

Kehila

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

Kehila is brought to you by:
HARROW & WEMBLEY
PROGRESSIVE SYNAGOGUE



June 2014



Shavuot: Cheesecake vs Blintzes

In this Issue

- | | | | | | |
|----------|---|-----------|--|-----------|--------------------------------|
| 3 | A Rabbi's Word (by Rabbi Paul Arberman) | 7 | Holocaust Remembrance
Kehila Quiz | 11 | ULPS Bienniel Door project |
| 4 | Mosaic Chairman's
message (by Harry Grant) | 8 | Yom HaShoah at Wembley | 12 | Letters to the Editor |
| 5 | Friends of the Earth
Middle East | 9 | Mosaic Lunch Club and
Food for Fun | 14 | Mosaic Events
Get in Touch! |
| 6 | Mosaic at the EUPJ
conference in Dresden | 10 | Mosaic Moments (from
Seder thru Lag B'Omer) | 16 | What's On |

Notable events

HEMS

CONDOLENCES TO:

Paulette Sachon on the death of her mother, Rita Shaffer

HAPPY BIRTHDAY WISHES FOR MAY AND JUNE TO:

Harrison Rutstein (7)
Connor Buchalter (11)
Lily Rafalin (13)
Kezia Rosenberg (15)
Erez Goldenberg (16)
Amanda Kersen (50)
Irene Berkovitch (75)
Harold Curry (93)

HWPS

CONDOLENCES TO:

Jeffrey Phillips on the recent death of his mother Renee
Hana Schlesinger on the death of her mother-in-law Anna Schlesinger
The family and friends of Shirley Stein
The family of Sylvia Honey
Max Birne on the death of his brother Stanley

GET WELL WISHES TO:

Archie Shapiro

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS:

Leanne Baker
Russell Snipper
Sara Rose
Timothy Freedman

SPECIAL BIRTHDAY:

Mary Vulkan

MAZELTOV TO:

Sandra and Stuart Rose on the occasion of the marriage of their daughter Sara to Timothy Freedman

GOOD LUCK IN HER NEW HOME:

Michelle Latchman
Celia Hipgrave

Mosaic Reform

CONDOLENCES TO:

The family of Des Rayner
The family of Rosalind Avadis
Lew Leaderman on the death of his wife, Stella
The family of Esther Silverman
Bill Fishman on the death of his brother, Albert
Maureen Daniels on the death of her husband, Philip. Also to their sons – Andrew and Jonathan

MAZEL TOV TO:

Gerry Amias on the birth of his grandson, Alfie
Lorette & Geoff Collett on the engagement of their daughter, Joanne, to Lee Greenfield
Val & Tony Fineberg on the birth of their grandson, Asher Nathan
Carla Levy on her engagement to Andrew Morrow. Also to Stephen & Georgina Levy

GOOD LUCK IN HER NEW HOME:

Eve Jager

SPECIAL BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES:

Ryan Specterman (2)
Richard Sclare (70)
Peter Rotter (70)
Jeanette Leibling (70)
Philip Goodman (70)
Barry Caplan (70)
Stephen Dorff (70)
Evelyn Sheldon (70)
Bertha Levy (80)
Lea Sinclair (80)
Claude Landes (90)
Hanne Freedman (90)
Andor Marer (90)
Michael Wallace (90)
Carole & Michael Gumpel on their 30th wedding anniversary
June & Michael Wallace on their 60th wedding anniversary



Welcome

to this first edition of the Kehila-Monthly Newsletter, the slightly smaller, but equally pretty sister of the Kehila Magazine, which you received just before Pesach. Different production team, but similar look-and-feel.

We trust you all understand the Shavuot reference in the front-cover cheese-cake picture. The Shavuot Letters and Cheesecake event is on June 3rd (so hurry!) – see page 14 for details.

The focus for Kehila-Monthly is to keep the community informed of Mosaic events that are occurring in the next couple of months and to include reviews of recent happenings (inside or outside the community) that are topical, of general interest and have involved Mosaic members.

Kehila-Monthly is edited by Martin Simonis and Judy Silverton – we would be more than happy for others to join us.

Kehila-Monthly will be published at the start of each calendar month, except around Pesach, Rosh Hashana and Chanukah when you will have the big Kehila Magazine to entertain and inform you.

With this in mind, please send articles, pictures, letters and the like for us to consider for publication in the next Newsletter. Where we think that an article is more appropriate to the Magazine, we will pass it to Robert Pinkus and his merry team.

Please enjoy, please keep us supplied with input and please let us know what is good and what could be improved.

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

Please note that the Mosaic Data Protection and Privacy Policy documents are in the course of preparation. Guidance, if required, may be obtained from the Synagogue Administrator.
Copy Date for July issue of Kehila Monthly is 16th June. Material received after this date will have to be held over until the next issue.
Contributions and 'Letter to the Editor' are welcome and should be sent by email to newsdesk@choosemosaic.org.

org. Items received will also be considered for inclusion in the Mosaic Website and/or the next Kehila Magazine. The decision of the Editor to publish, or not, is final. Contributors and advertisers should be aware that copies of the Newsletter are distributed to our twinned communities in Moscow.
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

Each month, one of the Mosaic community rabbis will provide a message for us. We start-off with some words from Rabbi Paul Arberman of Hatch End Masorti Synagogue



“Every movement in Judaism is of course entitled to their own approach to tradition and Jewish law”

I'm happy to be part of the launch of Kehila-Monthly – the Mosaic monthly newsletter. The rabbi's column is a great space for each rabbi to lay out some of the principles of their own Movement. In my first piece, I want to talk about how the Masorti Movement looks for solutions in Jewish law – to help people.

I'll give you an example. A woman once came to my office and explained that she had divorced in Argentina, civilly, 15 years ago. But she still felt trapped – she couldn't move on in life and find a new partner because she never got a "get" – Jewish divorce papers – that according to how our tradition developed, are served by the man.

Every movement in Judaism is of course entitled to their own approach to tradition and Jewish law. That being said, in my estimation, the Orthodox too often turn to the Shulchan Aruch, the 16th century collection of Jewish Laws. They believe it has the final say – that women must wait until their ex-husbands are convinced/cajoled/intimidated into giving them a Jewish divorce. Masorti Jews are more likely to plumb the depths of our tradition to meet the challenges of modern living.

A nice analogy may be drawn from the book of Genesis, where we read that "Isaac dug anew the wells which had been dug in the days of his father Abraham and which the Philistines had stopped up after Abraham's death; and he gave them the same names that his father had given them." (Gen. 26:18).

According to tradition – water is compared to our life sustaining Torah –

and these seven wells symbolized the seven Noahide laws which Abraham had promoted to the Canaanites. When the Philistines abandoned these basic laws and teachings of humanity, they "stopped-up" the wells – these symbolic sources of wisdom and law.

Rabbi Yaakov Tzi Mecklenberg (1785-1865) comments that the wells of Abraham and Isaac were a public necessity. So Abraham cleverly gave them God-related names such as the well called, "The Well of Him that Lives and Sees Me" so that each time they wanted water, they would have to say: 'Let us go and draw water from the (well called) Well of the Eternal God!'

When Avraham died, these names were lost. But Isaac didn't try to draw water from shallow wells and he didn't give up. He followed in his father's footsteps by re-digging the wells and giving them the same names in order to restore the teachings of his father.

To relate this to the story of the "agunah" – if the wells represent the teachings of our ancestors – then Masorti and liberal minded Jews stand among

the best of those who have picked up the shovel to dig into our tradition.

How? It turns out that there were six examples in the Talmud and a few examples in the middle ages of rabbis who allowed a "hafka'at kiddushin" – an annulment of the marriage. Of course, most Orthodox authorities do not accept this – they would say that even if it was used in the past – current Jewish law does not allow for this.

For Masorti and liberal minded Jews, the many different books of Jewish law over our history – the Talmud, and Rambam's Mishneh Torah, and the Tur – are all "living waters" from which we may draw insight and wisdom. We have a deep well to provide for new solutions and creative thinking in Jewish law – to make sure that we don't leave people high and dry.

Of course the solution is available to rabbis of other streams – who have the courage to use it – but it seems that again and again it is the more liberal movements in Judaism that are taking on this responsibility.

The prophet Zechariah said (14:8): "On that day, living water will come out from Jerusalem." I want to suggest that "That day" refers to the day when knowledgeable, God-fearing liberal rabbis took a well "satum" – a well that was stopped up – and we dug it anew.

And "That day" refers to the day when this woman walked into my office as an agunah – asking to draw living water from the well of the eternal God. And just as it should be – with the help of our tradition – she was set free and restored to life. ●

Mosaic Chairman's message

Harry Grant – Chairman of Mosaic – gives a brief overview of some of the things going on within our 3 congregations and an insight into how we are moving forward as a unique Community comprising three autonomous Synagogues

2nd March – the day on which we formally started to exist as Mosaic Jewish Community, embracing Liberal, Masorti and Reform Synagogues – is not even 3 months ago, but much has happened in the lives of our Synagogues, and our New Community, since then.

I'm just home from our Lag B'Omer barbeque, a first for all of us, and what a great occasion it was. There were more than 100 guests of all ages, and from all three Shuls as well as visitors. The fantastic weather, combined with activities for the youngsters, and vast quantities of beautifully prepared food, made for a wonderful afternoon and evening. The atmosphere was really special, and is helping to strengthen the ruach that is growing within Mosaic.

Since our inauguration, we have celebrated Purim and then Pesach, with services in each of our Synagogues, and then a well-attended Communal Seder at Bessborough Road including several guests from the local community.

Shortly before Pesach, Rabbis Dabba Smith and Middleton led Erev Shabbat prayers at Wembley Central Mosque. This was linked with an update on the work of Friends of the Earth in the Middle East, and in particular efforts to preserve the priceless River Jordan, vitally important to all nations in the vicinity. Our close cooperation with our Moslem neighbours shows how easily good can come from cross-communal engagement and mutual respect.

The European Union for Progressive Judaism held its annual Conference in Dresden in April. Not only was it organised by one of our members, but Mosaic was particularly well represented there. Great interest was shown in the work we are doing, confirming that we really are trail blazers, identifying opportunities for Jewish Communities to consolidate and grow. In fact only

recently the Jewish Chronicle reported on cooperation developing between communities in Nottingham, reiterating the fact that the best way forward is pooling resources and working together. And we are showing the Community how to do so.

I do hope to see you at our Erev Shavuot services soon, when HEMS will host three separate services followed by a study session for all, not to mention an array of Cheesecake to choose from, all under one roof. You'll find details of timing and location elsewhere in Kehila, or in the regular communal notices from each of the Shuls.

My last reflection is to congratulate our Communications team on a remarkable first edition of our flagship journal, which was published at Pesach. Copies have gone worldwide, literally, and have been well received by everyone. The bar has been set high for future editions.

Finally, can I please remind you all that so many of our achievements only come about through the work of many volunteers, working for the good of the wider community. There is so much more that we want to do, and indeed will do, but we need your support. Sure we've just changed from being three small/medium-sized congregations to one large Community, and growing pains are common. But the atmosphere created on Lag B'Omer proved to me that what we are doing is good for all of us, and the best way of securing our future. So please come and be a part of it. ●

Harry Grant – May 2014

PS: STOP PRESS!! I've just heard from Phil Austin that we have just been granted Charitable status, a major step in the building of the Community. Very well done and thanks to all concerned!

PPS: Mazel tov to Neil Mendoza on being appointed Chairman of HEMS.



© Portrait by Italiaander - www.italiaander.co.uk

'Pesach Sunday' Matzah Toddle in aid of WJR's Ukraine Crisis Appeal

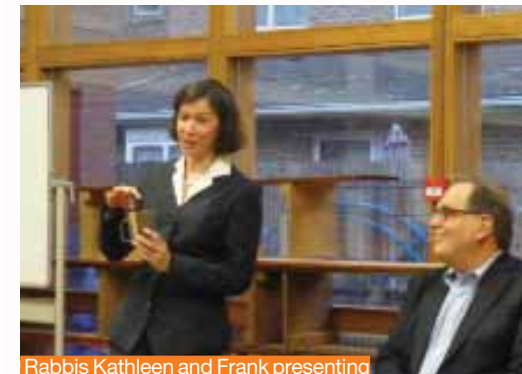
With the promise of rain threatening to become a reality, a few hardy souls gathered at Ruislip Lido for a Matzah Toddle in aid of WJR's Ukraine Crisis Appeal. Coinciding with Easter Sunday and the school holidays, it was perhaps no surprise that attendance was low, but the weather forecast may also have been an off-putting factor. Having managed a lap of the lake, a wet picnic on the wet beach did not look particularly inviting, so Mark Phillips very kindly invited us back to his house for tea and Matzwiches. While the adults polished off Barbara's delicious chocolate Matzah, younger members of our community enjoyed their playtime together and a good time was had by all. Many thanks to Mark for his kind hospitality.

Donations can still be made online via <http://www.mywjr.org.uk/mosaicfundraising/365/matzah-toddle-for-ukraine-crisis-appeal/>

By Robin Goldsmith

Friends of the Earth Middle East

Joanna Phillips reports on a recent multi-faith FoEME event on water sustainability in the Middle East and its value in facilitating the peace process



Rabbis Kathleen and Frank presenting

Christians, Jews and Muslims came together for an interfaith event on Friday the 4th of April to learn about the work of Friends of the Earth Middle East, a charity using the issues of water sustainability to facilitate the peace process between Israelis and Palestinians. Around forty members of the newly formed Mosaic Jewish community as well as a number of Christians came together at Wembley Central Mosque for the event.

The event began with a Jewish Friday Night Service held in the Mosque led by Rabbi Frank Dabba Smith, which was attended both by Jews and by members of the Mosque and Church who wished to experience a Jewish service. The evening then proceeded with talks from representatives of all three faiths explaining the spiritual importance of water within their religions. The strong links between the Abrahamic faiths soon became apparent, with discussion of water as a source of life, purity, reflection and transformation. There was also one of the five daily calls for prayer for Muslims at this point, giving the Jews and Christians the chance to experience an Islamic prayer service if they desired.

Following the speeches by the religious leaders, two of the directors of Friends of the Earth Middle East, Munqeth Meyhar and Nader Al-Khateeb, spoke about their

important work in improving living conditions and peaceful relations in the Middle East. Friends of the Earth Middle East is a unique organisation which brings together Jordanian, Palestinian and Israeli environmentalists to cooperate on the issue of water sustainability in the region.

By having these groups work towards a shared and mutually beneficial goal, Friends of the Earth Middle East believes that

peace can be achieved in the region. The directors highlighted some of the key issues concerning water in the Middle East, which included the alarming shrinking of the Dead Sea, the excessive pollution of the Jordan River and the disparity of water allocation for Israeli citizens and Palestinians in the West Bank.

However, many positive developments have also occurred. The Israel Water Authority has agreed to allow water to flow from Lake Kinneret into the Jordan River to ecologically rehabilitate the water and many workshops have been held for members of all communities to educate on the topic of water problems. Munqeth Meyhar stated his belief that there is great hope for the region despite its problems, citing the statistic that Israel reuses over 80% of its wastewater. If the technology which allows Israel to do this was shared with her neighbours, this would hugely improve the environmental standing of the region.

After the talks dinner was provided by Wembley Central Mosque. This gave attendees of the event an opportunity to discuss and share their religions with each other in a tolerant and respectful setting. Sam Phillips, a thirteen year old member of Mosaic, said 'It was an interesting evening, despite my being a child I could

still interact with people from the other faiths and learn about their religion and way of life. Everybody that I spoke to had a positive attitude and was eager to learn about Judaism and how I prayed as well as my regular life.' Despite the rhetoric of the conflict in the Middle East which often pits Jewish and Muslim communities against each other in the UK, this event was proof that cooperation is possible and welcomed by all religions. ●



Participants at the event at Wembley Central mosque

Multifaith bid to save river Jordan may inspire peace

A good article on FoEME and the work being done by Frank Dabba Smith and Shahab Hussein appears in the New Scientist at this address: <http://www.newscientist.com/article/dn25469-multifaith-bid-to-save-river-jordan-may-inspire-peace.html>

The objective of the pair is to stop the river Jordan from becoming a hostage to conflict and 'its baptismal waters turning to sewage' and instead to become a key to peace in the area. ●

Mosaic makes its mark in Dresden

Karen Pollak, describes the recent EUPJ conference in Dresden for which she was the chairman of the organising committee



Karen Pollak



David Pollak and Rabbi Kathleen enjoy Rabbi Walter Rothschild's workshop on Diversity and Consistency

dream has become reality in our corner of North West London. Curiosity was mixed with admiration from many of the delegates who listened to Kathleen speak and the ten or so copies of the first edition of Kehilah were snapped up by eager readers immediately after the workshop.

Further evidence of Mosaic members in action could be

professional performers from various countries in the region, up popped yet another member of Mosaic – Paul Zatz – with a wonderfully funny rendition of “My wife is a Striptease Artist”. Once heard, never forgotten. And then there were three more members of Mosaic who entertained the audience which was, by now, in high spirits and ready for a good old fashioned sing song. Judy Smith, Nathan Godleman and David Pollak all sang their own sets and then embarked on a marathon medley of songs which stretched into the early hours. What a night!

And not only were we heard on Saturday night but there was Nathan and David on Shabbat morning, in front of a congregation of nearly 300, leyning from the Torah together with a cantorial student from the Abraham Geiger College in Germany. We showed that when it comes to leading from the front, Mosaic members have what it takes.

If all this wasn't enough, there was Mosaic again, in the form of Michael Reik, who participated as a panellist in a workshop entitled “Is defending Israel the duty of the Jewish diaspora”. Michael's paper to the conference will be posted on the Mosaic website. Michael also chaired a reception which took the form of an Israel Interest Forum and attracted nearly 50 people. Gill Reik and I are now official Mosaic groupies and loved every minute of conference.

Yes, Mosaic certainly made its mark in Dresden and demonstrated in a very practical manner how we, who have Faith in Action, can also demonstrate our Faith in Action. And for those of you who missed this amazing conference, we'll be doing it all again in 2016 and this time there will be no excuses to miss it because it will be...in London. ●



Gordon Smith pressing a point at the 'recognition' workshop

I have recently returned from the Biennial Conference of the European Union for Progressive Judaism (EUPJ) held in Dresden, Germany which attracted over 270 delegates from 20 countries around the world. I was privileged to be chairman of the organising committee and so had the inside track on what has been called by many delegates the “best ever” conference and created what one delegate has called a “fantastic ruach”.

David, being the shy retiring individual we all know (and some love), could take all the credit and I could spend the coming months polishing his halo. However, as we all know, it's teamwork that makes for successful enterprises, organisations and, in this case, conferences. What made the efforts of the organising committee all the more gratifying was the contribution made by members of Mosaic.

At this stage, I should mention that the conference was entitled Faith in Action. Our rabbi, Kathleen de Magtige-Middleton, was one of three panellists on a workshop entitled Diversity and Consistency. She made the case for diversity being totally acceptable within Progressive Judaism and cited Mosaic as living proof of how a



Board of Deputies

Michael Reik is the Mosaic Reform representative to the Board of Deputies.

He was part of the organising committee of their conference in March at UCL on ‘Vision 2020-Leading British Jewry into the future’. His report of that Conference will be posted on the Mosaic website. ●

International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance Evening

Michael Reik also attended this event. Here is his report of that evening:

On Wednesday May 14th I attended a dinner with the Board of Deputies at Westminster City Hall.

The dinner was arranged by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office as part of the UK chairmanship this year. There was representation from 31 countries.

I spoke with the three representatives from Argentina who were the only South American representatives as far as I could tell, on the basis that it was to Argentina that Holocaust Survivors dispersed from Europe at the end of the war.

Sir Andrew Burns the ex British ambassador to Israel chaired the evening, introducing two of the UK Holocaust Ambassadors, two 18 year-olds, Lucy Hamwick and Calum Devine who are part

of 500 ambassadors who have been to Auschwitz, designated to go around the country to explain their own journey having learnt what happened during the holocaust and relaying to others with the assistance of Holocaust Survivors telling their own stories, to prevent a similar occurrence in the future.

This was reiterated by Eric Pickles the Minister for Communities, who specifically made the point that in his opinion the people of Germany of 1932 was little different to those in the UK today and that what happened thereafter could happen in any country if there were not suitable preventative measures in place of which education has to be a major factor.

Altogether the Government arrange for 3000 each year to go to Auschwitz to return and educate. £2.1 million is spent each year by the Government on Holocaust Education. ●

Kehila Quiz No. 1: Great Britain

- 1 where in Britain would you find the Mathematical Bridge?
- 2 what major British road was officially opened by PM Margaret Thatcher?
- 3 which British city lies 57° north?
- 4 In what decade did Greenwich time finally replace local times in Britain?
- 5 What is Britain's largest area of fresh water?

Answers on page 15

Tzipi Livni at JNF reception



Michael also attended Tzipi Livni's presentation at the JNF reception on 15th May.

As the leader in the Peace Talks for Israel with the Palestinians, she made the following major points:

Israel is a Jewish democratic State and all negotiations emphasize Jewish values with all citizens having equal rights.

When she came into Politics in 1995, she

was a believer that Israel had the right to its past, that is to both sides of the Jordan River.

Today the importance is a two-state solution – which means giving-up the original dream of returning to all of the original land from the Bible. (Greater Israel) Original negotiations started in July 2013 were Israel with US and then Palestinians with US. Less progress has been made since face-to-face meetings started.

Livni is unhappy at any further building of settlements, as Israel is now losing support in the world. (Personally, I am very much against the building as they will probably have to be dismantled as part of any peace agreement).

About 400 attended the meeting with Palestinian and ultra right Jews together demonstrating outside against the Livni visit and ZF providing pro-demonstration. ●

Yom HaShoah event at Wembley stadium



I was humbled to attend the David Cameron event at Wembley stadium to commemorate the Holocaust Survivors. I am a second generation child as is my wife Linda and our daughter Gillian who teaches at Hamakom is a third generation child. My mother aged 94.5 travelled down from Glasgow to attend the event. My father-in-law – Fred Stern – who is a member of Mosaic Reform, could not make it that day as he was on his way to Israel to meet other survivors from those dark days.

Why was I humbled? There were so many people with lovely interesting stories about the past and then there were interesting commemorative stories for the future. How should the Holocaust be remembered? I do not wish to be disrespectful or defeatist but sadly many of the survivors will not be around in 10 years' time.

Will their stories be of interest to young Jews, let alone non Jews? We were lucky to be seated at a table of young people alongside a personal aide to David Cameron who hosted our table and was a facilitator for feedback to the Prime Minister's Office. He was charming and interested and listened to my mother and another survivor on the table. The young people who were ambassadors were brilliant and interested and not Jewish. They cared about the Holocaust and made me think that there was a future in the past. One of ambassadors came from Northwood and he had been selected from his school to visit Auschwitz. The question was raised whether more children should visit Auschwitz.

I wondered if we could do a Mosaic trip and then thought as we at HEMS had tried to organise a foreign trip in

the past that it would be fraught with difficulty due to when to run a trip and if it was during the week, would people come and if it was a weekend, could it be done over a Shabbat? I then mused for some time at whether we could go to the memorial in Nottingham as a shul and take our children there as a first step. I have not been although Linda has. Nottingham is an easy day trip and I would commend that we try and do this trip.

My mother was part of a Scottish historical exercise which can be read on the website "Gathering the voices" If any of the community was a holocaust survivor and lived for part of the time in Scotland please contact me as the organisers would love to hear their story. Sadly some people have passed away but the stories can be related by the children or grandchildren. I found my mother's story fascinating and learnt things I never knew and I am in my early sixties. The question is whether the story is of interest to me and people that know me and my mother, or if it is of interest to the wider community. Historians say it is of great interest and I only ask the question as I do not know.

Whatever your views, the afternoon was a great mind-searcher for me and if we can do something to tell the young about the old, the day will have been a success. If we then could arrange a day trip to Auschwitz, that would be a wonderful memory to the fallen and to those that have lived through horrendous times and made the UK their home despite settling in difficulties.

Thanks, Mr Cameron, for making me think. ●

Edwin Lucas

Chavurah supper

Ruth Cole describes her impressions of a recent Chavurah supper, organised by the Mosaic communities group

Roger and I were lucky enough to be invited to the first 'New Community' Shabbat Supper held on 7 March 2014. The venue was the delightful 'old' house belonging to Mark Phillips, who was our host for the evening.

Unfortunately Rabbi Kathleen was prevented from being present due to a family problem so, although we were lacking a leader, we managed to conduct the Shabbat service amicably amongst ourselves – perhaps a real first for Mosaic as there were members of all three communities present. Harmony of mind prevailed, if not quite in the timing of the singing.

The Shabbat challah was passed around with the wine and juice at the end. Maybe I was extra hungry but the challah was one of the best I have ever tasted!

Then the Chavurah supper and chat! Jane Prentice organises the Shabbat evenings and works very hard to ensure that there is a balanced meal. She certainly excelled herself that evening and we had a brilliant spread which went down very well with the chat. It was an excellent way to meet members from the other two synagogues. After initially introducing ourselves by name and synagogue, formality diminished and we ate and chatted as though we had all known each other for years.

Two things have come out of the evening for me. First the Shabbat Chavurah supper is a delightful idea and if you are invited to attend one, I encourage you to do so – you will have good food in pleasant surroundings with excellent company. Second – if

I had any reservations as to how the 'New Community' would mix together, they have been dispelled. I am sure we will all be happy and grow together in the future as one. ●

Mosaic Lunch Club

Calling all Seniors – did you know that apart from the MNS Friendship Club Monday lunch, HWPS runs a Lunch Club at Bessborough Road on the 3rd Wednesday of each month? We offer a delicious home-cooked (from scratch) 3-course meal plus tea/coffee for the amazing price of £5. After sitting and chatting to your friends over lunch, you are then entertained with an interesting talk or other form of entertainment. We welcome all synagogue members plus friends. Why not come along and give us a try – give Sylvia Kemp (0208 908 1988) a ring to book a place. I guarantee that once you taste our food, it will be a regular date in your diary. For transport queries, call Sue Schindler (0208 8907 5668). We hope to see you soon. Future dates: June 18th, July 16th. ●

Food For Fun

Food For Fun is a group of HWPS members who meet in each other's homes to cook and eat together. The size of the group is limited by kitchen dimensions so if any of you in the Mosaic community would like to be involved, you will need to talk to Anne Steiner at the number below.

Our March meeting was at Frankie Green's home with 'Paris in the Springtime' being the theme. Again I am impressed how imaginatively our Food for Funners interpret the theme. Our salad starter illustrated how 'seasonal French cooking' comes alive with the freshest of springtime herbs. The main course (plat du jour) showed-off French cuisine and our two desserts

were a glorious mix of the savoury and the sweet. The sophistication, elegance and the so oh-la-la of the Roquefort cheese mixed with the pear could not have been more French, whilst the heart-shaped sponge cake put us all in the mood for 'Paris in the Springtime'.

With thanks to Frankie, our host, and Frances, Hana, Margie, Ron, Rosemary and welcome to Esther Aronsfeld who joined us for a really memorable evening. ●

By Anne Steiner

**Phone Anne Steiner
020 8205 8639 if you
would like more
details**



meetings

A VENUE FOR EVERY OCCASION



rehearsals & productions

With adaptable areas and a new community room opening soon, book now for:

- meetings
- training rooms
- conferences
- parties and gatherings
- hot-desking
- therapy/consultation rooms



meetings



A versatile space

conferences

For more information please contact Sue Wayne
Email: Sue@thenorthwoodvenue.co.uk
Tel: 01923 836403
Oaklands Gate, Northwood HA6 3AA

Mosaic moments

Seder, Hamakom, and Notable Days pictures are courtesy of Frank Dabba Smith

Communal Seder



After the Aficomman was found



Participants reclining

Yom HaShoah



Feo Kahn (HWPS), aged 104 refugee from Trier with Rachel Rozewicz and Joy Katz

Hamakom



Class Daled takes the Shabbat service on 22nd March

Lag B'Omer BBQ



Fabulous event in Eastcote, 18th May



Notable Days



Sam Benson (HWPS), Bar Mitzvah 29th March – pictured with Daniel, Linda and Robert



Daniel, George, Mary and Jonathan Vulkan at Mary's 80th birthday on 17th May

Shabbat Shira



Mosaic Reform apprentice rabbi Robyn Ashworth-Steen reads Torah

The Biennial 'Door Project'

During a weekend in May the Union of Liberal and Progressive Synagogues held its Biennial Conference in Reading

As a method of raising awareness of the event, the Door Project was created.

All 37 Liberal communities were asked to make and display a door which would be representative of the values of their community and to let it symbolise how that community should be perceived when encountered by people for the first time.

Kevin Ziants, a Council member, was nominated to organise Harrow and Wembley's effort. Here is Kevin's account:

I sought the help of the HaMakom Kabbalat Torah class for the project as this was exclusively HWPS. I was pleasantly surprised how enthusiastic they were from the start. With the Mosaic ethos "Choosing Your Jewish Life" as the starting point, we brainstormed ideas of the values of our Liberal shul – Inclusivity, Quirkiness, Open-minded, Welcoming – all came to mind. Key

words emerged under these headings. Many thanks to Bea Bennister, Elena Solomon and Cathy Brown for their input and brilliant creative instincts. Also to my wife – Olivia – who added photos and a mezuzah to the 'door'.

The next challenge was re-gluing everything and carefully rolling up the paper door for the journey by tube to the Montague Centre. It just about survived.

On my arrival at the Montague Centre, the reaction was overwhelming. Ours was the first community to deliver a door... Everyone present was impressed with how well our door was presented and the two staff members who dreamed up the idea were pleased that there was some initial success to their brainchild.

Personally, I am proud of the efforts of the three girls and seeing the door at the Conference itself. It will subsequently take a proud place in our sanctuary. ●



MNS Caretaker Bill Hunter retires

After more than 30 years' dedicated service, Bill will be retiring from his position as part-time Mosaic Reform caretaker at the end of July. We are organising a collection to acknowledge his dedicated service over such a long period of time. If you would like to contribute to this, please send your donation to the Synagogue office (cheques payable to MNS).

Any greetings you may care to send will be included with our gift to Bill and details of a presentation will be announced nearer the time. ●

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

WELCOME

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 Registered (charity no. 200719) Company no. 274816

Abbeyfield

Letters to the Editor

From Gary Miller

Tragic Death in Columbia

I am writing on behalf of the Miller family regarding my darling nephew Henry who died in Colombia in April. It has been in the news – but a great shock to me and the family. He was only 19 and had his whole life to look forward to. He was due to start university in September.

Henry was always the life and soul of the party, never in trouble – but I think what happened in Colombia goes to prove how careful young people should be in what they do.

The upsetting thing is that there are loads of teenagers who experiment with the substance 'Yage', especially in areas like Colombia. It is not an illegal substance but I think it should be controlled. Whoever gave out this substance should be arrested and charged with manslaughter. My poor brother David – as parents, we do not expect our children to die while we are still alive.

Finally I just want to send a message to all you young people – please be careful and don't take any drugs that you know nothing about. Don't let what happened to Henry happen to you.

The Mosaic Reform office has received a note from Hanne Freedman, thanking us for the good wishes we sent on the occasion of her 90th birthday on 16th April, and assuring us that she had a wonderful day.

From Rabbi Laura Janner-Klausner, Senior Rabbi to the Movement for Reform Judaism

Launch edition of Kehila

Dear all, I hope you had lovely sedarim. I just wanted to say how much I loved reading the beautifully produced Kehila – what a gorgeous magazine that sets such a superb tone for the new community. Moadim l'simcha, warm regards, Laura

From the British Heart Foundation

"To Mosaic – thanks for the 'Ramp Up the Red' contribution on 7th February"

Thank you



You're a Ramp up the Red hero. The £1,058.00 you raised for this year's campaign made you one of our top 1 per cent of fundraisers during this month, and has helped the campaign raise over £1 million so far.

We would like to thank you for being part of the fight against coronary heart disease, the UK's single biggest killer. Without your support and donations we at the British Heart Foundation would not be able to fund our life-saving research.

We really hope you can join us for Ramp up the Red 2015 (you can sign up early at bhf.org.uk/red), and help make it our best yet.

With very best wishes

Rebecca

Rebecca Crowe
Head of Community Fundraising
08000 316 316

INDUS experiences
Your local tour operator for:
Indochina, Sri Lanka, India, Nepal, Bhutan, Croatia, Oman

Please phone to discuss your holiday plans with one of our destination specialists
020 8901 7320

WINNER BRITISH TRAVEL AWARDS 2013
BEST SMALL HOLIDAY COMPANY TO SOUTHERN ASIA

ABTA
IATA
AATG

Perfect nails
Established 20 years ago

For everyday or just special occasions

- Experience the delight in a set of beautiful natural looking artificial nails
- Enjoy a relaxing manicure or pedicure...or both! All in the comfort of your own home

Phone Krysta on
0208 866 9879

Wine Tasting

One evening in May, ten Mosaic members gathered for an introduction to wine tasting for beginners – appropriately in the Kiddush Hall at Bessborough Road. The session was led by Mosaic member Robin Goldsmith, who describes himself as a freelance food and drink reviewer (www.thewritetaste.co.uk).

Robin started the session by outlining the history and science of wine. Did you know that the earliest evidence of wine dates back to 7,000 BCE in Georgia, and that the world's oldest wine-cellar (3,700 years old) was discovered in Tel Kabri, northern Israel?

After showing us the correct way to handle wine-tasting

glasses, and discussing the points to consider when tasting wine, Robin brought out six samples of budget wines from Waitrose, M&S and Wine Rack priced between £6.79 and £15.99 a bottle. We had the option of spitting or swallowing; naturally I opted for the latter.

The first wine was a Muscat from Catalonia, Spain with a hint of lychees, ideal with Asian or spicy foods. The second wine was a Sauvignon Blanc from the Loire, France. Did I mention that bread, crackers and cheese were laid out as well? The third wine was a Chardonnay from Burgundy, somewhere else in France, with a nutty, buttery, schmuttery taste. Then onto the reds – hurrah! The 14% alcohol Merlot was a cheeky

little chapee with a hint of blackberry and lickorish (whatever!). The next wine – a Shiraz from our colonial cousins in the Adelaide Hills of Australia – was followed by a limited edition Merlottle (excuse me – Merlot) this time from the Colchagua Valley in Chile. (What drink problem? I drink, get drunk, fall down

– no problem!) Robin has indicated that he will be happy to present more sessions if there is enough demand. He offered a prize at the end of the evening. The answer was 'Cornwall', but I've forgotten the question. ●

By John Ashmele (I'm not as drunk as you think I am!)



The Library at Bessborough Road

When HWPS made its historic move to share the premises in Harrow with MNS, amongst the items to be transported was its substantial library. Many of the books dated from the early days of the community or were donations from members, presented to mark family events. MNS also owned an impressive collection of books. The decision was taken to merge the two libraries and a room was set aside to house some 1500 books.

The light and airy library is a quiet retreat with comfortable chairs for browsing. It is on the first floor of the building and is open whenever the Synagogue is open. It can be reached by using either the stairs or the lift. You will find volumes of fiction and non-fiction as well as many reference books. There are many well known works which are no longer

in print. Borrowing books is extremely easy: it is only necessary to write details in the appropriate ledger, which sits quite visibly on a stand in the room. From time to time we will review either new additions to the stock or older items that perhaps should be brought to the attention of the membership. The reviews will appear in Kehila.

If you are a lover of books you are sure to find something of interest.

Perhaps you could help from time to time in keeping the library tidy. Maybe you could review a book. Do you have any experience of cataloguing books?

We have plans for the future – for those who have difficulty in getting to the Synagogue, we hope to be able to deliver books to people in their homes. ●

By Maria Landau

In aid of
Arias, Musical Highlights, Hebrew Melodies
A fundraising recital
In the Music Room of the Grimsdyke Hotel

Rabbis Sing Opera

Samuel de Beck Spitzer
International Baritone
and
Danny Bergson
of Pinner
Accompanied by
Stuart Izon

Thursday 3rd July 2014
7:30pm
The Grimsdyke Hotel, Old Redding, Harrow Weald, Middlesex, HA3 6SH
Less than 100 tickets available at £50 per person

Book now at www.stlukes-hospice.org/opera
or call 020 8382 8023.

Cherry No. 298555



Mosaic EVENTS

JUNE

CAMEO (Group for Bereaved people)

SUNDAY 1ST FROM 15.00 – 17.00

The next meeting of CAMEO

Ring 020 8864 0133 or email the office to let us know you're attending.

Shavuot

TUESDAY 3RD

Erev Shavuot – Letters and Cheesecake

The Book of Ruth, read on Shavuot, is the story of a vulnerable, immigrant outsider. This Shavuot the Mosaic community will look at selections from another book about immigrants, The Bintel Brief: Our Forbearers' Ethical Dilemmas and Minor Squabbles.

The Bintel Brief is sixty years of letters addressed to the 'agony aunts' at the Yiddish-language Jewish Daily Forward. It offers an extraordinary view of the inner emotional lives of Jewish people as newcomers to Western Europe and North America. These letters may even give us insight into the immigrants fleeing persecution and poverty today.

Evening Programme:

19.15: Evening Service (with a choice of three services: Reform, Liberal and Masorti)

19.45: Kiddush – including an array of mouth-watering cheesecakes

20.15: The Bintel Brief: an inspiring and emotional insight into the hearts of Jewish immigrants

Venue: Fox End, Nugents Park, Hatch End, HA5 4RA (walking away from the Uxbridge Road you will find Fox End at the end Nugents park on the left hand side). please let us know if you are attending by calling 020 8864 0133 or emailing Shavuot@choosmosaic.org

Photo 39

TUESDAY 10TH AT 20:00

Details to be announced

Email patzatz@aol.com for further information

Sunday Jazz at Mosaic

SUNDAY 15TH AT 14.15

Programme:

14.15: Welcome glass of wine or juice with canapés

15.00: Viva La Bop – set one

15.30: Interval: Tea/coffee with cakes and a chance to win a raffle prize

16.00: Viva La Bop – set two

16.30: (approx) End

Venue: 39 Bessborough Road, Harrow, Middlesex HA1 3BS

Book tickets (£10 per ticket) by phone 020 8864 0133 or email Sundayjazz@choosmosaic.org

ABOUT VIVA LA BOP

Viva La Bop are a close harmony, vintage jazz trio covering a wide range of songs from the 1920s to the current day. The ladies hail from top London UK Conservatoires and their wealth of talent and experience has seen them perform in places such as the Royal Albert Hall, the O2 Arena and for TV and radio

Book 39

WEDNESDAY 18TH

We will discuss 'The Surgeon of Crowthorne' by Simon Winchester

Details from Janet Solomon on 020 8866 0335

Mosaic Film

TUESDAY 24TH AT 20:00

39, Bessborough Rd, Harrow

HA1 3BS

Evening Programme:

**The 1942 Classic Comedy
To Be or Not to Be
(in Glorious Black & White)**

In occupied Poland during WWII, a troupe of ham stage actors led by Joseph Tura (Jack Benny) and his wife Maria (Carole Lombard) match wits with the Nazis. A spy has information which would be very damaging to the Polish resistance and they must prevent its being delivered to the Germans.

Chagigah

FRIDAY 27TH – SUNDAY 29TH

Eastwood Hall near Nottingham. It celebrates Reform Judaism & is the Movement's Biennial Conference

Call Sarita on 07825 777706 or book online at www.reformjudaism.org.uk/chagigah

**Get involved
in some of
our many
events**

Harrow Friendship Club

(For the over-60s)

MONDAYS : 11:00 TO 14:30

Tel: 020 8423 2903

Programme:

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

ENTERTAINMENT IN JUNE:

Programme:

2nd Linda Watts entertains

9th Singer/guitarist Alex Samos

16th Return visit of Stevie Permutt

24th ASCOT DAY

30th The New Singalong Singers

For further information call: Bertha on 020 8421 2233

JULY

Service for past chairmen of MNS

SATURDAY 5TH

Special Shabbat Service

During the past 55 years, more than two dozen Chairmen have served Middlesex New Synagogue with distinction, steering the synagogue to its present position as Mosaic Reform.

We will honour and pay tribute to our past Chairmen at this special Shabbat service and Kiddush. We hope that many members will join our past-Chairmen and their families on this special occasion

'In conversation with...'

SHABBAT 26TH

Conversations with our Elder Statesmen

Steve Levinson will be 'in conversation with ...' Mosaic member Lawrie Nerva. Lawrie has served on the Board of Deputies, is a Labour Zionist and recipient of a Merit Award from Ed Milliband for 67 years service to the Labour Party.

RSVP admin@mns.org.uk or 020 8864 0133



ANSWERS – Kehila Quiz No.1 Great Britain: 1. Cambridge 2. M25 3. Aberdeen 4. 1880 5. Loch Lomond

Get in touch!



Mosaic
Choose your Jewish life

Mosaic

Office 020 8864 0133; Email: admin@choosmosaic.org

Chairman: Harry Grant 01923 711 991

Email: chairman@choosmosaic.org

Membership: Edwin Lucas 07973 312 851

Email: membership@choosmosaic.org

Website: www.choosmosaic.org

**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: 0208 866 0335

Rabbi Frank Dabba Smith: 020 8864 5408

LJ: 020 7580 1663

Funeral Partners: 020 8445 2797



Hatch End Masorti Synagogue

Office (answerphone) 0208 866 0320

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@mns.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

WHAT'S ON

Unless noted otherwise, the times/locations of weekly services are:

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

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

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

June

Sunday	1 st	09:45	HaMakom. Half Term
		15:00	Cameo – group for bereaved people
Monday	2 nd	11:00	Harrow Friendship Club
Tuesday	3 rd		Erev Shavuot service + study in Hatch End
Wednesday	4 th	10:30	Shavuot services (HWPS 11:15, HEMS 9:30, Reform 10:30)
Thursday	5 th	09:30	Shavuot Day 2 – HEMS service
Saturday	7 th	10:30	Bar Mitzvah – Adam Newman (Mosaic Reform)
Monday	9 th	11:00	Harrow Friendship Club
Tuesday	10 th	20:00	Photography Group 39
Wednesday	11 th	20:00	Council meetings
Saturday	14 th	09:30	Parashat haShavuah – with Rabbis Middleton & Dabba Smith
Sunday	15 th	09:45	HaMakom. Outing tbc
		14:15	Sunday Jazz at Mosaic
			Wedding – David Leigh-Ellis & Katie Chadwick (Mosaic Reform)
Monday	16 th		Kehila copy date
		11:00	Harrow Friendship Club
Wednesday	18 th	11:30	Lunch club
		20:00	Book Group – ‘The Surgeon of Crowthorne’ by Simon Winchester
Saturday	21 st	11:00	Shabbat shira
Sunday	22 nd	09:45	HaMakom
		14:00	Tombstone consecration Sam Bulka (Cheshunt)
Monday	23 rd	11:00	Harrow Friendship Club
Wednesday	25 th	10:00	Mosaic bake in – cookies & cakes
		20:00	Mosaic Board meeting
Thursday	26 th		Kehilah distribution
Saturday	28 th		‘Chagigah’ – MRJ Biennial Conference
		09:30	Torah Tots
		11:00	HWPS Shabbat Service & Kabbalat Torah
Sunday	29 th	09:45	HaMakom
Monday	30 th	11:00	Harrow Friendship Club

July

Tuesday	1 st	20:00	Council meeting
Saturday	5 th	10:30	Service & kiddush for past MNS chairmen
Sunday	6 th	09:45	HaMakom. End of Term
Monday	7 th	11:00	Harrow Friendship Club
Saturday	12 th	10:30	Shabbat Service + Shabbat Shira
Sunday	13 th	14:00	Tombstone consecration Barbara Hurst (Cheshunt)
		14:45	Tombstone consecration Lea Pessok (Cheshunt)
Monday	14 th	11:00	Harrow Friendship Club
Tuesday	15 th		Fast of Tammuz
Wednesday	16 th	11:30	Lunch club
Saturday	18 th	10:30	Bar Mitzvah – Sam Phillips (Mosaic Reform)
Monday	21 st	11:30	Harrow Friendship Club
Saturday	26 th	09:30	Torah Tots
		12:30	Steve Levinson “in conversation with...” Lawrie Nerva
Monday	28 th	11:00	Harrow Friendship Club
Wednesday	30 th	20:00	Board meetings

For the latest information and weekly parashot information please check

WWW.CHOOSEMOSAIC.ORG