

Kehila

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

February 2016

Don't let Pesach 'pass over' you!

There is a place for you at our Mosaic Sederim. This year we are offering two seder options and you are warmly invited to both



Jews celebrating Passover – 19th century Ukrainian Lubok

COMMUNAL 2nd NIGHT SEDER – SATURDAY 23rd APRIL 19:00

- Enjoy a three course meal and celebrate Pesach with your family and friends at our traditional Second Night Communal Seder. Relive our freedom from slavery through storytelling, songs and, of course, by asking lots of questions.

All details and application form can be found on pages 6-7

You are also invited to a:

COMMUNAL MULTIFAITH 3rd DAY SEDER – SUNDAY 24th APRIL 15:00

- This exciting new venture will include members of local Muslim and Christian communities. *See pages 6-7 for details*

AND FINALLY

- If you would like to attend a family Seder on the first night, Friday 22nd April, we will try to find a Mosaic member with space at their table.

or

If you have space for a Mosaic member to attend your family Seder on the first night, please contact the office

About our members

Children's birthdays are listed on page 17

Mosaic Reform

MAZAL TOV TO:

Tony Selman on the birth of his grand-daughter Connie May Eva

Sue & Gabby Kessler on the birth of their grand-daughter, Leya Rivi

Richard Segal on his engagement to Sacha Green. Mazal tov also to Trudy & Bernard Segal

Lesley & Jeff Young on the birth of their grandson, Grayson Peter

Barbara & Harry Grant on the engagement of their daughter, Jo, to John Webb

Lorraine & Phillip Tureck on the marriage of their daughter, Alison, to Michael Drukker

BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:

Rudi Braude, 92; Larry Frost, 85

Jeanette Less, 70; Linda Paerse, 70

Henry Richardson, 85; Marie Shapiro, 94

William Warren, 85; Gloria Faber, 85

Hilda Freeling, 91; Carolyn Carvin, 75

ANNIVERSARY WISHES TO:

Hilda & Joshua Freeling on their 55th wedding anniversary

Lesley & Jeff Young on their 50th wedding anniversary

GET WELL WISHES TO:

Marion Bloom, Rudi Braude, Brian Sanders

GOOD LUCK IN THEIR NEW HOME TO:

Lilian & Nat Levene; David & Anna Silverman

CONDOLENCES TO:

The family of Ena Garman

Laureen Nagel on the death of her mother, Rachel Gordon

Bernard Sinclair on the death of his aunt, Wendy Ross

HEMS

MAZAL TOV TO:

Harold Curry on the birth of his 7th great grandchild, Claudia.

BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:

Hayden Brockiner, 21; Stanley Morris, 80

CONDOLENCES TO:

Helen Ellison on the death of her mother, Minnie Kaye

Mosaic Liberal

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBER:

Marjorie Monnickendam

MAZAL TOV TO:

Rosemary & Geoff Wolfson on the engagement of their daughter, Melanie, to Ohad Lori

BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:

Peter Bloomberg, Robert Gellman, Gerald Shindler

Jacqueline Darsow, Wendi O'Donnell, Rosa Pinkus

GET WELL WISHES TO:

Michelle Latchman

CONDOLENCES TO:

Vic Golding and family on the death of his wife, Jenny

Ruth and Walter Harwood on the death of their sister and sister-in-law, Inge Harwood

Russell Snipper on the death of his mother, Roz Snipper

Mosaic Liberal Obituaries

By Alan Solomon

Mosaic Liberal Synagogue is sad to report the passing of **June Samuel**, a former Secretary of the old 'Wembley' at 326 Preston Road who also acted as Secretary to Rabbi Harry Jacobi. Together with her husband Charles, she was a member of Northwood & Pinner Liberal Synagogue, but showed great care and concern for our members in her work in the office. We wish strength and long life to Charles and the family.

Members of Mosaic Liberal who go back some time will also be sorry to learn of the death of former member **Helga Samuel** (no relation to June), widow of Jack Samuel, joke teller extraordinaire and MC at most of our large social events. Jack and Helga were very involved with our social activities in their day. We send our sympathy to their family.

Copy date for the March issue is 14th February

A Rabbi's Word

By Rabbi Frank Dabba Smith – Mosaic Liberal



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

One of the central themes of the Book of Exodus is the painful struggle for the traumatised 'rabble of former slaves' to develop into a people capable of assuming the responsibilities that come with the gift of freedom. We may interpret this challenge to include the emotional and spiritual strength and courage to be able to live by God's ethical commands. As we well know, the progress of the Israelites in this regard is painfully slow as they lurch from one severe crisis to the next, politically and psychologically. The Torah doesn't hold back in portraying these crises as well the brutal consequences.

The concept of a physical journey being crucial for somehow 'growing up' was not only important in ancient times but also today. Undertaking a journey into the unknown has the potential to develop one's courage as well as worldly knowledge and good judgment. As Susan Neiman writes in *Why Grow Up?: Philosophy in Transit* (Penguin Books, 2014), "Courage is not only required to learn how to trust your own judgment rather than relying on your state's, your neighbour's, or your favourite movie star's... Even more importantly, courage is required to live with the rift that will run through our lives, however good they may

be: ideals of reason tell us how the world should be; experience tells us that it rarely is. Growing up requires confronting the gap between the two—without giving up on either one."

Rather than giving in to despair or dogmatism, we must hang onto our ethical ideals as well as remaining fully cognizant of harsher realities. This is what is meant when my dear friend and fellow steering group member of the Brent Multifaith Forum Jennie Doble says, 'Just keep chipping away'. This is precisely what Gidon Bromberg, Nader Khateeb and Munqeth Mehyar do as directors of EcoPeace-Middle East as they seek to advance cooperation in the face of despair and dogmatism emanating from conflicting sides. Closer to home, I have witnessed this courage to be evident among elderly congregants as they face intractable family problems and even struggles with terminal illness.

It is all too tempting to turn to despair or dogmatism. Politicians expertly peddle both. So do their tabloid newspaper mouthpieces. Seeing through these masquerades takes critical insight guided by reason – and that takes plenty of practice. The stories of the Exodus serve to warn us about the ever-present perils of failing to develop such qualities along with sufficient courage.

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

Chairman's message

By Barbara Grant – Chairman, Mosaic Reform



By the time you read this edition of Kehila, Mosaic Reform will be more than half way through our Rabbi's sabbatical. After seven long years of loyal service, Rabbi Kathleen is currently

enjoying a period of personal study and fulfilment. We are all looking forward to her return just before Pesach, refreshed and rejuvenated and ready to share with us some of her experiences and achievements from the last few months. So how have we been managing without Rabbi Kathleen?

Those of you who have been to our services recently will have enjoyed a number of different services led by our very competent lay leaders. The Ritual Committee decided that they would like us to lead our own services during Kathleen's absence and Linda Holman was tasked with arranging the rota of lay readers to cover this period. As you can imagine this is no mean task, but despite their many personal commitments outside of the Synagogue, we have been ably led by our own competent members who have diligently practised and perfected their lay reading for each occasion. Only this morning I attended our second 'participatory service' where members volunteered to each take a small part of the Shabbat morning service, using it as an opportunity to learn and enhance their own shaliach tizbur – (service taking)

training. And the Choir has willingly adapted to working with a variety of lay readers, despite a few surprises and omissions! Our various volunteer groups have also been working especially hard throughout this period when Kathleen has not been on hand and we are pleased that Gay Saunders, our Community Care Co-ordinator, and Ann Simon have managed to hold the fort providing advice, assistance and practical support to those members in need. Our very grateful thanks is due to you all.

On a slightly different note, some of you may have noticed a variation in the way in which we are giving support to the Harrow Foodbank. Council recently decided to revert to the practice of regular kiddushim in order to retain the spirit of hospitality on every Shabbat morning. In order to step up our support for the Harrow Foodbank, we are now regularly in touch with them to find out their pressing needs. These needs are well publicised to enable members to focus on donating most needed items. In addition, the Harrow Foodbank has received a donation from our recent High Holyday appeal and also become our chosen Charity for the year, so that we can continue to support them with cash donations as well as provisions and toiletries.

As we approach the end of our second year as a part of Mosaic Reform, I feel I can put my hand on my heart and be proud to say that we really are a caring community and are making valuable contributions to the wider Mosaic community. My thanks to you all.

Board of Deputies Report



By Michael Reik

Report of Plenary session on 17th January

David Cameron has asked to be very involved in the commemorative events leading up to 100th anniversary of the Balfour Declaration in 2017. There was a suggestion from the floor that there should be UK public events, possibly at Trafalgar Square, to make the statement that de-legitimising of Israel is a non-starter.

It was commented that more should be made in the media of Israel's support for victims of the flood damage in the north of England and of wounded in the Syrian wars being taken across the border to Israeli hospitals.

The president's dinner will have David Milliband as guest speaker. Each guest will be expected to provide a donation of £250.

Jonathan Arkush provided a eulogy to Greville Janner, who was President of the Board from 1978 to 1984, emphasising the way he brought parliamentary matters to each of the members of the Board as if they were there themselves.

The European Jewish Congress has been invited to meet with President Putin of Russia. Jonathan Arkush is taking part on behalf of the Board. Jonathan commented on how things have changed from the time of the Exodus movement – today there are El Al flights every day between Moscow and Tel Aviv, and the Israeli Prime Minister is able to visit Moscow at a moments notice to have discussions with President Putin.

Following his visit to Mosaic last week, Jonathan Arkush is visiting a different community around London and the country every weekend during the next

two months.

There was a request that Rabbi Danny Rich – head of the Liberal Movement – address the Board. This will take place in the near future.

It was confirmed that Iran has had all financial sanctions removed but has had no restrictions placed upon its support of terrorism or terrorist organisations.

The following people currently represent the Mosaic community to the Board of Deputies. The reps would be happy to hear from Council or from any member who wishes a matter to be taken up at the Board on their behalf:

Mosaic Liberal – (currently unfilled)

*HEMS – Jonathan Fenster
Mosaic Reform: Michael Reik, Lawrence Chadwick*



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- Enjoy a three course meal and celebrate Pesach with your family and friends at our traditional Second Night Communal Seder. Relive our freedom from slavery through storytelling, songs and of course by asking lots of questions.'

COMMUNAL 2nd NIGHT SEDER - Saturday 23rd April at 7.00 p.m.

Mosaic Members: Adults £22.00 (Prices held from 2012!!!)
 Family ticket (2 adults + up to 2 children under 16) £45.00
 Additional children age 5-16 £12.00 each. Under 5s - free
 Non-members: Adults £35.00

Book your place by completing this form & returning it, with your remittance and stamped addressed envelope, to Communal Seder, 39 Bessborough Road, Harrow HA1 3BS no later than 7th April. Alternatively, pay via our website, www.choosemosaic.org

Please reserve:

..... Adult member places at £22.00 each	= £	fried fish/vegetarian
..... Family Tickets at £45	= £	fried fish/vegetarian (state numbers of adults/children)
..... Child places (5-16) at £12 each	= £	fried fish/vegetarian
..... Child places under 5	= Free	fried fish/vegetarian
..... Adult non-member places at £35 each	= £	fried fish/vegetarian

I enclose cheque/cash (payable to Mosaic Jewish Community Ltd) in the sum of £.....

Please complete the following IN CAPITALS

Name Tel No:

Address.....

.....Post Code.....

פסח
Passover

Why will this Pesach be different from other Pesachs?

Because you're invited to a

COMMUNAL MULTIFAITH THIRD DAY SEDER



on **Sunday 24th April** from 3:00 - 5:30pm

at 39 Bessborough Road, Harrow

This exciting new venture will include members of local Muslim and Christian communities.

Cost is £5 per person and booking is essential.

Please make your cheque payable to Mosaic Jewish Community Ltd, mark the back of it 'Interfaith Seder' and send it to the office together with the names of people attending. Alternatively you can book through our Website www.choosemosaic.org

(If you're attending both events, we're happy to accept one cheque).

- And finally, if you would like to attend a family seder on the first night, **Friday 22nd April**, we will try to find a Mosaic member with space at their table. Please contact the office.
- Do you have space for a Mosaic guest to attend your family seder on **Friday 22nd April**? Please contact the office.

Silence is golden

By Esther Aronsfeld

Imagine a group of Jews sitting together in silence and enjoying the experience!

Silence is a key motif in Mosaic Liberal's contemplative Friday night service – Kabbalat Shabbat. Now in its third year, Kabbalat Shabbat is attracting members from across the Mosaic community. Said Mosaic Reform member Michelle Singer: "I really like the communal aspect of this unhurried service, which offers a great way to unwind at the end of a busy week and allows engagement with the prayers in a more personal

and meaningful way."

Kabbalat Shabbat is led by Esther Aronsfeld, who studied the art of leading creative and meaningful Jewish services at the Davenen Leadership Institute in America. "A contemplative service gives you time to pause between prayers and reflect on what you're saying, with music and rituals that help you deepen your connection to yourself, to others and to the Divine."

From the word go, Rabbi Frank Dabba Smith has championed a more contemplative approach to worship. "I fully support

this initiative. It is evident that members are seeking additional meaning and a safe space for reflection."

Far from being put off by the silence, word is spreading and people coming for the first time and expecting an ordinary service quickly settle into the periods of structured silence. "I normally can't sit still for too long but there is a special quality about this service which turns it into a spiritual experience", said Kevin Ziants, Chair Rites & Practices, Mosaic Liberal.

Kabbalat Shabbat takes place at 19:00 on the first Friday of alternate months. The next one will be on 4th March. Come along and find out what makes this service different from all other services.



Are you considering conversion, are in the process of converting, or have recently become Jewish?

From Rabbi Dr. Jackie Tabick (Convenor of the Beit Din, Reform Judaism's religious court dealing with matters of conversion)

I would like to draw to your attention to a special weekend organised by the MRJ Beit Din on 4th and 5th March 2016 near Nottingham. It is tailor made for those thinking about conversion to Judaism, those in the middle of a conversion course or those who have recently converted...And of course partners and children are also very welcome.

The last weekend we held, almost 2 years ago, was a great success. There are small experiential type services with lots of participation and room for questions, a Shabbat atmosphere throughout the day, time to get to know lots of people facing many of the same issues, discussions, study sessions and games. There's even a swimming pool for the enthusiasts; the food is good and the beds comfy.

For more information and a registration form, please ring Pippa on 020 8349 5675

Do An Easy Mitzvah!!!

We are a group of Kabbalat Torah (post-B'nei Mitzvah) students who are ready to help!

If you have unwanted items cluttering up your home then we can sell them for you (on ebay). Proceeds to Cancer Research.

Sit back and relax in your decluttered home, knowing you have done a good deed.

Email or call us and we'll do the rest!
sellingforcharity@choosemosaic.org
or phone us at 020 8864 0133

CANCER RESEARCH UK

Review of past events

Defending the Faiths

By Philip Silverton

Over 100 people attended a Question Time debate on January 10 to hear a high profile panel of experts analyse the current threats to the security and safety of religious groups in Britain.

Against the background of a growing number of attacks in many parts of Europe, the speakers covered both Jewish and Muslim perspectives as well as security and policing issues.

Held at the Mosaic Community, in Bessborough Road and entitled “Defending the Faiths”, the four panellists were:

- Jonathan Arkush, President of the Board of Deputies of British Jews
- Mark Gardner, Director of Communications at the Community Security Trust (CST)
- Chief Inspector Alison Darke of the Metropolitan Police
- Fiyaz Mughal OBE, Founder and Director of Faith Matters

Organised and chaired by Michael Reik, the evening focussed on:-

- Major problems faced by the Jewish Community in the UK today and how they are dealt with on a ‘day to day’ basis
 - How all religious groups in Harrow are protected by the Metropolitan Police
 - The active interaction between our Mosaic Community and others around us
- From the Board of Deputies, Jonathan



Left to right: Fiyaz Mughal, Harry Grant, Michael Reik, Mark Gardner, Jonathan Arkush, CI Alison Darke

Arkush explained the BoD’s lobbying role in protecting Shechita and Brit Mila and countering anti-Semitism and anti-Israel matters. He said the BoD set out, and successfully achieved, the promotion of the qualities of the Jewish community’s ethos.

He added that not as much ‘air time’ is given to the majority of Muslims as to the extreme radical Islamists groups. Some Muslims, he said, had very strange ideas about the Jewish Community and he was continuing his dialogue with the Muslim Community. These radical Islamist groups and the current Labour Party leadership’s links to far left groups such as ‘Stop the War’ were his main priorities at this time. Dealing with anti Israel sentiment at British universities was another successful action area.

Mark Gardner, from the CST, opened with his views on the very recent Jihadist attacks in Europe and particularly the desperate fears of the French and Belgian Jewish communities. In the UK we had the freedom to lead a Jewish

life and had good relationships with the Police Service and mainstream faith groups. We did not suffer from the educational and socio-economic difficulties experienced in other parts of the EU.

He mentioned that there was, as yet, very little data collected on anti-Muslim incidents although a recent Times survey noted that 36% of British Muslims say that this exists. Joint initiatives between Jewish and Muslim communities were developing in a very healthy way (particularly in CST consultations with the Muslim Community advising on their security). He did stress that groups that appear to bridge the void between the far left and extreme right were using anti Zionist terminology to veil their anti-Semitic message, especially in places of higher education

In other areas of education there was a worry that highlighting ‘out of hours’ education and other study establishments being targeted by OFSTED might be used as strategies to attack orthodox communities.

Chief Inspector Alison Darke said she was responsible for Neighbourhood Liaison with all cultural and religious groups in Harrow, including the Safer Neighbourhoods initiative. She had a dedicated team of officers that visited all community and religious centres four times each day.

She noted that her officers had the duty to protect free speech by protesters as well as the communities challenged by protest and appreciated CST expertise and strategies to ‘keep the peace’. Chief Inspector Darke talked about The ‘Prevent’ initiative, particularly working to tackle radicalism in Secondary schools but some younger Muslims believed that the purpose of the programme was solely and aggressively ‘out to get them’ rather than to safeguard them from being radicalised/marginalised.

Fiyaz Mughal, from Faith Matters,

explained the wide range of influences being felt from the fifty seven different Muslim councils in the UK. They had an organisation based on, and with the advice of, CST tackling the security implications of extreme and anti Semitic groups. His Faith Matters team were focussed on promoting safety for UK Muslims particularly recognising the worrying recent events (for Jews and Muslims) in mainland Europe. This initiative also targeted the corrosive and anti-Semitic outpourings from young radical Muslims.

He pointed out that amongst the fifty seven organisations mentioned, there were spiritual, progressive, women’s integration movements and fundamentalist factions. In the UK there are 2.8 million Muslims (in comparison with 300,000 Jews) of which 15 per cent are Shia and 75 per cent Suni. With this diversity it was not realistic for him to say that his Faith Matters can represent a large proportion of British Muslims. There was also distrust of the far left influences on the Labour party leadership.

As the discussion opened up to the audience, Jonathan, Mark and Fiyaz expressed their personal views on the moral obligations that we had towards the still growing Middle Eastern refugee tragedy, recognising that both the Jewish and mainstream Muslim communities had their own experiences to reflect on.

The meeting ended with optimistic winding up messages emphasising that British Jews have a good life and good future in the UK and that this was certainly true in Harrow, the statistically safest London Borough to live in.

Mosaic Community chairman, Harry Grant, thanked the panel members and presented them with copies of the Mosaic Reform daily prayer book.

(See also Letters, on page 18 – Ed)



Mosaic
Choose your Jewish life

BAR MITZVAH

A History



RABBI MICHAEL HILTON

In 13th century France the Jewish coming-of-age ceremony of bar mitzvah was first recorded and took the form of a simple statement by the father that he was no longer responsible for his 13 year old son.

In the 21st century bar mitzvah for boys and bat mitzvah for girls are more popular than at any time in history and are sometimes accompanied by lavish celebrations.

How did bar mitzvah develop in this way?

Come along to 39 Bessborough Road, Harrow, HA1 3BS on

Sunday 13th March at 4.00 pm
to hear
Rabbi Michael Hilton

talk about his new book.

"In an age where Jewish weddings and circumcision are both on the decline, bar and bat mitzvah are surpassed only by Jewish funerals as the most widespread Jewish life cycle event. By chance, the ceremony became one that appealed to everyone, the key to its success being the mixture of the social and the spiritual, the bar and the mitzvah".

Refreshments provided

ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH REFUGEES
PINNER AREA INCL. HARROW, STANMORE,
NORTHWOOD & ALL SURROUNDING AREAS
VENUE: PINNER SYNAGOGUE 1 CECIL PARK, PINNER
(ON THE CORNER OF CECIL PARK & MARSH ROAD)

PROGRAMME GUIDE February and March 2016

Thursday February 4th at 2.00

Ted Adams has enjoyed a varied career including when he worked for "Green Shield Stamps". He will give us the history of the stamps and remind us the gifts we used to collect.

Thursday March 3rd at 2.00

Sir Bernard Zissman was Lord Mayor of Birmingham and will tell us about his experiences "From Brick Lane to Bushey via Birmingham and Buckingham Palace." He is an experienced entrepreneur, has worked in voluntary and public sector organizations has been a successful municipal leader and a published author.

The Synagogue is opposite the Pinner Library. Buses 183, H11, H12 & H13 stop in front of the Pinner Library. Pinner Synagogue is a few minutes walk from the Pinner Underground Station, on the Metropolitan line

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: PHONE VERA on 020 8866 4833

Situations Vacant

● **URGENT:** Do you enjoy cooking? Would you be willing to cook a main course, for around 35 people once a month for the Wednesday Lunch Club? We are looking for a person or people who would be happy to cook for the food either once a month or on a rotation basis. If you would like to find out more please contact Sylvia Kemp via the shul office.

● Join our journalist team to help create articles and posts for our magazines, website and social media (Facebook)

● If you have design

skills, then we could use your help to join the team that produces publicity for Mosaic events and activities.

● Mosaic is looking to appoint an intern to work with the Community and Communications teams – professional training, support and development counselling will be provided. If you know anyone who might be interested please ask them to contact us at **communitydevelopment@choosemosaic.org**

VolunteerSpot
DOING GOOD Just Got Easier!

For further information or to discuss any of the above, please contact us at **volunteering@choosemosaic.org** or 020 8864 0133

Adult Education

"Who was the most influential Jewish artisan ever?"

Come discover, discuss, agree, disagree, dispute with Adrian Cohen on

Saturday, 13th February
after the Shabbat service.

Please feel free to bring along your own items of silver, whether ritual or not, for appraisal and discussion.

A light lunch will be provided.



Rabbi Frank

Shiurs: 13th Feb

Sceptics:
5th March

Hebrew Reading:
30th Jan, 19th March



Wednesday 9th March 8.00 pm



Mosaic Whisky Evening

39 Bessborough Road, Harrow, Middlesex, HA1 3BS

Ticket price: £15

- You will have a chance to try a selection of 5 single malt whiskies from a 12 year old through to a 34 year old, not generally found on the high street. (Arran, Bowmore, Benromach, Glasgow, Gordon & MacPhail, Hazelburn, Kilkerran, Laphroaig, Longrow, Macallan, Springbank, Teeling).
- On the night you will receive a voucher for a 10% discount on your first order (That's your ticket price back!)
- Also you will be given a link to web site(s) to retrieve your discount plus Mosaic will receive a donation on your first & subsequent orders.

Book your place by **Wednesday 2nd March** at the latest.
All cheques payable to Mosaic Jewish Community Ltd or
Pay via our website www.choosemosaic.org

FILM MOSAIC

20:00 Tuesday 23rd February

ARMY of SAVIOURS (2009)

ARMY OF SAVIOURS is based on the memories of Marga Spiegel. It tells of how courageous farmers in Southern Munsterland hid her, her husband Siegfried and their little daughter Karin from 1943 until 1945, saving them from deportation to the extermination camps. The film tells this story of survival with a sense for the absurd in daily life and not without the typical Westphalian humour. Without reservation, the farmers offer the refugees their protection. It never occurs to them that this would turn them into heroes. They are used to weathering dangerous situations somehow, guided only by their instinct and century-old code of ethics. They risk their own lives, and, if necessary, even those of their families. There is never a discussion about friendship, reliability, humanity. The film presents a fitting testament to these silent heroes.

(German with English Subtitles)

Donations for our chosen charity would be appreciated if you care to give.

Harrow Friendship Club

Entertainment for the over-60s

FEBRUARY

Mondays: 11:00 to 14:30

Tel (on the day): 020 8423 2903

- 1st Geoff Bowden with an audio-visual presentation, celebrating the life and work of Irving Berlin
- 8th Morris Tamir entertains
- 15th Gayathrie and Bill Patrick
- 22nd Vocalist Stephen Dunnett
- 29th Bill Smith entertains

**For further information call Bertha
(contact via the Office)**

Biscuit Bake-in

**The next bake-in will be on
Wednesday 9th March at 10:00**

Spend a couple of fun hours of team work, making tasty biscuits for the community Kiddushim and Shabbat welcome coffee. Contact Joan Noble or Sue Pollock through the Office to let us know you are coming.

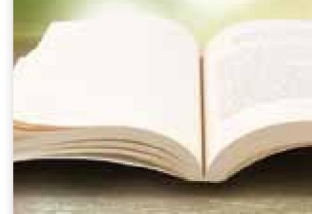
MOSAIC WALKS IN LITERARY LONDON

Dates for your diaries:

Sunday 20th March / Holborn
to Chancery Lane

Sunday 17th April / Marylebone
to Regents Park

**Details of these walks will
be published soon**



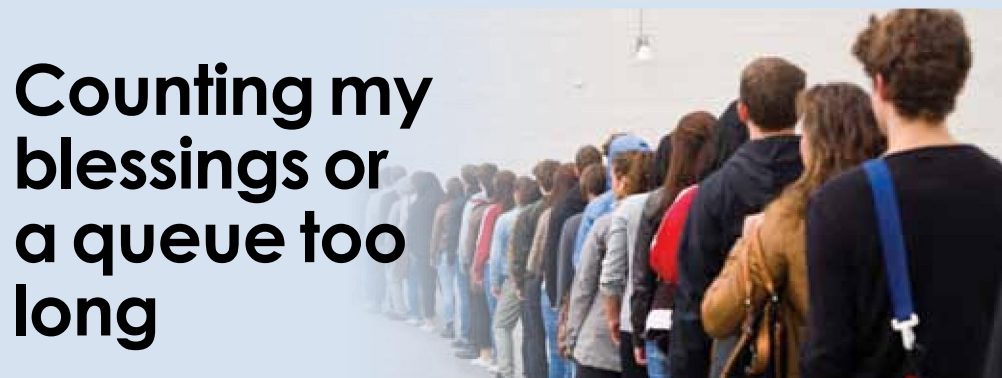
MOSAIC WEEKLY WALKING

By Henry Altman

I am hoping to start up a weekday regular walking group around the areas of Pinner /Northwood/ Harrow, with easy/medium walks of 3 or 4 miles on a regular morning/afternoon each week or fortnight.

The initial walk will be on Tuesday 23rd February at 10:00 – meeting at the entrance to Northwood Station. Please contact me via the synagogue office or if you have any other suggestions for future walks, and we can go from there.

Counting my blessings or a queue too long



By Barbara Wrightman

As I have mentioned previously in these columns, my religious upbringing took place within the Orthodox community.

At one stage in my East London Shul – now closed after one hundred and thirteen years – we had a young, newly qualified minister with very progressive ideas. He used to say during his fiery sermons, that if congregants came to shul on Shabbat mornings, he could overlook their attendance at Leyton Orient Football Club in the afternoon. (He didn't mention Spurs or Arsenal, but maybe that was an oversight!).

I was reminded of this when, after shul a few weeks ago, I attempted to see the last matinée performance of the musical, 'Gypsy' at the Savoy Theatre in London. When I arrived, the 'house full' notice was prominently displayed. Undaunted, I joined the queue for 'returns' together with other hopefuls. The two women nearest to me were ardent theatre goers; we were soon joined by a young actor, not long out of drama school, who was lucky enough to be appearing in a West End play and who was enthusiastic about his craft.

One of the ladies I spoke to was enjoying some well-earned respite time – she had a son of thirty-one who had special needs,

compounded by Asperger Syndrome. She explained to me that he had managed to find work as a kitchen assistant in a residential home and was very proud about this. Her son and husband had gone to a football match, hence her chance to go to the theatre. The other lady had been to the last performance of 'Photograph 51', which I reviewed in the January issue of 'Kehila', and we both raved about it.

In the end, we received the sad news from staff that there were no returns. It only remained for fond farewells to be said between temporary 'friends', who had found common ground outside the theatre. After that we went our separate ways.

On the way home I thought about the afternoon, not just how I might have coped with a handicapped child – perhaps not as well as my fellow queue member, I'm sure. My admiration for her and her husband was huge. At the other end of the spectrum, I thought about the optimism and enthusiasm of the young actor on the brink of his career and with his life in front of him. None of us know what life has in store for us and we just learn to cope as best we can.

I might not have been lucky enough to see 'Gypsy', but it was an interesting afternoon nevertheless and I certainly didn't find my time had been wasted – rather I counted my blessings.

Neil's Brain Teaser



'If a sundial has the least moving parts of any timepiece, which timepiece has the most?'

Answer to the January Teaser (using a rope to get to the island in the middle of the lake)

First, tie one end of the rope to the tree next to you. Then, while you are holding the other end of the rope, walk all the way around the lake. This will wrap the rope around the tree in the centre. When you return to your starting point, tie the end of the rope you are holding to the large tree. You can now use this makeshift rope bridge to cross the lake to the island.

Mosaic Calendar

Our thanks to all those members who have kindly made a donation to Mosaic following receipt of their 2016 Calendars. Additional donations will be gratefully accepted. A few copies of the calendar are available for purchase from the Mosaic office.

Kiev Koppers Update

By Rita Asbury

2016 has started very well. Two very generous donations came as a great surprise and I now am over halfway to the next £100. During December Rabbi Alex was able to buy a new computer for one of the kindergartens. This was much needed and thanks to our Kiev Koppers he was able to replace an old one.

Every penny we can send is needed so much and all I can do is to thank everyone who keeps filling up the sanctuary jar. 2016 has started so well with the generous gifts, so please as always:

Our total at the start of this year is £15,700 so let us see if we can really top it up!!!

KEEP THE KOPPERS KOMING!!!



Children's Birthdays

Jed Rickayzen (9)

Danny Ellison (7)

Victoria de Magtige (9)

Daniella Phillips (8)

Isaac Wolff (3)

Letters to the Editor

DEFENDING OTHER FAITHS

Thank you for inviting me and my colleagues from Harrow Interfaith to your evening, where we had four panellists answering questions under the subject heading: 'Defending the Faiths'. It was a well organised evening and the questions posed were answered clearly and convincingly. For me, as a Jew, it was reassuring to know that the Community Security Trust, in close cooperation with the police service, do all that is possible to address anti-Semitism and to protect us. It was gratifying too, to know that the Muslim community, who have recently suffered from Islamophobia, have been able to learn from Jewish experience in dealing effectively with their day to day problems.

But, and it is a big but, I did leave the meeting feeling that something was missing. And it most certainly was. Yes, we had heard about 'defending the Faith'; well, to be exact, two Faiths, but what of the others? If ever there was a 'sin of omission' or, more correctly, a series of 'sins of omission'. This programme was a prime example. There was no reference to the thousands of Christians who have been beheaded in the past year because they were not allowed to 'defend their Faith': no mention of the several Baha'i imprisoned without charge in Iran, as a result of defending their Faith; and one could go on.

We ignore at our peril the lesson to be learnt from that well known quotation from Martin Niemöller: "First they came for the Communists, but I was not a Communist so I did not speak out. Then they came for the Socialists and the Trade Unionists, but I was not one of them, so I did not speak out. Then they came for the Jews, but I

was not Jewish so I did not speak out. And when they came for me, there was no one left to speak out for me." Surely the defence of the Faiths must always be a high priority of every faith, and perhaps none more so than the Jews. To turn away from the atrocities, the hatred and the intractable behaviour practised on those of other faiths not only defies the teachings and ethos of Judaism, but also, on a practical level, may well prove to open the gates to those who may eventually 'come for us'.

Yes, the evening was well produced. Indeed, it served as a good prelude to a programme which is sufficiently brave to look at and debate the bigger issue. A good title for such an event, I suggest, would be 'Defending the Faiths'.

Jack Lynes, Chairman, Harrow Interfaith

MICHAEL REIK RESPONDS

Jack Lynes has his point of view which could well, as he says, lead to a further evening's debate to discuss the situation of all faiths in the Middle East and globally. The purpose of the event on 10th January was primarily to debate the situation locally in the UK, with speakers invited appropriately.

We requested advance questions from the floor and none was forthcoming on a wider subject.

I am pleased that Jack agrees that the evening met its aims.

Michael Reik, Chair of the 'Defending the Faiths' event

What's on

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

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

February

Wednesday	3 rd	20:00	Council meetings
Saturday	6 th		<i>Shabbat Mishpatim</i>
Tuesday	9 th	20:00	Mosaic Photography Group (contact Pat Zatz)
Saturday	13 th	13:00	<i>Shabbat Terumah</i> Talk on ritual silver by Adrian Cohen (see p14)
Sunday	14 th		Kehila copy Date (March edition) No HaMakom – Half term
Wednesday	17 th	12:30	Luncheon Club
Saturday	20 th		<i>Shabbat Tetsaveh</i> 11:00 Shabbat shira family service
Sunday	21 st		No HaMakom – Half term
Tuesday	23 rd	10:00	Mosaic Weekly Walking (see p15)
		20:00	Film Mosaic 'Army of Saviours' (see p14)
Thursday	25 th		Kehila distribution (March edition)
Friday	26 th	20:00	Pot luck supper
Saturday	27 th		<i>Shabbat Ki Tisso</i>
Sunday	28 th	13:45	Tombstone consecration – Passy Gellman, Edgwarebury Lane

March

Wednesday	2 nd	20:00	Council meetings
Friday	4 th	19:00	Contemplative service
Saturday	5 th	09:30	Skeptics session with Rabbi Frank Dabba Smith (see p14)
Sunday	6 th	14:00	Tombstone consecration – Frances Silver, Pound Lane
Tuesday	8 th	20:00	Mosaic Photography Group (contact Pat Zatz)
Wednesday	9 th	10:00	Mosaic bake-in (see p15)
		20:00	Whisky Tasting evening (see page)
Sunday	13 th	14:00	Tombstone consecration – Ray Sorene, Cheshunt
		16:00	Rabbi Michael Hilton – 'Bar Mitzvah – A History' (see p12)
Wednesday	16 th	12:30	Luncheon Club
Saturday	19 th	09:30	Hebrew reading with Rabbi Frank Dabba Smith (see p14)
		11:00	Shabbat shira family service
Sunday	20 th	09:45	HaMakom – end of term
		14:00	Mosaic Walk – Holborn to Chancery Lane (see p15)
Wednesday	23 rd		Erev Purim
Wednesday	30 th	20:00	Mosaic Book Group – 'The Marrying of Chani Kaufman' by Eve Harris

Mosaic Liberal: Bessborough Road: Friday 19:00 (Chavurah supper last Friday every month after service), Saturday 11:00

HEMS: Girl Guide Headquarters (GGHQ), Hatch End: Saturday 09:30

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

Every Week

Jan | Feb

Monday	11:00
Friendship Club	
Sunday	09:45
HaMakom	
Thursday	14:00
Together on a Thursday	