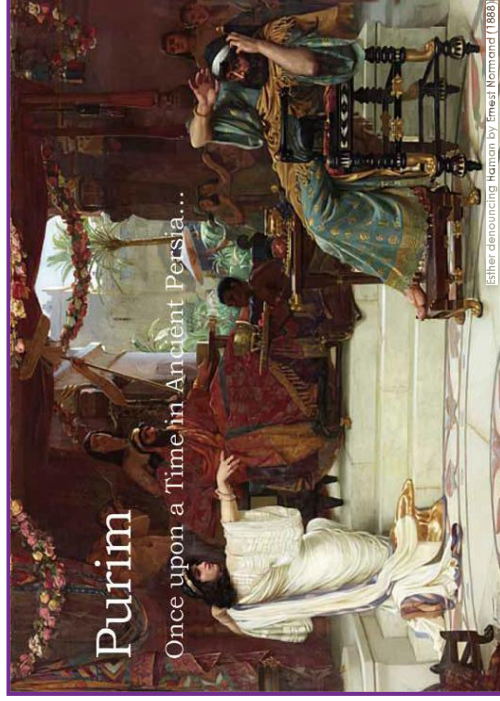




Purim

Once upon a Time in Ancient Persia...

Silver denouncing Haman by Emma Normand (1883)

Monday 9th March

5.30 pm children's supper (for catering purposes please let the office know that you are coming **by March 5th**)

6.00 pm service and Megillah reading followed by Purim Spiel, fancy dress parade & kiddush

ABOUT OUR MEMBERS

Since our last issue

Children and Teen birthdays on page 26

MOSAIC REFORM

WELCOME TO NEW

MEMBERS:

Andrea Morris
Sophie Edward
MAZAL TOV:
Janet & Colin Clifton on the birth of their great-granddaughter, Noa Ariella.

Dennis Goodman on the birth of his great-granddaughter, Dina Shifra.
Sue & David Pollock on the death of their grandson, Nate Henry.
BIRTHDAY WISHES:
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Marion Ingram, 85
Ian Joyce, 80
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WELCOME TO NEW

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Ruben Rafalin
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Frances & Edward Kafka on their 50th wedding anniversary
Debbie & Dave Scott on their 40th wedding anniversary
MAZAL TOV:
Debbie & Dave Scott on the birth of their granddaughter, Iliana Millie.
Mazal tov
CONDOLENCES:
Linda Shuali on the death of her mother, Georgie Heather

MOSAIC MASORTI

MAZAL TOV:

Ruth Barnett on being awarded an MBE for her work on Holocaust education and Roma persecution.
Sandy Amber on the birth of a grandchild, Yael Amber Freeman, to parents Irena and Carl, a sister to Isaac and Lela.

SPECIAL BIRTHDAY WISHES:
Ruth Barnett
Max Birme
Irene Conway
Gideon Fiegel
Shirley Philipp
Maisie Phillips
Ruth Barnett
Rosa Pinkus
Gaby Rosenthal
Julia Schiff
Sonia Sharp
Patricia Zatz

GET WELL WISHES:

Maurice Levan
Maureen Lubert
Rosetta Muscatt
Jeanette Shindler
Phyllis Sanderson
Rosa Pinkus
Sylvia Kemp

CONDOLENCES TO:

The family and friends of
Trudie Goodman
The family and friends of
Gerardine Kaufman
The family and friends of
Terry Jacobs

MOSAIC LIBERAL

WELCOME TO NEW

MEMBERS:

Joshua Aadidavram-Kohen
& Punita Kohen-Rupesari

FESTIVALS



Tu b'Shevat

Mosaic Reform invites you to an 'Edible Sermon' on **Saturday 8th February during the Shabbat service, followed by Kiddush**

Purim

Monday 9th March

5.30 pm children's supper (for catering purposes please let the office know that you are coming by March 5th – contact details below)
6.00 pm service and Megillah reading followed by Purim Spiel, fancy dress parade & kiddush

If you have any performance, or other creative skills and you would like to take part in the Purim Spiel, please contact the office. Tel **020 8864 0133** or email **admin@mosaicreform.org.uk**

STOP PRESS

At the Harrow Council meeting on 22nd January, planning permission was granted for both the Stanmore Hill and the Bessborough Road sites. See emailed Weekly Newsletter dated 23rd January.

Next issue

This issue contains input from 34 contributors. Long may it continue this way! The next issue will be a 'seasonal' (large) edition for Pesach – copy date 28th February, distributing 28th March. Send articles, pictures, letters, etc to newsdesk@choosemosaic.org

Jeremy Banks

This article is from Harold Shupak and is based on the eulogies given by Rabbi Middleton and Harold.

Jeremy Banks, who passed away on 16th December 2019 at the age of 67, was a kind, thoughtful person with a great sense of public duty, a great knowledge of Judaism and a great sense of humour. He was cherished and respected for his wisdom, kindness, integrity, humility and generosity of spirit.



Portrait by Italliaander – www.Italliaander.co.uk

Jeremy played a very significant role at Mosaic Reform Synagogue and its predecessor, Middlesex New Synagogue. He was a longstanding member of Council and of the Executive, having been Honorary Treasurer and subsequently Senior Warden, as well as Chairman of the Ritual Committee, Marriage Secretary and one of MNS's Trustees. He took many Shabbat and Yom Tov services including leading the Yom Kippur Mincha service on many occasions.

As Rabbi Middleton said at Jeremy's funeral, she felt fortunate to have someone like Jeremy from the community with whom to work. His sound advice, generous support and thorough knowledge of the Synagogue's minhagim, as well as the ease with which he took services with impeccable timing, were

them a story about getting a parking ticket on Rosh Hashanah. But Jeremy managed it. His summing up of lengthy, wordy discussions accompanied by an almost apologetic smile – his observations were always measured and unprejudiced and he was always open to other people's perspectives. Although he naturally approached problems logically, he was aware of other people's emotions but never thought the less of them.

Having studied Natural Sciences and Law at Cambridge, Jeremy practised as a solicitor in his family firm for many years before becoming a District Judge. After he retired from the Bench, he wanted to become a voluntary librarian.

Jeremy met Anne at the first meeting of

a newly established BBYO branch, which he helped set up. When Anne also went to Cambridge, they got married and Jeremy did his Articles with a Cambridge firm of solicitors. It was my privilege to have Jeremy as a friend for about 40 years.

Sue and I first met Anne and Jeremy at a meeting of the B'nai B'rith Massada Unity Lodge.

It was during a family holiday with them that Sue and I first became aware of the Banks Principle, which Jeremy expounded. This is that when one goes for a walk, one should always return by a different route from that taken on the outward journey. It didn't always work however, as Jeremy learned one year in Derbyshire, when he discovered that the route back to his car, as shown on his (elderly) map, had fallen into the valley during a landslide some years earlier.

With Jeremy's passing I shall very much miss our lengthy, in-depth conversations on a whole variety of topics, including law, politics, literature, grammar, music, theatre, cricket, football and Judaism as well as many others, to which Jeremy brought his humour, wisdom and eye for detail.

On one occasion I told him about a journey I had made from Lamphrey station in rural south Wales. I had had to hail a one-coach train. Jeremy gently pointed out that there was no such thing as a one coach train, as "train" implied there being more than one-coach.

Typically it was Jeremy who introduced me (and the other dinner party guests) to the grammatical rule specifying the order of adjectives in English, which I had previously been unconsciously applying throughout my

life – namely that if one uses more than one adjective in relation to a noun, the order in which they are to be placed should normally be opinion, size, age, shape, colour, origin, material and purpose. Thus, one says silly old fool and not old silly fool.

Jeremy had a wide knowledge of literature. He was highly adept at making apposite quotations. He also loved reciting nonsense rhymes to the delight of children (and adults).

Being a great music-lover, Jeremy was a very good pianist and had perfect pitch, which isn't a gift given to many. His colleagues at Uxbridge County Court got used to symphonies and operas being played on CDs in his Courtroom during lunch breaks and whenever paperwork was being done.

Although at the time of the Supreme Court case on the proroguing of Parliament Jeremy was suffering from his cancer to a considerable extent, he and I discussed at length Counsels' arguments before the Court and the Courts' Judgment. Typically, Jeremy told me that he had downloaded and read the full Judgment. If ever there was someone in relation to whom Jacob P. Rudin's comment is so apt, it was Jeremy.

Jacob P. Rudin wrote:-

"When we are dead, and people weep for us and grieve, let it be because we touched their lives with beauty and simplicity. Let it not be said that life was good to us, but rather, that we were good to life."

Jeremy is survived by his widow, Anne, his children, Debbie and Joshua, his siblings, Marianne and Jonathan, his son-in-law, Dan and his grandchildren, Leo and Benjamin.

Karen Brozen

Extracts from eulogies given at Karen's funeral at Edgwarebury on 10th November

Rabbi Janet Burden: Karen was one of those rare people who always seemed to know exactly who they were, what they wanted to do and how to achieve their goals. Her confidence and positivity were contagious. She transformed and sustained the lives of so many - none more so than those of her loving husband Daniel and her three wonderful children: Kathy, Ruth and Thomas.



children's Jewish education. She was an amazing woman who changed people's lives – she certainly changed mine.

Kathy: My mum taught me to always be kind, even when others are not, and to always be generous, even when people don't always give back. She taught me the importance of hard work and dedication and showed that it usually paid-off. She showed me how to be strong and caring and the importance of being reliable and self-reliant.

Mum was incredible and capable and strong. I aspire to have her integrity and capability. Without her, it feels like I am missing part of me.

I see Mum in me when I smile, and in the shape of my mouth when I concentrate. I feel Mum in me in how I love others and in my passions. I hear her in me in the way I tell stories, in my passion and my drive to achieve my goals. I see her creativity in my approach to projects, and I aim to reflect her kindness and strength.

I will remember her best just talking together, being able to converse for hours and hours about anything and everything. I am so

grateful that I was able to grow up with her to guide me.

Her influence guides my daily life and if I reflect just a fraction of how incredible she was, I would be so grateful.

Ruth: I adore everything she did and am struggling to see how I could ever truly honour her memory, as she was so giving and the-pocket and she would bounce me around the swimming pool as I wrapped my legs around her waist. I was always safe in her arms.

Mum was, and remains, my role model. I was inspired by her as a teacher and educator. Although I will be pursuing Civil Engineering at university, I hope ultimately to become a teacher. I have warm memories of our brainstorming fun lessons together for cheder. She never dictated what I did and always helped me develop. She always boosted my creativity and fostered an environment where I was able to grow creatively.

I want to continue teaching in Jewish environments so that Jewish children can learn from me, as I did from her, that Judaism can be something fun and worth getting excited about.

Mum was the rock of the family and truly supported us all. After my physics A-levels I

cried in bed for around an hour and she sat and hugged me and reassured me. She had faith that I had done well, but also told me if I didn't, that was okay. In a results-driven world she was always the voice telling me that my worth isn't dictated by my grades but by my willingness to do the absolute best I could. This was perhaps the greatest life lesson she taught me.

Thomas: One key thing my mum taught me was that it doesn't matter what I do as long as I am happy. She made sure I knew that the grades I got didn't matter, as long as it took me to a place that I was happy with.

I hope and believe that her creativity lives on in me. Mum would always plan creative lessons for her classes and great activities for us, helping us to see different perspectives. Whether it was placing a model Moses on top of a mountain of sweets, or using rubber ducks to teach times tables, she could make any subject fun. She always supported my crazy plans and helped me figure out the next steps. Even though I possessed the skills, Mum was the one who let them be free and take shape in the real world.

I believe if I could help people like she did, the world would be a much better place. She taught people not just in her job, but in every aspect of her life. That is how I plan to spend my life too.

“Lieber Kurt Marx”

by *Michael Marx*

My father, Kurt Marx, travelled to Maly Trostenets (near Minsk, Belarus) in 2017 at the invitation of Belarussian and German organisations



Kurt Marx (2nd from left) with three other members of the Kindertransport group at Liverpool Street Station

to imagine what is going on in your mind. How painful and depressing were the thoughts of the last days, hours and seconds in the life of your parents. They had hoped for a new beginning - they had been promised to have good jobs in the German-conquered eastern region. They paid for a one-way rail trip from Cologne to Minsk but were forced to travel in cattle trucks along with 1162 other adults and children. On arrival they had to hand over all their valuables and documents, for which they were given a receipt by their murderers, so that there should not be a panic. What a charade. Soon after, the Germans murdered your parents.

One historian called it a “Holocaust with Bullets”. It is estimated that between 60,000 and 206,500 people were killed in Trostenets, not only German, Austrian, Czech and White Russian Jews, but also partisans, Soviet prisoners of war and local Jews for whom there was not enough room in the Minsk Ghetto. The exact number of victims is not known. “We have no lists of names. But we have lots of ashes, which tells us how many people were here” said the orthodox Archpriest Fyodor Powny.

Today the largest German extermination camp in the occupied Soviet Union has become a huge memorial, a place of remembrance, for Education.

The Road to Death runs from Minsk, past a rubbish dump, to Maly Trostenets, to a pine forest, to 34 mass graves. On this path in 1942 the Germans drove your parents to their execution. They were shot and their bodies thrown into one of the graves. 76 years later, you are standing here in this place of horror, this place of shame, a 40-acre site of terrible memories. You are 92 years old* and at last you know where your mother and father were murdered and where their ashes are located. It is unbelievable and so barbaric, and it hurts

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which the IBB (the international educational organisation of Dortmund in Germany) is responsible.

You, dear Kurt Marx, stood at the gate of remembrance on the “Place of hope” and looked at the artwork of Leonard Lewin; the suitcases left behind by the victims and cattle trucks which transported the Jewish victims. You saw the yellow notices on the pine trees where relatives wrote the life stories of their murdered families.

You can thank your school director, Erich Klibansky, for saving your life. He managed to transfer 130 girls and boys, students of his school, to England. They came not only from Cologne, but also Hamburg, Berlin, Frankfurt and Düsseldorf. You are still living in London (the capital of England) and previously worked as a diamond polisher.

For decades you endeavoured to be able to mourn at your parents' grave. Then an unexpected thing happened: a young girl in Cologne asked her mother about a “Stolperstein” * in front of their home. Thousands of Stolpersteine were placed in front of houses in memory of Jewish people



Mosaic Moment

Harrow West general election hustings at Bessborough Road on 2nd December, chaired by Steve Levinson. The candidates are holding up the Jewish Manifesto pledges (see BoD report on p.19). In the vote, Gareth Thomas (second right) for Labour was elected with a much reduced majority.

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A very moving trip to Germany

by *Joan Noble*

My sister Marion and I arranged a weekend trip to our Mother's birth town Grevenbroich to commemorate Kristallnacht. It all began a couple of years ago when we decided to arrange Stolpersteine (stumbling stones) for our maternal Grandparents Alex and Elfrida Katz.

We discovered that someone had already done this. We met the gentleman who did this, Ulrich Herlitz, a keen local Historian from Grevenbroich who has spent several years researching not just our family, but all the Jews of his town.

We decided to join in their commemoration of Kristallnacht. Interestingly they call this the 9th November Pogrom. They feel is a more accurate term which doesn't give the Nazi terminology credence.

There was a full programme prepared for us including meeting secondary schoolchildren and to have most interesting question and answer sessions. The older pupils had visited Auschwitz and some intended to go again. We were so impressed with these youngsters. They also joined us on a candle-lit procession of about 300 people through the town from the



Gravestones of my Great-grandparents with added plaque with inscription of the family members lost in the Shoah including my Grandparents

old Synagogue site to the Jewish Cemetery which the children maintain so well to this day.

A few youngsters and their teacher joined us for a quiet memorial moment in the cemetery where I recited Kaddish.

We attended a performance of music, poetry and readings with full choirs of adults and children also to commemorate 9 November. A comprehensive Yad Vashem exhibition was on display in the local Museum - our Grandfather's desk was also one of the local exhibits.

Mr Herlitz has an amazing knowledge of the locality and we learned about so many other Jewish families in the surrounding towns going back to the Middle Ages, when communities lived in harmony.

There is a redeeming side to the story about my Grandfather's sister, Johanna Rings, married to a Christian man. She was hidden through the war and the couple both survived. A very good lady friend and schoolteacher became their carer. She was known to Mr Herlitz and this is how he took a personal interest in the family. Coincidentally, members of Ulrich's family lived with the Rings after the war, when they had been bombed out.

As they had no children the family prayer books belonging to my great-grandfather were left to the local school-teacher, who then donated them to the synagogue.

It was most strange to be invited into the home of our great Grandparents to see how they lived as prominent cattle and horse dealers. Things are pretty much intact as the old building was in its day.

Mr Herlitz discovered documentation about the time the family had to leave town.

We have more and more pieces of the puzzle coming together that are both enlightening and upsetting to discover. Alex and Elfrida had to leave after Kristallnacht and lived in Cologne until they fled to Belgium in October 1939. They were imprisoned in St Cyprien, St Gilles and Prison de Foret. They desperately struggled to get permission to leave for Palestine or South Africa but were unsuccessful. My mother deposited money in the Bank of Belgium to secure their release but it seems to have vanished. After fleeing to France, they were again imprisoned in a refugee camp in Montellimar. From there they were sent to Drancy and finally to Auschwitz on 2nd September 1942.

It has been a journey much like Who do you think you are? as we look at archival papers. My Grandfather's birth certificate has information that documents when he was forced to be named 'Israel' in 1933 and then rescinded in 1948, but also declares him dead when it is clear he was murdered in Auschwitz in 1942.

As a result of this amazing trip, where we felt

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who were persecuted and murdered or driven to suicide. The mother explained the reason for this and researched and traced you and the trail to Trostenets.

The Nazi murderers tried to erase the trail of death when they retreated from what today is Belarus. Yet the truth cannot be erased. As the rate of killing was too slow for the Germans, they gassed the Jews in specially adapted vehicles and then took them to Trostenets, in order to save bullets, and threw babies still alive into the mass graves.

Lieber Kurt Marx, is it a small consolation after all this suffering, after decades of torment and uncertainty, that you were able to say farewell to your parents, stand on the place of hope, and as an eyewitness to help ensure that this will not happen again?

***A Stolperstein:** literally “stumbling stone”, a metaphorically a “stumbling block” is a concrete cube bearing a brass plate inscribed with the name and life dates of victims of Nazi extermination or persecution, set into the pavement outside the houses where they originally lived.



The stumbling stones laid in front of the homes of my grandparents

very genuine human interaction, we agreed to progress and work with them for the 2020 commemoration using our mother's diary. She received this diary for her 16th birthday in 1933. The entries start with a teenage girl recording her thoughts, but sadly progress to deal with the realities surrounding the rise of Nazism.

It features prominently the day when the family home was invaded and robbed by SA brown shirts. My mother and her brother were witnesses to this and the family story revolves around that incident which influenced their future.

As my mother was a key witness to this robbery, she was repeatedly refused permission to leave Germany from 1935. She was finally granted permission, for a payment of £1000, and left in 1938.

The diary ends in 1939 in Palestine on Rosh Hashanah, when she expresses her wish for the safety of her parents and the desire to be reunited again, which was sadly never to be.

The fate of our grandparents and the trauma of our mother and her family are the guiding reasons why we feel the story should be retold as a lesson for future generations.

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His Royal Highness requests the pleasure...

In recognition of their involvement in the wider Jewish community in the UK, three Mosaic members, along with over 300 others, were honoured to receive an invitation from Prince Charles to attend a reception at Buckingham Palace on 4th December.

Below are the brief personal reflections of each of them.

Henry Altman – Charity Volunteer, The Langdon Trust

The aim of the Langdon Trust project is to assist young people with learning disabilities to prepare for the workplace. Our warehouse contains a stock of more than 53,000 books which have been donated and are then listed with Amazon for sale throughout the world. Our young people are trained to use computers and the data entry system, and often obtain paid work following training.

My visit to Buckingham Palace was very special, with an address by HRH Prince Charles celebrating the Jewish Community of the United Kingdom. Amongst more than 300 guests were The Chief Rabbi, Lord Winston, Howard Jacobson, Lord Finkelstein, and Sir Simon Schama. Champagne and canapés were on offer, and Mincha was davened by a small group before the evening was out.

Gill Ross – Harrow Standing Advisory Committee for Religious Education

My role on the International Division of the Board of Deputies, is to foster relationships with the Jewish diaspora in Latin America. I have been fortunate to meet not only public

Represent the Jewish faith on Harrow's SACRE. SACRE is a statutory body responsible for setting up and supporting a locally approved Religious Education curriculum and a framework for Collective Worship within maintained schools in the Local Authority. The committee is made up of representatives from Harrow Council, supported by RE specialists, teachers and representatives of faith groups, and belief systems. In Harrow, we believe and take great pride in the fact that we have one of the most diverse SACRES in the country. I felt honoured to represent the work of this group.

In the end, it was not the breath-taking grandeur, the magnificence of Prince Charles' very personal speech nor the people spotting but the opportunity to speak to inspirational people which most impressed me. I loved the fact that the boys and girls of the Jewish Lads and Girls Brigade formed the guard of honour and that our youngest movement workers were selected to attend. If the recognition accorded by the invitation is heart-warming, our challenge for the future is to engage more people to harness their passions rooted in Jewish values.

David Safir – International Division of the Board of Deputies

My role on the International Division of the Board of Deputies, is to foster relationships with the Jewish diaspora in Latin America. I have been fortunate to meet not only public

figures but private individuals whose Jewish values impel them to protect and support their fellow citizens.

Never before had I been invited to park in the courtyard of Buckingham Palace, nor had I ever attended a Simcha where glatt kosher canapés served by liveried footmen were followed by a request from a Colonel in the Scots Guards to make up a minyan for Maariv.

The throng in the Throne Room (try saying that after three glasses of Drappler Brut) listened intently as our host spoke of the loyalty and generosity of a community that had "transformed our country", extolled its contribution to music and art, to science and medicine, to business and philanthropy; and thanked us warmly for continuing to pray for him and his family (a favour which he promised to reciprocate). Recalling that his grandmother had sheltered a Jewish family in Athens in 1941, that his father had befriended a persecuted Jewish boy at school in Germany in 1937; and that he himself had worked to ensure the

preservation of Jewish Krakow, he emphasised his desire to celebrate the diversity of the British he called "a community of communities" and reign as "defender of all faiths."

As a first-generation British subject (whose father left Vienna for Essex in 1938 and fought to defend a country he hardly knew but came to love), I was very proud and deeply moved to find myself enjoying the hospitality of our future king. The great and the good were certainly out in force at the palace, but it was the selfless volunteers who toil behind the scenes that HRH wished to recognise and the representatives of Norwood and Jewish Care who rightly had the honour to be presented to him.

Chatting with my favourite novelist and trying to amuse my favourite comedian certainly made for a highly enjoyable evening, but my abiding memory is of 350 loquacious members of our community listening in respectful silence to a man who appreciates us not for who we are but for what we do.

Situation vacant

Do you know anyone suitable who could do this ?

Part-time caretaker required

For Mosaic Synagogue, Bessborough Road, Harrow

08:00 – 17:00 Wednesdays, 08:00 to 12:30 Fridays (plus overtime to cover evenings and holidays)

Paid per hour – London Living Wage

Must be practical, hands on and able to work on their own initiative and have the right to work in the UK.

To apply please email: admin@mosaicreform.org.uk with your cv or a description of experience

Note: applicants will be DBS-checked

Closing date: Wednesday 5th February

Interviews: Thursday 13th February

The sweeter side of life

by Robin Goldsmith

Tu b'Shevat celebrates the New Year of the trees. It's a reminder of the beauty of our natural environment and of our responsibility to care for it. Today, many Jews hold a modern version of the Tu b'Shevat seder, originally devised by Kabbalists in the seventeenth century to celebrate the emergence of spring with the promise of nature's bounty it will bring to sustain us. It is customary to serve at least 15 different types of fruit and vegetables along with nuts and grains, including the seven species mentioned in the Torah - wheat, barley, grapes, figs, pomegranates, olives and dates.

Well this all sounds very healthy, doesn't it? It's also a great excuse for cracking open a bottle of your favourite dessert wine to wash down all that healthy fruit and veg with something sweet and comforting, but what exactly is dessert wine?

Essentially, it's a wine made with grapes that have a relatively high sugar content, making it much sweeter than a standard wine. Although there are many different types of dessert wine, whether red, white or rosé and still or sparkling, these mainly fall into five categories:-

• Late harvest

Grapes (typically Riesling, Gewürztraminer, Muscat, Pinot Gris) are left on the vine for longer, so the extra ripening time makes them much sweeter. Additionally, fermentation

the ice crystals containing water from the concentrated, honeyed, richly sweet grape juice. Therefore, it's not a wine that can be made in vast quantities and the best examples can be quite expensive. Typical grapes used are Riesling, Vidal and Cabernet Franc.

• Dried grapes

Grapes are raisined by drying, which can be achieved in different ways. One traditional Italian method called *appassimento*, which produces passito wines, is to lay the grapes on straw mats in the sun or in airy barns. This dehydrates the grapes, turning them into raisins, concentrating their sugars and candied/cooked fruit-like flavours, before they are gently pressed and made into wine. Famous examples include Recioto della Valpolicella and Vin Santo.

So now we know what makes a wine sweet, what would be a good match for a Tu b'Shevat dessert? There are various recipes on the internet, so here are a few wine pairing ideas:-

- A mixed fruit salad with fresh and dried fruit, nuts plus a little bit of orange juice and brown sugar could partner well with a pale cream sherry or ice wine. Alternatively, a lighter option would be a Moscato d'Asti.

- A sweet Riesling – either as a late harvest or ice wine – would be a good match for cakes and pastries made with marzipan and pear, almond or mixed dried fruit.

- Bottytised wines like Sauternes also pair well with many fruit-based desserts, including cheesecakes, apple/apricot tart, ripe peaches and nectaries.

- For a joyful taste of decadence, why not try a glass of Vin Santo with oranges, ice cream and caramel sauce, sprinkled with grated nuts!



However, many sweet wines are suitable for all these desserts and if you want to keep Kosher, the following come strongly recommended:- Herzog Late Harvest White Riesling, Herzog Late Harvest Chateau Ice Wine, Chateau Piada Sauternes and LBV Porto Cordovero 2005.

... and if you have some sweet wine hidden away somewhere and don't feel like drinking it yet, you may be in luck! Many styles, like Sauternes, Royal Tokaji Aszú, sweet Rieslings and others, have great ageing ability if stored correctly, because their sugar levels and acidity effectively act as preservatives, allowing the wines to retain their fresh, fruity flavours. Just let me know when you decide to open one of these bottles and I'll bring round the dessert... L'Chaim!

[Ed: See the advert for the Tu b'Shevat 'Edible Serrano' on page 3]

When is your next book out?

by *Adelle Franklin*

Adelle is a ML member and has recently had a first book of short stories published.

In the Rosh Hashana issue, I wrote about my writing history but did not explain how I managed to see myself in print.

Having retired after 34 years working as a Chartered Librarian (don't even get me started on people calling themselves Librarians when they have zero qualifications) I had a plan. Of course, I had a plan, I'm a Librarian – we are great at planning and making things happen (just ask anyone who knows me!) I joined a Play Reading group at the local Library, upped my cinema and theatre trips, moved the Book Group I had already been running for 16 years to lunchtime meetings, and joined the U3A.

My parents, Joyce and Sidney, had been members and of course George & Mary Vulkan, whom I have known since infancy, were luminaries of the Harrow Group. I signed up in Hillingdon and immediately joined Digital Photography and Creative Writing.

Three years on, I have abandoned the photography and taken up other groups – but my first love is and always was writing. It wasn't until I was faced with the discipline of writing 1000+ words twice a month, that I realised just how much I enjoyed the imaginative process; and now I am running the group.

After the first year I started to think about putting a collection of the stories together. I had no idea how, but I had a strong desire after spending my whole life in libraries, since

my Saturday job aged 16 in Willesden, to see my name on the spine of a book. That was it – as simple as that, I just wanted to see my name on a book of my own. I had some fancy ideas about tooled leather and gold writing, but that went by the wayside! I didn't even want anyone else to have a copy, I just wanted one for myself; picture me like Gollum in a darkened room clasping my book to my breast saying 'My Precious' over and over again.

As the idea took shape, I decided that 40 stories would make a slim, but perfectly formed volume and I turned for publishing advice to my partner's sister and husband, both of whom have published books of their own with Amazon Kindle Digital Publishing (check them out – Caren Trafford & Mike Lotzof).

The process of putting the book together was fairly straightforward, selecting a book cover picture, choosing a font, font size, paper colour, all of these things are prescribed and part of the process that Amazon walks you through. They even have templates for dedications and copyright information. That said my wonderful partner, Graham, did that bit.

Having uploaded everything onto the Amazon platform, after 48 hours, there it was – my book.

I have my copy – which even though it is a proof and has 'not for resale' printed all the way across the

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Human Rights Shabbat

7th December 2019 / 9 Kislev 5780

Mosaic marked Human Rights Shabbat on 7th December 2019, with a talk by Jeff Highfield during the Reform service. Jeff is Co-chair of Mosaic Jewish Community and Treasurer of the charity, René Cassin, the Jewish Voice for Human Rights.

Jeff explained that Human Rights Shabbat is celebrated on the shabbat nearest 10th December, Human Rights Day, the anniversary of the adoption in 1948 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights by the United Nations. He described the role played by Monsieur René Cassin, a Jewish French lawyer, in the committee which drafted the Universal Declaration. Jeff said:

"The Committee was chaired by Eleanor Roosevelt, and also included a Canadian law professor, an Eastern Orthodox theologian and philosophy professor from the Lebanon, and a Chinese philosopher whose socialism was Confucianism. So, a varied group." The Universal Declaration is a secular document, just its insistence on the values of freedom, justice and peace are consistent with Jewish values, and its aim of preventing abuses of human rights reflect the experience of the Holocaust – as Jeff said: "not exclusively a Jewish tragedy of course, but there's no doubt it inspired Monsieur Cassin's contribution."

The René Cassin charity's theme for this year's Human Rights Shabbat was Hate Crime and Jeff went on to report the shocking increase in reported hate crimes in every category across the UK, from 42,000 in 2013

to 103,000 in 2019. "And that's just police recorded hate crime – there's good evidence that hate crime against for example, gypsies, Roma and travellers is significantly under-reported, as is hate crime against LGBT+ people", reported Jeff.

Jeff drew on statements from the Board of Deputies, the Chief Rabbi, the Chief Executive of Masorti Judaism, among others, to outline what a Jewish response to hate crime looks like. He drew particular attention to René Cassin's #CutItOut campaign, which appeals to parliamentarians and other in public life to stop normalising hate speech, as this provokes hate crime.

In conclusion, Jeff asked the community to call out hate speech, and report hate crime, because "Jews have suffered from human rights abuses and hate crimes for millennia. Jews have contributed to the defence and strengthening of human rights in the twentieth century, and we need to play our part in responding to hate crime in our days".

The full text of Jeff's talk can be found on the Mosaic web-site (see link below). And if you wish to follow up on any of the issues raised by Human Rights Shabbat, please visit www.renecassin.org, where you can find the detailed resource pack the charity produced to support Human Rights Shabbat, and details of their campaigns and events, and of how to donate.

choosemosaic.org/all-news/reform-news/human-rights-shabbat-at-mosaic-reform/

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COMMUNAL SEDER THURSDAY 9th APRIL 7.00 pm

Mosaic Members: Adults £25.00
Mosaic Family ticket (2 adults + up to 2 children under 16) £55.00
Additional children age 5-16 £14.00 each. Under 5s - free
Non-members: Adults £40.00

Book your place by completing this form & returning it, with your remittance and stamped addressed envelope, to Communal Seder, 39 Beesborough Road, Harrow HA1 3BS no later than **Thursday 26th March**. Alternatively, pay via our website, www.choosemosaic.org

Please reserve:

.....	Adult member places at £25.00 each	= £	salmon/vegetarian
.....	Family Tickets at £55	= £	salmon/vegetarian (state numbers of adults/children)
.....	Child places (5-16) at £14 each	= £	fish/vegetarian
.....	Child places under 5	= Free	fish/vegetarian
.....	Adult non-member places at £40 each	= £	salmon/vegetarian

I enclose cheque/cash (payable to Mosaic Reform Synagogue) in the sum of £.....
Payment may be made by credit card (via the Synagogue office) or by bank transfer to Sort code: 40-03-04. Account: 42194279. Reference: Communal Seder

Please complete the following **IN CAPITALS**

Name Tel No:
Address Post Code

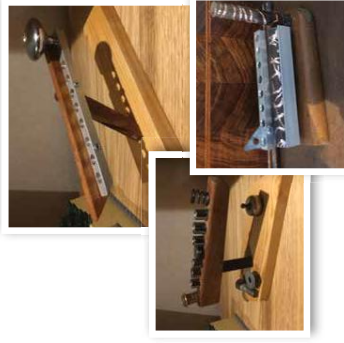
Chanukah in Ghana 2019

by *Philip Silberton*

Recently, my wife's class at JW3 was invited to donate Chanukah candles (and maybe a mini Chanukiah) to the small Jewish community in Ghana. As a retired D&T teacher (Emanuel College head of department) I decided to make a Chanukiah but only to use bits and pieces I had in my workshop at home.

I thought that this would give the community some inspiration to create other artefacts even if they had very little money and access to materials. The class teacher, Angela Gluck, was highly delighted to receive my Chanukiah and asked if I could possibly make a second example to send. I was so pleased that I made two more!

One of the class said that she did not have a Chanukiah and could I make one for her (and donated to charity).



she would, of course, pay me). I made one and insisted that the agreed price should be donated to charity.



Report of Plenary meeting 19th January

From *Michael Reik, Mosaic Reform Board Representative*

Two Holocaust survivors spoke. Both stressed the need for social media to be controlled, else the sacrifices of all the survivors and all the work they do will be in vain. The Board requested all leaders standing

Jonathan Arkush spoke on the current state in the Labour

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20 in 2020
Event No. 5

**SUSHI MAKING
MASTER CLASS**
Sunday
29th March 2020
Limited number of places so
BOOK NOW to reserve yours
admin@choosmosaic.org
£20.00
take home what you make
STARTS 2:30 pm

Class takes place at Mosaic Jewish Community
39 Bessborough Road, Harrow, HA1 3BS



20 in 2020
Event No. 6

**Join us for a guided tour around the
Jewish Sites of Oxford's Medieval Quarter**
on
Sunday
April 19th 2020
PLEASE SAVE THE DATE
**Followed by tea hosted by
the Oxford Jewish Community**
Watch out.....more details to be announced soon

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Film Mosaic

8:00pm on Tuesday 18th February 2020

Crimes and Misdemeanors (1989)

Film Mosaic's first Woody Allen presentation

Judah Rosenthal (Martin Landau) is an ophthalmologist and a pillar of the community who has a big problem: his mistress Dolores Paley has told him that he is to leave his wife and marry her or she will tell everyone of their affair. When he intercepts a letter that Dolores has written to his wife Miriam (Claire Bloom), he is frantic and confesses all to his shady brother Jack who assures him that he has friends who can take care of her. Meanwhile, filmmaker Cliff Stern (Woody Allen) is having his own problems. He's been working on a documentary film for some time but has yet to complete it. He falls in love with Halley Reed who works with a producer, Lester (Alan Alda) and Cliff soon finds himself making a documentary about Lester, hiding every minute of it.

Next showing 24th March
It Always Rains on Sunday

Friendship Club

Entertainment for the over-60s

Please join us to enjoy a warm friendly atmosphere every Monday with a 3-course lunch/tea and biscuits followed by professional entertainment. 11.00 to 14.30.

Please contact either Bertha Levy on 8421 2233 or Trudy Segal on 8423 3209 for further information, or just come along.

FEBRUARY

- 3rd Singer/keyboards player Roy Blass
- 10th Return visit of Gemma Turner
- 17th Bill Smith entertains
- 24th The Plinkers

MARCH

- 2nd Singer/guitarist Alex Samos
- 9th Lynda Shtan entertains
- 16th Return visit of Nadie Keating
- 23rd Stevie Permutt
- 30th Singer Jo Ballard



PROGRAMME 2020

AJR PINNER GROUP (including Stanmore, Harrow & surrounding areas)
MEETING VENUE: PINNER SYNOGOGUE 1 CECIL PARK, PINNER
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: PHONE VERA on 020 8866 4633. Email: vera.rob@btinternet.com

Thursday February 6th at 2.00

Glilian Perry MBE was the co-founder of the Anne Frank Trust UK. She will talk about her book telling of Anne Frank's various influences around the world and will also share her insights into the real Anne Frank. Her talk is called "The Surprising Global Legacy of Anne Frank".

Thursday March 5th at 2.00

Sue Grayson MBE is a Blue Badge Guide and recently created an exhibition at Solihby's about the incredible group of not just German, but Austrian, French, Polish and Hungarian emigres who led parallel revolutions in the art and at book worlds in England. "Emigres and how they influenced Art in Britain".

Thursday April 2nd at 2.00

Lord Finkelstein OBE is a British journalist and a former politician. He was an executive editor of Times, remains a weekly political columnist and now is an associate editor. "Five things I believe.....a talk about my values and views".

Thursday May 7th at 2.00

Antony Polonsky is Emeritus Professor of Holocaust Studies at Brandeis University. He is the author of many historical works on the Holocaust and expert on Polish Jewish history. The title of the talk will be "The present state of the Polin Museum of the History of Polish Jews in Warsaw".

Thursday June 4th at 2.00

Heather Wexler is a writer, author and a women's rights activist and international development practitioner. She is the great-granddaughter of Emmeline Pankhurst and will talk about her and other suffragettes in her book called: "Daeds Not Words, the Story of Women's Rights, Then and Now".

Thursday July 2nd at 2.00

Brian Nathan was so popular last year that he is coming back to speak to us about "From Court Jester to UNICEF, the life and music of Danny Kaye."

Thursday 6th August at 2.00

Garden party by invitation.

Thursday September 3rd at 2.00

Clare Ungerson Emeritus Professor of Social Policy at Southampton University will talk about her book called "Four thousand Jewish Lives saved". The story is about the Kitchener camp rescue in 1939. We will hear all about the German Jewish men who were taken to an old WW1 camp on the edge of Sandwich in East Kent.

Thursday October 1st at 2.00

Maurice Kanarek was a freelance documentary film maker for forty years and has worked with many well-known companies including the BBC and the British Government's Central Office of Information. He will be showing a film called "A Dream So Fair - A History of the Palestine Police."

November 5th at 2.00

Paul Anticonia is head of World Jewish Relief. It is the UK's Jewish community's leading international emergency response and provides support and aid to Jewish people around the world. **How we help by giving assistance and support to victims of crisis.** The work that WJR does is a quite amazing and well worth learning about.

Thursday December 3rd at .00

Chanukah Party.

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From Chaim Bacon: "Prayer for Israeli Soldiers"

My step-son Alex will soon be barmitzvah at Mosaic Reform. Joining us at the barmitzvah will be my son Avichai, who decided after his A-Levels to make Aliyah and serve in the Israeli army. In Shul last Shabbat, the prayer for the State of Israel was recited but I was rather shocked that the prayer for soldiers – a prayer recited in almost every other synagogue in the world – was not recited. I asked Rabbi Kathleen about this and she said it was last recited when Israel was at war. However, Israel is always at war to a greater or lesser extent. Our soldiers, including my son, put their lives at risk every day for the security of our homeland and the future of the Jewish people. Whatever one's political bias, our soldiers deserve our respect and prayers and I believe the prayer for soldiers should be recited every Shabbat. I would very much like to ask whether this matter can be reviewed.

From Beverley Ringart: "Where is the Mosaic Calendar"

I would like to express my disappointment at the loss of the Mosaic calendar this year. Since about 2000, a Mosaic calendar has hung on my kitchen wall advising me of the Hebrew date, when to light my candles, when I should go to Synagogue and who to call in an emergency. Please bring back the Calendar as it is sorely missed.

A Jewish Story by David Lobb

This is a Jewish story about "on the one hand" and "on the other hand".

ON THE ONE HAND... We walk in London, Brighton, Manchester and even in Harrow and see homeless people living and sleeping on the cold streets. We also know that others are living in B&Bs or in poor quality, cold accommodation, poorly converted from offices or warehouses, usually in unsuitable places.

ON THE OTHER HAND... ALL pensioners over 65 every December receive £110 from

the Government, free of tax – £100 for "heating allowance" and £10 for "Christmas bonus", a handover from Edward Heath's time as PM. Many of us may find this money useful, even necessary – but for many it is not.

May I make a suggestion? For those who can, why not donate some, or all, of the £110 to a charity for the homeless where it will be put to good and immediate use to improve the lives of people worse off than us. I have three suggestions...

ST. MUNGO'S	FIRM FOUNDATION	CRISIS
A national charity 50 years old this year Provides direct support to clients - has 17 outreach teams, supporting 2800 people every night	Local Harrow-based charity working with the homeless. Has a night shelter for up to 17 homeless people and runs Hope Place - accommodation for up to 3 people.	U.K. National charity for homeless people, offering year-round education, employment, housing and well-being services from centres in six U.K. cities.
St Mungo's • 3 Thomas More Square • London, E1W 1YW info@munegos.org phone 020 8600 3000	FirmFoundation Brigade House, Brigade Close, Harrow HA2 2LQ firmfoundation.org.uk	Crisis UK 66 Commercial St. London E1 6LJ www.crisis.org.uk/urgent phone: 08000 384838

Mosaic Tzedakah 2020 by John Ashmele

The nominated charity for 2020 is the Anne Frank Trust UK, an education charity that empowers young people with the knowledge, skills and confidence to challenge all forms of prejudice and discrimination. The education programmes use Anne Frank's life story and diary as their starting point. It is the only organisation in the UK licensed to use Anne Frank's name and writing to make links with issues in contemporary society.

TheGivingMachine by John Ashmele

As a growing number of you and your friends shop online, Mosaic Reform has teamed up with TheGivingMachine™ to generate cash donations for us, every time you shop at TheGivingMachine!™, including all your online.... the beauty of it is that it won't cost you anything – it's just an extra click to go via www.thegivingmachine.co.uk and shop.

Every purchase generates a cash donation and it is estimated that 1,000 online shoppers

Mosaic Quiz (right)

Edwin Lucas writes: Congratulations to Mosaic Masorti member Rachel Kalb and her team who won the annual Mosaic Quiz on 24th November. It was a great evening with over 20 tables vying to win the coveted award. Rachel's team won by one point. A win is a win and we were delighted for them, especially as it was Rachel's father's birthday on that day.



When is your next book out continued from page 16...

cover, is enough for me. I have a book with my name on the spine – I have 'My Precious.' volume two!

That it has been purchased by many other people is a complete bonus, and their positive comments wonderful to receive, if you are one of them, many thanks for your support, and

Board of Deputies continued from page 19...

Party leadership contest to sign up to their ten pledges to end the antisemitism crisis. Gratifyingly, all have done so.

Louise Ellman stated that a significant reason for the general election result was the antisemitism rift within the Labour Party. It was noted that Len McCluskey (General secretary of the Unite union) has accused the JLM and the Chief Rabbi of 'disgraceful' attacks on Jeremy Corbyn.

The Board and Marie Van de Zyl have received vile abuse since the launch of the 10

pledges. On the other hand, great thanks are due to Prince Charles for hosting the event at Buckingham Palace to support Jewish Charities in the UK. [Ed – see reports of this event on page 12].

At long last, UCL and Bristol universities have now adopted the IHRC definition of antisemitism.

There was a demonstration outside the meeting at words spoken by the Board concerning a recent article in the JC by Melanie Phillips.



Happy Birthday In February and March to:

Chloe Shackell, 10
Elizabeth Witte, 8
Nathan Morrow, 3
Zita Morrow, 3

Daniella Phillips, 12
Isaac Wolff, 7
Danny Ellison, 11



Bereavement Care supper

The Bereavement Care Group met for a wonderful communal Chanukah Party, together with our partners.



Chanukah

Chanukah at Mosaic. Pictures from Maurice Hoffman



The Mosaic office is
open 09.00-15.00
Monday-Thursday



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