976 to 1977 they served as Mayor and Mayoress of Brent and held their Civic Service in our old Preston Road building.

They both grew up in Willesden, but met as evacuees in Northampton. Their romance led to marriage in 1943 during World War Two. War service interrupted Len's university studies but took him first to the Mediterranean and Italy. He ended his war service in India, and then spent a year and a half in Japan as part of the British Commonwealth Occupation Force. While there, he visited Tokyo and Hiroshima. After seeing the effects of one atom bomb, he became a committed opponent of nuclear weapons. Meanwhile, Joan took a secretarial course, her typing and shorthand skills serving her well, right to the end of her life.

“ Married for over 70 years, they both reached the age of 90 and were well known in local political circles ”

Returning home from army service, Len completed his degree in Oxford and later, both he and Joan became active in local politics. They were committed socialists and worked unstintingly for the Labour Party. They moved to Wembley in 1951 where they remained for the rest of their lives. Len was a local councillor for 27 years and served on many major committees. Their great passion was education and both served as governors of several local schools. In particular, Joan was a governor at Hay Lane School, a school in Kingsbury for children with special needs. They were also enthusiastic supporters of Brent's school music service, personally encouraging many young musicians.

Len developed an interest in local history during his Mayoral year and this led him to producing several history books, covering different districts in the Borough of Brent. There was also a history of Copland School and one on Willesden Hospital. He

was working on two others at the time of his death: Watling Street and Paddington Green to Willesden Green.

Joan was a talented pianist and particularly loved jazz. Apart from her work with the Labour Party, Joan was perhaps best known for her instant poems, her comic tales

and her generosity of spirit. She was also known in the family as a 'bionic woman' for the number of operations and illnesses (including cancer) that she survived.

They were an inseparable couple, supporting each other in their very wide interests. They had 70 amazing years of marriage, travelling all over the world, involving themselves in their local community. They touched the lives of many people in Brent and will be long remembered for their dedication to public service.

Do you want to blow your own trumpet?

HWPS will train you how to blow the shofar (shofar provided).

For more info contact Lindsey Cohen

020 8420 7498

or

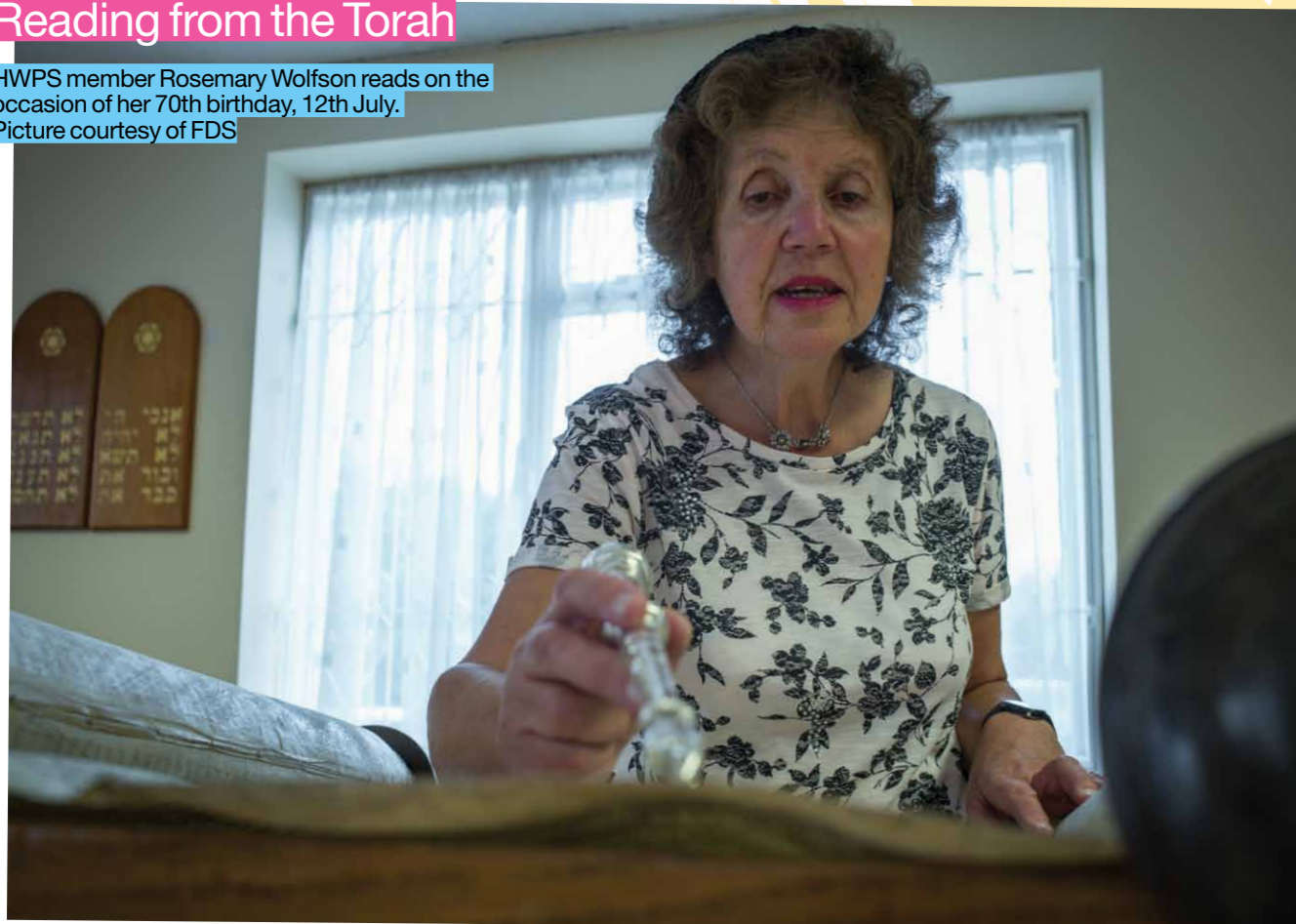
lindsey.cohen9@gmail.com



Mosaic moments

Reading from the Torah

HWPS member Rosemary Wolfson reads on the occasion of her 70th birthday, 12th July.
Picture courtesy of FDS



Pictures from Hamakom's End-of-Year Awards Assembly – 6th July



Jack Petchey Award given to Millie Sacks, Daniel Benson and Jemma Roback



David Latchman and Jonah Surkes who are leaving, thanked for being assistants



Joanna Philips thanked for all the work she has done at HaMakom and Cheder previously



All those who hadn't missed a session this term receiving a certificate and a chocolate!



Sam Philips Bar Mitzvah – 19th July

Sam with a slightly unfocussed Mark

At Belmont Lodge, part of the Abbeyfield Camden Jewish Society, we have only one thing to say...



Our supported house in Bushey, Herts is for independent active older people. We offer a warm, comfortable Jewish ambiance, Kosher food and ensuite accommodation for up to 12 people, with a varied programme of activities including entertainments and outings. Support is provided by a professional and dedicated staff team and, where necessary, residents can arrange separate carers.

We currently have a vacancy.

For rates, availability and more information contact the Admissions Secretary, Nicola Winkler 01923 826402 nicola_winkler@hotmail.com or the House Manager 01923 213964.

Belmont Lodge, 59 Belmont Road
Bushey, Herts WD23 2JR
www.abbeyfield-belmontlodge.com

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Abbeyfield



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HaMakom's Tzedakah Fair



We have three reports of this event, from key classroom assistants'

BY DANIEL BENSON



Charity forms a big part of the ethos of HaMakom, with the ideals of Tzedakah and doing Mitzvah discussed often with the children. To mark the end of the second successful year of HaMakom, of which I am very proud to be a part, Jacky Martin organized a Tzedakah fair. In a departure from the norm, the children were given the opportunity to decide where the money would be donated. This resulted in some classes engaging in debates, and the Mitzvah class performing Dragon's Den-style pitches to the children and parents, who later voted the winner to be a food bank associated with My Israel, which feeds the urban poor.

The fair itself saw children playing a variety of different games (think human fruit machine, fishing and skittles) to win coveted Kosher flying saucers. The fair managed to raise a respectable £89, despite there being relatively few children there on the

Sunday. The money raised will go towards buying Friday night suppers for a dozen families in South Israel, at a particularly troublesome time.

BY JEMMA ROBACK



To celebrate another great year at HaMakom, we finished our final day of term with an exciting Tzedakah Fair. It was great to see the whole school, from Class Gan to the Bar Mitzvah class, taking part in all the events that were planned for the morning. There were various stalls ranging from biscuit decorating, a human Jewish fruit machine, beat the buzzer, loom band making, giant floor games and many more.

The loom band stall was a clear favourite, with a constant demand for more colours and bands, and it was lovely to see the older ones teaching the younger ones how to make them (and shamefully, vice versa in many cases!) The morning aimed at raising as much money as it could for our chosen charity

“The morning aimed at raising as much money as it could for our chosen charity”

and it was a great success. We raised £89 which, after a vote, will be sent to the Bet Shean Foodbank in Israel, which assists needy families, the elderly, underprivileged children and people who live alone.

Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the morning, and we are all looking forward to returning next term for another exciting year.

BY JOANNA PHILLIPS



To celebrate the end of the academic year, HaMakom hosted a Tzedakah fair on the 6th July. Activities on offer included many classics, such as guess the number of sweets in the jar and tombola, as well as more modern ideas, such as a stall to make loom bands bracelets. All the children in HaMakom were invited, from the age of four up to fifteen.

Many of the older children and assistants were in charge of running the stalls, which all went very smoothly.

At the end of the morning, the children of Mitzvah class (school years 7 and 8) gave presentations on various charities, which they had been preparing during the year, so that the children and their parents could vote on where the money should go. They all spoke with great confidence and put forward many compelling ideas on why their charity should be chosen, making it a very difficult decision. It was decided to support Bet Shean food bank, a part of the MyIsrael charity, which provides food to families struggling to afford basic items over Shabbat.

The Tzedakah fair raised £89 for this food bank, which will make a huge difference to those who benefit from its good work.

Many thanks to all those who took part in the fair and helped to raise this money.

MitzvahDay³⁶⁵



Mitzvah Day is a brilliant international day, dedicated to helping others through simple acts of kindness, goodwill and giving. Please come along and be a part of it!

This year Mitzvah Day is on Sunday 16th November and we would really appreciate help with any of the following:

Gift boxes for Barnados

New toys, books and gifts for children aged 0-16 that will fit into a shoe box.

Microvolunteering

Volunteers with skills that they could share with the rest of the community

Collecting for Harrow Food Bank

Volunteers to go to the Morrisons on Bessborough Road and collect food donations.

Harrow Nature Conservation Forum

**For more information,
please contact Viki
Kenton: viki.p@virgin.net
Tel: 01923 802787**

Kiev Koppers update

By Rita Asbury

Since January 2000 our Koppers collection has grown steadily and our current total is £15,000. Every penny is used to help the children of the kindergartens and their families. All the money collected has been in very small bags of coppers and some very generous donations. I am so grateful to everyone who collects their small change for this great cause.

HWPS know how important it is to keep helping our friends in Kiev and I hope that I can also count on other members of Mosaic to continue with their help.

On a recent visit, Rabbi Alex told us that during the past few months, prices in Ukraine have doubled, but salaries and pensions have not increased. Consequently, it is even more important to support our families in Kiev.

Please keep saving your small change. We have so much by comparison with our friends in Ukraine. Let us share our good fortune and KEEP the KOPPERS KOMING

ARE YOU PLANNING A HOLIDAY?

If you're going abroad and would like to visit the local Jewish community, why not contact the Synagogue office and ask for the relevant details from the Jewish Year Book.

You can find out about communities all over the world and we would be delighted to share this information with you.

For Progressive Jewish communities in Europe, details of all those affiliated to the World Union for Progressive Judaism can be found on

www.europeanregion.org

Kehila Quiz No. 3 (British Politics)

Compiled by Neil Goodman

Answers on page 14

1 What cabinet position did Sir Winston Churchill hold between 1924 and 1929?

2 What are the three biggest sources of government income in the UK?

3 Which Prime Minister announced a shock resignation on 15th March 1976?

4 In 1969 MP's voted for which major change to judicial law in the UK?

5 Who lives at 11 Downing Street?





EVENTS

Cameo

Sunday 3rd August and
7th September

Group for Bereaved people

Ring 020-8864 0133 or email
the office to let us know you're
attending
15:00-17:00

Photography Group

Wednesday 17th September
Email patzatz@aol.com for
further information.
20:00

Shabbat Shira

Saturday 18th October

Singing, music, Torah service followed by Kiddush.

Supervised activities till the
community Kiddush. For those
who wish to arrive early, there
will be an informal singing
session before the service.
11:00

Harrow Friendship Club

(For the over-60s)

Mondays : 11:00-14:30

11:00: Register

11.30-12.00: Seated mobility
exercises (optional)

12.00-13.30: 2/3 course lunch:
tea & biscuits

13.30-14.30: Entertainment

Tel: 020 8423 2903

AUGUST

4th Harry's choice

11th David Peace entertains

18th Danny Lane with songs
from musical theatre

25th CLUB CLOSED

SEPTEMBER

1st Return visit of Gayathrie
and Bill Patrick

8th Bill Smith entertains

15th Fiona Harrison with her
WW1 programme

22nd Return visit of Leonie Paige

29th CLUB CLOSED

League of Jewish Women – Pinner branch

Wednesday 3rd September

Pauline Newman will talk about
the use of Neuro-Linguistic
Programming and Hypnotism to
combat life's stresses.

Contact Kay Sackwild (01895
470920) for further details.

Should Progressive Jews Commemorate Tisha B'Av?

Study Session, Discussion and Short Service

Monday 4th August

8.00 pm

at 39 Bessborough Road, Harrow HA1 3BS

AN EVENING WITH EDIE FRIEDMAN

8.00 pm

Tuesday 16th September 2014
At 39 Bessborough Road, Harrow, HA1 3BS

Dr Edie Friedman is the founder and Executive Director of the
Jewish Council for Racial Equality (JCORE)

She is a regular speaker and writer on
Race and asylum issues.



JCORE works both inside and outside the
Jewish community to provide a
Jewish voice on Race and Asylum issues.

"We work to engage the Jewish Community in social action in
the wider society, focusing on race equality and justice for
refugees and asylum seekers. Our work draws on Jewish
refugee experience, teaching and tradition of Jewish social
activism."



33rd Annual Conference

Lost and Found

Finding your way through bereavement

A conference for bereavement visitors, counsellors, clergy, family support
workers, healthcare professionals, community leaders and teachers.

Keynote speaker

John McCarthy CBE

Wednesday 22nd October 2014
10.00am—3.30pm

Middlesex New Synagogue
39 Bessborough Road, Harrow, HA1 3BS

Brochure and Booking Form available from
www.harrowbereavementcare.co.uk

The Lodge, 64 Pinner Road, Harrow, Middlesex HA1 4HZ
Telephone: 020 8427 5720
admin@harrowbereavementcare.co.uk

Registered Charity No: 1081257

What is Mosaic?



Mosaic is a vibrant new Jewish community
which comprises the members of
three partner synagogues. The three
synagogues represent the Masorti,
Reform and Liberal strands of Judaism
respectively providing Mosaic members
with a choice of ritual across the
Progressive spectrum

Indeed, the provision of choice is a key
Mosaic principle which extends beyond

ritual. Mosaic provides its members with a
wide range of social, educational, cultural
and recreational activities designed to
appeal to groups with diverse interests
and age groups. There is an excellent
religion school for younger members with
various opportunities to extend Jewish
learning beyond bar/batmitzvah.

Importantly, we look out as well as in
and offer exciting opportunities to get

involved with social action and inter faith
programmes.

Mosaic is living proof of what can be
achieved with goodwill, mutual respect
and a willingness to work together.

To find out more, visit
www.choosemosaic.org

Get in touch!

The Offices for all 3 shuls are
now at 39 Bessborough Road and all are
open 09.00-15.00 Monday-Thursday



Mosaic
Choose your Jewish life

Mosaic

Office 020 8864 0133

Email: admin@choosemosaic.org

Address: 39 Bessborough Road, Harrow HA1 3BS

Chairman: Harry Grant 01923 711 991

Email: chairman@choosemosaic.org

Membership Officer: Lindsey Cohen 020 8420 7498

Email: membership@choosemosaic.org

Website: www.choosemosaic.org



Hatch End Masorti Synagogue

Office 020 8864 0133

Email office@hems.org.uk

Chairman: Neil Mendoza 07710 146 353

Hon. Secretary: Edwin Lucas 07973 312851

Rabbi Paul Arberman (via email in Israel): rabbi@hems.org.uk

Burials Officer: Edward Kafka: 0208 904 5499 JJBS: 020 8989 5252



Mosaic Reform

Office: 020 8864 0133

Email: admin@mosaicreform.org.uk

Chairman: Barbara Grant: 01923 711 991

Hon. Secretary: Juliet Grainger 01923 822 682

Rabbi Kathleen Middleton: 020 8866 9225 (use only when

Office is closed)

Bereavement Support (Bobbi Riesel): 020 8428 7977

JJBS: 020 8989 5252

HARROW & WEMBLEY PROGRESSIVE SYNAGOGUE

Harrow & Wembley Progressive Synagogue

Office: 020 8864 5323

Email: admin@hwps.org

Chairman: Adrian Cohen: 020 8420 7498

Vice Chairman: Alan Solomon: 020 8866 0335

Rabbi Frank Dabba Smith: 020 8864 5408

Membership Secretary: Lindsey Cohen: 020 8420 7498

Rites & Practices: Hana Schlesinger: 020 8961 1109

Care Co-ordinator: Joy Katz 0208 904 8037

Liberal Judaism: 020 7580 1663

Undertakers: M M Broad & Son: 020 8445 2797

Free transport to Shul

HWPS council is mindful that some elderly or physically
challenged HWPS members are unable to travel to
Shul on Friday nights or Saturdays and has decided to
allocate a budget to cover minicab fares. If this applies to
you and you wish to take this up please contact Lindsey
Cohen on 020 8420 7498 and she will talk you through
the procedure

Don't know what to do with your used inkjet printer cartridges?

Want to help a local charity?

Then all you need to do is to bring the cartridges in to the
Synagogue, and we will pass them on to the Harrow MS
Therapy Centre in Watford Road, Harrow, who can recycle
them and receive cash.

They will also take your unwanted mobile phones.

Let's all help local MS sufferers in this way

KEHILA QUIZ NO.3 (BRITISH POLITICS – PAGE 13): ANSWERS

1. Chancellor of the Exchequer
2. VAT, N.I and Income tax
3. Harold Wilson
4. Abolition of Capital Punishment
5. Chancellor of the Exchequer

WHAT'S ON

Unless otherwise stated, all events take place at 39 Bessborough Road, Harrow HA1 3BS.

The times/locations of weekly services are as below, unless otherwise stated:

HWPS: Bessborough Road: Friday 19:00, Saturday 11:00 (Chavurah Supper last Friday every month, after the evening service)

HEMS: Girl Guide Headquarters (GGHQ), Hatch End: Saturday 9:30 am

Mosaic Reform: Bessborough Road: Friday 19:00, Saturday 10:30

August

Saturday	2nd	10:30	Kiddush after Reform Shabbat Service – Michael & Veronica Lansman – 50th anniversary
Sunday	3rd	15:00	Cameo - Group for the Bereaved
Monday	4th	11:00	Harrow Friendship Club
		20:00	HWPS Group 326
		20:00	Tisha b'Av study/discussion/service – see page 14
Tuesday	5th		Tisha b'Av
Monday	11th	11:00	Harrow Friendship Club
		20:00	HWPS Group 326
Wednesday	13th	20:00	HWPS Book Group - 'Love is all you need' (phone office for venue)
Sunday	17th	10:00	HEMS Council meeting at the Glass's
Monday	18th	11:00	Harrow Friendship Club
		20:00	HWPS Group 326

September

Monday	1st		New Year Kehila copy date
Wednesday	3rd	20:00	Mosaic Reform and HWPS Council meetings
Saturday	6th	10:30	Kiddush after Reform Shabbat Service for Michael Reik's 70th
Sunday	7th	15:00	Cameo - Group for bereaved people
Monday	8th	12:00	Stone-setting: Hershel Tobias @ Cheshunt
Wednesday	10th	20:00	HEMS Council meeting at Neil Mendoza's
Saturday	13th	10:30	Shabbat Service and Bar Mitzvah of Harry Latham (Mosaic Reform)
Sunday	14th	10:00	HaMakom term starts
		13:30	Renewing the Soul – experimental workshop – see front cover and page 8
Tuesday	16th	20:00	An evening with Edie Friedman (Jewish Council for Racial Equality) - see page 14
Wednesday	17th	20:00	Photography group
Thursday	18th		Kehila (New Year edition) distribution
		10:00	Mosaic cooks – Honey-cake bake-in
Saturday	20th	10:30	Reform Shabbat Service - Naomi Witte baby blessing
		20:00	Selichot service (HEMS)@ GGHQ with 3 Kol Nefesh, St Albans and Elstree & Borehamwood Masorti synagogues
		20:30	Selichot (Mosaic Reform)
		21:00	Selichot (HWPS)
Sunday	21st	10:00	HaMakom
Wednesday	24th	19:00	Erev Rosh Hashanah (Mosaic Reform)
Thursday	25th	09:30	Rosh Hashanah - Day 1 - Harrow Arts Centre (HEMS)
		10:30	Rosh Hashanah - Day 1 (Mosaic Reform)
		11:15	Rosh Hashanah - Day 1 - Masonic Centre (HWPS)
Friday	26th	09:30	Rosh Hashanah - Day 2 - Harrow Arts Centre (HEMS)
		10:30	Rosh Hashanah - Day 2 (Mosaic Reform)
Saturday	27th	10:15	HEMS Torah Breakfast at GGHQ
		10:30	Kiddush after Reform Shabbat Service for Barbara and Harry Grants' 40th anniversary
Sunday	28th	10:00	HaMakom

For the latest information and weekly parashot information please check

WWW.CHOOSEMOSAIC.ORG