

Kehila

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

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

HEMS
JEWELLERS

reform
mosaic
synagogue

July 2014



Viva la Bop at Mosaic

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Notable events

HEMS

CONDOLENCES TO:

Jackie Alexander on the death of her mother, Eva Harrison

MAZAL TOV TO:

Stanley Finester who has a great grandchild, Mia Grace

HAPPY BIRTHDAY WISHES IN JULY TO:

Noa Arberman (8)
Gilad Arberman (8)
Jack Charkham (30)
Howard Eden (70)
Edward Kafka (70)

GET WELL TO:

Harold Curry
Dan Honey

HWPS

CONDOLENCES TO:

Paul Zatz, on the recent death of his mother, Stella Morgan
The family of Joan Snow
The family of Archie Shapiro

MAZAL TOV TO:

Leanne Baker & Russell Snipper on the occasion of their marriage
The Bennister, Brown and Solomon families on the occasion of the Kabbalat Torah of Bea, Kathleen and Elana on Saturday 28th June

SPECIAL BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Angela Brand
Ron Franks
Steve Freedman
Jeffrey Phillips
Valerie Saunders
Rosemary Wolfson
David Zarahiah
Lindsey & Adrian Cohen on their 20th Wedding Anniversary

CONGRATULATIONS:

Council warmly congratulates HWPS member Valerie Spielfogel on being awarded the Rebecca Sieff Long Service Award. Valerie has worked tirelessly for WIZO over the years through three separate Wizo Groups (one of which she founded) and has raised a lot of money for Israel. Well done Valerie, you are an inspiration. Mazal Tov on this well-deserved recognition. We wish you strength and health to keep up the good work

GET WELL WISHES TO:

Norman Benson
Edna Spielmann

Mosaic Reform

CONDOLENCES TO:

Gillian Goldsmith and her family on the death of her mother Hilary Rosin
The family of our member Eve Jager

GET WELL WISHES TO:

Marie Rowan

MAZAL TOV TO:

David Leigh-Ellis & Katie Chadwick on their marriage; also to Caroline & Lawrence Chadwick

SPECIAL BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES:

Emmy Cloote (7)
Saul Jacobs (3)
Sue & Harold Shupak on their 40th wedding anniversary
Ruth & Lionel Jacobs on their 60th wedding anniversary
Linda & Paul Turner on their 50th wedding anniversary
Steve Noble on his 70th birthday

GOOD LUCK IN THEIR NEW HOME:

Erica Grossman



Welcome

to the second issue of Kehila Monthly.

We received very positive feedback on the first (June) issue and have been more than happy to incorporate valid suggestions for changes to the lay-out, particularly to enhance the readability. We are very open to feedback – please keep it coming. The magazine will never be perfect, but we can strive to do a little better each time. Management gurus call that ‘continuous improvement’.

As well as Harry Grant producing an overall Mosaic chairman’s report, we have asked the 3 individual shul chairmen to ‘address their troops’ with any items that they think would be appropriate. In the spirit of an open and transparent 3-way community, we think it could be interesting for each shul’s concerns and triumphs to be made open to the other 2 shuls. We hope this works as intended.

After Rabbi Paul Arberman’s interesting article in the June issue, this time it is the turn of Rabbi Frank Dabba Smith of Harrow and Wembley Progressive to occupy the ‘Rabbi’s Word’ slot on page 3. He has some fascinating things to say about cross-community interactions and we urge you to take that to heart. Rabbi Kathleen will be writing for us in the August issue.

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

Copy date for August issue of Kehila Monthly is 21st July. 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

This month, our message is provided by Rabbi Frank Dabba Smith of Harrow and Wembley Progressive Synagogue



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The phone rings and my friend, Shahab Hussein, Secretary General of the Wembley Central Mosque, is on the line to confirm my lunch with Imam Abdul Sattar at his home the following day. 'Absolutely', I say.

The following day, I go to the Mosque bearing a dozen assorted Parkway's fresh bagels for the Imam; his favourite bread. I arrive a bit early, remove my shoes and go inside during prayers. There must be well over one thousand worshippers present and I stand discreetly at the back. The Imam chants intermittently and there are long silences; long moments of absolute silence and stillness. I close my eyes, breathe in deeply and exhale slowly. On this warm day, my mind drifts to the Jordan Valley and various multi-faith encounters I've enjoyed through my involvement with Friends of the Earth Middle East. I'm the only American-Jewish-Caucasian present and yet I feel totally at ease, ensconced in what might be termed the spirituality that is present. The prayers soon finish and the mosque empties with worshippers greeting each other. I am not exempted as men I have come to know in the community come over to wish me 'Salaam Aleykum' and to hug me.

I make my way to the Imam's office and receive a warm welcome. The guest preacher that day is a very respected German-born scholar and, as we depart together for the Imam's home, I ask him --preacher to preacher-- about what he has just said to the congregation. He replies that we are now in the month that leads

up to Ramadan and that people should be preparing themselves spiritually; shades of the Hebrew month of Ellul? He continues about how people get too caught up in the minutia of ritual --not to mention being utterly preoccupied with food and fasting-- that they forget about the real purposes of Ramadan: one's ethical conduct and that we should help and forgive each other much more.

“ I go to the Mosque bearing a dozen assorted Parkway's bagels for the Imam ”

We should be reminded about Tzedakah (same word and meaning for Muslims) and how the real meaning of Ramadan and, indeed, life is that we exist in this world to help each other through acts of goodness and loving kindness. My fellow preacher laments that this is made so difficult in our society by the anxiety and envy engendered by consumerism and how isolated and insecure so many of us may feel under the surface. Through apathy and helplessness, we are cut off from each other and all that might be shared through more caring and

helpful relationships between us; with those whom we know and strangers alike.

We arrive at the Imam's home and I am the sole non-Muslim among about fifteen involved members of the community. The lunch is very tasty and the hospitality is hugely generous. We all engage in conversation about matters practical and spiritual. For starters, I hear about differing places in the world and where the Ramadan fasts are harder or easier depending on geographical location and weather. Everybody has an opinion. I am reminded how Jews love to make a meal, as it were, about the ins and outs of fasting on Yom Kippur.

We also discuss various technological accidents and disasters and how we as humans tend to think that nothing should ever go wrong and that we feel that someone must be to blame. Surely, as mere humans how can we expect our lives to be perfect and, even more so, how can we reasonably expect our handiwork to be error free? Of course, we are ethically obligated to do our very best but none of us should 'play God' by being blinded by our clever inventions; what about a greater collective sense of humility?

It's been a warm-hearted and thoughtful occasion and I can't help but feel more at peace. As I drive home, I find myself not feeling the need to rush and I'm not bothered by the dense traffic. I pause several times to let other drivers into the stream. I feel prepared, more than usual, for celebrating Shabbat.

Reports from the Chairmen

We are really starting to see what Mosaic is all about



Harry Grant



Barbara Grant



Adrian Cohen



Neil Mendoza

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Harry Grant Chairman of Mosaic

Erev Shavuot this year was celebrated at a member's house in Hatch End, where three different services, Liberal, Masorti and Reform, were held simultaneously. More than 70 members of all three Shuls turned up, and the atmosphere was invigorating. There was healthy aural competition between all three, and the sound of other services in the background of your own enhances the diversity within the Community that we seek to embrace.

I think everyone attending had brought their own cheesecake for others to try, as the supplies and choices seemed unlimited.

We then broke into three totally random groups, and studied extracts from the Bintel Brief, letters written by immigrants to the United States from Europe, during the first half of the last century. The letters were to the agony aunt of a Yiddish journal and were a fascinating insight into the social and religious pressures of immigrants going through such traumatic times. Each group studied the same extracts, but the

“ Please provide a pull quote here pull quote here pull quote here pull quote here ”

range of comment when we reassembled showed how wide the discussion was.

Last week a few of our HaMakom Bar mitzvah class led the Shabbat morning service at Mosaic Reform. They made me very proud of what we are doing, and were a great credit to our teachers within the Religion School.

These are just two snapshots of events happening within Mosaic, all of which are coming together well, and are open to you all. Do come in to experience and support all, or any of what we are doing.

Barbara Grant – Chairman of Mosaic Reform

May has been a busy month at Mosaic Reform. For us gardeners, this is the month where spring becomes summer! For us at Mosaic Reform it is barely three months since Middlesex New Synagogue members voted to join the Mosaic community and form a new Reform

Synagogue. Today, Mosaic Reform is at full speed in the summer sunshine, trying to form a community where we will become a living, caring entity delivering all the needs of all our members all of the time. A real challenge!

In reality, we are starting to distil our thoughts into focussing on the areas of our core responsibility - religious and life cycle events and developing and caring for all of the needs of all of the members of our community.

Mosaic Reform Council meets at Bessborough Road, at a similar time to the other two Councils, on the first Wednesday of each month. Anyone is welcome to attend as an observer and you are encouraged to come along if you would like to do so. We are looking at ways of developing our membership, not only by increasing the involvement of those existing members but also encouraging other Jewish people in the community to join us. We are also starting

to address the need for providing more social care within our own community as we are increasingly aware of the growing needs of our members.

On a practical note, we are about to take delivery of a defibrillator at Bessborough Road, which could be a lifesaver to anyone taken ill in the building. Training will be available soon for anyone who is interested.

After Lag B'Omer and Shavuot with our friends from HWPS and HEMS, this weekend will see a double celebration of some of our members at our Shabbat morning service and also participation by members of the Bar Mitzvah class of our Religion School, Mosaic HaMakom.

There is much to do and much to get involved in. We welcome your thoughts and suggestions but most of all, please come and join us on this community journey where there really is a place for everyone.

Adrian Cohen – Chairman, Harrow and Wembley Progressive Synagogue

It is now 3 years since we came to live at Bessborough Road. Initially we came as just tenants who no longer had the headache of looking after their own home. The instant warmth of the welcome from MNS softened the blow of this loss of independence. That warmth continues to this day and with the recent addition of HEMS and the creation of the Mosaic community our family has grown larger.

Life for HWPS, I am happy to report, is good - in fact it is very good. With the creation of the Mosaic community in March we all welcome HEMS to our family and look forward over the coming few years to really getting to know each other and building our joint future. The recent Mosaic barbecue

for L'ag B'Omer was an overwhelming success, with a hundred or so people enjoying not just fabulous weather but also great food and wonderful company. It just goes to show what we can achieve together. So I advise you all to watch out for future Mosaic events and come along and make new friends as well as having a great time.

As I reported at our recent AGM we are not just an aging community but a declining one to boot, we are now some 300 souls. Given our diminishing numbers it has become very difficult to bring new people on to Council and in order to fill the allotted slots we are having to ask the same people, who have either done it for too long and are tired, or people who are at an age when they feel they have done their share over the years. This is a very real problem that we have had to address and particularly in the last 3 years.

Another problem that I have grappled with personally was that our recent creation of the new category of membership - Affiliate - had thrown up the anomaly that while an Affiliate i.e. a non-Jewish spouse or partner of a member, could vote at our AGM and also be buried alongside their loved one, the Affiliate could not be on Council.

I have always believed, as the Americans say, "no taxation without representation". Well I am thrilled to let you all know that our AGM in April unanimously agreed to the historic motion that up to 2 (non-voting) Affiliates can be co-opted on to Council. Council and consequently the whole community will benefit immeasurably from new blood offering fresh insights from Affiliates who have always been supportive of their Jewish partner and family. So I look forward

to issuing invitations and in due course seeing new faces around our table at our monthly Council meetings.

**Neil Mendoza – Chairman
of Hatch End Masorti
Synagogue**

Within HEMS the new world of Mosaic raises slight tensions between an anxiety as to the potential loss of identity and the exciting opportunities presented by this new venture into uncharted territory. For our relatively tiny Community, some concerns about being swamped are perhaps understandable and our future task is to play a valuable part in the overall project whilst preserving our valued HEMS ethos.

Mosaic is not a merger; rather it is a federation of kindred spirits, albeit with different approaches to spirituality. We should be encouraged that together our three separate synagogues can offer so much more to both ourselves and the wider community. In taking the decision to embrace the vision of a pluralistic umbrella body we offer choice to modern Jewry in an area at risk of decline in future generations, if not now.

We can turn this round, indeed, it is perhaps our duty to our children to at least try to do so. At HEMS, Council is currently reviewing how we can promote the Masorti message and deliver attractive services and activities for our existing members and to promote growth. Shul involvement can so often seem a thankless task, but at HEMS we have a particularly friendly crowd and a pioneering "ruach" that makes us minnows stand out from the crowd! Ironically, our small size can be viewed as one of our special attributes and those qualities have to be protected and encouraged as we play across a wider stage.



Fred Stern has an interesting view on the use of the name Mosaic

It is remarkable that Mosaic was chosen for the title of the magazine, comprising the three local synagogues, which have now, if loosely, amalgamated. The title cements our heritage as Jews, as it refers to the founder of our religion. The term also denotes a large number of individual parts in a coherent design. That befits our forward looking, progressive and varied society

“The opportunity to make my short contribution to Mosaic enables me to wish it success in its endeavours in the future”

in the 21st century.

I was particularly interested in this choice of the title as it has associations with the Holocaust. In this never to be forgotten period of our history,

the Germans and Austrians decided to drop the term Jüdisch in official documents. For instance, at hospital admissions and at school in Vienna, my hometown, one was expected to write or say Mosaisch.

Of course, the term was often used by the Nazis in a derogatory manner. Nevertheless, our passports were marked with a big yellow 'J'. We thus became a distinct tribe. Obviously, most uncomfortable delays were therefore experienced in our hurry to leave the country. It is interesting that the Czech Embassy in Montréal used the term Mosaisch, not to obstruct emigration into their country. In the 19th century the word Jüdisch was forbidden in Germany and only the word Mosaisch was allowed. It is not surprising that a lot of confusion existed in the past.

The opportunity to make my short contribution to Mosaic enables me to wish it success in its endeavours in the future.

Joint Distribution Committee 100th Anniversary Gala Dinner, 22nd May



Penny Blumenstein and Baron David de Rothschild

The Joint Distribution Committee which was set up 100 years ago has been instrumental in saving Jews, especially during the Holocaust. It is the world's leading Jewish humanitarian assistance organisation

Set up and operating mainly from America, the JDC now operates in 70 countries, including Israel, to alleviate hunger and hardship, rescue Jews in danger, create long-lasting connections to Jewish Life, and provide immediate relief and long term development support for victims of natural and manmade disasters.

I was attending the dinner in Paris on behalf of the European Union of Progressive Judaism. The dinner was provided by David, Baron de Rothschild (President of the Honorary Committee for Europe, current chairman of the Rothschild Group, and President of the Foundation

for the memory of the Shoah.)

The President of the JDC, Penny Blumenstein, made a presentation to Baron de Rothschild and explained the present St Petersburg and Greek programmes. This follows the rebuilding of Jewish Communities after the war which has been the priority. At the dinner there were representatives from 30 European countries plus 100 from the American JDC Committee.

Other major concerns are the anti Semitism in Europe, especially in Hungary and Greece and the economic challenge of Bulgaria where 60 per cent of the population are unemployed

The JDC is responsible for the post war restitution arrangements in Europe and also helps to arrange for any young Jewish person who wishes to go to summer camp especially in the Former Soviet Union.

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HaMakom is offering an alternative to the Kabbalat Torah course for teenagers in years 9 and 10

The Jewish studies GCSE course offered on a Sunday morning is a two year course. All teenagers in school years 9 and 10 can take the course. This enables the teenagers to take a GCSE a year earlier than the other subjects which they would be taking at their day schools. As it is a topic which most of them are comfortable with (and have some prior knowledge) it is a good entry into the world of the public exam. As part of the course the students have a weekend

in Amsterdam studying The Shoah.

In the second year of both the GCSE and the Kabbalat Torah courses the teenagers also attend an Assistants training course run by a trained teacher. They learn skills which enable them to work at HaMakom as Teaching Assistants. These skills can be part of their UCAS personal statements and help them to stand out from others applying for university."

Jacky Martin,
headteacher HaMakom

Please contact the office for further details of courses offered

Kevin and Olivia Ziants report on the Liberal Judaism (LJ) Biennial Weekend

In October 2013 at a LJ meeting, as HWPS liaison, I was nominated (and funded) to be an emerging leader for the LJ Biennial Conference, in May 2014. I thought this would be a good opportunity for someone in our community to develop and when this was bought up at the next Council meeting I was surprised I was elected as the representative. My reaction was a feeling of honour but I was not sure if it was an ideal way for Olivia and me to spend weekend away!

As reported in the June edition of Kehila, my first project prior to the conference was to fill an empty laminated picture of a door with a display that represented the values of our community.

“ So many new friends from other communities made, so much learned so much to put into place ”

The choice of activities was overwhelming. There were four workshops where you could choose one from a list of eight sessions. Each one had various merits and was difficult to decide what not to do.

Our first choice was on a theme of Living Wage by Charlotte Fischer who has been involved with many specific campaigns to eradicate many social injustices. One was supporting an underpaid cleaner to speak up at a major corporation's AGM which resulted in all staff there being put above Living Wage. Eight MPs are now 'Living Wage accredited' including Boris Johnson due to his cleaner speaking out at a Conference. HWPS do pay our staff above the Living Wage but I'm going to recommend to Council we become 'Living Wage accredited'.

Another Workshop was a session on Gender/ Sexuality. This focussed on highlighting the good work of the Rainbow Jews. This initiative offers support to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Jews. It was worrying but enlightening to hear about the

struggles of Jews from all denominations due to their choice of sexuality. This session truly embraced the core values of Liberal Judaism.

On the Sunday the first Workshop I attended was a session with Pete Tobias on the liturgy in our prayer book. This gave an opportunity to challenge what we recite and discuss alternatives to engage the congregation. There are certain themes that came out which I will put to Rites and Practices committee (R&P).

We finished with a light-hearted music session with Pete Tobias and Daniel Cainer a Jewish songwriter musician. The theme was how far we can push the boundaries for music within synagogue services.

In between these workshops I attended four emerging leadership sessions. One concept I benefitted from is power sharing. This is not delegating but discussing with individuals certain situations and how best we can collectively deal with them. The example given as a guide was Jethro's advice to Moses when he was struggling in the desert with the Israelites.

During the Shabbat morning there was a choice of youth service, alternative service or traditional service with all merging into traditional service. We opted to attend the alternative service, which proved to be spiritual with silences and chanting to enhance this, which certainly provided some ideas for our community. The Torah service was awesome with over 300 congregants. The sermon by Mark Goldstein had many significant points. He mentioned the choices we are allowed as Liberal Jews for honouring our Shabbat but we mustn't lose the value of the Shabbat; for instance how many checked their emails before the service?

After the service there was a rousing talk from Jonah Pesner, a reform rabbi from the USA who became empowered as a middle class Jew to help resolve issues of Social injustice in the Bronx. It was in American Evangelical mode and most inspirational. We came out of the weekend energised and we did not need spa facilities! So many new friends from other communities made, so much learned so much to put into place. Watch this space.

Report by Zionist Federation challenging RSPCA over Holocaust claims

Last week the ZF were asked to comment on the worrying claims made by a leading figure at the RSPCA - that the UK farming industry is the equivalent of the Holocaust. The following statement was made by one of the candidates for a top position at the RSPCA, Peta Watson-Smith:

"I don't think people always appreciate what is the holocaust going on behind closed doors. You talk about the Jews. This probably sounds like animal rights, but if you recognise animals as sentient beings, why are we treating them so abysmally on farms?"

ZF Director Alan Aziz was quoted in the Daily Mail in response:

'No one who fully understands the all-encompassing evil of the Holocaust, and its systematic programme of genocide, could ever seriously compare it to the treatment - no matter how bad - of farm animals.'

'While everyone is entitled to their own views about the morality and efficiency of how we source our food, that can never be an acceptable reason to trivialise the memory of the millions of Jews and others who were deliberately exterminated by the Nazi regime.'

Letters to the Editor

From Maureen Daniels

Together with Andrew and Jonathan, I would like to convey our gratitude to Rabbi Kathleen Middleton for conducting a very moving service and also thank the members of Mosaic for their kindness and support following the recent death of my dear husband, Philip. It has given us great comfort.

From Lew Leaderman

On behalf of my son Gary and myself, we would like to thank Rabbi Kathleen for all the help and comfort she gave us during Stella's long stay in hospital. We would also like to thank Ann Simon for her concern during this period.

What is Kiev Koppers?

Fifteen years ago Alex Duchovny was student rabbi with Harrow and Wembley Progressive Synagogue. On completion of his studies he returned to his native Kiev and took on the responsibility of heading the Progressive community in Ukraine.

Under his leadership the community has expanded rapidly and last year was able to move into new premises, where a wide range of communal activities takes place.

Finance is always a problem and the Jews of Ukraine are very reliant on outside help.

HWPS wanted to contribute on a regular basis, especially with funds for the kindergartens. Rita Asbury came up with the idea of KIEV KOPPERS a scheme whereby congregants could donate small change. Since its beginning 14 years ago the fund has raised £14,500, all from tiny amounts of money

At the AGM earlier this year it was decided that in view of

the current delicate situation in Ukraine a one off fund raising event was called for. This will be a Brunch taking place on Sunday 27 July. (See details under Mosaic Events.) We hope to see you there.

In the meantime, the situation in Kiev is very tense and changes day by day. The Jewish community is trying to lead as normal a life as possible and our support is very important to them. So as always... KEEP THE KOPPERS KOMING!

Rita Asbury and Maureen Lubert

Readers in other Mosaic communities might like to support this cause. It is very simple. All you have to do is to put aside your small change, the fiddly stuff that makes holes in your pockets. It soon mounts up. When you have a reasonable amount, contact Rita at HWPS and she will arrange to relieve you of it.

Kiev Brunch

As part of HWPS's longstanding and warm relationship with Rabbi Alex Duchovny and the Progressive communities in the Ukraine and in view of the current difficulties there, we are having an Emergency Brunch to raise funds. All the money raised will go the Kiev congregation who are in a very precarious situation at the present time.

Please support our sister congregations and our Ukrainian Jewish brothers and sisters

**Come to our brunch on
Sunday 27th July 2014**

11:30 - 14:00

at 39 Bessborough road

**Enjoy deli food and
entertainment with us**


Tickets only £5.50 each

Food for Fun

Food For Fun met in May with 'Eggs' as our theme for the evening's meal. The simplicity of our theme produced a simple menu but this was more than made up for by the unexpected topic of conversation during our meal, as an aura of grandeur, beauty, glamour, not to mention extreme wealth, overtook our fancy! It was courtesy of Frances that we heard the very latest news of those fabulous Russian Imperial Eggs created by Carl Fabergé the famous 19th century Russian jeweller. In 1887 Czar Alexander commissioned an egg for his beloved wife, Czarina Maria Fedorovna, which became known as the 'Third Imperial Egg'. In all, 50 Imperial Eggs for the royal family were made, of which 42 are known to have survived in private collections.

And what of the 8 'lost' eggs? The following story will encourage all those 'car boot', 'flea market' and 'bric-a-brac market' goers to continue looking! An American dealer bought an egg at an antique stall for £8,000 based on the

estimated value of the gold and decoration. A few prospective buyers thought he had over-estimated the price and turned him down. Many years later (in 2012) the dealer saw an article in the Telegraph, as a result of which he contacted jewellers in Mayfair. The rest you can guess... the egg was worth £20 million. The current owner of Fabergé's Third Imperial Egg lent the egg to Wartski for public display from April 14-17 at the firm's headquarters in Grafton Street, Mayfair...

To bring us down to earth and to round off our 'egg' inspired meal, we had the Swiss Chef Anton Mossiman's deluxe recipe for bread and butter pudding – delicious!

Anne Steiner



Images copyright © Wartski, 2014. Photography Prudence Cuming Associates

Blanket knitters update

In 2010 a number of HWPS congregants took the decision to participate in the World Jewish Relief Pom-Knits initiative to produce knitted blankets for deprived



people in Eastern Europe. The aim was to knit squares, find someone to sew them together and create a blanket. We reckoned we could make one blanket, maybe two. Four years on, we have just completed our 28th blanket! Thank you to everyone who has been involved.

Unfortunately during the past few months the Ukrainian authorities have brought in strict, new restrictions on sending goods into Ukraine and other Eastern European countries where WJR works. The focus of this project has had to change. Bed and lap blankets are now being distributed to residential care homes, refugees and others in need in the UK. Belmont Knitting Circle is now making blankets for two charities in Israel, KISHORIT

and AKIM which both support individuals with additional needs. Maybe our readers will have ideas on where the blankets should be sent. If you have any squares or blankets, please continue to send them. They will find a worthy home.

The bed blankets are made up of 9" squares and measure roughly 45" x 72" ie 5 across 8 down. If your squares are smaller please adjust the amount to the size of the bed blanket.

The lap blankets are made up of 9" squares and measure roughly 36" x 36" or 4 across and 4 down. If your squares are smaller please adjust to the size of the lap blanket.

Mary Vulkan

More information from
pomegranate@wjr.org.uk

Philip Silverton reports on the recent highly successful Erev Shavuot 'Letters and Cheesecake' evening



On 3rd June and with many thanks to Caroline Alexander in whose house we all met, the community joined together to do what Jews do best (disagree and eat!)

The Shavuot "Letters and Cheesecake" evening was a joyful success. The parallel evening services in adjoining rooms, led by our community Rabbis, were intimate

experiences sometimes enjoying almost synchronised singing with the other services.

The following sessions where we chose, read and discussed a range of letters from "The Bintel Brief", the 'agony aunts' from the Jewish Daily Forward spanning from the 1900s to the 1950s.

We made links between the topics (and content of various letters) to the Book of Ruth. Surprisingly, there were close parallels between the newspaper readers' questions and contemporary conundrums.

The refreshments were well received and just as keenly discussed. Many thanks are due to the members who baked the cheesecakes too.

Returning to the title of this article, all the cheesecakes were delicious and the only diplomatic observation I feel able to make was that some of the cakes were round and some were square!

Kehila Quiz No. 2 – Sport

(Answers on page 14)

1 In which sport might you get a Naeryo followed by a Jireugi Ap?

2 Which sport is commenced (and re-started) with a bully-off?

3 How is Mrs. Paul Peschilsolido better known?

4 Which country is regarded as the primary practitioner of Polo?

5 In a game of snooker a sequence of balls potted that reads red-black-red-black-red-pink-red-brown-red will score how many points?



Dear Parents

Do you have children between the ages of 8 and 10 ½ years old?

Do you have children under the age of 8 who would like to join our waiting list?

Do you know about 9th Pinner Cub Scouts?

9th Pinner Cub Scouts is a fun, vibrant and safe environment for Jewish boys and girls, with a varied and exciting programme of activities. We meet every Wednesday evening in The Henry Jackson Centre, Pinner Synagogue between 6.00pm and 7.40pm.

For more information on joining 9th Pinner Cub Scouts please email enquiries@9thpinner.org.uk

LIMMUD is returning to Harrow

Sunday 15 March 2015 is the first announcement for this exciting event.

Put the date in your diary now.

The organisers are keen to recruit volunteers.

If you feel you can help in any way contact harrow@limmud.org

Viva la Bop at Mosaic

On the 15th of June members of Mosaic were treated to a highly entertaining performance from Vintage Jazz trio 'Viva la Bop'. The crowd hugely enjoyed the songs from the 1940s and 50s, which brought back fond memories for many members. Many people sang and clapped along, and some couples were so enthused they even took to the floor to dance. Everyone agreed the singers were excellent in their performance and harmonised very well, and their return would definitely be welcomed in the future. Many thanks to the organisers for such a fun event.

Joanna Phillips, one of the younger members present!



Tribute to Sylvia Violet Elsie Honey 1930-2014

On 22nd May 2014 a small group of friends from HWPS met at Enfield Crematorium to say our farewells to a much-loved and well-respected lady.

Sylvia Honey converted to Judaism and joined the HWPS in October 1999. She became involved in many aspects of synagogue life, in particular organising Kiddushim for simchas, an activity she threw herself

into wholeheartedly. Many of us have fond memories of helping Sylvia with the food preparation – there was nothing like a Sylvia simcha to encourage community spirit.

One aspect of Sylvia's life that few of you will know about is that she was a keen and talented performer entertaining in local residential homes on a regular basis.

Sylvia faced many illnesses and challenges during her lifetime which she rose to with bags of courage. Indeed, she had so much courage that she could have bottled it up and sold it!

The service at Enfield was short and well attended by Sylvia's family and friends. Well chosen music enhanced a very moving ceremony.

Ron and Frances Spiegel

An Apology

On page 6 of the June issue (Mosaic makes its mark in Dresden), the article and headline implied that Karen Pollak was the chairman of the organising committee. In fact, Karen's husband - David - was the chairman of the organising committee. We are happy to rectify the mistake and apologise to David and Karen for any embarrassment caused.

Messages from the Movement for Reform Judaism

MRJ mourns victims of Brussels shooting

The Movement for Reform Judaism is deeply saddened by the apparently anti-Semitic attack outside the Brussels Jewish Museum which resulted in the deaths of four people. Our thoughts and prayers are with the victims and their families.

This attack, together with

the recent attack in Kansas City, reminds us of the need always to be vigilant and to challenge extremism at every opportunity. We stand together with people of all faiths in rejecting the politics of hatred and those who seek to cause division and incite violence.

MRJ statement on the European election results

The Movement for Reform Judaism praises the open and principled way in which European elections were contested in Britain. British Jewry can celebrate the defeat of the British National Party, but cannot afford to be introspective with neo-Nazi parties such as Golden Dawn in Greece and neo-fascists Jobbik in Hungary winning three Members of European Parliament each.

On too many occasions in recent weeks, we have looked to Europe in dismay: the desecration of Jewish cemeteries in Croatia, the apparent threatened expulsion of Jews on Passover in Ukraine, brutal assault on two Jews outside

a synagogue in Paris and the murder of four people in Belgium are horrifying incidents.

The presence of extremist parties in the European Parliament lends political legitimacy to the values behind these incidents and confirms many of our worries. We must ask ourselves how such parties are able to receive votes. We must also challenge the indifference of so many people across the European Union, a majority of whom did not even vote. There is immediate cross communal work to be done to ensure all Jews enjoy the tolerance that British politics and British society has long valued.

Rabbi Benji Stanley to join MRJ as Young Adult Development Rabbi

MMRJ is delighted to welcome Rabbi Benji Stanley as the Movement's new Young Adult Development Rabbi. His role will be to provide inspirational learning and programming for young adults across the country including those in mixed-faith relationships, underlining the Movement's commitment to inclusion. Rabbi Stanley joins the Movement from West London Synagogue, becoming the fourth rabbi and graduate of the Leo Baeck College to join the MRJ staff in recent years.

Rabbi Stanley said: "I am delighted to be taking up this new post which will allow me to reach out to young adults and collaboratively

build vibrant activities and I am looking forward to the exciting opportunities this will bring. I will of course be sad to say goodbye to West London Synagogue where I was lucky to be part of a thriving and growing community and I would like to thank everyone there for all their support in the past year."

Libby Burkeman, MRJ's Informal Education Director said: "We are excited to welcome Rabbi Benji Stanley, delivering on our commitment to support young adults. His impact at West London Synagogue has been remarkable and we are looking forward to working with him in continuing his work in this vital area."

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Board of Deputies Report



for 250 years

The new Chief Executive Gillian Merron was introduced at the BOD meeting held at the Royal College of Surgeons on 15th June.

The sale of the existing building in Bloomsbury Square is proceeding.

The motion, proposed by Royal Institute of Architects to suspend Israeli Architects and is currently on hold.

There is concern, as a consequence of the "Trojan Horse" involvement at Muslim

Schools in Birmingham, that Jewish Schools do not in any way become equated and there are fears for Charedi Faith schools. The Board will react to any new Government proposals.

A further attack was made on Laurence Brass (BOD Treasurer) for his statement made in a personal capacity while visiting a Palestinian camp which was reported in the Jewish Chronicle.

The President confirmed there will be no deals with

JLC on a merger unless first approved by deputies.

International Divisional report: The shooting at the Jewish Museum in Brussels followed 15 years of Anti-Jewish feeling in Belgium. The Syrian War has increased Israel's security concerns because Hezbollah has become more battle-hardened and is now a more dangerous enemy. There are few anti-Semitic instances currently in the Ukraine but this position could well change if

unemployment and economic problems increase.

November 30th will be a new date in the Jewish calendar to recognise the Jews that have had to leave Arab Countries.

Ron Proser (The Israel Ambassador to the United Nations) has proposed that Yom Kippur be considered as a holiday there in recognition of the Jewish Religion.

Michael Reik, Mosaic Reform BOD representative

Resuscitation training



Mosaic Reform Synagogue has bought a defibrillator and we are looking for members to take part in a one-off training session, so that at any time, there should be someone competent on the synagogue premises to use it.

The machine actually

"talks" the user through the procedure and can be used by anyone, even without any previous knowledge of Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) techniques but confidence would be greatly enhanced by a little training.

Obviously, we hope that the equipment will never be called into use but we are at least now prepared should the occasion present itself.

If you are a reasonably regular synagogue attendee, whether at services or the various clubs etc, if you feel you would like to help, please contact me, details below and I will organise a training session. You won't be on your own as there will be 8-10 people in each group.

David Martin

Tel: 01923 822682

Email: david@backandfoot.com

**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 ambience, 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.
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Bushey, Herts WD23 2JH
www.abbeyfield-belmontlodge.com
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Abbeyfield



EVENTS

CAMEO (Group for Bereaved people)

Sunday, 6th July

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

Saturday 5th July:

Special Shabbat service for ex-chairmen of MNS

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

Friendship Club

Monday 7th July

Cards and Games afternoon

Monday 14th July

Roy Blass entertains

Monday 21st July

Lynda Styan – vocalist/ukulele player

Monday 28th July

Lynne Bradley – show business reminiscences

Mosaic Film Club

Tuesday 22nd July

My Father my Lord – The critically acclaimed, multi award winning Israeli film

Released in 2008, this Israeli movie is a modern re-play of Abraham's sacrifice. The devoted Rabbi, like the biblical patriarch Abraham, a father in old age, dedicates his life to the service of God, without any questioning of the preferences and priorities, human relations demand, in his case, the relationship with his only son of very young age and his sensitive wife, the people dearest to him. The movie hints to the biblical myth already at a rather early stage of the narrative and prepares the tragedy. (PLEASE NOTE: Hebrew with English subtitles)
20:00, 39 Bessborough Road



'In conversation with...

Shabbat 25th July

Our elder statesman'

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



MOSAIC FILM CLUB IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

The chief projectionist will be taking a break in August so there won't be a film presentation in August. Watch this space for news and the date of the September presentation

ANSWERS

Kehila Quiz No.2 – Sport:
1. Taekwondo, 2. Hockey,
3. Karren Brady, 4. Argentina,
5.29

Get in touch!

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



Mosaic

Office 020 8864 0133

Email: admin@choosemosaic.org

Chairman: Harry Grant 01923 711 991

Email: chairman@choosemosaic.org

Membership: Edwin Lucas 07973 312 851

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

HARROW & WEMBLEY PROGRESSIVE SYNAGOGUE

Harrow & Wembley Progressive Synagogue

Office: 020 8864 532

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

Funeral Partners: M M Broad and Son: 020 8445 2797

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



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

WHAT'S ON

Unless otherwise stated, all events take place at 39 Bessborough Road.

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, Hatch End: Saturday 9:30 am

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

July

Wednesday	2nd	20:00	Council meetings
Saturday	5th	10:30	Service & kiddush for past MNS chairmen
		11.00	Service to mark 20th anniversary of Rabbi Frank Dabba Smith's ordination
Sunday	6th		HaMakom. End of Term
		15:00	Cameo – Group for the bereaved
Monday	7th	11:00	Harrow Friendship Club
Saturday	12th	09:30	Parashat haShavuah - With Rabbis Middleton & Dabba Smith
		10:30	Mosaic Reform - Shabbat Service + Shabbat Shira
		11:00	HWPS Shabbat Service (Kiddush - Rosemary Wolfson 70th)
Sunday	13th	14:00	Tombstone consecration Barbara Hurst (Cheshunt)
		14:45	Tombstone consecration Lea Pessok (Cheshunt)
Monday	14th	11:00	Harrow Friendship Club
Tuesday	15th		Fast of Tammuz
Wednesday	16th	11:30	HWPS Lunch club
Saturday	19th	10:30	Shabbat Service (Bar Mitzvah - Sam Phillips - Mosaic Reform)
Monday	21st	11:00	Harrow Friendship Club
			Kehila-Monthly (August issue) – Copy deadline
Tuesday	22nd	20:00	Film 39 – “My Father My Lord”
Saturday	26th	09:30	Torah Tots
		10:30	Shabbat Service (Steve Levinson in conversation with Lawrie Nerva)
Sunday	27th	11:30	HWPS Brunch in aid of Kiev congregation
Monday	28th	11:00	Harrow Friendship Club
Thursday	31st	09:00	Kehila-Monthly (August issue) - Distribution

August

Saturday	2nd	10:30	Shabbat Service – Kiddush – Michael & Veronica Lansman – 50th anniversary
Sunday	3rd	15:00	Cameo - Group for the bereaved
Monday	4th	11:00	Harrow Friendship Club
Tuesday	5th		Tisha b'Av
Wednesday	6th	20:00	Council meetings
Monday	11th	11:00	Harrow Friendship Club
Wednesday	13th	20:00	Book Group (HWPS) - outside venue - “Love is all you need”
Monday	18th	11:00	Harrow Friendship Club

For the latest information and weekly parashot information please check

WWW.CHOOSEMOAIC.ORG