



# Kehila

*Mosaic*  
Choose your Jewish life

Liberal | Masorti | Reform

The Magazine of the **Mosaic Jewish Community**

November 2023/5784

## Could you volunteer to support our community?

Volunteers are the core of Mosaic Jewish Community for everything we do.

**Our community – in the broadest sense – needs you!**

Do you have skills, time, resources and enthusiasm to offer?

We are hoping to develop our community's activities, especially in these key spheres:

### Social Justice

Organizing a new refugee drop-in, co-ordinating future campaigns, Tikkun HaOlam

### Care Team

Supporting members of our community, promoting wellbeing, befriending, visiting, organising events, providing lifts and catering.

### Chevra Kadisha

Taking care of our members as they undertake their final journey.

If you can help in any of these areas, and use your special skills such as cooking, driving, marketing, administration and listening skills, no matter how little time you can give we would love to hear from you!

Read more inside about the opportunities we have available and how you can help

Or click this QR code to read more on our website.



Mosaic Jewish Community  
*Stanmore*

# ABOUT OUR MEMBERS

*Since our last issue*

## MOSAIC REFORM

### **WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS:**

Sharon Pinner  
James Meltzer  
Angie Kaye

Steve Cole

### **MAZAL TOV TO:**

Karen & David Pollak on the marriage of their daughter, Mia, to Alex

### **SPECIAL BIRTHDAYS:**

John Tygier  
Isabel Davis  
Helen Cripps  
Linda Middleton  
Ingrid Morland  
Philip Silvertown  
Elaine Sinclair (Bushey)  
Marion Bloom  
Anne Franks  
Dennis Goodman  
Paula Goodman  
Madeline Hershman  
David Lobb  
Gordon Marks  
Pauline Pike  
Martin Shaw  
Oliver Kenton

### **ANNIVERSARY WISHES TO:**

Debbie & Ron Alalouff on their 35th anniversary  
Janet & Jeffrey Lee on their 55th anniversary  
Mandy & Stefan Roos on their 40th anniversary  
Judy & Philip Silvertown on their 50th anniversary

### **THINKING ABOUT THOSE**

#### **WHO ARE ILL:**

Helen West

Antonia Berger  
Lydia Safir  
Zella Milstone

### **CONDOLENCES TO:**

The family and friends of Michelle Singer  
John Kent on the death of his wife, Ann  
Madeline Hershman on the death of her husband, Neil  
The family and friends of Alan Burns  
The family and friends of Ron Tucker

## MOSAIC LIBERAL

### **WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS:**

Joany Weinberg

### **MAZAL TOV:**

Sandra and Stuart Rose on the birth of their grandson, Grayson Lenni Rose  
Mark Phillips on the engagement of his daughter, Joanna, to Lucy Cohen.

### **SPECIAL BIRTHDAYS:**

Dennis Chefetz  
Dena Cohen  
Michelle Gersh  
Irene Kessler  
Hila Lash  
Evelyn Roos  
Harold Sanderson  
Vivienne Shreir  
Leila Silverman  
George Vulkan

### **THINKING ABOUT THOSE**

#### **WHO ARE ILL:**

Sylvia Vandervelde  
Michael Judelson  
Millicent Levan  
George Vulkann

## MOSAIC MASORTI

### **WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS:**

Melna, John & Anna-Deborah Charin  
Claire Strauss  
Laurel & Greg Broad

### **MAZAL TOV TO:**

Georgia Matthews & Jordan Bayer-Goldman on their engagement  
Paulette & Mark Sachon on the birth of their grandson, Sonny Jack

### **SPECIAL BIRTHDAYS:**

Michael Alexander  
Nicholas Kafka  
Linda Harris  
Philip Fraylich  
Liane Alexander  
James Manton

### **THINKING ABOUT THOSE**

#### **WHO ARE ILL:**

Howard Eden  
Michael Lewis

### **CONDOLENCES TO:**

Linda Shuall on the death of her sister, Pat Frydman  
Leigh Fraylich on the death of her mother, Beryl Fisher  
The family and friends of Henry Rockwell  
Jordan Bayer-Goldman on the death of his grandmother, Millie "Jean" Goldman.

### **Next issue**

#### **Copy date:**

Monday 4th December

#### **Publication date:**

Thursday 28th December

Send your articles, pictures, letters etc to  
[newsdesk@choosemosaic.org](mailto:newsdesk@choosemosaic.org)

# Message from the MJC Rabbis Following Hamas' Attack on Israel

**A**t the time of writing, it is just three days after Hamas' shocking and brutal attack on Israel, on Shabbat Simchat Torah, October 7th. We pray for a cessation of violence, and for stability and peace in the Middle East.



and emails are important, but call and speak to them, too. That contact makes a huge difference.

Rabbi Mira Regev, Head of Content and Culture for the Israel Movement for Reform and Progressive

We mourn the dead and pray for the wounded. Our hearts are breaking when we hear the stories and see the images that are coming from Israel. We pray for the safe return of the hostages taken to Gaza.

Last night, we held a space for people to come and share their thoughts, feelings and concerns, and we heard from Rabbi Dr. Eli Levin, from our twinned congregation, Darchei Noam in Ramat Ha-Sharon. Rabbi Eli asked us to continue to stand firm with Israel, and to do whatever is in our power to ensure the return of the captive Israelis – by writing to our MPs, for example. Of course, by the time of reading this Kehila, things will have moved on in ways we cannot anticipate. As we mourn the destruction and the devastation, we strive for sympathy with all who suffer and mourn.

One of the ways we can help that has been expressed by many, is to keep in close touch with our family and friends in Israel, to express our love and support for them. Texts

Judaism (IMPJ), wrote a prayer for this time:

Our Father in heaven, Shechinah source of life, Rock and Redeemer of Israel, strengthen and deliver all who stand on guard protecting their homes.

Safeguard and save them from any trouble and distress and bless their actions, hear their prayers and ours and deliver them. Save those who are trapped in their homes, grant them inner strength, faith and hope, bolster them in these terrifying times.

Send Your mercy to the anxious mothers and hurting fathers and the children sitting in shelters. May it be Your will to remember us, to take notice of us, to meet us with compassion for we trust in You. Return all those kidnapped safe and sound to their homes, without the spilling of innocent blood, without their souls becoming tarnished by horrific acts.

[Continued on following page >>](#)

# FROM THE RABBIS

Continued from previous page...

Strengthen those who protect our Holy Land,  
soldiers and civilians alike.

We pray 'nation shall not lift up sword against  
nation and they will study war no more'.

Compassionate God, please, arouse Your  
mercy for us, and may the verse be fulfilled:

'from the seed of peace the vine shall  
produce

its fruit, the land shall produce its yield, and  
the skies shall provide their moisture. I will  
bestow all these things upon you, and you  
shall

be a blessing. Have no fear.'

And let us say, Amen.

In the words of Isaiah 40:1-2a, nachamu  
nachamu ami, yomar Eloheikhem, dabru al-  
leiv Yerushalayim v'kir'u eileha – 'Comfort, oh  
comfort My people, says your God. Speak  
tenderly to Jerusalem and call out to her...'

Eternal God, may Your sheltering peace  
descend on us and all who dwell on earth.

**Rabbi Rachel Benjamin,  
Rabbi Kathleen de MagtigeMiddleton,  
Rabbi Anthony Lazarus-Magrill  
and Rabbi Anna Wolfson**  
October 10th 2023



*Barbara Grant planning a fig tree*



*Olive tree in the Mosaic garden*

*See the article on page 20*

## Mosaic Liberal

### *Harry Davies – Chatan Torah*

Harry first became involved with MLS in 2019 while the community was still at Bessborough Road, as an 'attachment' to Rachel, when she was the 'visiting Rabbi'. Although the community was



new to Harry, he did know some members through mutual connections and had met others by having been involved in other Liberal communities or through his long-standing membership of Belsize Square Synagogue.

An early recollection from HWPS for Harry was his eldest son, Jon, marrying Debbie Winston, the daughter of Carol and Les Winston, who were core members of this community. As a result of that union, he came into contact with other HWPS members.

Harry enjoys the freedom of choice that Progressive Judaism offers and feels comfortable with his observance and Jewish identity. He finds MLS welcoming and friendly, encourages inclusivity, and has two outstanding Rabbis. He states the lay leadership is in good hands and is appreciative of the work that is done by both the spiritual leaders and lay activists.

Having been married to a Rabbi's daughter and then to a Rabbi, Harry feels he has been in a privileged position and has a personal and communal responsibility to be active rather than passive. In providing support to Rachel,

he hopes it enables her to concentrate on the more rewarding parts of her work, while allowing her to achieve more joy from her role.

Harry has represented MLS on the initial Mosaic Building Committee and is now chairing the newly formed House Committee, which oversees the day-to-day running of the property. Fulfilling these roles and the support for Rachel, Harry fully deserves the honour of being MLS Chatan Bereshit

The Mosaic project is admirable and important to Harry. He is passionate not to have divisions, which split Jews into small groups. MLS too can have a role in the Jewish future of Anglo-Jewry, not just by being a part of the Mosaic project, but also independently. The target may be in taking the opportunity to attract new members, young people and families, and to promote inclusivity and a welcoming environment.

### *Lindsey Cohen – Kallat Bereshit*

Lindsey became involved with the then called HWPS in 1994 when Adrian and she were arranging their wedding. They were told they had to become a member to be married there!

An early recollection of the



first time Lindsey came to a service in the old old

[Continued on following page >>](#)

*Continued from previous page...*

building even before she met Adrian, she was impressed by the sincerity and spiritual intensity of the service even though she wasn't familiar with the prayer book.

Lindsey loves our community's warmth, inclusivity, creativity, the Rabbis and the music.

There are many roles Lindsey has taken on for MLS and MJC. These include for MLS Membership Secretary, Marriage Secretary, and member of Council, Rites and Practices. For MJC- Mosaic Board, Culture Hub and aesthetics. Fulfilling these Lindsey fully deserves the honour of being MLS Kallat Bereshit.

Lindsey sees our future as growing and thriving in our new home led by our wonderful rabbis.

## Mosaic Masorti

*Kallat Torah – Linda Lucas*

Rabbi Anthony writes: "It is now a bit over two years since I first knocked on the door of Number 7, was hurried to take my shoes off and told about the importance of making sure the beige carpets were hoovered before Shabbat. Edwin assured me that I and my wife, 3-year-old and newborn would be welcome at his home - might it be too chutzpahdik to observe that quite a large amount of the set-up and take-down was undertaken by Linda?! That night she had even made a spare dessert to satisfy her (then merely 101 years old)



mother-in-law's palette. Edwin, bless him, is an exceptionally ambitious community organiser. I well know how a blue-sky plan from our favourite Glaswegian can result in days, weeks or months of work. Linda has been running with this for years, picking up slack, laying tables, keeping house, welcoming in dozens upon dozens of guests; keeping good humour whilst being endlessly described as 'wifey'. If the only thing Linda Lucas had ever done for Mosaic Masorti was to be Edwin Lucas's wife - she would already have deserved this honour very many times over.

Of course, Linda does so much more than this. Linda has been a trail blazer - amongst the first women in this community to leyn from the Torah and Haftarat, and to lift Hagbah. Now, I am proud to live in a community which respects diversity of practice; and I do not consider it to be my role to enforce ritual dress codes. So, whilst I have all respect for those who practise otherwise, I do think there is a reasonable halakhic case that women should wear tallitot when davening. Linda, you are the first female heritage member of HEMS to regularly wear a tallit to services. I would hope that all of us can acknowledge and respect the strength of character which enables you to choose your own spiritual path, negotiate your own relationship to Judaism, and do what you believe to be right for you even when others do not follow suit. I admire you for it.

This year, in addition, you have been helping to keep me and the other leyners/daveners in order with your reminder emails. Most importantly, you have been co-ordinating a bi-weekly Bridge and Games club. You bring people into our building and into our

*Continued on following page >>*

Continued from previous page...

community who would not otherwise be with us. You build connections between members of the three Mosaic synagogues and other potential members or visitors. You are caring and sympathetic and welcoming - and you do all this whilst balancing the significant responsibilities and challenges of your home life. Linda, you are an inspiration, and you encapsulate what is best about Mosaic Masorti - it is a joy to be in community with you.

## *Chatan Bereshit – Michael W Harris*

Michael, you are a relative newcomer to Mosaic Masorti - but you are also now part of the furniture. It has become a happy routine of my week that, schlepping my children across town, our paths seem so often to cross to take the final ascent of Stanmore Hill together. You have already contributed so much to our davening and leyning team - you are unfailingly happy and willing to step in at a moment's notice for diverse slots on the rota - anticipated or otherwise! Indeed, our council all agreed that you have been a most welcome and able and helpful contributor to our Saturday morning community. Aside from davening duties, I find your input helpful with regard to custom and minhag very helpful - you are questioning and thoughtful, but always respectful and of the range of different traditions which co-exist within Masorti tradition. Thank you.

But your contribution to our community goes well beyond Saturday mornings and that is also



why it is nice to have a chance to celebrate you today. For one thing, you and Aviva are an important example of our deep commitment at MJC to welcoming in mixed families. In your case, one definitely Masorti partner and one who is perhaps more at home in Reform and Liberal! You both exemplify one of our central community values - celebrating the freedom to, as the sign says, 'Choose your Jewish Life.' You exemplify an ability to live and share in diverse Jewish traditions from which we could all stand to learn.

You and Aviva have been dedicated supporters of different initiatives that the shul puts on - from coronation tea parties to Liberal Rabbinic inductions, to meals in houses and synagogues. From the first day you arrived in this community you have been eager to support its many different endeavours - ritual, cultural and social. In this, again, you exemplify what we are really hoping to build here - a community in which all are welcome, to join and participate, and to make themselves at home, from the very first day. We look forward to celebrating many more festival seasons with you both.

## Mosaic Reform

### *Sue Pollock – Kallat Torah*

Sue has achieved a unique first within Mosaic Reform Synagogue, formerly Middlesex New.

In accepting the honour of Kallat



Continued on following page >>

# SIMCHAT TORAH

Continued from previous page...

Torah, she has put herself through learning what to read twice, rather than once, as she had to drop out last year at the last moment, due to Covid. But in Sue's typical and totally unflappable style, she rose to the challenge without flinching, taking it all within her capable stride.

Sue is one of the relatively few members who has been involved with our community significantly longer than I have despite being very much younger than me. Although as children the Michaels family belonged to a United Synagogue, Sue and her siblings all got heavily involved in their teens at Bessborough Road, fully active within MINYS, the youth club.

And somehow Sue has never given up on that synagogue relationship. While sister Jo has moved a little way north-west, and brother Mark very much further, Sue married David and both remained fully committed to our Shul.

Katie and Ben grew up in the community, and Ben only needed occasional coercion to turn up at religion school.

Neither Sue nor David have ever been massively involved in the ritual side of shul life, but both have made their mark in other ways. David's arm was twisted once to sit on council, although not for long. Since then, however, he has been invaluable as a sounding board on property matters, for what seems like ages. We knew in Middlesex New that we needed to move decades ago, but the property world is a minefield. I'd phone him occasionally as different opportunities, and with them challenges, arose, and it was so reassuring having his expertise to tap in to.

Sue made her mark in the community by extending her professional catering skills into any area of the shul that involved food, which you will understand are many. Whenever she

was on the relevant rota you knew that Kiddush would be top notch, and she gave useful advice on planning our new kitchen here. A few years ago, we started organising tea parties for elderly congregants in members' homes, and those chez Pollock remain very popular.

A classic example of Sue's unflappable nature was a few weeks ago, not surprisingly in our communal kitchen. Long ago we started baking our own small honey cakes for distributing to elderly members at Yomtov who didn't have much of a family infrastructure. Just before Rosh Hashanah Sue was organising a few volunteers fulfilling this mitzvah, for maybe 50 such members, when I casually asked her, at no notice, to produce a dozen more, for some of our elder Masorti friends. There were no complaints, and no cake mix or utensils being thrown around the kitchen, just the extra cakes, which were greatly appreciated.

And in addition, Sue and David are both fully committed to supporting the work of Jewish Care.

Sue has never been high profile within our shul, but remains the trustworthy supportive congregant, without whom things just wouldn't work.

So thanks Sue, and please step up to receive your certificate, marking our appreciation of what you do for, and give to, Mosaic Reform Synagogue.

## *Kallat Bereshit – Caroline Chadwick*

Caroline Chadwick, needs much less of an introduction, as she has been a key player within Mosaic Reform Synagogue's lay leadership for several years.



Continued on following page >>

Continued from previous page...

Caroline too is a child of the community, growing up here before moving away, at least communally, with husband Lawrence. It didn't take much for them to come back to Bessborough Road, where Caroline's mum, Angela, had been the backbone of the Friendship Club for so long.

While Lawrence focussed on our property challenges, continuing the apparently endless search for a new location, Caroline got involved in all the other aspects of Synagogue life. As did their daughters Jo and Katie. Grandchildren make their mark as well, coming here so frequently that they are genuinely regarding Halsbury Close as a home from home, adding to the buzz and great value in having little ones around the building.

Not long after Lawrence became chairman, he caught Caroline in a weak moment, and she agreed to become our honorary secretary, serving with great dedication for several years until she stood down in the summer. She happened to pick a few of the most difficult years the Shul has been through, as we went through the double crisis of simultaneously leaving Bessborough Road and coping with Covid.

While some of the challenges these past few years could have been predicted, others were far harder to anticipate, as we made every effort to run the Shul as normally as possible, at times in the most challenging circumstances. Services switched from zoom to in person, or hybrid, and problems facing members grew, while it became harder to address them. We did succeed in doing so, and a principal reason for getting through these tough times was Caroline's unflappability, her positive approach, and her constant smile.

One could easily have understood Caroline

standing down as honorary secretary and stepping back from communal work, but not Caroline. She holds the whole concept of Mosaic Jewish Community close to her heart, and she and Lawrence are committed to making it work. Lawrence is now the vice-chairman of MJC, and in addition continues looking after our building, dealing with ongoing snagging issues with the contractors, and everything else relevant to occupying this wonderful new home, from building our Sukkah to fixing the J-rails for our wall hangings, and in between trying to control our sophisticated air handling system.

In contrast Caroline has three key roles, leading our Liberal and Masorti friends to make our kiddushim even better, being the sounding board to Lawrence, and participating in literally every activity put on by our highly successful Mosaic Culture Hub.

So, thank you too Caroline, your contribution to making this whole crazy wonderful thing we are doing on Stanmore Hill is an example to all, and greatly appreciated.



*Mosaic Reform member, Marion Bloom, at 100 years young!*

## Support the Community – volunteer!

*by David Leibling*



**V**olunteers are the core of our community. Every day of the week there are dozens of volunteers who make Mosaic into a Jewish Community and more than just the sum of our three individual synagogues.

We'd like some more people to join this dedicated band of helpers and have identified some key areas where we need additional Mosaic Jewish Community volunteers –

**1. Assisting our Care Team** of Angela Peters and Hayley Renak in supporting the wellbeing of the older and less able members of our community. This could be by befriending, visiting, and providing lifts or help with shopping or food preparation. Other support includes arranging events and outings to provide variety and stimulus for people who might otherwise be house-bound.

**2. Expanding our Social Justice** work in line with the Jewish principle of Tikkun HaOlam – repairing the world. We want to organise a multi-faith refugee drop-in centre in the Synagogue building and also participate in local multicultural activities

**3. Joining the Chevra Kadisha**, Holy Society, helping with the great mitzvot of taking care of our members on their final journey when they die. The Chevra Kadisha is a group of Jewish people who care for the deceased to prepare them for burial, involving taharah, the ritual washing and dressing of the deceased person. This is a very personal and sensitive role and we are looking for a small team of

volunteers, both men and women, to be trained in this special duty, which is normally undertaken at Calos the undertakers in Edgware.

#### **4. Keeping us at the forefront with Social Media**

This is an activity which may appeal to a couple of younger more tech-savvy members. We are looking for people who can see how our members use social media and get them to promote activities and events, be aware of the social media activities of local community/media organisations and Jewish media/community organisations and attend Mosaic events and write good content about them with suitable images - covering Instagram, Twitter (now called X) and Facebook and promote forthcoming Culture Hub events on social media platforms. We also need to engage with people online who contact us via the social media accounts and ensure we respond especially with non-members.

#### **Everyone can help**

If you can give only an hour a week or more of time, your help is vital. If you can drive, help with cooking, give us marketing support, assist with administration, just talk to people on the phone, please come forward.

- Fill in the form on the website: [choosemosaic.org/welcome-to-mosaic/volunteering/](http://choosemosaic.org/welcome-to-mosaic/volunteering/)
- Email Angela and Hayley on [volunteering@choosemosaic.org](mailto:volunteering@choosemosaic.org)
- Phone the office on 020-8864 1033

*Continued on following page >>*

Continued from previous page...

## **Caring** by Hana Schlesinger

Since joining HWPS, now Mosaic Liberal, in 1990 I have been a member of the Care Group and have gained so much from being involved.

It has helped me to get to know fellow shul members in a variety of circumstances, also those in the Care Group, members I can help and who help me to feel part of a lively, caring community.

Rabbi Rachel, Rabbi Anna and our Care Co-ordinator, Angela Peters, are involved and inspiring, working closely with us. Of course, discretion is essential and carefully observed.

There are so many different ways of helping so one can choose what to do and how much time to give. The Care Group marks Rosh Hashana with a small seasonal gift for the elderly and housebound. We make telephone calls, visit those ill at home or in hospital, send cards for special occasions, (recently a 100th birthday card), help with shopping or a lift to Shul and much more.

As we know, caring for the sick and visiting those in hospital is a mitzvah and so is spending time with someone in need and listening to them.

Doing good makes me feel good. Think of joining the Care Group, it is a win/win situation.

## **Caring** by Mike Keen

It is the beginning of another week, once again it has a mixture of interesting, worthwhile and enjoyable things for me to do. Does this description reflect your typical week, I certainly hope so. There are Synagogue members whose weeks are no longer enjoyable and interesting; they are for various reasons stuck at home for most of the time, not seeing and interacting with other people. You can help to make their lives better by visiting them via

the Synagogue Care Team, the time spent would be interesting, worthwhile and enjoyable both for the person you would be visiting and yourself.

## **From another member of the care team:**

As someone who gains so much being part of the MLS Community, I feel it is always fulfilling giving something back. I am able to achieve this through my role as a volunteer for the MLS Care Group. We meet bi-monthly to discuss various ways of enhancing the connection with all our members. I have a list I contact three times a year before Pesach, Rosh Hashanah and Chanukah. Where there is a further need, I will arrange to meet up with them in person. This is always appreciated and I gain much satisfaction knowing these members are not forgotten.

We have a small enthusiastic team. I highly recommend joining the Care Team to help spread the value we offer to our members

## **From Marion Bloom**

On the instigation of Jeanette Leibling I joined the Telenet Team at the outset as, although leading an active busy life at the time, I felt I could spare a short time to make some phone calls. I was given a list of six people with a few details concerning their circumstances. Most of them were people who rarely visited the shul. It took a short time to establish a connection but generally the regular calls were welcome and people were happy to talk freely to me. One of them eventually expressed some interest in volunteering and, after reporting this back, arrangements were made for her to help at the Friendship Club. Also, from the outset I formed two strong friendships. One was a

Continued on following page >>

# VOLUNTEERING

*Continued from previous page...*

neighbour who I met on a regular basis, and who remained a dear friend for the rest of her life. I bonded very closely with the other friend but over the years circumstances made it hard for us to meet – until this year when we eventually attended an event at the shul and we will certainly now be in constant touch. So, this activity definitely has a two-way benefit. It is now more difficult for me to reach the shul but I still lead a busy life, and there will always be time for me to make those calls.”

## **The Final Journey We Shall Make**

Mosaic Jewish Community is looking to establish a Mosaic-wide Chevra Kadisha group which was part and parcel of our post life services, prior to Covid. Both Mosaic Masorti and Mosaic Reform have had teams of both men and women to take on this special mitzvah for shul members across Mosaic and this sadly encompassed helping personal friends of many years standing, who have passed away, in our communities. Covid put an end to our communal efforts which had to be taken over by our undertakers.

Chevra kadisha is the volunteer group that performs the “final rites” for the Jewish deceased. The provision of affording a Jew a proper Jewish burial is considered a sacred duty and a great kindness, and it is an honour to be included in this group of dedicated volunteers. This mitzvah is carried out in a confidential manner at the cemetery or a special building and the names of congregants taking part are kept within the tight group of people.

The Mosaic Masorti Chevra Kadisha was started off by Rabbi David and Mrs Soetendorp, who heard about an unexpected death of a previously young, fit, congregant.

Rabbi Soetendorp asked if the community had a Chevra and he was advised, not. He asked if we might be able to set one up for this funeral and he offered to help the community with the initial as well as ongoing training. A few people were approached and the response was magical. As this was the first time the individuals had come together, as part of the chevra mitzvah group, it was a steep learning curve. Rabbi Soetendorp explained the procedure to be carried out, to comply with the mitzvah and the team helped to prepare the deceased for their final journey. In this case, which is not normal, the family knew that the chevra kadisha was being set up. They were comforted that people they knew were helping their family member travel to their final destination, with all the proper procedures having been carried out, according to the customs of our faith. The team was nervous. The team accepted the mitzvah and all were humbled and honoured to be part of this service to our community. As time went on, the team had to assist other members on their journeys and, whilst it was not easy, there was a feeling of camaraderie and friendship in the team and everyone had one goal and that was to help the deceased in death, as they would do in life. Mosaic Reform's Chevra Kadisha had a group of men and women who were specially trained by Rabbi Kathleen and who carried out the same mitzvah and also found it a very moving experience.

We now want to set up a Mosaic-wide Chevra Kadisha. If you would like to know more about this special mitzvah, please contact Rabbi Anthony at [rabbianthony@mosaicmasorti.org.uk](mailto:rabbianthony@mosaicmasorti.org.uk) and he will explain to you, individually to start with, what is involved and to organise

*Continued on following page >>*

*Continued from previous page...*

training for a men's and also a ladies' group of volunteers. This is a wonderful personal mitzvah that we can offer the community and we would love you to join the Mosaic Jewish Community team. There is no age band that cannot be included in the group. The Group is looking for fit and healthy people. A knowledge of Hebrew is a benefit when reciting the prayers, although not a requirement. If you would like to chat to someone on the team, this can be arranged also.

## **From Mosaic's Community Care Co-Ordinators**



*Hayley Renak*



*Angela Peters*

For those who do not yet know the Community Care Co-Ordinators, we thought now would be a great time to introduce ourselves. Angela has been part of the Mosaic team for well over a year bringing new initiatives to the shul such as Knit and Natter, Music for Memory and the new Abraham's Tents. Alongside these fabulous regular events, Angela keeps herself busy managing the care team, volunteers from the Liberal Synagogue, who attend to members of the community who need extra support (both in person and on the phone).

I, Hayley, joined alongside Angela over the last few months getting to know the volunteers

and members from the Reform community. Working in tandem we hope to support all members of Mosaic in times of need through little gestures such as Yom Tov and hospital care packages, signposting to or gathering information on resources from external charities and local authorities where needed, regular visits and phone calls to members who are lonely or who face regular challenges, supporting members in getting to tailored events at the Synagogue and within the community, starting and running more groups and talks in the Shul based on the needs of the community and throwing delicious light lunches for our more senior members. As we approach the darker and colder months, we know our members will need support more than ever and we endeavour to provide a welcoming face and a warm and friendly space in the shul whenever it is needed.

To make this possible, we need your help. If you have any time you can spare, we would love to hear from you. There are so many ways you can help us from occasional phone calls, helping at a group, occasional lifts or deliveries to members to regular befriending with lots more in-between. Angela and I will offer support, guidance, training and regular check-ins with our volunteers. We invite all current Care Team members, care volunteers and telenet callers to our upcoming Care Team lunch along with anyone else interested to learn more about how they can get involved. Please see the invitation on the following page. Please RSVP by 8th November for catering purposes.

Look forward to seeing you, all the very best,  
Angela and Hayley



# **MJC Community Care Lunch**

**For all members who currently volunteer within  
the Care Team  
or for anyone who is interested in volunteering**

**You are invited to a light lunch and  
informal discussion about what it means to be  
part of the care team here at MJC.**

**Wednesday 15th November  
12:30-2:30pm**

**Hear from current volunteers about their  
experience, discussions on different elements of  
Care within the community and an opportunity  
to sign up to be part of our Care Team Family.**

**RSVP**

**[volunteering@choosmosaic.org](mailto:volunteering@choosmosaic.org)**

# DOUBLE INDUCTION (LONG DELAYED) AT MOSAIC LIBERAL

*by Kevin Ziants*



Mosaic Liberal Synagogue held a delayed service on Sunday 20th August to formally induct both Rabbi Rachel Benjamin and Rabbi Anna Wolfson to serve our congregations.

Rabbi Rachel has actually been our rabbi for 3½ years. When she joined Mosaic Liberal in 2019, we had been without a rabbi for six months, and then had to manage as best we could during the pandemic as well as being homeless, having moved out of Harrow and having to wait until we could move into Stanmore Hill. Rabbi Rachel successfully steered us through this crisis, and MLS is now thriving in the new building. We were now at last able to formally recognise our “new” rabbi. Our former Rabbi, Dr Charles Middleburgh, carried out Rabbi Rachel’s induction. A long-term friend of Rabbi Rachel, he reflected on her great leadership skills and knowledge and remarked how fortunate the Synagogue was to have her as our Rabbi.

In January 2022 Rabbi Anna was appointed to serve both Mosaic Jewish Community as our Development Rabbi, taking up 75% of her time with the remainder as assistant Rabbi at MLS. The former is a unique and challenging role in co-ordinating the aims of the three Mosaic communities in an area where there is potential for growth. She has organised Shabbatot Beiteinu (Friday evening services in people’s homes and now in the Synagogue with a potluck supper), special events for 20/30 year olds, and Shabbat activities for tots. Rabbi Rachel inducted her as her rabbinic partner at MLS, and reflected on the above as examples of the many events she has organised which have contributed to the growth of the communities.

This double induction service was a special event attended by a large number of people who were delighted to officially welcome their two rabbis to Mosaic Liberal Synagogue and Mosaic Jewish Community.

# JAKE WALLIS SIMONS, EDITOR OF THE JEWISH CHRONICLE, IN CONVERSATION WITH RAFAEL BEHR FROM THE GUARDIAN

*by Michael Reik*

On Tuesday September 5th we were in Committee Room 14 at the House of Commons to hear Jake talk about his new book *Israelophobia*. The talk in the completely full committee room was arranged through Lord Ian Austin who has previously spoken at Mosaic Reform in Bessborough Road.

We started with an explanation about how the word “Zionism”, which was an idealistic vision over 60 years ago at the formation of the State of Israel, has now been taken over in many cases by persons hostile to the state so that anti-Zionism has become the new form of anti-Semitism.

From the Hitler Era, the degradation of Jews has continued. Hitler believed prior to the second World War that Jews were behind the policy of the British and the Soviet Union. He therefore sought help, especially in the Middle East, of the Arab population to counter and put out his propaganda of the Jews to them. This has continued since through the Soviet Union and in more recent times through Hamas, Hezbollah and Iran. (Iran pushes out more false propaganda than any other country).

Jabotinsky stated that Israel will never be a normal country, allowed to have its own heroes and villains, because of its specific relationship with Muslim and Christians.



*Jake Wallis Simons and Tzipi Hotovely*

According to Jake, the expression “Israelophobia” embraces demonisation, Jew hatred and falsification. He illustrated this by discussing Israel’s wars and conflicts and comparing the numbers injured or killed with other major conflicts since the Second World War: such as the Vietnam War, the India / Pakistan partition, and the Iraq/Iran war. These latter wars have some 10 times the number killed. Yet Israel has proportionately maybe 10 times as much publicity over its own conflicts.

The Ambassador, Tzipi Hotovely, joined halfway through and commented that Israelis are expected to live to a higher moral standard than other nations, especially in the Middle East. There is a general feeling that Jew Hatred (anti-Semitism) has become more acknowledged in society as a result of the Corbyn years.

## Israel Committee for Mosaic Jewish Community

We wish to form a committee involving all three communities covering all aspects of Israeli Life.

This should be especially appealing to members who have direct family in Israel and to Zionists within the three communities.

The Committee, once formed, will drive the agenda of Mosaic Jewish Community towards Israel, enabling us to have talks, debates and events and even possibly our own trip to Israel as a community.

All those interested please contact Michael Reik via the Mosaic office.

## MEMORIES OF A BYGONE ERA

*by Cynthia Shaw*

**M**y beloved grandpa's brother, my uncle Davy (David Boas) married Nancy Isaacs after a courtship that lasted almost twenty years!

Nancy was the daughter of Sara Solomons and David Isaacs (a publican) who met when uncle Davy was lodging with the Solomons family in 1881.

Davy and Nancy passionately loved children but to their deep regret had none of their own so perhaps that's why they always made such a fuss of me.

Thankfully uncle Davy was rather more reserved than aunt Nancy who couldn't help expressing her delight by pinching my face, arms, legs and anywhere else that took her fancy whilst at the same time screeching "I love it, I love it, I loveeeeeet!" (always three times and always ending with a screech before

crushing me against her somewhat a m p l e bosom.

Although this ritual was simply a sign of

affection, the pinching was actually rather painful although she didn't mean it to be and at that time I did not look forward to those visits with undiluted joy.

Now, more than seventy years later I look back only with fondness.

Davis's Mansions was an East End tenement block of squalid flats. Stone stairs and black iron railings surrounded each floor and Nancy and



[Continued on following page >>](#)

Continued from previous page...

Davy's tiny home at no. 31 consisted of a living room, a bedroom and a very small scullery that housed a sink, a gas stove and a copper that heated the water. A door from the scullery led to the yard where there was an outside lavatory with a battered wooden door which had a rusty old lock that never worked!

The accommodation lacked a bathroom which meant that my aunt and uncle had to fill a zinc bath with water taken from the copper or boiled in saucepans on the gas stove. Alternatively, they could go to the public baths.

The household washing was done with a washboard – a contraption which had a corrugated surface set into a wooden frame that was used for scrubbing clothes.

The wet items were then wrung through a mangle (a machine with rollers that squeezed out the water) and hung out to dry on a line in the yard where the smell of soot was always in the air.

Aside from the pinching, our visits to Davis's Mansions dramatically improved for me when Nancy and Davy acquired a cat whom they unwittingly named 'Eeyar' and those familiar with the "Just So" stories by Rudyard Kipling might notice a certain similarity in the following version of 'How the Cat Acquired its Name'.

My uncle and aunt were natives of the East End and as such they spoke with a pronounced

cockney accent. Each time they fed their new-found friend they said "eeyar" which, when translated into non-cockney dialect means "here you are" and it was that phrase which turned out to be a bit of a blunder because after the first few 'eeyars' the cat was convinced that Eeyar was his name!

Try as they would their feline friend refused to respond to any title whatsoever except the one to which he had become accustomed and in the end his owners relented and Eeyar remained Eeyar for the duration of his life. Every time the call of "Eeyar" echoed through the concrete block that was his home it seemed to stir within him a kind of joyous explosion that compelled him to race at breakneck speed, never stopping until he skidded to a halt upon reaching his food bowl, an activity that caused great amusement to those of us that were fortunate enough to witness it.

Uncle Davy died on 17th May 1961

(Plot 1 row 2 block G)

Aunt Nancy passed away on 17th March 1963.

(Plot 12 Row 1 block M)

The Western Cemetery,  
Edmonton.

I have no recollection of Eeyar's demise.

## Happy Birthday in September/October:

Ilana Scott, 4  
Chloe Ellison, 17  
Eva Grant, 2

Isaac Ashkenazi-Bakes, 14  
Oliver Grainger, 10  
Casey Vincent, 9  
Eden Shackell, 11  
Eva Chadwick Bown, 8  
Amy Phillips, 11



# “Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish and you feed him for a lifetime”

*by Alison Rivett*

**N**ik Kafka set up the charity “Teach A Man To Fish” with this proverb and his own Jewish values and compassion at its roots.

Working with schools around the world, the charity focuses on young people who lack the opportunity to make a success of their lives mainly because of where they were born.

Through its award-winning School Enterprise Challenge programme young people gain vital skills and experience that enable them to make a success of their lives. They learn to plan and run their own real business. With guidance, they discover business opportunities and they take responsibility for all aspects of running their business. They set their goals, collaborate and sort out problems they meet along the way to build a successful venture. Their businesses generate real income and profit, which the

students learn to manage and invest. They become confident, self-reliant young people.



In Uganda, the charity is working in schools in extremely poor communities where young Ugandans and refugees from South Sudan share schools, spaces and opportunities. In these communities, job opportunities are few. Young people who have been through the School Enterprise Challenge create their own jobs and forge their own bright future.

Nik appealed for support for the charity's work at the Kol Nidrei service of Mosaic Masorti. If you would like to support their work, “Teach A Man To Fish” would be enormously grateful.



# MOSAIC GARDEN

*by Barbara Grant*



It is now almost one year since we held our first services at Stanmore Hill and many members and friends have taken the opportunity to visit the space and appreciate its versatility

We have seen the ever-moving partition walls adorned with art and photography in various forms and the internal space is being used in a variety of different ways throughout the week.

At the end of September members of Mosaic constructed our first Succah and as I write, we are anticipating the end of the of the High Holydays when we celebrate the joy of our Torah.

Our next plan is to plant a small garden in the space adjacent to the main entrance using plants from species mentioned in the Bible. This too will be an ever changing project as the challenges of the location, climate change and the seasons all play their part.

The project will of course require ongoing maintenance, input and care. If you have a love for gardening and would like to be a part of this project, please get in touch via the Synagogue office

See more photos on page 4.

# AJEX MARCH

*by Edwin Lucas*

I cannot imagine how many MJC community members are feeling at this moment in time, as I sit in my home in the post Yomtov warmth, whilst they are worried about family and friends in war torn Israel. The toll of deaths is rising and to many of our older members who were youngsters during the second world war this death toll and the immediacy of new reporting brings the tragedy to the fore. Civilians have been murdered and this trauma is in our faces and it is only 36 hours ago, that it was reported.

When I march at the **AJEX march** at Whitehall on **Sunday 19th November**, I will be remembering the fallen that I know about and I will also remember those who fought to make it possible for me to live in a free society from not long after the second World War. I will wear my father's medals with pride and I know that some of the other members of the team who have marched alongside me, many times, will be doing the same thing, once again. This year as I march, I will be remembering the fallen in this conflict in the Middle East and thinking of people who I have heard about through contacts from within the community. Please join me and the others in the community, who will be remembering the fallen and maybe, as it is a Jewish related remembrance parade, the current

fallen will have a mention, to show they have not fallen without being remembered.

If you would like to **join the AJEX parade** please contact [edwin.lucas6@googlemail.com](mailto:edwin.lucas6@googlemail.com) so you can fill in the form to gain security access to the March. Everyone can wear medals of their parents and grandparents and it is a most moving occasion for today, remembering those of yesterday.

**MARCH & REMEMBER  
SIDE BY SIDE AT THE  
AJEX PARADE**

Book now to Parade and join AJEX at the Cenotaph in honouring and Remembering the thousands of Jewish Servicemen and Women who fought and served for our freedom.

March, walk, or watch "Side by Side" in solidarity, honouring their legacy.

Veterans, families, and community groups of all ages are welcome to this unique, historic event. Whether a Parade regular or a first-timer please join us. If you have them, proudly wear your own or your family members' medals.

T 020 8202 2323 E [ajexmembers@ajex.org.uk](mailto:ajexmembers@ajex.org.uk)

[youtube.com/UCJ1\\_9m8](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCJ1_9m8) [facebook.com/ajexmembers](https://www.facebook.com/ajexmembers) [instagram.com/ajex\\_mj](https://www.instagram.com/ajex_mj)

[youtube.com/UCJ1\\_9m8](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCJ1_9m8) [facebook.com/ajexmembers](https://www.facebook.com/ajexmembers) [instagram.com/ajex\\_mj](https://www.instagram.com/ajex_mj)

Members of the AJEX are eligible to join the parade as it is a high level of security procedures in place and for the Police. AJEX is a Jewish related remembrance parade and is not a military parade.

**AJEX ANNUAL REMEMBRANCE  
PARADE & CEREMONY**  
Sunday 19th November 2023  
Gather Horse Guards Parade, 1pm  
March off 1.45pm

**BOOK YOUR TICKET NOW AT:**  
[www.ajex.org.uk/paradebooking](http://www.ajex.org.uk/paradebooking)  
No ticket is required to spectate  
just save the date.

**WE WILL  
REMEMBER** **AJEX**

## COME RAIN OR SHINE

*by Janet Byrne*



"Hello, Mrs Levy," said Mrs Cohen  
"Well, what do you think of this rain?  
Isn't it awful and even worse,  
It brings on each ache and each pain

With the wind last night, I couldn't sleep a  
wink The gate it kept banging too And him  
indoors never stirring a jot Just snoring the  
whole night through!

'I know Mrs Cohen, I was the same  
Tossing and turning and lying awake  
And feeling so cold what with the snow  
When will this dire weather break?"

Plus the boiler's kaput  
And a pipe has just burst  
Of all of our winters  
This must be the worst!

-----  
"Hello Mrs Levy, nice to see you again  
Well, what do you think of this heat?  
I find it so very uncomfortable  
And just look what it does to my feet!"

"You don't need to tell me, I know, Mrs  
Cohen I can't breathe it's so humid and hot I  
just stay inside for most of the day How much  
more of this have we got?"

"This heatwave's forecast for weeks, Mrs  
Levy It's the hottest for years that's a cert Of  
course, him indoors doesn't feel a thing And  
he's wearing a thick nylon shirt!"

"Well Mrs Cohen, I'll be going indoors  
To get away from all of this sun,  
The sky is so blue it hurts my eyes  
I'll stay inside till the summer's time done'

"And the noise from the kids outside, Mrs  
Levy Is now becoming a right pain So roll on  
the winter, is what I keep saying And what we  
need most of all is the rain!"



## My Garden Shed

*by Bernard Fisherman*

My garden shed standing proud and well worn  
Withstanding summer's heat and winter's storm  
Garden tools hanging in regimental line  
Clean and polished well prepared for the very next time  
Small items on hooks spread all around  
Ready for action on the seeded ground  
This wooden holdall cosy and nice  
A super haven for spiders and mice  
Top spot without doubt and king of my shed  
Is the eye-catching electric mower, a piece of modern day class  
Just the job for cutting the ever-growing grass  
We have sadly moved home and bid farewell to our shed  
It served us well without any tears  
Now awaiting new folk to cherish in future years



**Do you have any spare suitcases or small bags or holdalls that could be upcycled and used again?**

**Former prisoners would like any type of item that you may have. Here you can see 30 items donated by one congregant that are on their way to a prison to help newly released people back into the community. Another congregant gave us 8 items.**

**If you have something not being used that you want rid of from your loft or garden shed or spare room, drop the office an email and we will be delighted to pick up from you.**

# Board of Deputies Plenary, September 10th at JW3

*by Michael Reik*

The first session was devoted to the meeting between Marie Van de Zyl and Amichai Chikli, the current Likud Minister for the Diaspora, who plays a major role in the current Netanyahu Government. Marie had a meeting with Chikli and Community leaders and expressed her strong concerns on the Judicial Reforms. After the meeting she attended an evening reception at the Israeli embassy. The President of the Union of Jewish Students, also attended the meeting, but not the reception.

There was a feeling by many from the floor that it was not necessary for Marie to attend the evening reception (as a means of protesting his policies). Gideon Smith commented that the Israeli papers were stating that the Minister was 'welcomed' by the British Jewish community. Marie even had a picture taken with the Diaspora Minister (though she said that she had asked for the picture not to be taken).

The Board condemns the recent attacks by Mohammed Abbas on the Holocaust. (This is just vile anti-Semitism).

Louise Ellman stated that Israel faces the greatest crisis in its 75-year history outside of military attacks and that the BOD must keep up its comments on the current Government.

Israel, as the only Jewish State, should not be subject to BDS. However, a decision was made by Marie to support the Government BDS proposals without receiving any approval

from the members of the Board.

Shmuel Davidson spoke as a Deputy from Stamford Hill Synagogue. He referred to the Charedi Community in Stamford Hill, which includes about 45,000 Jews. His community has joined the Board of Deputies because they want the Charedi Community to become part of the British Jewish Community as a whole. He explained that so many British Jews are in financial difficulty and wondered how the Board of Deputies could help. Robert Stone referred to a request made in May that the existing problem of poverty should be discussed.

A proposal was made to look for teachers in the community to teach Jewish subjects in non-Jewish Schools.

As a desperate measure to overcome the impasse in Israel, it could be possible to allow the prosecution of Netanyahu to become a plea agreement, so that he does not go to jail in connection with his three indictments; then maybe a government could be formed without the very right-wing parties that are calling the country to ransom and indeed, become a Government of National Unity.

The next meeting of the anti-Semitic section of the Defence Committee will be held on September 21st and will include a discussion of anti-Semitism in board games.

The AJEX march will take place this year on 19th November, on the same day as Mitzvah Day.

# Kiddies' Corner

## Torah Tots, Saturday 4th November and Saturday 2nd December

Come have a play, sing some Shabbat songs, and read a story with us in our Torah Tots Saturday morning service. From 11am and finishing with Kiddush with the community at 12.15. Recommended for kids 0 - 6 but everyone is welcome.



## Drop In and Play group, every week from Tuesday 7th November 1.30 – 3.00 pm

A drop-in and play group for all kids and their grown-ups. There'll be toys, soft play, and art activities for the kids to explore giving their grownups a chance to have a drink and talk to other parents, carers, and grandparents in the area. The session will finish with story time and songs. For babies and toddlers aged 0 - 4.



Honey cakes being made by volunteers for Rosh Hashanah

## Calling all budding artists:

Could you or your children design the front cover of the next Chanukah or Pesach issues of our Kehila magazine?

We are looking for something colourful and exciting that expresses how we at Mosaic celebrate the festivals, so let your imagination run wild and send us images of your drawings, paintings or digital designs.

There will be two age groups - Under 10 and Over 10 (which includes adults).

There will be prizes in each category and the winning entries will be featured on the cover of the respective issues.

Send to the usual email address – [newsdesk@choosemosaic.org](mailto:newsdesk@choosemosaic.org) – to arrive by Monday 27th November. We can't wait to see your entries.

# REVIEW OF PAST EVENTS



## Israel Leads the World Technically

by Rosemary Wolfson

**M**ichael Reik ably introduced our two speakers. Ofer Fohrer is Deputy Ambassador at the Israeli Embassy and Minister for Economic Affairs. He provided us with the most recent complex research into Israel's Trade Activities. This was completed for 2022. The next batch of trade figures will be available in March 2024 and will take into account any change due to the current political situation.

Ofer referred to the influence of the fertility rate of both Jews and Arabs which had been growing since 1948. Israel had benefited from migration to Israel from the former USSR of scientists, doctors and researchers; Israel's 'know how' and economy had been boosted.

Half of Israel's young people acquire higher education. Many more colleges had been opened in the last few years. Ofer presented us with a slide demonstrating that Israel is a nation of innovation. There are nearly 9,000 start-up businesses. 13% of the GDP derives from the high-tech industry. Export is driving the Israel economy. In the past this consisted of commodities and machinery; now it is concerned with services. America

is the largest beneficiary. Ofer talked about Israel's successful export of healthcare, in particular mentioning Teva, an Israel based pharmaceutical company. In Ofer's explanation of Israel's exports to various countries he showed us a bar chart which included the USA, China, UK, Ireland, India, the Netherlands, Turkey, Brazil, France and Germany, Israel's main export countries. He also discussed in detail the financial sector.

Arnon Pearlman served as head of the Media & Information Division in PM Ariel Sharon's government. He also spent five years as Consul General at the Israeli Consulate in China.

He is now head of Israel Bonds in Europe and South America.

Interestingly, although China is one of the oldest nations on earth, their people's experiences have been different to those of the Jews, because they have always lived in one place!

The making of the desert bloom in Israel has mostly been an effort of necessity rather than idealism!

Israelis have had to acquire the skills to solve problems quickly to survive; China has time to think more long-term in an organised fashion. The Chinese admire Israelis' abilities regarding start-up businesses. Israel has become smarter ever since the 1980s! Israel is good at making necessary policy changes quickly. The Chinese like doing business with Israel and the Jews. There has been a shift of power from west to east by Israel. There is no anti-Semitism in China. China is important for Israel.

Israelis think outside the box – a useful learning process for China. Israel doesn't sell services to China. They are strong

*Continued on following page >>*

# REVIEW OF PAST EVENTS

Continued from previous page...

allies, and there are amazing opportunities for both countries. America is understandably not happy that China may get their hands on Israel's technology know-how!

Israel has found it difficult to do business with India; because of their inability to decide quickly. The Chinese government is more able to be decisive regarding trading matters.

Israel has always been concerned with its survival and consequently it requires a good rate of childbirth; Israel therefore is one of the leaders in IVF research.

During question time the matter of sea water desalination was raised. Ofer said because of Israel's excellent research they were able to offer solutions to many countries of the world.

This most informative evening ended on a note of optimism; that other nations have learned so much from Israel e.g. their collaboration with South Korea. The speakers emphasised that Israel is also successful because of the support of their diaspora communities.

## Learning New Skills Prior to Release

by Andrea Morgale

It felt most appropriate that Edwin Lucas' talk on prisons and prisoners was scheduled during the Ten Days of Penitence. Edwin, a former magistrate, has been involved with the prison sector for over 30 years – particularly in what he calls his 'resurrected' life after being 'released' from Marks & Spencer – and brought his skills and experience to bear on the areas of rehabilitation and probation.

He shared many aspects of prison life in an

illuminating interactive presentation, starting by explaining the levels within the prison estate: Category A is for prisoners considered a threat to the community, who are held under tight conditions, while Category B offenders are working down their sentence. They may later be moved to a Category C facility, like The Mount in Hemel Hempstead, an adult male training prison, while in Category D, like Ford open prison near Brighton, prisoners are allowed out to find work and enjoy monthly home visits to become reacquainted with the community before release.

Edwin explained the typical progress through the system: on arriving from court, a prisoner's first activity will be a maths and English test, to assess their education level. They are often transferred soon after to another prison, where the first activity will again be a maths and English test, because 'everyone tells lies in prison,' so the new facility won't believe the first results. Hopefully, before finishing his or her sentence, there will be a move to an open prison, where the tests will be done yet again! If nothing else, a transferring prisoner knows what to expect.

Time in prison can drag, particularly for those serving long sentences, but also for prisoners on remand, as only convicted prisoners work. The working day is from 8-11 am, then from 2-4.30 pm, but as that timetable includes collecting equipment and coffee or meal breaks, that makes it a very short time at work. Some prisons have training courses – in woodwork, textiles, etc. – but cost cutting has seen an end to many night classes.

As part of his mission to keep prisoners occupied and teach them new skills, Edwin frequents trade shows and interacts with

Continued on following page >>

## REVIEW OF PAST EVENTS

exhibitors. When he asked a supplier of fence panels why they were selling cheap imports from China, they cited the expense of manufacturing in the UK, as well as the lack of skilled workers. Edwin persuaded them to have the work done in UK prisons, and four prisons currently produce 8000 fence panels a month. The prisoners love the work, and their new skills will come in useful after release.

In deciding what to charge, they use a guide price based on the Chinese price points. What companies pay the prison covers raw materials and staff costs, as well as prisoner's wages, and Edwin was keen to stress that they strive not to make the UK labour force redundant: 'British workers would never work for the £1.50 or so per hour the prisoners earn.' This sounded extraordinarily low, but he explained that – 'like boarding school' - prisoners have no living or medical costs, and they use their earnings to buy things for themselves; the Argos catalogue is particularly popular.

But it's not all work in jail; arts and crafts prove well-liked hobbies. Drawing on his experience dealing with waste at M&S, Edwin wanted to see what prisoners could do with material, wood and other things that were left over or thrown away. As an example of this upcycling, Edwin showed us bags made from jeans and modelled a cap made from offcuts of prison shirts. He proudly uses a briefcase made from scrap wood, beautifully finished inside and out, which you can see in the same picture.



Edwin is also involved with the Koestler Trust, a prison arts therapy charity which helps ex-offenders, secure patients and detainees to express themselves artistically, encouraging creativity and the acquisition of new skills as a means to rehabilitation. 'Inmates achieve something not achieved before; many haven't achieved anything before,' he said.

In line with Edwin's preoccupation with waste reduction, many of the prisoners' artworks are made from rubbish: he passed round a picture in which the frame and backing was made from waste wood and cardboard, and the artist – a 67-year-old prisoner – had then created a decoupage 3-D picture which Edwin purchased, and which now hangs in his office, so he sees it every day.



*Frame, backing and 3-D decoupage picture all made from waste wood and cardboard.*

Pre-publicity for this talk featured a photo of Edwin with a model of a shopping parade. All made from offcuts, this lovingly detailed creation was made by hand in his cell, using only a makeshift cutter and a prison plastic knife, by a former London Transport manager, who spent four years in Wandsworth before moving on to Ford Open Prison. 'Anyone can end up in Jail,' said Edwin, 'and it is not always somebody else.'

We then handled a set of chess pieces made out of toast – yes, toast! – and Edwin told the story of an elderly Holocaust

*Continued on following page >>*

## REVIEW OF PAST EVENTS

Continued from previous page...

survivor at a talk, who cried when he saw them. When pressed he revealed that as a child he hid out in a farmhouse, where they made fresh baguettes every lunchtime, tossing away the stale loaves, which he and his companions used to make models. This was the first time he had seen anything similar, and 'it reminded me of my childhood.'



'Little Shoes' was inspired by another Holocaust survivor, who visited prisons in Scotland and told of his experiences on the Kindertransport. One prisoner - a Catholic - was so inspired, that he created this evocative collage. Strangely, the man's priest later discovered that he had some Jewish background!

In a change of pace, Edwin described visiting a High Security prison in Glasgow. All visitors are searched – apparently one gets used to opening one's mouth and having one's ears and hair searched to make sure nothing controversial is being smuggled in. He even saw a baby being undressed and examined. Sadly, he explained, sometimes babies' clothing conceals syringes, and when the family has a group hug, with the baby between Mum and Dad, she injects the drug into the prisoner's stomach. (I might never get that picture out of my mind.)

Finally, Edwin talked about suitcases – not a prison art project but an appeal for donations, which you may have read about in the last issue of Kehila. Released prisoners generally leave jail with their belongings in prison service plastic bags, so everyone they see immediately knows who they are. Appalled by this, Edwin started collecting cases of all sizes, types and conditions; MJC donated 400 cases for a prison in Northampton. Confronted with a wheelie case where the handle didn't retract, the recipient said it was perfect, as its lived-in quality meant he didn't stand out in a crowd. Edwin has set himself a target of 300 cases for his current project, a women's prison in Staffordshire, and he invited members who have carry-ons, suitcases and holdalls to call or email Ann Simon in the Mosaic office to discuss how to donate.

The session was ended after a lively Q&A. Only the lateness of the hour allowed us to release Edwin, after a fascinating interactive evening.

### MEET THE AUTHOR. PAUL MENDELSON

by June Cass

It was a packed house for Mosaic Culture Hub's Meet the Author, Paul Mendelson.

After a light lunch the BAFTA nominated writer shared his insights, explaining how he goes about turning his own



Continued on following page >>

life experiences into acclaimed TV series and novels.

Paul studied law at Cambridge before starting to work for an advertising agency. He then started his first TV series 'So Haunt Me' about the ghost of a Jewish mother, played by Miriam Karlin, based on his own mother and a young lawyer based on himself.

Another very successful series was 'May to December' filmed in Pinner and outside his own front door.

Paul suffered from testicular cancer and wrote 'Losing It', a cancer drama, starring Martin Clunes. Hundreds of men wrote into the programme telling how they had examined

themselves for the first time because of the programme and probably owed their lives to it. It was a moving testament to Paul's writing and the power of television to do good.

Paul's work is shown all over the world. Three books are currently being optioned for movies. His latest novel 'The Forever Moment' is out now.

Writing can be a solitary occupation which Paul lessens by writing at his laptop in Morrisons Café among other places. Next time I spot him there when I'm doing my weekly shop, I will tell him how interesting and enjoyable it was meeting the author.



## *Knit & Natter, Crochet & Kibbitz*

**Calling all knitters & crocheters!**

Come and join us for a relaxed morning of knitting, crocheting and chatting. Help us knit squares for blankets for charities & premature and tiny baby hats for hospitals

Materials and as always, refreshments are provided

All levels warmly welcomed and tuition available

**The first Wednesday of each month**

**10.30am to 12.30am**

**at**

**Mosaic Jewish Community**

If you are interested in coming:

Just come along or call the synagogue office on 020 8864 0133

Email Angela at [angela@choosemosaic.org](mailto:angela@choosemosaic.org)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

*1st – 29th November*

### **Art @ Mosaic – Exhibition by Judith Devons**

For the month of November, artist Judith Devons is delighted to exhibit her work at Mosaic.

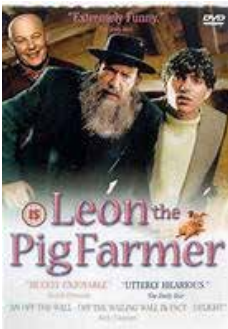
It includes a wide variety of her paintings, screen-prints and mixed media works celebrating the natural world and Jewish themes.

The art ranges from colourful semi-abstract forms, radiating leaves and birds to dancing figures, Hebrew calligraphy and pomegranate symbolism.



*Monday 6th November 8.00 pm*

### **Film Mosaic “Leon The Pig Farmer”**



Mosaic Culture Hub is thrilled to invite you to the film evening at Mosaic Jewish Community. Film MOSAIC is open to anyone, why not bring a friend. There will be time for an informal discussion or a chat

with friends, with tea, coffee and biscuits after the screening. Donations for our chosen charity would be appreciated if you care to give.

LEON is an estate agent and a London Jew. Due to an artificial insemination accident he discovers that his real father is a Yorkshire pig farmer. Rejected by his girlfriend he goes on a voyage of discovery to Yorkshire, to meet his biological father and half-brother. Can he bring both families together? Starring Mark Frankel, Janet Suzman, Brian Glover, Connie Booth and Gina Bellman, this funny gentle comedy will make you smile throughout. (subtitles available)

*Tuesday 7th November, 8.00 pm*

### **Adult B’nei Mitzvah Classes**

If you never had the chance to celebrate your bar/bat mitzvah but have longed to read from a scroll and actively take part in this link in tradition, this class is for you. This session will be via Zoom and it is anticipated that in-person classes will be held every 4-6 weeks. Please contact your own Rabbi to register your interest and join this exciting new project.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

Join Mosaic for a monthly Sing-a-Long

### MOSAIC MELODY MAKERS

Come together to sing at Mosaic.  
From Musical to Motown, and  
everything in between. Requests  
welcome!

**Wednesdays**

**8th November & 20th December**

**10:30-12:00**

Phone the office or email  
**Hayley@choosemosaic.org**  
to register interest

*Thursday 9th November 10.00*

### Art Workshop

We invite you to continue our programme guided by Mosaic artists to develop individual creativity through exercises, play and experimentation.

Session two is about Printing, texture and colour.

Please bring a sketchbook and some basic materials that you probably have to hand. We will be using Pens, marker pens, pencils, ruler, rubber, charcoal, crayons, ink.

Materials will be provided but you may wish to have your own.

A charge of £5.00 per workshop will be made including refreshments.

It will be suitable for all levels of ability and allow each person to progress as we go through the programme. Please book via our website.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

*Sunday 12th November 2.00 – 4.00 pm*

### **Meet the Artist – Judith Devons**

For the month of November, artist Judith Devons is exhibiting her work at Mosaic. There are screen-prints and mixed media works celebrating the natural world and Jewish Themes. Come along and meet Judith and find out more about her work



*Sunday 19th November 4.00 pm*

### **Online Quiz**

Neil Goodman will present another entertaining on-line quiz for the Mosaic Jewish Community & friends. No winners, no prizes, just a lot of fun. Refreshments: whatever is left over from lunch!

Picture round details to follow.

Join Zoom Meeting at 4.00 pm. See the website and weekly notices for the zoom code.



*Wednesday 22nd November 12.30*

### **Meet the Author – Alex Gerlis**

Join the Mosaic Culture Hub for a light lunch before Steve Levinson interviews Alex Gerlis about his latest book - Agent in the Shadows. This was published in February and is the third in his 'Wolf Pack Spies' trilogy featuring two British agents: Sophia, the wife of an SS officer and Jack, an American journalist. This book is set in and around Lyons in occupied France and has the French resistance, collaboration and betrayal at the core of its plot. It is factually based, so features the notorious Gestapo chief Klaus Barbie and also the notorious raid on the Jewish orphanage at Izieu, which led to the murder of 50+ children.

Please book via the Mosaic Website by Wednesday 15th November for catering purposes. There is a £7 charge which will increase to £10 from 16th November .



## UPCOMING EVENTS

Meketa and Mosaic Jewish Community present:  
***The Jews Left Behind.***  
The stories of Jews living in Ethiopia today



Hear first-hand from Avraham Neguse from Israel about the situation of Ethiopian Jews today, and how Meketa, a UK charity, is helping to support the community.



Avraham Neguse was an Ethiopian MP in the Knesset, the foremost political body in Israel. He was born in Ethiopia and went to Israel at the age of 13. He was chair of the Knesset Committee for Immigration, Absorption and Diaspora Affairs.

**Monday November 27<sup>th</sup> 7-9pm**  
Mosaic Jewish Community, 11 Stanmore Hill  
Light refreshments, stall and made tallitot,

Meketa raises funds for Jews who remain in Gondar, Ethiopia. Our goal is to provide support, training and livelihood improvement. We try to help them stay in education and help them better their economic situation. We run training, employment support and microloan projects and provide an afterschool club for the community's children.



[www.meketa.org.uk](http://www.meketa.org.uk)  
UK Registered Charity No. 1169130

**POSTPONED**

*Wednesday 29th November 3pm*

### **Culture Hub : Visit to Koestler show of prisoner Art and Poetry**

There will be a visit to the annual show of serving prisoner art, craft and poetry at the QE2 Centre on the Southbank on Wednesday 29th November starting at 3pm.

The Show 'IN CASE OF EMERGENCY' will feature nearly 200 artworks across visual, writing and music categories entered into the 2023 Koestler Awards for art in the criminal justice system, by individuals in prisons, secure mental health facilities, immigration removal centres, young offender institutions and on community sentences across the UK.

The exhibition includes artworks made from crisp packets, prison issue soap, rice, seeds and even clinical waste bags.

Please advise [edwin.lucas6@googlemail.com](mailto:edwin.lucas6@googlemail.com) if you plan to attend. We will meet on the Lower Ground Floor at 14.45. We have organised a guide who knows all about the artwork to show us around. There is a facility to buy items and also have tea on site. The guided part of the visit will take around 90 minutes. You can stay as long as you want.



*December 4th – 29th*

### **Art @ Mosaic**

### **Exhibition in aid of British Friends of Israel War Disabled.**

Our next exhibition during December will be showing works of art by various painters who are happy to support the work of the Edgware and Stanmore BFIWD Committee.

Every year for more than 30 years, apart from the Covid period, a dedicated group of local English Jewish families have hosted Israeli Disabled veteran soldiers accompanied by their spouse and a doctor and psychiatrist.

They suffer from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder as a result of their various experiences defending Israel. This we sadly anticipate will only increase the casualties by the latest situation that is unfolding in Israel as I write this at the close of Simchat Torah.

These 10-day trips are a life changing opportunity for them and their families giving them confidence, new horizons and warmth from us in the Diaspora. Their stay is filled with outings, parties and quality time with host families whilst they stay in a local hotel.



As we plan for another group of 22 coming in 2024 we are fundraising.

**If you wish to consider donating a suitable a painting or photograph of yours for sale, please contact [joan.n@btinternet.com](mailto:joan.n@btinternet.com)**

Please support us by coming along on 13th December to see the collection from 7.00 -9,00pm and meet the Committee to learn more about BFIWD and enjoy some refreshments with us.

*Monday 4th December, Doors open 7.30 for an 8.00 pm start*

### **Israeli Society and the Judicial Reforms**

Mosaic Jewish Community welcomes a distinguished panel of speakers from a wide cross section of Israeli society to discuss the current controversy over the Israeli government's proposed reforms to the judicial process. Chaired by Steve Levinson, from MJC, the panelists on December 4th are: Richard Pater, Bicom Director; Abir Joubran Dakwar, Lawyer representing the Association of Israeli Civil Rights; and a representative from UK Lawyers for Israel.

The panellists will give their views on the impact the Israeli government proposals will have on all the citizens of Israel and the Territories.

Please advise the Mosaic office of your intention to attend. [admin@choosemosaic.org](mailto:admin@choosemosaic.org)

Stop Press: The above information is correct at the time of going to print. However, the speakers and subject matter may be changed nearer the time in the light of the prevailing situation. Visit our website for updated information nearer the time.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Chanukah Lunch Party

MJC COMMUNITY CARE CO-ORDINATORS,  
ANGELA & HAYLEY WARMLY INVITE

*Our Senior Members*

TO A CHANUKAH LUNCH PARTY  
THURSDAY DECEMBER 7TH 2023  
12.30 TO 2.30PM | MJC STANMORE

DELICIOUS LIGHT LUNCH FOLLOWED BY  
CANDLE LIGHTING CEREMONY, CHANUKAH  
GAMES AND A SING-A-LONG WITH THE  
RABBIS

RSVP | 020 8864 0133  
[ANGELA@CHOOSEMOSAIC.ORG](mailto:ANGELA@CHOOSEMOSAIC.ORG)  
[HAYLEY@CHOOSEMOSAIC.ORG](mailto:HAYLEY@CHOOSEMOSAIC.ORG)

DRESS CODE:  
FESTIVE & COSY

HELP WITH TRANSPORT AVAILABLE

*Monday 11th December 8.00 pm*

### Film Mosaic – “To Kill a Mockingbird”

MOSAIC CULTURE HUB Invites you to a viewing of “To Kill a Mockingbird” (1962)

We last showed this wonderful movie in 2014, but it is well worth seeing over and over. This, the original 1962 Hollywood version of Harper Lee's Pulitzer Prize winning novel, is arguably one of the great American movies of the 1960s. After 60 years it has not lost its impact. It won the Best Actor Oscar for Gregory Peck who starred as Atticus Finch, the defence lawyer for a young black worker wrongly accused of rape. This warm and moving story is told through the eyes of Mary Louise (Scout) Finch, Atticus' young daughter, and charts the story of the Trial, its aftermath and life in the small Southern town of Maycomb over a period of three summers. It is an inspiring story of small-town bigotry, morality and of growing up. Warm up a cold winter's evening and do come along. This is a wonderful film you won't be sorry that you saw. (Subtitles Available)

Film MOSAIC is open to anyone, why not bring a friend.

As usual there will be time for an informal discussion or a chat with friends, with tea, coffee and biscuits before and after the screening.

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



## UPCOMING EVENTS

*Wednesday 13th December 12.30 pm*

### **Mosaic Culture Hub invites you to meet the sculptor, Robert Erskine, and the engineer, Liam Erskine.**

Join us for a light lunch before a presentation by Robert and Liam Erskine.

Robert is a sculptor, designer and broadcaster. He is known for creating public monumental sculptures and is a fellow of the Royal Society of Sculptors.

Robert uses very unusual materials in his work, including phosphor bronze, which was originally formulated by Georges Montefiore-Levi, a Jewish philanthropist and inventor in the 19th century.

Liam is a mechanical engineer with



experience in performance and design engineering and a member of the Institute of Mechanical Engineers. Liam's recent work has included NASA's Human Factor Design Guide.

Join us to hear about these ideas and discover what a collaboration between a sculptor and engineer can produce.

Please book via the Mosaic Website by Wednesday 6th December for catering purposes. There is a £7 charge which will increase to £10 from 7th December .

*Wednesday 13th December 7.00 – 9.00 pm*

### **Come and see the art exhibition in aid of British Friends of Israel War Disabled. Meet the committee and hear how they're preparing for another group of veteran soldiers who will be visiting in 2024.**

*Thursday 14th December 10.00 am*

### **Art Workshop**

We invite you to continue our programme guided by Mosaic artists to develop individual creativity through exercises, play and experimentation.

Session three is about Collage and Composition.

Please bring a sketchbook and some basic materials that you probably have to hand. We will be using Pens, marker pens, pencils, ruler, rubber, charcoal, crayons, ink.

Materials will be provided but you may wish to have your own.

A charge of £5.00 per workshop will be made including refreshments.

It will be suitable for all levels of ability and allow each person to progress as we go go through the programme. Please book through our website.



Join Mosaic for a monthly Sing-a-Long

# MOSAIC MELODY MAKERS

Come together to sing at Mosaic.  
From Musical to Motown, and  
everything in between. Requests  
welcome!

Wednesday  
20th December  
10:30-12:00

Phone the office or email  
**Hayley@choosmosaic.org**  
to register interest

*Wednesday 10th January, 12.30pm*

## **Mosaic Culture Hub invites you to 'Meet the Author' Dr David Lawson**

Join us for a light lunch before David Lawson discusses his book 'Ostrava and Its Jews'.

'The story of Ostrava and its Jews encapsulates in a small space (85 square miles) and a short time (ca 150 years) a miniaturised history of Central Europe. It covers industrialisation and massive economic growth, immigration and emigration, intolerance and tolerance, multi-culturalism and nationalism, high culture and social welfare, the Holocaust, communism and the diaspora.'

For the past 16 years, inspired by a sefer torah that came from Moravská Ostrava in what is now the Czech Republic, David has been researching the history of Ostrava and its Jewish community in collaboration with the Jewish Museum in Prague.

David will talk about the story of the beginning, flowering and destruction of the Ostrava Jewish community and how he came to be involved and wrote the story.

David is a committee member of the Czech Memorial Scrolls Trust and will also talk about the role of this trust.

Dr David Lawson was a management consultant specialising in strategy and commercial and organisational effectiveness, now retired. He is married with two married daughters and two grandsons.

He has written and lectured widely on the Czech Memorial Scrolls. The books he has written on this subject, with Mgr Hana Šústková and Libuše Salomonovičová have been published by Vallentine Mitchell and the book about Eva Erben's life as a child during the Holocaust and afterwards, *Escape Story*, was published by Sharron Publications.

Please book via the Mosaic website by Wednesday 3rd January for catering purposes. There is a £7 charge which will increase to £10 from 4th January.



# MOSAIC CALENDAR

## Regular Events

Tuesdays	10.00	Mosaic Walks – email <a href="mailto:admin@choosemosaic.org">admin@choosemosaic.org</a> for meeting point
	11.00	Mosaic Friendship Club
	13.30	Drop in and play (from 7th November)
	19.00	“Untangling our Traditions” with one of our Rabbis
Wednesdays	10.30	Knit & Natter (First Wednesday of the month)
	11.00	“Tea & T’hillim” with one of our Rabbis
Thursdays	10.30	Bridge & games (1st & 3rd Thursdays of the month)
	11.00	Music for memory (Last Thursday of the month)
	20.00	Talmud class with Rabbi Anthony
Saturdays	09.45	Masorti service (unless otherwise stated)
	10.30	Reform service
	10.45	Liberal service
Sundays	09.45	HaMakom (during term time)

## NOVEMBER

Wed 1 <sup>st</sup>	09.00	Judith Devons’ Art Exhibition opens for the month of November
Sat 4 <sup>th</sup>	11.00	Torah Tots
Sun 5 <sup>th</sup>	14.00	Tombstone consecration – Graham Zeitlin. Cheshunt
	14.45	Tombstone consecration – Sheila Solomons. Cheshunt
	15.30	Tombstone consecration – Dorothy Rauch. Cheshunt, Woodland
	20.00	Mosaic film evening
Tues 7 <sup>th</sup>	20.00	Adult B’nei Mitzvah class
Wed 8 <sup>th</sup>	10.30	Melody Makers
Thur 9 <sup>th</sup>	10.00	Art workshop
Fri 10 <sup>th</sup>	18.45	Shabbat Beiteinu
Sun 12 <sup>th</sup>	14.00	Meet the artist – Judith Devons
Wed 15 <sup>th</sup>	12.30	Community Care Lunch
Sun 19 <sup>th</sup>	16.00	Zoom quiz with Neil Goodman
Wed 22 <sup>nd</sup>	12.30	Mosaic Culture Hub – Meet the Author

## DECEMBER

Sat 2 <sup>nd</sup>	19.00	Torah Tots
Mon 4 <sup>th</sup>		Kehila copy date
		Art Exhibition opens
	19.30	Israel event
Wed 6 <sup>th</sup>	12.30	Mosaic Book Group
Thur 7 <sup>th</sup>	12.30	Chanukah lunch
		1st candle Chanukah
Fri 8 <sup>th</sup>	18.30	Shabbat Beiteinu
Wed 13 <sup>th</sup>	12.30	Mosaic Culture Hub
Thur 14 <sup>th</sup>	10.00	Art Workshop
		8th candle Chanukah
Wed 20 <sup>th</sup>	10.30	Melody Makers
Fri 22 <sup>nd</sup>		Fast of Tevet
Thur 28 <sup>th</sup>		Kehila distribution
Sat 30 <sup>th</sup>		Mosaic Masorti Bar Mitzvah
		– Darwin Kafka



The Mosaic office  
opening hours are:

Monday 08.00 – 17.00  
Tuesday 08.00 – 16.00  
Wednesday 08.00 – 13.30  
Thursday 08.00 – 17.00

**1a Halsbury Close  
Stanmore Hill  
Stanmore HA7 3DY  
Office:** 020 8864 0133

**Website:** [www.choosemosaic.org](http://www.choosemosaic.org)  
**Email:** [admin@choosemosaic.org](mailto:admin@choosemosaic.org)

**Chairman:** David Leibling  
[chair@choosemosaic.org](mailto:chair@choosemosaic.org)

**Community Care Co-ordinators:**

Angela Peters 07435 722600  
[angela@choosemosaic.org](mailto:angela@choosemosaic.org)  
Hayley Renak 07435 652328  
[hayley@choosemosaic.org](mailto:hayley@choosemosaic.org)

**HaMakom (Religion School):**

Toria Bacon and Viki Kenton  
[headteacher@hamakomschool.org.uk](mailto:headteacher@hamakomschool.org.uk)

**Bereavement Support:**

Bobbi Riesel 020 8428 7977

**Development Rabbi – Rabbi Anna Wolfson**

[rabbianna@choosemosaic.org](mailto:rabbianna@choosemosaic.org)



[choosemosaic](https://www.instagram.com/choosemosaic)



[choosemosaic](https://www.facebook.com/choosemosaic)



**Chairman:** Adrian Cohen  
020-8420 7498

**Rabbi:** Rabbi Rachel Benjamin  
[rabbirachel@mosaicliberal.org.uk](mailto:rabbirachel@mosaicliberal.org.uk)

**Rites and Practices:** Kevin  
Ziants 07841 375458

**Liberal Judaism:**  
020 7580 1663

**Undertakers:** Kings Funeral  
Directors  
020 8368 7453 / 07595 956 936



**Chairman:**  
Edwin Lucas – 07973 312851

**Burials Officer:** Edward Kafka  
020 8904 5499

**JBBS:** 020 8989 5252

**Rabbi Anthony Lazarus-Magrill**  
[rabbianthony@mosaicmasorti.org.uk](mailto:rabbianthony@mosaicmasorti.org.uk)



**Chairman:** Harry Grant  
07836 507807

**Hon Secretary:**  
Gillian Goldsmith  
07957 310849

**Rabbi Kathleen Middleton**  
020 8866 9225 (please use only  
when Office is closed)  
[rabbimiddleton@mosaicreform.org.uk](mailto:rabbimiddleton@mosaicreform.org.uk)

**JBBS:** 020 8989 5252