

LONDON JEWS IN THE FIRST WORLD WAR

We Were There Too

The offices of the Jewish Chronicle, London, August 1914. ©Jewish Chronicle

UPCOMING EVENT

We Were There Too Harrow Roadshow

SUNDAY 18TH FEBRUARY, 2.30-4.30PM, HARROW HA1 3BS

VENUE




Mosaic Synagogue
39 Bessborough Road
Harrow
HA1 3BS

FREE ENTRY

with complimentary tea
and cake

EVERYONE WELCOME

Suitable for 10+

 @LondonJewsWW1
 @LondonJewsFWW
 we_were_there_too

www.jewsfww.london

If you had a Jewish family member living in London 1914-1918, or are interested in learning more about a Heritage Lottery Fund project to find and preserve stories of London Jews in the First World War, please join us at the Mosaic Synagogue, on Sunday 18th February, for an explanatory talk and the opportunity to chat to the team.

We'd like to hear your family stories and find out if you have photographs, medals, letters or other memorabilia relating to the 1914-1918 period. We also welcome volunteers to help with research or to upload information onto the www.jewsfww.london website.

To RSVP or for further information email contactus@jewsfww.london or just come on the day.

Everyone is welcome.

ABOUT OUR MEMBERS

Since our last issue

Children's birthdays are on page 14

MOSAIC REFORM

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS:

Helen Rosenbaum
Anthony Lane
Jemma Roback

MAZAL TOV TO

Rebecca & Stephen
Flash on the birth of
their grand-daughter,
Florence Fay.

BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:

Caroline Chadwick, 60
Rudi Braude, 94
Samuel Dresner, 90
Doris Lee, 91
Jonquil Nicholls, 75
John Kent, 85
Hilda Freeling, 93

ANNIVERSARY WISHES TO:

Sonia & Alex Gerlis
on their 30th wedding
anniversary.

Judy & Gordon Smith
on their 50th wedding
anniversary.

CONDOLENCES TO:

Gloria Faber on the
death of her husband,
Mel.

HEMS

BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:

David Ross, 65
Isabel Alexander, 18
Shelley Cooper, 60
Daniel Kosky, 21
Deborah Scott, 60
Amy Ezekiel, 18

CONDOLENCES TO:

The family of Harold
Curry.

Elaine Glass on the
death of her father, Alf
Jeffries.

Elaine Faber on the
death of her father,
Mel Faber.

MOSAIC LIBERAL

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS:

Alexandra Bach
Jaki Harris

MAZAL TOV TO:

Mazal tov to Phyllis
and Harold Sanderson
on their 60th Wedding
Anniversary.

BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:

Ursula Gross
Ilan Schindler
Susan Solomons

CONDOLENCES TO

Irene Kessler and
family on the death of
Sidney.

GET WELL WISHES TO:

Jeanette Shindler
Mary Vulkan

Errata:

In the article on p15 of the January issue,
about the launch of Humphrey Philips' book,
we made a couple of mistakes.

- The book launch was on 8th December (not 5th).
- The book was Humphrey's biography of his lifetime experiences, not just his wartime experiences.

We are happy to publish these corrections,
apologise for them and thank Humphrey for
pointing them out to us.

We got the children's ages wrong in the
January list of birthdays and have repeated
them this month (p14). Sorry!



Editors: Martin Simonis and
Judy Silverton

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

Next issue

The next monthly issue will
be that for March 2018 –
copy date 11th February. This
will be distributed at the end
of February.

*The 'seasonal' Kehila
editorial team is currently
compiling a list of contents
for the Pesach edition of
the magazine. If you would
like to contribute an article,
or have any suggestions,
please email*

robertpinkus@gmail.com

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A RABBI'S WORD

*From
Rabbi Dr. Frank Dabba Smith*



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

*"I recall that the use of the word 'terrorism' is highly problematic
as there is no agreement on what the word actually means"*

At the commencement of the secular new year 2018, we began reading once again from the Book of Exodus. As ever, I was struck by the expressed justification of the Egyptians' harsh oppression of the Hebrews: fear of a rapidly increasing ethnic population rising up and joining in with an enemy attack. In contemporary terminology, such a potential threat would surely be labelled as a form of 'terrorism'. In the very beginning of Exodus, however, the only 'Hebrew terror' appears to be the audacious behaviour by the midwives, Shiphrah and Puah, to disobey Pharaoh's directive to kill all Hebrew newly born males. Here, the saving of innocent lives constitutes resistance against state-sponsored 'terrorism'. In the next section, Vaera, it is a wrathful God who engages in measure-for-measure 'terrorism' against the Egyptians by means of plagues rising in severity from inconvenience to the death of first-born children.

As I write these words, I recall that the use of the word 'terrorism' is highly problematic as there is no agreement on what the word actually means. In his highly respected book, *The Age of Terrorism* (1987), Walter Lacqueur wrote: 'Terrorism has been waged by national and religious groups, by the left and by the right, by nationalist as well as internationalist movements, and it has been state-sponsored... Terrorist movements have frequently consisted of members of the educated middle classes, but there has also been agrarian terrorism, terror by the uprooted and the rejected, and trade union and working-class terror... Terror has been directed against autocratic regimes as well as democracies; sometimes there has been an obvious link with social dislocation and economic crisis, at other times there has been no such connection. Movements of national liberation and social revolution (or reaction) have turned to terrorism after political action has failed. But elsewhere, and at other times,

A RABBI'S WORD CONTINUED...

terrorism has not been the consequence of political failure, but has been chosen by militant groups even before other options were tried.'

In this analysis, to attempt to define such an emotive term as 'terrorism' any further would simply be the result of political bias. Similarly, mono-causal explanations for terrorism are fallacious as well as the search to come up with generalized 'profiles' of terrorists. All in all, these are complex human behaviours that defy all convenient explanations.

Other important questions are raised at the exhibition currently being held at the Imperial War Museum that features artistic responses to the so-called post 9/11 'Age of Terror'. Different aspects of the violent attacks that day and what has followed are probed: how the attacks were conveyed as visual spectacles by the media; responses

by governments that have impacted on civil liberties and human rights; the development and usage of technologically new weaponry such as drones; and the vast devastation resulting from bitter conflict in countries such as Afghanistan, Iraq and Syria.

As we soon enter the Passover season, it is appropriate to examine our assumptions concerning what constitutes 'freedom' and, indeed, 'terror' as well as 'oppression'. As with the High Holydays, this should not be the time for easy answers or adhering to a particular established political view. It is a time for scepticism and reconsideration of our own assumptions as well as the actions of other groups. As Jews, this includes our notions of 'chosen-ness' and 'victimisation' as our most important texts indicate that fear and anxiety are associated with the propagating of the harshest and most violent of human actions.

Stone-setting for Rita Asbury



Rita Asbury's family, friends and members of Mosaic Liberal Synagogue gathered to remember her on 14th January 2018. Rita was a very committed and popular member who served as shammus, religion school teacher and initiated the Kiev-Koppers Fund to aid the cause of progressive Judaism in Ukraine. [photo and words by FDS]

Building a Caring Community

Mosaic Liberal's new Care Group Co-ordinator, Esther Aronsfeld, talks to Kehilah about her role, her plans and her passion for community.

How do you see the role of Care Group Co-ordinator? I believe that one of the hallmarks of a caring community is to support members who are experiencing illness, loss, loneliness, disability and major life changes, as well as family members who are caring for them. I, therefore, see my role as expanding what we currently offer, as well as providing support and resources for the wonderful people who are providing these services.



What do you think you bring to the role?

I have a background in hospital chaplaincy, interfaith ministry, management and mentoring, plus ten years' experience as a member of two synagogue care groups and a bereavement support group. I can also offer vision, drive and a sense of humour, all of which I consider to be essential for this type of work.

How do you intend to meet members' needs?

Faced with an ageing community and increased cutbacks in social services, now is the perfect time to expand our community care. I want to build on what we do already very successfully, thanks to the high standards of care set over the years by Joy Katz, Vivienne Shreier, Stella Bennister, Ellen Franklin and Lore Stein, and increase the size of the care team so we can meet the growing needs of our members. We have some very talented people in our community and I would like to capitalise on their gifts. The new services will include home-cooked meals for members convalescing at home after major surgery, a befriending service, a monthly care surgery, a care and well-being resources library and occasional seminars open to the wider Mosaic community covering health and well-being. I am also keen to ensure that everyone on the team feels fully supported and appreciated.

What made you say 'yes' to the job?

I am passionate about community and believe that we all have a part to play in caring for each other. When I was first approached to take over this role, I saw it as a great opportunity to give something back to the community that has given me so much over the years. I shall be liaising regularly with Rabbi Frank, whose pastoral work continues to be a key part of his ministry.

What do you regard as the biggest challenge?

The biggest challenge will be to make sure everyone knows what we can offer and, most importantly, that it's OK to ask for help. From personal experience, I know that it's sometimes easier to give than to receive. Care comes in all shapes and sizes and everyone is entitled to it. So whether you need a lift to shul, a listening ear, or a bowl of chicken soup to make the medicine go down, call me on 07855 251 255.

Contemplative Services: 2nd February and 2nd March, both at 19:00

Mosaic Reform Mental Health Awareness Shabbat

Special Shabbat Service 3rd February 2018

All members are invited to the Mosaic Reform Mental Health Awareness Shabbat at 10.30 am. This will be followed at 12.45 pm by a light lunch and an afternoon session from 1.15 – 2.30 pm.

Panelists will be: Geoff Isaacs – psychiatrist
- an overview of mental health issues; Mark

Greenfield- the pressures on young people today; Ann Freeman- mental illness – a mother's perspective and Judy Lee – supporting people in the Jewish community.

There will be a short presentation by each panel member followed by a discussion.

For catering purposes please let us know if you're planning to attend.

Holocaust Memorial Day

Mosaic Holocaust Memorial Day at Bessborough Road

We will be holding our second Holocaust Memorial Day education event at Mosaic on Wednesday, 31st January with local secondary students attending workshops and listening to a guest Holocaust Survivor speaker.

We are part of the Northwood Holocaust Memorial Day Education (NHMDE) programme, where over 3000 students attend various

synagogues over two weeks to be informed on how the rise of anti-semitism brought about the death of six million.

We are extremely proud to be establishing ourselves with local schools and rely on our volunteers to make these facilitated workshop sessions both informative and valuable to the next generation.

Mosaic Adult Education

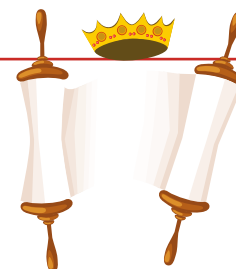
Sat 10th Feb 9.00am Parashat Ha-Shavuah – Torah Breakfast (RKdMM)

Note the change of time and the fact that it is a Torah Breakfast

Tues 13th March 8pm 'A Culinary Voyage through the Festivals' (Pesach).

Exploring the festival of Pesach and the origins of foods and customs from communities around the world. You are invited to share stories behind favourite and unusual recipes and different customs from within your own family.

Sat 24th March 9.30am Danish & Daven



Purim Activities at Mosaic



On Wednesday 28th February 2018 members and friends are welcome at Bessborough Road

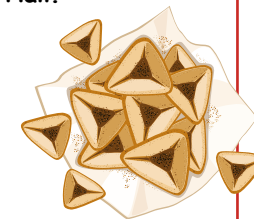
to attend either or both of our two Purim activities

At 18.00 there will be a short service downstairs featuring the reading of Megillat Esther, led by Rabbi Middleton, followed by a pantomime with music and a fancy dress parade.

At 19.15 refreshments will be served in the Kiddush Hall.



At 20:00 there will be a study session in the sanctuary led by Rabbi Dr. Dabba Smith entitled 'The Leaders were Jackels and their Followers were Jackasses'



1st Night Pesach

Friday 30th March

If you would like to attend a seder on 1st night Pesach, please contact the Synagogue office on 020-8864 0133.

If you have a spare place at your seder table and could offer hospitality to another congregant, please also contact the office.

2nd Night Communal Seder

Saturday 31st March

The booking form will be included in the next edition of Kehila.

Mosaic Luncheon Club

This is an invitation to all those who would like to spend a few hours in good company and enjoy a 3-course home-cooked meal and entertainment.

We meet regularly on the last Wednesday in the month for lunch and light entertainment, all for £6. We look forward to seeing you all on 21st February, when we will be entertained by Barry Hyman talking about our favourite store, Marks & Spencer, and at future lunches during 2018. For more information and to reserve your place, please contact Sylvia Kemp via the Office at least one week before.



(Left) The Lunch Club helpers

(Below) Lunch Clubbers



Community Care

Hand In Hand – A Sharing & Support Group

Do you look after an elderly relative in your own home, in their home or in residential care?

Do you care for someone with a mental health problem?

Do you help support someone who has a physical disability and/or a learning disability?

Mosaic Reform and Northwood and Pinner Liberal are setting up a support group for all kinds of carers.

It will be an opportunity to gain practical knowledge and to share information.

Our first meeting will be on Thurs, Feb 15th from 11am at NPLS, Oaklands Gate, Northwood HA6 3AA.

There will be refreshments followed by a talk and discussion led by Carers' UK.

For more information and to reserve a place please contact Gay Saunders, Community Care organiser at via the Office, or at communitycare@mosaicreform.org.uk



Mosaic JACS Programme

All events are on Tuesdays and start at 14:00

February / March

February

6th Being a journalist in the age of Brexit, Trump and fake news – Mike Skapinker, contributing editor at the Financial Times

20th The history of Marks and Spencer – Barry Hyman

March

6th The life and work of Clarice Cliff, ceramic artist – Brian Phillips



The Changing Face of the Board of Deputies

THE BOARD
OF DEPUTIES OF BRITISH JEWS
PROUD TO REPRESENT THE COMMUNITY



Jonathan Arkush 'in conversation with' Steve Levinson

*at Mosaic – Sunday 4th February,
7.30pm for 8pm*

Jonathan Arkush – president of the Board of Deputies of British Jews – will be 'in conversation' with Steve Levinson on Sunday, 4th February at Bessborough Road. Reception from 7:30pm, event commences 8:00pm.

The Board of Deputies defends the rights of every Jew in the country and, you may have noticed, is supported by voluntary supplements on members' subscriptions.

The work of the Board should be of huge interest to us all. All members are encouraged to attend.

Save the Dates

Wednesday 11th April

Visit to Beth Shalom

– the National Holocaust Centre and museum in Nottinghamshire. This will include a coach journey to the centre with an afternoon visit. Cost and booking details to be published on our website and Shabbat notices. Please note there will be limited places available so if you are interested please contact the office 020 8864 0133

Sunday 22nd April 8pm

Talk by John Benjamin, Antiques Roadshow Jewellery expert. Tickets £12.50 including a drink and canapes. This will be a joint event with Bereavement Care.

UPCOMING EVENTS

FILM MOSAIC *THE ZOOKEEPER'S WIFE (2017)*

At 8:00pm on Tuesday 20th February

As war brews over Warsaw in 1939, a young couple, Jan (Johan Heldenburgh) and Antonina Zabinska (Academy Award Nominee – Jessica Chastain) continue their daily routine as owners and keepers of the Warsaw Zoo. But when the Luftwaffe hammers the Polish capital, their life's work together with the city, turns to ashes. With the zoo liquidated for the war effort and many of its animals tragically destroyed, what was once an animals' zoo will now serve as a sanctuary where Antonina and Jan can hide the persecuted Polish Jews in plain sight until safe houses are found. This is the dramatic and heart rending story of Jan and Antonina who regardless of the consequences sheltered 300 Jews under the Nazi's noses.

Bereavement Care Fish and Chips Supper Quiz

Saturday 10th February

**Tickets £21 each from Bobbi Riesel at
admin@bereavementcareandsupport.co.uk**

Bereavement Care provides support free of all charge to bereaved adults and children in Harrow, Hillingdon and surrounding areas.



Friendship Club *Entertainment for the over-60s*

Mondays: 11:00 to 14:30
Tel (on the day): 020 8423 2903

FEBRUARY

- 5th** Return visit of Stevie Permutt
- 12th** The Plonkers entertain
- 19th** Singer/keyboard player Roy Blass
- 26th** Gayathrie and Bill Patrick

Mosaic Men's Cooking Club

Quick recipe ideas for men in the kitchen from Joan Noble. Starting April. For further information people should contact Gay at communitycare@mosaicreform.org.uk.

REVIEW OF PAST EVENTS

Chanukah *Cook-In*



Above: Sue, Mandy and Caroline with perfect cooked doughnuts

Below: Steve Noble frying latkes



Right: The cook-in team



Joan Noble and Sue Pollock lead 'cook-in' sessions several times a year and produce wonderful food for the community – and are great fun – as the photos show! [Pictures from Jane Prentice]

If you are interested in learning new recipes and helping the community, do look out for the next "Cook-in"



Sufra
Adrian and Lindsey Cohen
volunteering
at the Sufra
Chanukah event
on 15th December
[photo: FDS]

Chanukah

The children at
their parents at the
Chanukah service



Professor Sidney Kessler OBE (1928-2017)

Sidney Kessler, who has died age 89, was a leading academic, with a significant record of public service in the field of industrial relations.

Born in Whitechapel, London on 2nd October 1928, Sidney was the son of Isaac and Eva, who had come to this country from Poland. Brought-up in the Jewish East End, he was exposed to a left wing political culture, with his parents active in the Workers' Circle, an organisation set-up to provide welfare support to the community.

Securing a first-class honours degree at the London School of Economics, he took up his first permanent job in 1956, as Head of the Research Department at the National Union of Mineworkers, a powerful union at the time with 700,000 members. Sidney made lifelong friends in the union movement and retained a strong connection to it.

In 1964, he became lecturer in industrial relations at City University, London. In 1978 he was made Professor at City, retiring in 1994 as Emeritus Professor. Sidney made significant scholarly contributions. City had only recently become a university and with a handful of other academics he helped establish a leading business school. In 1992, he co-authored a book entitled 'Contemporary British Industrial Relations.' Mapping the impact of Thatcher governments on industrial relations, the



book became a student textbook, while retaining credibility as a research monograph.

Sidney's parallel involvement in public policy developments was equally noteworthy. He participated in a string of public bodies set-up to support British industrial relations in the 1960s and 70s, a period of considerable industrial strife. He played a leading role in: the National Board of Price and Incomes (as part-time adviser, 1965-70) designed to manage pay policy; the Commission on Industrial Relations (on secondment as a full-time director, 1971-74) established to facilitate union and employer efforts to reform collective bargaining; the Standing Commission Pay Comparability (as part-time advisor 1979-80) created in the aftermath of the 'Winter of Discontent', to resolve various public sector pay disputes.

Sidney also became an arbitrator whilst at City, work which led to the award of an OBE in 1990. He was on the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service's panel of arbitrators for over twenty years. He was also Deputy Chairman of the Central Arbitration Committee over that period as well.

He, with his wife of over sixty years, Irene, was a member of Mosaic Liberal Synagogue. He is survived by Irene, sons Ian and Robert, and granddaughters Megan, Jodie and Eleanor.

Giving Machine

John Ashmele writes:

We know a growing number of you and your friends shop online. So Mosaic Reform has teamed up with TheGivingMachine™ to generate cash donations for us, every time you shop online... and the real beauty of it is that it won't cost you anything apart from the extra click to go via www.thegivingmachine.co.uk into the online shop.

Every purchase generates a cash donation and it all adds up quickly to a significant amount. It is estimated that 100 online shoppers 'donating for free' to Mosaic Reform via TheGivingMachine™ would generate around £1,500 - £2,000 a year. You shop, they give; it's as simple as that.



Mosaic calendar 2018

Thanks to all those members who kindly made a donation to Mosaic following receipt of their 2018 calendars. Additional donations are gratefully accepted. A few copies of the calendar are still available for purchase from the Mosaic office.

Brainteaser

Compiled by John Ashmele

If Broken, Purple, Rough and Baseball are red, and Sam, Garden, Golf and Fight are black, how many are in each?

Answer to January Brainteaser

Gary has friends all around the world, including Argentina, Denmark, Russia, Sudan, and the United States of America. Which country is Gary in?

Gary is in HunGARY; his friends are in ArgenTINA, DenMARK, RUSSIA, SuDAN and The UniTED States.

Happy Birthday in January & February to:

Alex Landau (11)
Chloe Shackell (8)
Elizabeth Witte (6)
Victoria de Magtige (11)
Nathan Morrow (1)
Ria Morrow (1)
Daniella Phillips (10)
Isaac Wolff (5)



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: Mosaic Liberal: Bessborough Road: Friday 19:00 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

Feb | March

Monday 11am – Friendship Club

Every other Thursday 2pm –

Singing Seniors

Sunday (term time) 9.45am – HaMakom

FEBRUARY

Friday 2 nd	19.00	Contemplative service
Sat 3 rd		Shabbat Yitro Mental Health Shabbat + lunch (p7)
Sun 4 th	19.30	Jonathan Arkush (President, Board of Deputies) (p9)
Tue 6 th	14.00	JACS – being a journalist (p9)
Wed 7 th	20.00	Council meetings
Sat 10 th		Shabbat Mishpatim/shekalim
	11.00	Shabbat shira
Sun 11 th		Kehila copy date
Tue 13 th	20.00	Mosaic Photo Group
Sat 17 th		Shabbat Terumah
Sun 18 th	14:00	'We were there too' – WW1 roadshow (front cover)
Tue 20 th	14.00	JACS – M&S (p9)
	20.00	Film Mosaic – 'The Zookeeper's Wife' (p10)
Wed 21 st	12.30	Lunch club
Thur 22 nd		Kehila distribution
Sat 24 th		Shabbat Tetzaveh/Zachor
Mon 26 th	11.00	Harrow Friendship Club
Wed 28 th	18:00	Erev Purim – Purim activities at Mosaic (p7)

MARCH

Fri 2 nd	19.00	Contemplative service
Sat 3 rd		Shabbat Ki Tissa
Sun 4 th		Kehila copy date
Tue 6 th	14.00	JACS – Clarice Cliff, ceramic artist – Brian Phillips
Wed 7 th	20.00	Council meetings
Sat 10 th		Shabbat Veyakhel-Pekude/Parah
	11.00	Shabbat Shira
Tue 13 th	20.00	A Culinary Voyage through the Festivals – Pesach
Sat 17 th		Shabbat Vayikra/Hachodesh
		Mosaic Reform Bar Mitzvah – Jonathan Goldsmith
Tue 20 th	20.00	Mosaic Photo group
Wed 21 st	12.30	Lunch club
Thur 22 nd		Kehila distribution
Sat 24 th	09.30	Shabbat Tzav/Hagadol Danish & Daven
Tue 27 th	11.30	Stone-setting – Nora Sher - Edgwarebury Lane
Fri 30 th		Erev Pesach. 1 st Seder
Sat 31 st		1st day Pesach – 2nd night communal seder (p7)



Mosaic office is at 39
Bessborough Road and
is open 09.00-15.00
Monday-Thursday

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Website: www.choosemosaic.org

Email: admin@choosemosaic.org

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Chairman: Phil Austin 07801 495272
chairman@choosemosaic.org

New membership enquiries:

Mark Phillips 07500 118 796
membership@choosemosaic.org

HaMakom (Cheder):

Toria Bacon and Viki Kenton
headteacher@hamakomschool.org.uk



Joint Chairmen:

Edwin Lucas – 07973 312851

Gill Ross – 07428 162473

Burials Officer: Edward Kafka

020 8904 5499

JJBS: 020 8989 5252



Chairman: Daniel Brown

07884 941743

Vice Chairman: Hana Schlesinger

020 8961 1109

Rabbi Dr. Frank Dabba Smith

07878 936339 (to be used only in
case of emergency)

rabbismith@mosaicliberal.org.uk

Rites and Practices: Kevin Ziants

07841 375458

Liberal Judaism: 020 7580 1663

Undertakers: Michael King

Funeral Directors

020 8368 7453 / 07595 956 936



Chairman: Lawrence Chadwick

07798 935873

Hon Secretary: Juliet Grainger

01923 822682

Rabbi Kathleen Middleton

020 8866 9225 (please use only
when Office is closed)

rabbimiddleton@mosaicreform.org.uk

Bereavement Support:

Bobbi Riesel 020 8428 7977

JJBS: 020 8989 5252

Community Care: Gay Saunders

communitycare@mosaicreform.org.uk