



What's Cooking at Mosaic this Summer?  
Community News  
Feature Articles  
Event Reviews and Forthcoming Events  
Advance High Holy Days News

# ABOUT OUR MEMBERS

*Since our last issue*

## MOSAIC REFORM

### MAZAL TOV TO:

James Meltzer on his marriage to Stephanie Kamisele  
Helen West on the marriage of her son, Oliver, to Rachel Mandy & Stefan Roos on the birth of their grandson, Zachary

### SPECIAL BIRTHDAYS:

Richard Sclare  
Peter Rotter  
Derek Goodman  
Norman Kamen  
Jeanette Leibling  
Bertha Levy  
Laureen Nagel  
Gerald Samuels  
Laurent Shama  
Sandie Simonis  
Lea Sinclair  
Philip Goodman  
Judith Russell  
Gary Miller  
Jo Cohen  
Elaine Abrahams  
Nicki Harvey  
Sylvia Berg  
Jacqueline Briegal  
Steve Noble  
Paul Turner  
Eva Jacob  
Toria Bacon  
Freda Raingold  
Sharon Elian

### **What's Cooking?**

*Cover picture shows Mosaic community members preparing for the erev Shavuot supper in June. Left to right: Avril Leon, Rabbi Anna, Neville Price, Judith Sonnenberg, Toni Price and Jenny Stephany*

## ANNIVERSARY WISHES TO:

Mel & Simon Marsh on their 25th anniversary  
Sue & Harold Shupak on their 50th anniversary  
Linda & Paul Turner on their 60th anniversary

## GET WELL WISHES TO:

Wilfred Webber

## CONDOLENCES TO:

Hilary Stanton on the death of her husband, Richard

## MOSAIC MASORTI

### WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS:

Emma Chonofsky  
Carla Raphael & Ben Myers  
Naomi Beckett & Jonny Grunwald

### WELCOME TO NEW FRIEND OF MOSAIC MASORTI:

Shirley Fenster

### SPECIAL BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:

Henry Altman  
Sally Brooks  
Leigh Fraylich  
Stephanie Segal  
Jo Lewis  
Irene Berkovitch  
Greg Broad  
Susan Kritz  
Matthew Young  
Sharon Smith

### MAZAL TOV TO:

Joanne & Lloyd Reid on the birth of their grandson, Ezra Valery  
Georgia Matthews & Jordan Bayer-Goldman on their recent marriage  
Eva Litman & Douglas Cohen on their engagement. Mazal tov also to Hazel & Laurence Cohen

Rabbi Anthony & Abi on the birth of their son, Solomon Michael

## NEW HOME:

Naomi Beckett & Jonny Grunwald

## SPECIAL BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:

Ritchie Amior on his 1st birthday

## MOSAIC LIBERAL

### WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS:

Miriam Brown  
Shaan Knan  
Aoife Mac Elhatton  
Steven Slavin

## NEW HOME:

Aoife Mac Elhatton

## SPECIAL BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:

Beulah Appel  
Michael Haberman  
Maria Landau  
Jane Lesser  
Ursula Warner  
Alyson Warner  
Joany Weinberg

## THINKING ABOUT THOSE WHO ARE ILL:

Vic Saunders  
Leila Silverman  
Alan Slavin

## CONDOLENCES TO:

John Matlin on the death of his wife Linda.  
Rabbi Rachel Benjamin on the death of her cousin Ruth Myers

## Next issue

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Monday 12th August

### Publication date:

Thursday 19th September

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

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## Mosaic Jewish Community

**High Holy Day Services, October 2024/5785**

### Visitor Information

Mosaic Jewish Community welcomes visitors to our High Holy Day Services in Stanmore and Canons Park, commencing in early October.

Our pluralistic Community comprises three synagogues, so you can choose to attend Reform, Liberal or Masorti services. Whatever your choice, you can be sure of a friendly welcome.

For more information about Mosaic, and visiting us, please email [admin@choosemosaic.org](mailto:admin@choosemosaic.org) or call 020 8864 0133.

## A Message from the Editors

**S**halom, members and friends of the Mosaic Jewish Community. We have recently taken over responsibility for editing *Kehila*, and we hope you have enjoyed reading the past couple of issues as much as we have enjoyed working on them. We have been asked to introduce ourselves, so here goes.

Andrea Morgale and her husband joined Mosaic Masorti shortly after the move to Stanmore. Brought up in Edgware, her background is in journalism and public relations, mainly covering literature and the arts, as well as home interest and design. She worked in the United States and France as well as the UK, and was editor of the Edgware Masorti Synagogue magazine for nearly 20 years.

Stanmore residents Roberta Levene and her husband Steven are also relatively new members, this time of Mosaic Liberal. She has been a journalist for near on 50 years, most recently working for the Press Association where she was involved in training new journalists.

Both of us believe that *Kehila* is an important tool to inform the community and bind its members together. Mosaic Jewish Community is a social and artistic hub as well as three synagogues, and your magazine should

reflect each aspect of communal life. We are anxious to know what our readers want. More religious content? Personal stories about members? Travellers' tales and visits to synagogues in other countries? Recipes or jokes? Competitions or arts reviews? We hope to include a regular 'Letters to the Editor' column in future issues, so please send us your thoughts. We can't promise to embrace every suggestion, or to print all of them in the magazine, but rest assured each contribution will be read and discussed.

We would also like to feature more of you in the magazine, so please send us your personal memories, and photographs of family events. And if you would like to join the editorial team, we'd love to hear from you as well.

In this issue you will find a mix of serious stories – and who can fail to be serious at such a time in Jewish life? – and lighter topics, plus a full range of event reviews and details of forthcoming events at Mosaic Jewish Community.

We hope you enjoy it and look forward to hearing from you.

Best wishes

**Andrea and Roberta**

### **New High Holy Day Machzor for Mosaic Reform**

The Movement for Reform Judaism recently published its new High Holy Day machzor, which we look forward to using during the forthcoming Yamim Tovim.

As previously, Mosaic Reform will not have books for congregants, so you will need to purchase your own copies. They come in two volumes (Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur) in a presentation box; the cost is £45 for the set. To order your copies, please contact the office on 020-8864 0133 where payment may be made by debit card.

We will contact you when the books can be collected.

# What is our responsibility?

*By Rabbi Anthony Lazarus Magrill*

As we enter the Summer months, the time in the Jewish year when we mourn most particularly for the world that is and yearn most acutely for the world that could be, I find myself turning again to Rabbi Alan Lew's book *This is Real and You are Completely Unprepared*

(this is my annual suggestion that reading Lew is the best preparation for the upcoming Season of Repentance). This year, as Israel's terrible war with Gaza enters its fourth quarter, one passage in particular has been haunting me:

Isaiah Gafni is an Israeli professor of ancient history. On holidays celebrating ancient historical events, he is frequently asked to appear on Israeli radio and TV to participate in panels with other learned commentators. On Tisha B'Av, there is invariably a commentator from the Israeli left who explains that the Temple was destroyed, and Israel was conquered by the Romans because of the intolerance of the religious right of that day. Then a right-wing commentator explains that both the Temple and Israel itself fell to the Romans because of the failure of the Jewish people to unite against the enemy militarily. Then it invariably falls upon Gafni to explain that there was one reason for the fall of the Temple and one reason alone: Rome was absolutely invincible. Its huge armies were marching through the world mowing down everyone in their path, and nothing could have stopped them from taking Jerusalem, no matter how tolerant the



religious right nor how unified the armies might have been.

So what were the Rabbis of the Talmud talking about when they said that the Temple was destroyed by gratuitous hatred? What was Moses talking about? Why did they blame the people for what had happened, when the

objective evidence of history clearly seems to exonerate them? The answer is that neither the Rabbis nor Moses cared a fig about history. They weren't historians; they were spiritual leaders, and spiritually, the only questions worth asking about any conflict, any recurring catastrophe, is this: What is my responsibility for it? How am I complicit in it? How can I prevent it from happening again? [Lew 2003, 2018 ed. pp44-5]

There are conflicts which are unavoidable and deep-rooted: such as that aroused by the legitimate claims of competing national movements for the self-same narrow strip of land on the Eastern Mediterranean. There are conflicts which are, by contrast, eminently avoidable: including those aroused by an international commentariat prone to black-and-white analyses of grayscale controversies. Reading Lew, I'm wondering which are the vital questions for our community; what are the aspects of this infinite controversy which still leave us space to participate in solutions, rather than problems?

Some Jewish communities continue to experience great ruptures over whether we

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# FROM THE RABBIS

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should allow space in our synagogues for the most Israel-critical, even anti-Zionist, voices of our community; whilst Jewish and non-Jewish organisations alike still flail for clarity on when anti-Zionist discourse shades into antisemitism. Plenty of us are left to despair: how much energy is wasted on futile controversies? There is confusion aplenty, but as diasporic Jewish communities it remains important to recognize the extent to which we are *peripheral*, rather than central, to the real controversies at-hand. Because nobody benefits – neither hungry Gazan children nor bereaved and bereft families of Israeli hostages – when we use our communal airspace to administer ideological purity tests; not least whilst those purity tests seem so often to pit generations against each other; and to challenge the legitimacy of each others' deeply held (albeit competing) religious and moral values.

But I believe that there are relevant questions to ask, and I believe it is our constant challenge to refocus towards them. Questions like: what work have we done, personally and communally, to demonstrate that Jews and Muslims refuse to be enemies; whatsoever geopolitical tensions remain between nations speaking and acting – or claiming to speak, and aspiring to act – on our behalf? What have we done, personally and communally, for the sake of Klal Yisrael; who have we invited into our homes and our synagogues and our hearts, for the sake of that Jewish unity which should be a challenge and an opportunity, and not only a measuring stick against which to find our opponents wanting? Who have we respectfully heard, and who have we dismissed out of hand?

There's a fascinating Mishnah about this in *Pirkei Avot*. 'Any argument undertaken in good faith [*l'Shem Shamayim*, lit. 'for the sake of

***"What are the aspects of this infinite controversy which still leave us space to participate in solutions, rather than problems?"***

Heaven'] is destined to endure' (5.17). That word 'endurance' [in Hebrew סופה ללהתקיים] is extraordinary! For wouldn't it have been more encouraging for the Mishnah to teach that any such argument could be resolved, or clarified, or finished? Why is it such a mark of good arguments that they are likely to go on forever? Perhaps the answer is that any argument which can be simply resolved is not worthy of the name of argument/*makhloket*, and its disputants should either allow themselves to be enlightened or dismissed as arguing in bad faith. At the heart of the Israel-Palestine conflict is a *Makhloket l'Shem Shamayim* – a conflict which is irresolvable because even those interested parties arguing in best faith are unable to resolve whose claim to this land is more legitimate, or better deserving of priority. For better or for worse – *sofah l'hitkayem* – it seems an argument fated to endure. But that conflict has been clouded, within and without the disputed territories, within and without the region, by bad faith disputes of those determined to seek maximalist, all-or-nothing outcomes in favour of their 'team.'

And what can we do in Stanmore to 'solve' the underlying dispute, to find peaceful resolutions to competing claims? Just about *bubkes*. But what can the Jewish diaspora do, and what can individual Jews do, to build healthier communities? To demonstrate that we can contain complexity rather than allowing it to eat us alive? To unite rather than divide, to build bridges rather than to burn them down? The answer, I would humbly suggest, is quite a lot; and perhaps, even, quite a lot more than we have been doing so far.

# Finding Hope in Hopeless Times

*By Rabbi Anna Wolfson*

Our world was shaken on 7th October with the unthinkable attack on Israel by Hamas. Since then we have been praying for the safe return of the hostages and the ability for the displaced citizens of Southern Israel to return to their homes. Sadly, we have recently seen rockets from Lebanon land in northern Israel, setting it ablaze. Meanwhile, Israel's constant bombardment of Gaza and blockade on food and water has seen tens of thousands of people, including children, killed and millions of Gazan civilians starving entering a state of famine. With all of that and the constant attacks by settlers on houses, communities and olive groves in the West Bank, with the images of Ramallah's market up in flames, it has been hard to find beacons of hope in the region. Hard to see where the path to peace can be forged yet, despite the backlash from society and authorities in Israel, people are asking for and demonstrating that there can be another way.

Now, just like before 7th October, many Israelis are back out on the streets protesting their current government and begging for a regime change. During the first week of June I attended an evening with the UK organisation Yachad, who invited a panel of speakers, Israeli and Palestinian, who are doing incredible work to build bridges between the two societies and trying to forge peace. Among these speakers was the incredible



Magen Inon, a UK-based Israeli whose parents were murdered on the 7th October, who also spoke at Mosaic on 17th June. In honour of his parents' legacy, Magen has worked tirelessly since 7th October to campaign for peace, even writing in *The Guardian* less than two weeks after the attacks:

"Our shared future is based on the belief that all human beings are equal, and deserving of respect and safety. This is how I was raised and how I am raising my own children. In the long term, and even if it's very far away, the only real future is that of hope and peace. Please, stop the war."

Also on that Yachad panel was Rula Daood, one of the National Coordinating team and activist from the organisation Standing Together – *Omdiim B'yachad*. Standing Together is a grassroots organisation made up of Israelis and Palestinian citizens of Israel. They mobilise society against the occupation and for peace, equality and justice for all the citizens of the land. In their words:

"Standing Together is this movement. We are building a shared home for all those who refuse hatred and choose empathy. We won't erase our differences, but rather believe in a true partnership based on shared interests... We envision a society that serves all of us. A just and equal society that treats every person with dignity. A society that chooses peace, justice, and independence for Israelis and

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# FROM THE RABBIS

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Palestinians – Jews and Arabs. A society in which we all enjoy real security, adequate housing, quality education, good healthcare, a liveable climate, a decent salary, and the ability to age with dignity.”

While members of Standing Together are activists and can be found organising demonstrations and protests, the work they do also brings people together for acts of service in civil society. For example, Israeli and Palestinian members would volunteer together to collect food for families in need or assist elderly residents of communities who needed extra help. By building civil society together, the members of Standing Together demonstrate how the communities do not need to be divided and can work together for common goals. Since 7th October, Standing Together has formed the Humanitarian Guard, an incredible group of people who risked their own safety to stop settlers from destroying the aid trucks entering Gaza. A group of settlers had taken to blocking the trucks and destroying the aid, and the police allowed them to do it. For two weeks the Humanitarian Guard of Standing Together

went to the border where the trucks entered, blocked the settlers from harming the aid, collected any aid that was destroyed, repacked it and forced the police to take charge of the situation and arrest the settlers committing the crimes. After two weeks, the settlers were deterred, and the aid trucks could enter Gaza undisturbed.

While voices like Magen Inon's, or those members of Standing Together, are the minority voice in Israel, Rula told us how the organisation's membership has grown exponentially since 7th October and offshoot groups can be found around the world, including in London. More and more people wanting to work together for a political solution in Israel and Palestine, rather than the constant cycle of war and bloodshed.

When our hearts are still broken from 7th October and all the events since, it is people like Magen Inon, Rula and all those who find the strength to work towards a peaceful and just society in Israel that can bring us hope for a better future to come. We pray for the hostages to be returned and for an end to the war.



Congratulations to newly-weds  
Georgia Matthews  
and Jordan Bayer-Goldman.

They were married by Rabbi  
Anthony in May, in what was the  
first Mosaic Masorti wedding  
since Howard and Sharon Smith  
married on 27th August 2012.

Mazel tov to all the family.



**Dedication**

*Mosaic Jewish Community*

**You are invited to the Dedication  
of our building on Stanmore Hill**

**1a Halsbury Close, Stanmore HA7 3DY**

**Home to**  
**Mosaic Reform Synagogue**  
**Mosaic Liberal Synagogue**  
**Mosaic Masorti Synagogue**

*Sunday 1 September 2024 at 3 pm*

The ceremony will be followed by refreshments.

  
**Mosaic**

Please reply by email to  
[dedication@choosemosaic.org](mailto:dedication@choosemosaic.org)

## Mosaic Jewish Community AGM, 29th May 2024

### *Chairman's Report by David Leibling*

"At the AGM last year, I set myself six priorities and I am pleased to report significant progress on all of them. I would like to thank all the volunteers and staff who have contributed to achieving these objectives.

Number 1: To ensure the lease and licences are signed. We also signed the updated Accord that governs how Mosaic Jewish Community operates. This was achieved in December, thanks to cooperation



between the Synagogue chairs and the Mosaic board.

Number 2: To ensure that the snagging list on the building is completed and finish the internal decoration. While we have made considerable progress, there are still further issues to be solved, particularly regarding ventilation. We have taken several steps to improve sound insulation, but we now have to accept there will be a certain

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amount of leakage in a multi-purpose building like ours. Thanks to Lawrence Chadwick, our Vice-Chairman, for his constant attention to dealing with every detail, and to Harry Davies who chairs the House committee. Internal decoration is on-going, thanks to Joan Noble and her team.

Number 3: To complete the installation of the library. We now have a full set of shelves and all the books from Bessborough Road have been sorted, thanks to the Rabbis and Gill Ross, who is now finishing cataloguing them.

Number 4: To maximise the communications with our members and the wider community. I am pleased to report that we have Andrea Morgale and Roberta Levene working with Ann Simon on the production of *Kehila* and Tony Allan has generated useful income from advertising. Michael Reik is helping with our public relations. At the meeting we had an offer of help with social media – more offers of help would be appreciated.

Number 5: To have a full programme of adult learning. Thanks to our Rabbis, we have set up a range of adult learning opportunities, but this is work in progress and I look forward to a full Learning at Mosaic programme in the coming months

Number 6: To ensure that every aspect of our work for the membership is properly staffed and managed. Thanks to Ann Simon and her team, and volunteers to cover holidays, we have continued to provide a high level of service to our members, together with our team of caretakers who look after the building. A special thanks to Stefan Roos who is always available to help with IT and AV for our Zoom sessions. I would like to thank Elaine Glass, our Chief Administration Officer, who has provided invaluable advice on personnel matters and

welcome Debbie Alalouff as her successor.

But of course the community has achieved much more in the 18 months we have been in Stanmore. Our Rabbis, Kathleen, Rachel, Anthony and Anna, have ensured we have meaningful services and caring pastoral support, together with many lay readers, and we have had joint services to commemorate Yom Hashoah, Yom Hazikaron/Yom Ha'atzmaut, suitably muted to recognise the terrible tragedy of 7th October in Israel. Shabbat Shira, Shabbat Beiteinu and communal seders show how we can support different groups in the community. We wish Rabbi Rachel well for her retirement and look forward to welcoming her replacement in Mosaic Liberal in due course. Our welcoming greeters and kiddushim are a key feature admired by visitors and our security team has risen to the challenge of the surge in antisemitism. Thanks to Gill Ross, Caroline Chadwick, Veronica Music, Daniel Brown, Jo Lewis and all the others who help.

Our Culture Hub is the envy of many local synagogues. Jane Prentice and Barbara Grant and their team have put on a wide range of programmes which are well chosen, well catered and well supported. Phil Austin has now set up a Social Action Hub to coordinate our outreach work in the wider community.

We now have two experienced care co-ordinators, Angela Peters and Sandie Myers, who are building a team of volunteer visitors to assist those within the community who need a helping hand.

Besides working as a congregational Rabbi with Mosaic Liberal, our Community Development Rabbi Anna has worked on a wide range of activities to increase awareness and involvement. Regrettably, she has decided

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that she will be leaving us at the end of 2024, and we wish her well for her future. We have decided to appoint a Development Officer, not as a rabbinic role.

We had already been working to set up an Israel Committee, but the need has become even more important after 7th October. Under Michael Reik's leadership, we have arranged a number of activities.

HaMakom, our joint children's education programme with Kol Chai, is now well established at Stanmore Hill. We are looking to provide more activities for the younger members of our community.

Finance is under the firm hand of David Pollak as Treasurer, together with the three synagogue treasurers, and we are also grateful to Jeff Highfield as Company Secretary, Joel Abrahams for managing our Health and Safety, and to Gill Ross as our lead on safeguarding. We have a good working relationship with the flat owners upstairs, who appreciate the way the site is run.

The Chairs – Harry Grant, Adrian Cohen, Phil Austin and Gill Ross – and Rabbis of all three Mosaic synagogues meet monthly to discuss operational matters and I would like to thank them and the other Board members for their support during the year.

So to my targets for the coming year:

1. To prepare a leadership succession plan and find a successor as Chairman.
2. To appoint a Development Officer.

3. To ensure the Social Hub is set up.

4. To provide regular activities for younger members of the community.

5. To ensure we have trained people able to use fully the Synagogue's AV and IT.



I hope this time next year to be reporting on progress across them all.

Finally thanks to my long-suffering supporter – Jeanette – I couldn't do it without you!!!

After the meeting proper, members were invited to discuss the future of Mosaic Jewish Community in small groups, paralleling the chavruta approach to Talmud learning. Topics included leadership, seeking new members, involvement and development. Some of the suggestions were:

- Activities for specific groups such as teens, summer activities, 20-40 year olds
- More small group home hospitality and services
- A paid media officer
- Promoting the taxi service for lifts to the synagogue
- Leadership training from the three parent bodies
- Promoting the hire of the hall
- Membership status for occasional visitors to social events – Friends of MJC

These will be discussed with the Board to convert them into practical actions."

**This is a shortened version of David's Chairman's Report to the AGM**

# Kabbalat Torah Service to be held at Mosaic Reform on 6th July

*By Rabbi Kathleen de Magtige Middleton*

Ever since the establishment of HaMakom, Mosaic's joint religion school with Kol Chai, the Rabbis of Mosaic Liberal and Mosaic Reform have been involved in the education of our Kabbalat Torah class.

Kabbalat Torah (KT for short) is the highest class in HaMakom, after which pupils are invited to join the Assistant Training Programme, as they prepare to make the move to the other side of the classroom: first as assistants and, if they show confidence and aptitude for teaching, as fully fledged HaMakom teachers.

As a Rabbi, seeing our youngsters make this journey – from inquisitive preschoolers to B'nei Mitzvah class, and from there on towards Kabbalat Torah; and from Trainee Assistants into confident, fully involved HaMakom teachers – is one of the greatest rewards of our profession. There is no better balm for the ever-worried soul than to see that one's own love for Jewish education, our faith and tradition is shared by the next generation, and to know that the future of Progressive Judaism is in good hands.

In this progression of handing over responsibility and knowledge to the youngsters in our community – not only as a means to educate them personally, but also to teach them to educate others - Kabbalat Torah is an important step.

Kabbalat Torah was invented in early 19th century Germany as a novel coming-of-

age ceremony to rival (and in some cases to replace) the then often-believed rather outdated Bar Mitzvah ceremony.

Initially known as 'confirmation,' it started out as a graduation ceremony to mark the end of Jewish Day School education, but soon became a ceremony held in the synagogue, often on the festival of Shavuot.

As it was usually held for an entire class, KT was the first such ceremony to include boys and girls together. Although it became widely adopted in Progressive circles, in its early stages KT was also accepted in Conservative and even some Orthodox communities.

In some Liberal communities Kabbalat Torah entirely replaced Bar Mitzvah as a coming of age ceremony. This was primarily because it was held at an older age, which allowed for much more in-depth study of Judaism (generally specifically taught by the Rabbis, as is still the case at HaMakom), but also because it allowed girls a fully equal ceremony with the boys.

Even when B'nei Mitzvah became fully egalitarian in Progressive communities (only after Judith Kaplan celebrated the first ever Bat Mitzvah on March 18th 1922), Kabbalat Torah remained as an extra graduation ceremony. It became a chance for the youngsters to showcase what they had learned, and the responsibilities they have taken upon themselves, by jointly leading a service,

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including reading from the Torah and delivering a sermon.

As a joint religion school HaMakom has, for many years, celebrated their pupils' graduation with a special service at HaMakom itself, usually on the last Sunday morning of the Summer term. However, celebrating at HaMakom, rather than on a Shabbat in our communities, takes away some of the solemnity and importance we, HaMakom's

supporting communities, should give to this moment. Our youngsters' education, and their graduation, are as important and as much a source of pride for us all as it is for their teachers, their families and for themselves.

This year Mosaic Reform will be hosting the Kabbalat Torah service **on Saturday 6th July**, when we look forward to praying, learning and celebrating with the pupils and their families.

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## A Packed Season at HaMakom

*By headteachers Viki Kenton and Toria Bacon*

One of our favourite things to do at HaMakom is to hold a mock Friday Night Shabbat, so in March we laid the tables with brightly coloured tablecloths and freshly cut Spring flowers and invited the children to join in. They recited the brachot, lit the candles, drank grape juice, ate challah and sang some Shabbat songs. We were mindful it took place on Mother's Day, so refrained from serving sandwiches, preferring to share some smaller snacks, to replicate a lovely Shabbat meal enjoyed with friends.

We had the most wonderful time celebrating Purim. As Purim actually fell on Sunday morning, we decided that it would be very special for HaMakom children and families to celebrate Purim within their own communities.

More recently, we had a really fun morning to mark Yom Ha'Atzmaut. The children were presented with passports for Israel, and they travelled around Israeli cities and towns collecting a stamp in their passport at each location. In Tel Aviv they created sand



pictures of the Israeli flag; in Jerusalem they left their prayers and wishes in the Western Wall; in Haifa they folded paper to create an origami boat to sail from the port, and in Jaffa they made a delicious fruit kebab. They also visited the Dead Sea, where they prepared their own individual Israeli salad with salty olives, and at Masada they made suncatchers to reflect the sunrise over the mountain. It was such a brilliant way to celebrate Israel's birthday, and everyone had a great time.

## Kibbutz Re'im Update

*By Michael Reik*



**A**s announced in our Pesach issue (page 14), Mosaic Jewish Community is adopting Kibbutz Re'im in Israel, which was very close to the site of the Supernova Festival when Hamas invaded on 7th October.

Mosaic Masorti member Michael Dashwood has just visited the site, as well as the present accommodation of its members in Tel Aviv.

Your Israel Committee will be putting together a plan of how we engage with each other, involving as time goes by visits to each others' communities.

The kibbutz is still a delightfully beautiful place to visit, but currently on hold while the war in Gaza continues.

Photographs below show the Kibbutz before 7th October and the result of the Hamas invasion.

If any members of Mosaic Jewish Community are intending to visit the site area please contact Michael Dashwood, who will put them in touch with members of the community in Israel.





## Creative Writing Classes get off to good start

Our Jewish traditions, our heritage, our perceptions are all about storytelling. In the beginning – in the very beginning – we have the story of Adam and Eve: the very first inhabitants of the world to disobey sensible instructions. Followed swiftly by the story of their sons who couldn't get along together.

Now here at Mosaic, the storytelling continues as the first Creative Writing Classes begin. The two trial runs were attended by ten of Mosaic's fantastically motivated writers, some of whom were experienced, but most of whom were trembling in their trainers at what they might be expected to cough up! And lo! They wrote from their hearts, all different, but all very moving stories and features that made you proud to be at their debut.

Whether you love the imaginary or are more talented at portraying the facts in your own style, classes are now held fortnightly on Mondays. Check the Mosaic website for dates.

The £5 donation per session goes entirely towards supporting this great community, plus you will be having fun with like-minded people – so it's a win-win!

The classes, which to be effective will not be very large, will be created and encouraged by Sue Krisman of the Mosaic Community.

Please register your interest with Ann at [office@choosemosaic.org](mailto:office@choosemosaic.org).

All you need is pen and paper and a little bit of courage!

## D-Day spirit at Friendship Club

To commemorate the 80th anniversary of the D-Day landings, the Friendship Club held a special event on 4th June.

Red, white and blue flags and table decorations were on display and members were encouraged to wear those colours too. Well done to everyone who entered into the spirit of the occasion, and a special shout-out to Pearl (pictured here) who won the 'best-dressed' prize.

Club members also celebrated the special birthday of our Chair, Bertha Levy, with a delicious three-course lunch.

A big welcome was given to our entertainer, Lissie Allsopp, who was wearing RAF uniform and delighted everyone with her programme of songs of the 40's. Lots of flag waving and audience participation.

As always a very big thank you to our hard working committee for all their help.





## Music for Memory: a great revival

*By Kevin Ziants*

It has been a year since Music for Memory (M4M) was revived by Mosaic. In our old building this used to be a regular pre-Covid event. Then, I regularly took my mother-in-law Mabel to what was one of the highlights of our month. There was a three-year gap, due to the pandemic and the delayed move to Stanmore, before we met again. I recall with sadness a poignant moment during the first session in our “new” building – the absence of many regulars who had passed away and Mabel, now bed-bound, no longer able to attend. My mindset changed positively when the lead, Esther Whyatt, opened up with *Hello Dolly*, engaging all the participants. The song *What a Wonderful World*, Mabel’s favourite, touched us with beauty on what often seems like a painful world. It was appropriate to finish off with *We’ll Meet Again*, with full knowledge that M4M would happen again next month, PG. The only disappointment was there were only eight attendees who benefited from this uplifting experience.

One year later, and with the same format, the good word has spread. Now M4M has 28 participants, with the room vibrant and buzzing throughout. We sing, clap, dance and laugh together. I like throwing in the odd question after



a song, like: *Somewhere Over The Rainbow* was sung by whom and in what film? Straight away comes the correct answer, Judy Garland, *Wizard of Oz*, by someone whose wife commented: “he doesn’t remember what he did yesterday!” The only snag with our success is we may need a bigger room, a nice problem to have.

People thank me for being a facilitator. I feel the need to offer my thanks to Mosaic for this monthly opportunity of being able to attend this uplifting party as personal respite.

These sessions are held on the last Thursday of every month 11.00 to 12.30 in our sanctuary. They are designed for anyone who may feel isolated and in need of a music-based outlet to integrate with our community. I thoroughly recommend M4M to anyone in this situation.



## Yom Hazikaron at Mosaic

*By Rabbi Kathleen de Magtige Middleton*

Over fifty members gathered at Stanmore Hill on 13th May for a special tekes (ceremony) to commemorate Yom Hazikaron and mark the transition into Yom Ha'Atzmaut.



This year we did not celebrate Yom Ha'Atzmaut exuberantly, as our hearts are heavy with worry for our brothers and sisters in Israel, especially for the hostages and all those who long for their speedy and safe return to family and friends.

We also shared the anguish of our Israeli members who were unable to be with their families in Israel this Yom Hazikaron, to pay their respects to loved ones who had died during the various armed conflicts that Israel has known. Over 25,000 soldiers have lost their lives in those conflicts since the establishment of the State of Israel.

This year, therefore, we held a short ceremony, including poems, songs and readings, followed by two tremendously moving testimonies: Mosaic Reform's Chaggai Weissler spoke about his elder brother who had died a War Hero during the Six Day War, and Mosaic Masorti member Dan Kirschner talked about the yearly Yom Hazikaron commemoration at the war cemetery where his uncle is buried.

After a symbolic Havdalah ceremony we moved into Yom Ha'Atzmaut, by reading out the Declaration of Independence, and singing *Hatikvah*.

Afterwards we enjoyed a light falafel dinner, Israeli wine tasting and Israeli music. Subdued but meaningful and full of hope that next year there will be peace and ample reason to celebrate.

## Prakash becomes a British Citizen

Mosaic Jewish Community caretaker Prakash and his wife Thasanevis were accepted as British citizens and received their certificates at a ceremony in May. The picture shows the couple with Prakash's parents Raja and Ananthi. Raja was the caretaker for Mosaic Liberal for many years at their previous building and then worked for Mosaic at Bessborough Road.

The Board sends the family congratulations and very best wishes.



# Shavuot: how do we understand Revelation in 2024

*By Rabbi Alexandra Wright, Co-Chair of the Conference of Liberal Rabbis and Cantors and Rabbi Kath Vardi, Co-Chair of the Assembly of Reform Rabbis and Cantors*

The real question for progressive Jews at Shavuot, z'man mattan Torateinu, the season of the giving of the Torah, is not how we interpret the commandments. It's how progressive Jews arise from the preface to those Ten Words, Aseret Ha-Dibrot, Va-y'ddabeir Elohim et kol ha-d'varim ha-eleh leimor. "And God spoke all these words saying..." (Exodus 20:1).

How do we understand revelation? Do we take these words literally, that three months after the Israelites left Egypt, at an appointed place on Mount Sinai, God spoke to Moses, instructed him to write them down and teach them to the Israelites? And if God did reveal Him or Herself, how did she or he talk? How were these divine utterances heard? Did God speak, as Rashi said, in a way that is impossible for human beings to speak?

Or do we simply dismiss the account as a myth? Do we eschew the metaphysics of revelation and take the view of the sceptical rationalist who would argue not only for the improbability of divine revelation on Sinai, but its absurdity?

Herbert Loewe, an orthodox Jew who compiled A Rabbinic Anthology with Liberal Jew Claude Montefiore, warned against "giving a blank cheque to all that goes by the name of modern scholarship". He quoted Rabbi and academic Solomon Schechter who "once spoke of certain aspects of biblical criticism as 'the higher antisemitism'." The remark, said Loewe, "is sometimes justified, for certain well-known tendencies are both destructive of the

idea of revelation in general, and, in particular, are also intended to demonstrate that no ethical good can come out of Israel."

There are few today, he wrote, "who would deny that Moses existed and that he was a recipient of revelation in some form" (plxvi). But Loewe's view of revelation may not be radically different from a progressive Jewish idea, or at least from Montefiore's. "The case which we would set out is simply that our attitude towards Holy Scripture must be based on the acceptance of revelation and be guided by the teachings of history and archaeology." This is a matter of degree rather than difference. He said: "Some Liberals may prefer to stress the development rather than the source" (plxvii). In other words, revelation is seen as a daily occurrence rather than a single, historic event.

Where do we stand in relation to the sceptics? Polish-American Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel in A Preface to an Understanding of Revelation in Moral Grandeur and Spiritual Audacity, p185 argued that many people "reject the Bible because of a mistaken notion that revelation has proved to be scientifically impossible.

"At best it is regarded as a fairy tale on a par with the conception that lightning and thunder are signs of anger of sundry gods and demons, rather than the result of a sudden expansion of air in the path of an electric discharge." There is no argument saying those who decry the 'truth' of revelation – it is simply humanity's

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mistaken illusion for a supernatural event.

The problem for us today, said Heschel, arises not from the authenticity of prophetic experiences, but from our rather vague and confused conception of God. The question: what does God demand of us has “gone out of the world”? The divine voice is “alien to our minds, to our hearts to our souls,” p186.

The complex issue of revelation presupposes certain assumptions about the existence and nature of God who communicates His or Her will to human beings. For the prophets – an Amos or Isaiah, Jeremiah or Hosea – the voice of God is immediate, coercive; it is the voice of moral indignation and anger, or suffering, pity and lament. There is no probability about the existence of God for these men, not only do they believe, but they know to the very core of their being, that God exists, and that God speaks to them and through them.

But does God speak to us in the same way? Even if the high probability of God’s existence creates an assumption that God is present in some way, what are we to believe happened at Sinai?

Judaism does not create the acute polarisation of belief or absence of belief in revelation that might occur in certain other religions. It is by no means clear that the Rabbis, when they speak about the giving of the Torah on Sinai, regard this as an historical moment in time.

For Rabbis too, it was not only the Written Torah – the Five Books of Moses – that was said to be given on Sinai. The Oral Law, too, was also believed to have been conveyed to Moses on Sinai. But did the Rabbis believe these two bodies of Law, the Written and Oral, were really dictated by God to Moses on Sinai?

In a midrashic commentary on Numbers (Num. R. Naso, 14:10), the focus is not on

the mechanics of revelation, how it happened, but is rather a refutation, or a polemic against Christian appropriation of the Five Books in the Old Testament. It is the Oral Torah, said the Sages, that distinguishes the Israelites from the other nations. “It was not given in writing so that the nations should not falsify it, as they have done with the Written Law, and say that they are the true Israel.”

This may be a distasteful interpretation to us, but setting aside the polemics, can it tell us anything about the Sages’ understanding of revelation? Sinai may not be a historical moment in time for Jewish interpreters of scripture, but it is a symbol of religious authenticity of a living covenant between God and the Jewish people. It isn’t only the Torah that distinguishes us as a singular people, but Mishnah, Aggadah and Talmud, for God spoke all these words.

The question for progressive Jews is not whether we accept the factual truth of Sinai versus the fairy tale, whether Moses is the author of the Torah or a procession of priestly narrators, codifiers and redactors, but whether we can immerse ourselves in a narrative about revelation. In essence, a code that makes certain moral and other demands on us, that connects us with questions about the mysteries of life and death, of good and evil, of suffering and joy, faith and doubt.

Even if we dismiss the myth with its hidden meanings, we are still left ultimately with the unanswered question: where did the idea of Sinai come from? And for as long as that question remains unanswered, we will always be on a quest to know more about the origins of our people and their ongoing, on and off relationship with the Unseen Presence, the deepest part of ourselves, that some people call God.

# Message from the President of our Israel twin community, Darchei Noam in Ramat Hasharon

**D**ear Friends of Darchei Noam. I realize that you are well aware of the maelstrom of horrific events that have been overwhelming all of us for the last half a year. It truly feels as though our world has been turned upside down and, unfortunately, the future seems just as frightening as the past.



During challenging times such as these, it is human nature to draw comfort from being part of a community. I am sure that is why attendance at our Shabbat services and other events has grown during the last few months – including not only long-time members but also quite a few local residents of all ages, who discovered our synagogue for the first time and now attend services regularly.

We are doing our best to continue with our regular programming, including weekly classes on the week's Torah portion, Bar/Bat Mitzvah classes, and choir practice. We still hold several Bar and Bat Mitzvah ceremonies every week, and we celebrate holidays together. On Purim, children and adults enjoyed a costume party with a communal reading of the Megillah.

In line with the policy set by the Israel Movement for Reform Judaism, Darchei Noam is helping strengthen the ties between Jews and Muslims in Israel. Delegations from

our congregation and the Arab-Israeli city of Tayibe have hosted each other several times in the last few months, enabling an all-too-rare opportunity for person-to-person encounters between the two groups. It turns out we have much more in common than you might expect! In addition, we have also begun offering a weekly course in spoken Arabic to members of Darchei Noam.

The Passover holiday was clearly a challenge this year. It's hard to celebrate freedom when there are still so many hostages being held in Gaza. I'm sure that you will join me in praying for their prompt release, as well as for better, more peaceful times for Israel and the entire Jewish world.

With warmest wishes

**Ilana Dothan**  
**President**

Darchei Noam is a Reform community and synagogue serving the residents of Ramat Hasharon, Herzliya and the northern neighbourhoods of Tel Aviv. Mosaic Jewish Community started twinning with Darchei Noam some three years ago and our Rabbis Kathleen and Rachel enjoy a warm relationship with their Rabbi, Eli Yoel Levin. A number of Mosaic Reform and Liberal members have visited and the Rabbi's son visited us for Yom Kippur last year. For more information about the community, see Michael Reik's article on page 30 of the Rosh Hashanah 2017 issue of *Kehila* on the Mosaic website.

# Independence Day Greetings from Rabbi Gilad Kariv, MK

**M**y dear friends.  
As we approach  
Israel's 76th  
Independence Day, Israel and  
Jews worldwide are facing  
unparalleled challenges and  
difficulties that we could never  
have imagined on last year's  
Independence Day.



While the return of the  
hostages must be our first priority and as we  
are blinded by the dust of battle and our tears,  
we must remember the remarkable resilience  
that we have witnessed over these past difficult  
months. In Israel, while the government has  
been dysfunctional, Israeli organisations and  
citizens have shown extraordinary solidarity,  
volunteering tirelessly and demonstrating  
unwavering generosity. From supporting  
hostages' families, to answering the needs of  
those evacuated from their homes in the north  
and south, to standing up for their democratic  
rights with ongoing demonstrations, Israelis  
have exemplified the spirit of unity and activism.

We deeply appreciate how the relations  
between Jews and Arabs in Israel have  
remained intact, under the most stressful  
conditions. We can be thankful that the toxic  
discourse of the government coalition has not  
seeped into the IDF, as soldiers have reported  
of incredible solidarity amongst themselves,  
no matter what part of Israeli society they  
represent. And at the same time, the West  
Bank has not become another war front  
thanks to the IDF and the cooperation of the

Palestinian security agencies.

For me, one of the most  
important lessons that I have  
learned since 7th October is the  
strength of the bonds between  
Israeli and Diaspora Jews.  
While Jews worldwide are  
experiencing unprecedented  
levels of antisemitism,  
both sides understand our

interdependency. It has always been our  
ability to come together as a community for  
what is moral and just, and we are now, yet  
again, exercising our strength as "*am ha-  
netzach*", the eternal people. In these trying  
times, Israel as the homeland of the Jewish  
people has never been more important, while  
Israel cannot survive without the support of  
Jewish communities and their home countries.  
Although we are geographically separated, let  
us gain momentum in the knowledge that we  
are facing these struggles together, drawing  
strength from our shared history and destiny  
to overcome the forces of evil and to assure  
the safety of the Jewish people wherever they  
may be.

And for Progressive Jews worldwide, they  
should know that they have partners in Israel  
in the centre to left camp who share their  
vision. We are demanding from Netanyahu  
and his government to speak about the day  
after – to provide a sustainable vision and  
hope with the ultimate goal to ensure the future  
of the Jewish and democratic State of Israel

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# MESSAGES FROM ISRAEL

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alongside a viable, Palestinian sovereignty in the West Bank and Gaza. We must seize the opportunity being presented by our partners in the US administration, European allies, and moderate Arab states to take a bold step that has the potential of creating a regional solution to the painful and constant conflict we have been dealing with since the establishment of the State.

Yes, from the river to the sea there must be peace and freedom – for the two peoples who live here and who are entitled to self-determination. This vision was embraced by the Zionist Movement and found its way into our Declaration of Independence. While we are called to adapt our route after 7th October, this destination remains the only strategic and relevant goal.

“The Lord shall grant strength to His people,

the Lord shall bless His people with peace,” we read in the Book of Psalms (29:11). These are the blessings we need these days, for our captives and their loved ones, for the grieving families, for all the evacuees, for IDF soldiers, for all those suffering from this conflict.

Strength and peace – may we all be blessed with the strength to dream and bring peace in days of pain and sorrow. May this Yom Ha'Atzmaut be the beginning of our renewed hope.

**MK Rabbi Gilad Kariv**  
**Israeli Labor Party**

This is a transcript of a message from Gilad Kariv (MK for HaAvoda, the Israeli Labor Party) which was read out at the Yom Hazicharon Service at Mosaic on Monday, 13th May. It is the author's views and does not represent Mosaic Jewish Community policy.

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## FOOTBALL UNITES

**O**n Monday, 20th May I was honoured to captain Maccabi GB on Monday, 20th May when they played the Israeli international side, who were in England for the Walking Football World Cup. They finished third and were well received. It was a special occasion that I would like to share with our community.

In the picture of the two captains shaking hands, the Israeli captain Simon Davidson is in the blue shirt, with yours truly in yellow.

**Kevin Ziants**



*Maccabi GB Team*



*Football Unites*



*Two Captains*



# Two Plenary sessions, including Board Elections

*By Michael Reik*

## **P**lenary meeting at JW3 on 7th April 2024

We started with two minutes silence to mark six months to the day since the Hamas pogrom of the Israeli communities north of Gaza.

The next 40 minutes were spent explaining the procedure for the voting in of the new President

and Vice-President on 12th May. Votes could be either by post or in person, although many present requested remote email votes should also be allowed. Outgoing President Marie van der Zyl was concerned and the constitutional committee was requested to change the rule to allow electronic voting.

Aijela Nisenbaum, visiting from Israel, then related her sobering story of what happened in her community, 3 km from Gaza, on 7th October, including the disappearance of her husband, Mickel. She only knew for sure he had been taken hostage when she received details of his papers on her phone from Hamas. She moved with other members of her community for three months to Eilat, and then on to Tel Aviv. On questioning, she believed that the Israeli Government was doing everything possible to bring the hostages back. She requested if any board members had contacts

The 2024-2027 Board of Deputies Leadership Team



with the UK Government to continuously make them aware of the plight of the hostages and the need to support Israel.

Points resulting from the President's statement:

- The Board has referred the Swastika displayed at a Palestinian march as being blatant antisemitism. Awaiting reply.
- Following an anti-Israel letter in the media from 600 lawyers, a further pro-Israel letter from 1000 lawyers needs major publicity.
- A suggestion was made that the President request the Israel Ambassador to meet with the families of three aid workers killed by mistake by the IDF, to apologise. With the high level of antisemitism in the UK this may prevent it going even higher.
- A request was made to set out more clearly the Board policy on Israel. It was stated

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that the Board supports Israel directly and wishes there to be a two-state solution.

### **Plenary at JW3 on 12th May, including Board Elections**

The Election was for the President and Vice-Presidents for the next three years. The meeting started by inviting the four candidates for President to make a presentation and answer questions from the Board Members over a 10-minute period:

(1) Phil Rosenberg provided a printed manifesto for all the Board Delegates. He had previously been the Board's Director of Public Affairs for a nine-year period, before becoming a Board Member for his Synagogue.

(2) Sheila Gewolb explained she had previously been Vice-President for two consecutive periods in separate divisions.

(3) Amanda Bowman elaborated on the work she had done over the past six years as head of the Defence and Interfaith Division. This enabled her to have good relationships with the Police and the CPS.

(4) Michael Ziff had been Treasurer for the past three years. He was keen for the regions to become more involved and believes in far greater involvement of women in the management of organisations.

**Phil Rosenberg** was elected President, with Amanda Bowman coming second.

There were 5 candidates for the three Vice Presidential positions:

(1) Denise Lester had sat on the Communities and Defence Divisions

(2) Adrian Cohen was president of UJS and on the Jewish Committee for the 2012 London Olympics. He is a trustee of the Jewish Leadership Council

(3) Jeremy Michaelson lived in London,

went to Leeds University and then moved to Manchester for 40+ years. He believes we need more meetings out of London.

(4) Andrew Gilbert is co-chair of the London Jewish Forum. He has been involved with the police to ensure marches from opposing factions do not take place in the same area post 7th October.

(5) Owen Power is in favour of those with disabilities having greater involvement at the Board of Deputies

At the end of the meeting, it was announced that **Adrian Cohen** was elected to be senior vice-president, with **Andrew Gilbert** and **Jeremy Michaelson** as vice-presidents. Their roles to be determined.

**Ben Crowne** was elected unopposed as Treasurer to the Board.

Other points discussed:

- More women to be involved on committees
- Consideration for expenses for out-of-town deputies to be increased
- The British Government will not proscribe IRJC, as they need to keep a line of communication open to the Iranian Government
- Embassy relationships have increased during past three-year plenary, especially with the German Embassy

# Ducking and Diving

How a family of Mallards took over a suburban garden

*By Cynthia Shaw*

It was the middle of May 2015 when our peaceful habitat was descended upon by 11 uninvited guests who made themselves quite at home without so much as a 'by your leave'.

We were completely unaware that for the past 50 days we had unwittingly been harbouring a group of trespassers until we came downstairs one sunny morning to find a whole lot of them having a fine old time wandering round our garden, playing hide and seek and keeping their mother well and truly on the go.

A family of nine ducklings plus their parents had come to stay!

It later transpired that mummy duck had laid her eggs in an unobtrusive spot in our garden, probably because she caught sight of our newly installed swimming pool and mistook it for a duck pond.

It wasn't quite what we had in mind when the pool was inaugurated but if one has an affinity with the animal kingdom (a characteristic of which we are guilty) then there was no question of showing our visitors the quickest way out. And if, through no fault of our own, one also happens to be of Jewish descent then it is absolutely essential to immediately ply one's guests with vast amounts of food,



thereby alleviating the risk of starvation. Our new-found friends soon realised that they were on to a jolly good thing!

All the babies took to swimming like ducks take to water although a minor problem did occur early on when one of the ducklings slid into our swimming pool and discovered a little too late that sliding out again was not quite the simple task that he/she had expected it to be.

Number one son came speedily to the rescue with a flat piece of wood that he tied securely to the diving board and another that he attached to the handrail of the pool steps, enabling the stranded duckling and its siblings to enter and exit the pool with ease.

The boiler that heated the water was immediately switched off to prevent the fledglings from overheating and the skimmer (an attachment used to clean waste and pollutants such as dirt and grime on the pool surface) was disabled to avoid the risk of injury to our feathered friends. We, the family that pays the mortgage, found ourselves with a lawn covered in bird seed, and an unusable, unheated, unattractive swimming pool that was slowly turning green instead of its usual sparkling blue.

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## FEATURE ARTICLES

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Algae was growing in the water floating alongside a pair of unsightly, rather grubby planks of wood held together with bits of string. To add insult to injury a variety of uninvited creepy crawlies appeared after receiving messages via the grapevine that free meals were available on tap 24 hours a day!

The ducklings very quickly doubled in size.

Mummy duck had quite obviously purchased this month's copy of *Bringing up Baby* because she knew exactly what to do and how to do it. She rounded up her infants whenever the need arose and at approximately 6pm every day she held out her wings whereupon all the ducklings crowded underneath and didn't reappear until dawn when housekeeping served a hearty breakfast.

Week one had almost passed peacefully when disaster struck in the shape of a large bird of prey that swooped down and kidnapped one of the ducklings and as I was unfortunate enough to witness the incident it reminded me how very cruel nature can be.

Over a period of 12 days we lost three ducklings and were reduced to one set of sextuplets plus daddy duck and his wife at which time we were informed by a reliable source that it would be 53 days before the ducklings were able to fly the nest, so we had to do something fast before any more ducklings were turned into duck a l'orange!

We contacted several bird sanctuaries, but none wanted our duck family and the only advice offered was that we should entice mummy duck with tasty morsels of white bread and she in turn would follow the bread. If all went according to plan the infant ducks would follow their mother and the bread. Then they would march in single file along the road that has no pavement until they arrived at the

nearest stretch of water whereupon the entire brood would take to the pond and splash happily ever after. But I chickened out because I didn't want to run the risk of some of the family ending up as duck soup.

Thanks to the input of our very competent veterinary surgeon, the exodus from our garden was a nail biting experience but it did actually go more or less according to plan and took just over two hours to complete.

Daddy duck lost his cool while mummy duck squawking, quacking and pecking was eventually apprehended, wrapped in a blanket and placed in a deep cardboard box from whence there was no escape and from where she was transported to other quarters. When last seen, the remaining ducklings were merrily splashing each other, flapping their wings and playing chase as they swam among the lily pads of their new abode under the watchful eye of their very caring and extremely relieved mallard mother.

- Bread is no longer thought to be a suitable diet for ducks (or any bird).



## *Time's Echo: The Second World War, The Holocaust, and The Music of Remembrance* by Jeremy Eichler

### Harold Segal tells *Kehila* why this book resonates

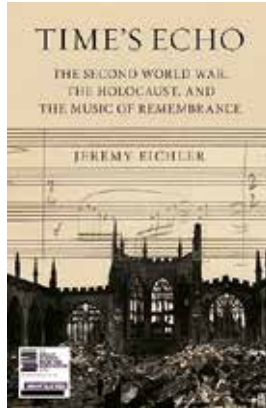
I have just completed reading this book for the second time and even now when I look through it for reference, I keep finding new pieces of information which I obviously hadn't absorbed during my previous readings.

The book is primarily about music which has been written for remembrance of certain occurrences during the Holocaust and World War II.

There are several references to music pertaining to the Holocaust, including one written by the Austrian-born American Jewish composer Arnold Schoenberg and another by the non-Jewish Russian composer Dmitri Shostakovich. These pieces reference the Holocaust in different ways.

Though born Jewish, Schoenberg was a bit of an enigma having converted to Christianity in 1898. In 1933, when he saw what the Nazis were doing to Jews, he reconverted to Judaism in Paris. The same year he went to the US and tried, unsuccessfully, to raise awareness among Jewish Americans as to what was happening in Europe, but to no avail.

His premier composition with regard to the Holocaust is called *A Survivor from Warsaw*, written in 1947 with particular reference to the failed Warsaw Ghetto uprising. This is difficult to explain but covers the surrender of the fighters and their execution - but not before the



saying of the Shema as they were murdered. This is a composition which brings tears to my eyes every time I hear it.

Shostakovich, a confirmed philo-Semite, was quoted as saying: "If any of my friends are antisemites, they will no longer be my friends." His great work of remembrance was his 13th symphony. He put to music the Yevgeny Yevtushenko poem *Babi Yar*, which referenced the massacre of 35,000 Jews over a two-day period in the forest not

far from the city of Lvov (Lviv) in the Ukraine. What was interesting was the determination of the Russian authorities not to mention the fact that those who were killed were Jews – only Soviet citizens. As a result, Yevtushenko was forced to remove references to Jews in his poem.

Shostakovich refused to make changes to his 13th symphony to accommodate the changes in the poem.

The performances of the symphony were greeted with great enthusiasm by Russian audiences but after the third performance it was banned by the Soviet government. This remained the case until relatively recently. It has since been played by the greatest orchestras of the world but never by the Vienna Symphony Orchestra. Shostakovich wrote a considerable amount of music with Jewish themes that was considered at the time as a

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## BOOK REVIEW

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sign of contempt for the Russian authorities.

How Shostakovich survived the Stalin era is a mystery as many of the intelligentsia of the time were sent to Siberia or executed.

As a matter of interest there is now a memorial to the Roma community at Babi Yar – a people who suffered as much as the Jews during the Holocaust. And I have since learned that there is an International Roma Holocaust Memorial Day on 2nd August – the day many thousands of Romas or Sinti people were murdered at Auschwitz in 1944.

Other composers of interest in the book include Benjamin Britten, who wrote the *War Requiem*. He visited Auschwitz with Yehudi Menuhin but did not refer to it again during his lifetime.

Richard Strauss remained in Germany during the war. His attitude to the Nazi regime was ambivalent though brilliantly dissected by Ronald Harwood in his play *Collaboration* which also questioned Strauss's relationship with Stefan Zweig, his librettist.

If you are a music/history buff then this is the book for you.

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### **The things they say!**

My daughter, Abbie, is a nanny and her four-year-old charge came in from nursery one day and demanded: 'Where does Jesus live?'

Abbie started to explain that Jesus had died and gone to heaven. The child answered her in a very exasperated voice: 'I know that, but he arose, so where does he live now?' This gem was previously published in the Daily Mail.

### **Marilyn Finester**

Editors' note: If you have any clever or amusing sayings by your children or grandchildren – or even adult family members! – do drop us a line and we'll print a selection in future issues.

# A view from Belfast

*By Neil Goodman*

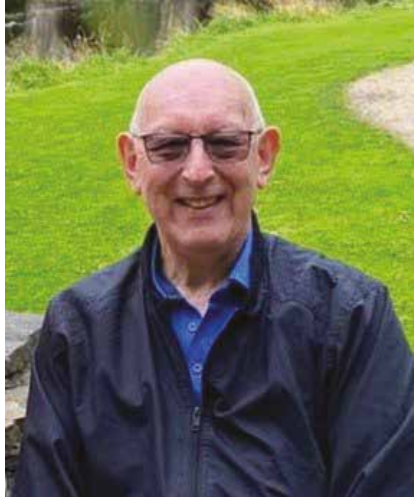
**A**s some of you already know, I no longer live in the Mosaic shul area but moved to a small town just outside Belfast after I lost my wife, to be near my son and his Belfast-born wife.

As the Jewish population of Northern Ireland is very small – around 80 in Belfast – and the shul is an old-fashioned Orthodox community, I decided to join an over-55s all-male community wellness group, which was set up by Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council to combat loneliness.

This has proved to be very enlightening, with monthly boat trips, museum visits, bowling, pool and guest speakers on various topics provided at no cost. At one of our regular meetings it was suggested that maybe some of the members would like to give a talk on any topic they are familiar with.

At this point I decided to put together a presentation on my heritage and ‘come out’.

I gathered my ‘Jewish’ items - tallit, kippah, daily prayer book, a box of matzos (available



here from Tesco strangely enough) and back copies of *Kehila* – and did an ad lib show and tell on what it's like being Jewish in Belfast: customs, prayers, regalia, etc. To my pleasure and surprise the group of about 10 ‘senior gentlemen’ were really interested, as they had had no real contact with Jews before.

The group leader spoke to me afterwards and said how much they enjoyed it

and asked me if I would be prepared to repeat it to other groups in the system.

Bring it on!

## EDITORS NOTE

If you would like to know more about being Jewish in Belfast, including a brief history of Jews in Northern Ireland, you can find the article Neil wrote for *Kehila* in March 2022 on the Mosaic website. Just follow the link to <https://choosemosaic.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/March.pdf> and go to page 24. [All issues of the magazine are available on the website, right back to 2014.]



# Sigmund Freud: finding safety and solace in London

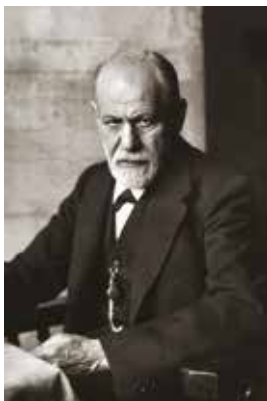
A new film, *Freud's Last Session*, makes its UK debut this month while all his books have just been republished. Roberta Levene analyses why he's still newsworthy

In June 1938, famed psychoanalyst Sigmund Freud left Nazi Austria and arrived in London for what would be the last year of his life.

Like many Jews, Freud did not want to leave his beloved Vienna. He wrote to fellow psychoanalyst Max Eitingon: "The feeling of triumph on being liberated is too strongly mixed with sorrow, for in spite of everything I still greatly loved the prison from which I have been released."

But unlike the majority of his brethren, his trip to freedom via the Orient Express was in relative comfort. After payment to the Nazis, and assisted by patient Princess Marie Bonaparte, Freud, his wife Martha, sister-in-law Minna (with whom he was very close) and daughter Anna arrived at Victoria Station to crowds of people. Freud was an international celebrity and London welcomed him with open arms.

While everyone wanted to meet him, his health was already taking its toll. He had been diagnosed with oral cancer and although active enough to see patients and receive some visitors, Freud was in a lot of pain. After initially staying in Primrose Hill, the family



moved to 20 Maresfield Gardens in Hampstead, which since the death of Anna in 1982 has become a museum devoted to Freud and his work.

*Freud's Last Session* wasn't filmed at the museum (the Hampstead house and its contents were recreated at Ardmore Studios in Dublin) but some of the props, including the famous couch, are now at the house.

The film centres around a fictional 'what if' meeting between Freud, played by Anthony Hopkins, and *Narnia* author CS Lewis, played by Matthew Goode. Held several weeks before the psychoanalyst's death, the discussion occurs a few days after the start of World War II. In it they debate the existence of God, war trauma and relationships with family among other things. It also explores Freud's relationship with



his lesbian daughter Anna.

The film has academic origins: it was adapted by director Matt Brown from a stage-play by US dramatist Mark St Germain which was inspired by a book by Harvard psychiatrist Armand Nicholi. He, in turn, based the book on

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a report that Freud had met with an unnamed Oxford don just before his death. Here's where the 'what if' comes in. Lewis wrote *The Pilgrim's Regress* in 1933 in which he took a swipe at atheist Freudianism, amongst other new wave views.

If the film whets your appetite and you want to find out more, you could invest in the just published *Revised Standard Edition of the Complete Psychological Works of Sigmund Freud*, commissioned by the British Psychoanalytical Society and co-published by Rowman & Littlefield. Described as preserving the original Standard Edition translation from the German by James Strachey, the 24-volume collection provides "a new layer of revisions and translations with explanatory annotations under the executive editorship of neuroscientist, psychoanalyst and Freud scholar Mark Solms". And all for £1,500. Although Amazon is selling it for £1,214.29!

While Freud espoused a lot on atheism and believed that religion was something to overcome, he talked about its powerful influence on identity.

In *An Autobiographical Study* published in 1925, Freud said: "My parents were Jews, and I have remained a Jew myself."

Yet most Freud biographers believed his highly secular childhood, growing up in a Reform Jewish household with minimal observance of Jewish holidays or education, meant that his views and concepts were not central to his Jewish background. And he actually said that psychoanalysis was not, in any way, a Jewish science. But then, it all depends how you interpret all the things he said and have been claimed about him.

What cannot be denied is that Freud quickly settled in London. He wrote in *Moses and Monotheism*: "I found the kindest welcome in beautiful, free, generous England.

"Here I live now, a welcome guest, relieved from that oppression, and happy again that I may speak and write."

Unfortunately, his time here was desperately short. In what has been described as an assisted suicide (he was given a lethal dose of morphine with the support of his doctor, friend Max Schur and Anna), Freud died at 83 on September 23rd 1939.

He was cremated at the Golders Green Crematorium in Hoop Lane where his ashes can be found at Freud Corner.

More than 30,000 people visit 20 Maresfield Gardens, the final home of Sigmund and Anna Freud, each year. The museum is currently running its Freud and Latin America exhibition, which has been extended to September 9. There's also a mini exhibition marking a century of *The Ego and the Id* where the props and set designs from *Freud's Last Session* can be found. They are on display till September. Freud Museum London  
20 Maresfield Gardens  
London NW3 5SX



# Unfair Unhelpful Unaccountable - UNWRA

*by Jacqueline Gross*

**This article was written by Jacqueline Gross a decade ago and published in *Bimah*, the magazine of Middlesex New Synagogue. She added the postscript following the 7th October massacre. It does not necessarily reflect the views of the Mosaic Jewish Community**

In 1947 during a House of Commons debate, Ernest Bevan, the then Foreign Secretary, said that the problem of Mandate Palestine was irreconcilable: 'The Jews will do all in their power to get a Jewish State and the Arabs will do all in their power to stop the Jews having a Jewish State.'

It appears that nothing has changed if one substitutes the word 'keep' for 'get.'

The real and probably most intractable problem is UNWRA (United Nations Works and Relief Agency). This organisation continues to push relentlessly for the 'right of return' of Palestinian refugees. It does this in all its work – schools, clinics, social centres etc. – and by doing so continues to promote the fallacy of Palestinian victimhood.

In 1949 there were two UN refugee organisations set up: UNHCR which was founded to look after and re-settle ALL the refugees apart from the Palestinians and UNWRA only for Palestinians. UNWRA was set up at the insistence of the Arab states after Israel's 1948 War of Independence.

Of all known refugees from the 1950s, 60s, and 70s all have been settled by UNHCR except for the Palestinians.

In fact, the number of Palestinian refugees

has increased from the original 650,000 people to around 5 million. This is because UNWRA includes on its roster all the descendants of the Arabs who left Palestine/Israel (for whatever reason) during and soon after the 1948 war. Many of these people were not even those who could say that they had lived for generations in what became Mandate Palestine. They were relative newcomers who had come to Palestine from surrounding Arab countries in 1910s 20s, and 30s because of the increasing prosperity, economic growth and agricultural development that was being fostered by increasing Jewish immigration from Europe.

UNWRA answers to nobody but itself, not even the UN, and until recently was financially accountable to none. It employs around 25,000 people, 95% of whom are Palestinian. There are a few Western employees for the "shop-window".

It receives somewhere around \$600 million from its donors – 71% of whom are from the West. The Arab countries contribute very little.

UNWRA is the greatest obstacle to peace between the Palestinians and Israel. The organisation has never attempted to integrate the Palestinian refugees into local

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populations of, for example, Jordan or Lebanon.

They do not want a two-state solution. Their solution is the 'right of return' of all the refugees to what is now Israel, so negating the Jewish State. It continues to feed the dream of return to the Palestinians. This is of course a non-starter for Israelis.

Western governments, particularly the US and EU, do not take this issue seriously and say that the Palestinians don't really mean the 'right of return'. Yet in a recent poll, 95% of Palestinians say they want the right of return. Israelis and Palestinians take this very seriously and the West seems to have forgotten that the issue of refugees is very important to Palestinian identity.

The West is ignoring the fact that it is not the building of settlements, nor even the status of Jerusalem, that is preventing the progress of the two-state solution negotiations - it is the covert stance by Mahmoud Abbas and Fatah and the more overt stance by UNWRA, Hamas, Islamic Jihad and their ilk, promoting the return to Israel of some 5-6 million so-called Palestinian refugees.

If this should happen it would ensure the destruction of the Jewish State and the West is ignoring this at Israel's peril.

Postscript: June 2024

What must not be forgotten is that Hamas have run Gaza since 2006/7, after Israel unilaterally pulled out of Gaza.

Much of what I wrote then has NOT changed, but the horror of 7th October, perpetrated by Hamas, revealed a whole new and shocking perspective of UNWRA.

It had been known for many years that schools and universities run in whole or in part by UNWRA were fomenting and promulgating

antisemitism, rabid Jew-hatred and virulent anti-Zionism in their school textbooks and by the teachers. This has been happening in the West Bank under the aegis of the Palestinian Authority.

There have been many half-hearted attempts to change this by the EU and other bodies, with virtually no effect.

7th October revealed that UNWRA was complicit in many ways in the massacre. According to Israeli sources, UNWRA staff helped to take hostages and looted Israeli communities. They are affiliated to Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad and active in the military wing of PIJ. Anthony Blinken, US Secretary of State, said at the end of January that the evidence provided by Israel was highly credible. Hamas has used UNWRA facilities for its own purposes, building huge networks of tunnels below the UNWRA headquarters in Gaza City, using electricity from the UNWRA HQ.

The UN continue to deny that there is a link between Hamas and UNWRA. In the meantime several donors, including the US and UK, have frozen the funding to UNWRA.

Unfortunately, it is starting to be realised that one of the few NGOs that can distribute much needed aid to the civilian population of Gaza is UNWRA.

What is required is a form of de-Hamasification (de-radicalisation) for the population of Gaza and the workers of UNWRA, along the lines of the de-Nazification process in Germany at the end of WWII and, vitally, a change in the school children's textbooks to eliminate the antisemitism in the current ones used even in primary schools.

## A Close-up look at Israel

Rabbi Rachel Benjamin reflected on a recent trip to Israel in her *From the Rabbis* column in the Pesach edition of *Kehila*. Here, David Wyman and Jacqueline Gross provide more details about her visit

Rabbi Rachel was in Israel earlier this year visiting Mosaic's twinned community in Ramat Ha-Sharon, Darchei Noam. The trip also included a three-day programme organised for Liberal and Reform Rabbis from the UK. In particular, it included visits to sites directly affected by the Hamas attack on 7th October, plus meetings with family members of one of the hostages and colleagues in Jerusalem and Haifa.

This trip was a very different one for Rabbi Rachel. Her first visit to Israel was when she was 8, accompanied by her 10-year-old brother. They were staying with her uncle Herschel. She remembers crying all the way there as it was her first trip away and then sobbing all the way back because she didn't want to leave. This was the start of her love for Israel leading to many return visits.

Arriving at Ben Gurion Airport for the recent trip, she saw an installation of posters of all the hostages with the captions 'Our heart is captive in Gaza' and 'Bring them home now'. Hundreds of dog tags were emblazoned with the same messages. Artwork highlighting similar messages are everywhere throughout the country, as are Israeli flags.

The first stop on her trip was meeting her cousin who lives near Netanya and then our twinned community, near Tel Aviv. She also met Rabbi Eli Levin and representatives from the Arab villages, Taibe and Tira and Qalansawe.

Tel Aviv is very much alive but is covered by reminders of the war with photos of the hostages, as well as mementos such as lions and lambs echoing Isaiah. Anemones are seen everywhere as a symbol of the Southern massacre.

Rabbi Rachel's first day with the other Rabbis on the trip was to Sha'ar Hanegev in the Gaza Envelope. One of the communities attacked on 7th October was Kibbutz Nir Oz where a quarter of its inhabitants were killed or abducted as hostages. Her initial concern was that she was on a trauma tourism trip but felt like everyone else that it was important to show solidarity and bear witness. She was shown a safe room where the occupants miraculously survived by wedging themselves in. The safe rooms are designed for rocket attacks and not invasions, so have no locks. The kibbutz will have to be completely rebuilt.

The sheer horror and enormity was displayed on the noticeboard by the dining room. Amongst the burnt kitchen, broken glass and bullet holes are the death notices, including a section dedicated to the Thai workers who were brutally murdered. Post Room mailboxes are marked with stickers showing the dead, the captured and those who have returned. The people on the kibbutz believed in a two-state solution. Palestinians worked there and Kibbutzniks took Gazans to Israeli hospitals for treatment. The Rabbis could hear the pounding of artillery.

They then went to the site of the Nova Music Festival near Kibbutz Re'im where there is now a memorial to the young partying people who were murdered there. Their photographs are everywhere on the site. Memorial prayers were recited.

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The next day the group moved on to Jerusalem where they visited the Kol Hanesama Reform synagogue. It was important to support the Israeli Reform Rabbis who on some days had officiated or attended 10 funerals. They also attended a meeting of the World Zionist Organisation with an address from President Isaac Herzog. It was interesting that questions had been carefully vetted and there was absolutely no mention of Benjamin Netanyahu.

Day 3 was in Haifa and included a visit to the Leo Baeck Education Centre which is committed to shared existence with Haifa's Arab community. Its aim is to increase opportunities for frequent and meaningful contact, closing social gaps, and eliminating the stereotyping and lack of understanding prevalent among Jews and Arabs. They also went to the Jewish Arab Community Garden on the slopes of Mount Carmel which has similar aims for the multi-religious communities.

The final stop was Kibbutz Shefayim

which is now a centre for evacuees from the inhabitants of Kibbutz Aza that also suffered in the massacre on 7th October. They met Amir Tibon, who together with his children was rescued from their safe room by the heroic act of his father who drove south only armed with a pistol.

The general take home message from the people that the group met was:

Military action should continue until all the hostages are released

Partners need to build a peace

A demilitarised state of Palestine should be created

From the beginning the Israeli Government has done very little to help the people. Most of the aid has come from the citizens of Israel themselves uniting the country.

We thank Rabbi Rachel for sharing her experiences with us on what must have been a very emotional and sad trip but with some glimmer of hope for the future.

Please G-d, in shā Allāh

## A PICTURE OF SOLIDARITY

The Israeli flag flying between two Ukrainian flags at Le Cannet town hall, near Cannes in the South of France. Photograph by Michael Reik taken on 6th April, 2024.

The flags have been flying since 7th October, 2023.





### Shavuot...

*By Rosemary Wolfson*

The Oakleaf Hydrangea, the  
Foxtail Lily with its shower of  
star-shaped flowers: the  
plants and flowers reminiscent  
of some desert scenes of today,  
and the Homath plant, that grows in  
mountain basins, with its red/pink  
flowers of springtime...

Shavuot, by now passed -  
a momentary dream?  
After the traditional decorating  
of our synagogues, the  
giving of the Torah, the  
reading of Ruth and  
associated gleanings of  
harvest fields,  
to help the needy...

Will we possibly be able  
now, in the flowering  
of late June or early July 2024  
to have some hope for  
the land of Israel?

Or should we perhaps feel guilt  
that for a brief period we may  
have been able to enjoy  
the likes of a  
Yuzu cheesecake,  
flavoured with fragrant  
Japanese citrus, or  
Chevre Cheesecake, decorated  
with strawberries, and  
edible flowers, or  
Gvina Levana?

### IN THE NAME OF PROGRESS

*by Janet Byrne*



I once gazed out at vistas green  
And a vast amount of sky  
With trees and flowers all around,  
A pleasure to the eye.

But through the window now I see  
The panorama's changed  
There are instead skyscraper blocks  
Around me all arranged.

In place of flowers are many bins,  
The smell pervades the air  
In colours black, brown, blue and green,  
They stand there pair by pair.

On every concrete frontage  
There's a car or two, or more,  
Overlapping on to pavements  
Or parked right to the door.

But then this is known as progress  
As I now sadly know,  
For soon my house is coming down  
So a block of flats can grow.



## READ ALL ABOUT IT

*By Bernard Fisherman*



Newspapers come in all shapes and sizes  
 That informs and offers journalistic surprises  
 A gruesome murder makes colourful reading  
     A banker with his hand in the till  
     Trouble maybe in the African continent  
     Not so much a readers thrill  
 Actors, sportspeople, movers and shakers  
     Always evoke juicy tittle tattle  
 And anything gossipy about our political folk  
     Never fails to verbally rattle  
     The royal family living the good life  
     Come in for some regal reporting  
 And illegal immigrants who slip in through the net  
     Must be prepared for deporting  
 Horse and dog racing tips on the back pages  
     Fill us with financial hope  
 But when they quickly become also rans  
     We seriously ponder and sadly declare  
     We have become sad and bitter dopes  
 So beware of newspapers with their opinions and tips  
     The best use of the ever present newspaper  
     Is to be used especially and only  
 For wrapping our traditional and tasty fried fish and  
     chips

## VALENTINE

*By Adele Franklin*



Vibrating with the joy of a new love  
 Annabelle waltzed down the road  
 Lovelight was shining in her eyes  
 Energy coursing through her veins  
     Nothing could ruin her day  
 Theodore had asked for her hand  
     In rapture she replied 'Oh Yes'  
     Never realising that all he was  
 Eager for, was her hand to embalm

Way back in the middle of lockdown I did a  
 Meet the Author Zoom about my book *Silver  
 Whimsy 1*. I have subsequently produced two  
 more books of short stories, the last one, *Silver  
 Whimsy 3*, came out in April this year.

They are, as you might imagine, a whimsical  
 collection of prose and poetry, some serious  
 and some funny about all manner of things.  
 The above poem is my take on a Valentine  
 acrostic poem.

The books are available in paperback and  
 Kindle from Amazon.

# Dr Brian Posner – “While I’m here Doctor”

By Juliet Grainger

Following a bagel lunch, Mosaic Culture Hub were very lucky to have retired GP Dr Brian Posner come and talk about his life as a GP in Sunderland, and also the history of medicine and the NHS including on 3rd April.

He started by thanking three of his old patients who had come down especially from County Durham to see him.

Dr Posner told some amusing anecdotes about his patients, who predominantly worked in coalmining and ship building.

He had trained at the Royal Victoria Hospital in Newcastle and was taught by a few eccentric ‘Sir Lancelot Spratt’-type physicians and surgeons. (For those who don’t recognise the name, Sir Lancelot was the irascible senior surgeon in the *Doctor in the House* books by Richard Gordon and the films starring Dirk Bogarde. Ed.)

Dr Posner’s history of the lead-up to the formation of the NHS was fascinating. He talked about the clergy, monks and barbers being the first to provide medical attention prior to the reign of King Henry VIII, when apothecaries were introduced. He said that the doctor’s

duty was to amuse the patient whilst “nature takes its course.” Thus sometimes causing more problems than they solved.

In 1911, the National Insurance Act preceded the NHS, where patients paid an annual subscription of about four shillings to be on a Doctor’s panel. This would include

their medical care and drugs that were just beginning to come into being. However, in 1948, the National Health Service was created, when the Government bought all the GP practices. This was followed by the 1966 Doctor’s Charter and things looked a little more like they do today.

Dr Posner said that he could often see up to 60 patients a day – and on several occasions more than 100 patients during a flu epidemic. He talked about

the placebo effect, and that giving any attention could induce a temporary (if not permanent) improvement.

He showed some interesting photos of his father’s GP practice, which was basically a shop where the patient waiting room was in the front, and the GP’s surgery at the back. He then went on to show some of the first Health Centres from the 1960s up to the present day – an antithesis from the original GP practices. He even admitted that his father’s surgery did not have proper plumbing (wash basins) until 1966!

His talk was amusing and really interesting and I thoroughly enjoyed it.



## Walk, talk, bake with the Rinkoffs

By Sue Krisman

For our Culture Hub event on 16th April, Ray and his very active wife, Esther, members of the renowned Rinkoff family, bakers since 1911, generously arrived (complete with pastries!) to tell us their story.

Several dozen books could be written about the coming and the conflicts of the skilful Jewish bread-makers who came at the turn of the century into Britain's strict laws on Sunday trading.



*Challah masterclass from the Rinkoffs*

Esther told the story so well, whilst letting us see the tricks and the tips of how to make good cholla as Ray Rinkoff, the kingpin of the modern business, explained the process he had learned from the family and added new techniques to. He kneaded and rolled the dough before us and later gave a masterclass in plaiting most of us could only dream of.

The family came from Ukraine to a hostile

## *"Bread is mentioned 492 times in the Torah"*

environment of bakers already established in London. They were strictly kosher and closed Friday afternoon until Sunday, which put them at a disadvantage unless they could bake on Sunday. But their bakery was so popular it overcame that hurdle. Plenty more hurdles were to be jumped over the next hundred years, but the affection and loyalty of the family carried them through to this day.

Hyman Rinkoff began the business in Whitechapel's Old Montague Street, followed by his son Max in the 1950's in Jubilee Street. His youngest son Roy continued for fifty years, with two brothers backing him with the finances and admin that any thriving successful business needs.

Lloyd came next, then Ray's eldest daughter Jennifer, backed by her sister Debs. These youngsters brought many new ways into the bakery as they knew it, but keeping the old traditions going at the same time. Ben is the latest of the family – the fifth generation – to be waiting in the wings for the future.

It was a great evening highly appreciated by the 57 people who attended to watch and listen to a family history that still continues today. It is remarkable that as they munched the bread and pastries they were maybe tasting the same recipes that came so long ago from Da Heim!

A very grateful thanks to the Rinkoffs for this privilege, which was enjoyed, plus that lovely perfume that is wafted during the baking of good bread.

# Inspiring Service for Yom HaShoah

**M**ichael Reik and Alan Solomon from Mosaic Jewish Community attended the Yom HaShoah Service at Victoria Tower Gardens by the House of Commons on 5th May. The inspiring service featured singing from primary school children from eight Jewish

schools, as well as speeches from Chief Rabbi Sir Ephraim Mirvis and Tsipi Hotovely, the Israeli Ambassador, in front of 1200 attendees from the UK Jewish Community and their friends.



*Michael Reik (left)  
and Alan Solomon*



*Ceremony at  
Victoria Tower Gardens*



*Children's Choir*



*Inspiring Voices*

## At the Sign of the Falcon by John Benjamin:

The Extraordinary Life of HG Murphy, Designer, Goldsmith and Silversmith

By Howard Berger

John Benjamin gave us an enthralling talk on a most talented man who, but for a fluke of fate, would have disappeared from history.

While John was working for Phillips International Auctioneers, a chance visit to Sevenoaks to see an elderly lady in possession of a pre-war Freeman Hardy and Willis shoe box that had lain in a dusty loft for over 55 years provided the discovery of her father's work and life – a life that was then rescued from obscurity.

Over a period of a year John visited her on 32 occasions to take detailed photographs of Henry George Murphy's treasure trove of lost illustrations, designs and samples from his early Arts & Crafts pieces to his later original Art Deco works.

Up to this point his daughter had never stored the box anywhere safer than under her bed. Until disaster struck and the box and all its contents were stolen, with little chance of ever being found. At this point the story would have ended, but for an incredible coincidental encounter almost one year later.

John was at Phillips' Bond Street address when a lady arrived with a 1953 Coronation tin box of items that she nonchalantly offered to him to inspect, to determine if they had any value. As soon as he saw them his look of astonishment could not be hidden, as they were the very contents of the old shoe box. She sensed he knew these pieces had been

stolen and, before she could make a swift exit, his quick wit and courage saved the day when he had her detained and the goods retained by security staff and later the police!

The slide show illustrated the amazing skill and talent of HG. Murphy with his ability to mount jewellery and create many works in gold or silver. He had been a solitary child, preferring to read full volumes of encyclopedias and listen to Elgar. He was mostly self-taught, gifted and very bright.

At the age of 14 he was apprenticed for six years to Henry Wilson, one of the great designers and craftsmen of the Arts and Crafts movement, who numbered William Morris and Walter Crane as his colleagues.

He had at one time his own premises and 13 experienced staff in Marylebone High Street. Unfortunately, fires, poor bookkeeping and the inability to ever say no to any project wore him down, despite his great determination and highly artistic output. By 1938 overwork and exhaustion overwhelmed him and he died in 1939, at just 54 years old.

John has written a book, with his photographs, on this story and his talk was full of great wit, charm, pathos and pace. He brought this man to life and put him back as a designer of great worth and skill. We were even lucky enough to see a belt buckle that John had purchased in recent years, which showed in great detail the tremendous skill and ability of HG. Murphy.

It was a solid hour of sheer delight about a great man returned to the limelight that he very much deserved.

*Arts and Crafts to Art Deco: The Jewellery and Silver of HG Murphy* by John Benjamin and Paul Atterbury

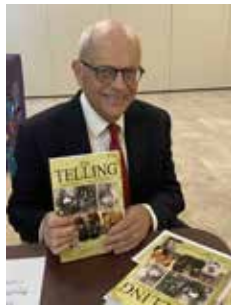
### The Telling: One Family, Two Centuries

By Lawrence Cohen

Daniel Tabor's evocative talk at Mosaic Culture Hub on 8th May reminded me of the enigma of being in the right place at the right time or, conversely, being in the wrong place at the wrong time.

Think of all those Israelis who attended the musical festival on 7th October last year only to be massacred at the hands of Hamas.

Daniel's story of his family illustrates, superbly, the question 'what if?' What if his



maternal grandmother Rivkah had not had her academic career thwarted by her expulsion from St Petersburg on account of her being a Jew? What if his paternal grandfather had chosen the path of conversion in order to further his promising career in the Czarist army?

And further down the line, after his paternal grandparents were forced to flee Nazi Germany for Australia, following his patriotic German grandfather's incarceration in a concentration camp, what if Daniel's mother had not attended that Habonim lecture in Sydney delivered by his father, where she decided 'this is the man I am going to marry'?

Daniel argues that memory, identity and place were key in writing his story. I would maintain that chance also played its part. Maybe Bob Dylan got it right: the answer my friends is blowin' in the wind!

*Yachad  
N'natzeiach,  
'together we will  
win'*





## Israel's War on All Fronts:

An evening with Richard Pater

By Tony Fineberg

On Thursday 9th May, Mosaic hosted an evening titled 'Israel's War on All Fronts', facilitated by Richard Pater, Director of BICOM, during his recent 4-day flying visit from his home in Israel – his only public appearance.



The hall was packed with over eighty people, all keen to obtain a more informed and unbiased view of what was happening in Israel (and Gaza) than they believe they receive from the UK media.

Michael Reik formally welcomed and introduced our guest and then handed over to Richard to give an introduction and insight into the current crisis in Israel.

Richard lives in Jerusalem and has previously worked in the Office of the Prime Minister, served in the IDF and is currently a reservist. He has a huge breadth of knowledge and a great deal of personal insight into and access to senior and high-ranking officials in and around the current government and IDF.

He enlarged on what he thought were the immediate precipitants of the atrocities perpetrated by Hamas on 7th October, the perceived weaknesses in Israeli Intelligence, lack of preparedness and in response, both within the IDF and Cabinet. His inside knowledge of the 'players and characters' within the current Cabinet provided an informed

backdrop to some of the views we hold in the UK.

The Q&A went on for over

an hour and covered topics such as the current US/Israel relationship, pressure groups within the Cabinet, Israel's allies in the Middle East, and media coverage of the events including the situation in Gaza, both in Israel and abroad.

There were also some more wide-ranging questions where the answers were not as expected.

For example, Richard was asked by one attendee: "What is in it for Israel's allies in the Middle East?" Why would Qatar, on the one hand fund Hamas and offer a home to Al Jazeera (to criticise and condemn Israel's actions in Gaza) and yet hold itself out as a mediator and ally of Israel? Apparently, Israeli technology, investment and weapons is a great incentive on the one hand, yet being seen as an Arab country by other Arabs is an incentive on the other. In the Middle East, everything has a price and is a balancing act.

In the middle of all of this is the role of Iran and its influence, on Hezbollah in Lebanon and in Northern Israel, and its proxy influence and funding of Hamas in Gaza.

At the end Richard was asked: "We know the Israeli tactics as they play out, but does it have a strategy, a long-term post-war plan?" Unfortunately, the response from Richard was that it doesn't have one in place, and in the short term at least will continue on its intent to destroy Hamas.



Continued on following page >>

## EVENT REVIEW

Continued from previous page...

Richard answered every question, with direct unbiased honesty that left those who attended feeling much better informed and with a greater insight to what Israel was going through and its responses.

David Leibling closed the evening with a formal thanks to Richard and Michael presented him with two books, authored by our members Steve Levinson and Alex Gerlis. This was a most informative and riveting evening.

### Mosaic Visit to Bentley Priory

By Philippa Lester

A small but very interested group of Mosaic members visited Bentley Priory Museum on 15th May. It is situated in acres of beauty just up the road from the Synagogue.



Once a Priory, after the dissolution of the monastery the first beautiful mansion house was built on its ruins. It then had many lives: it was the scene of celebrity parties for the first Marquess of Abercorn, the residence of Queen Adelaide, a hotel of the famous Frederick Gordon, and an elite girls' school. Most importantly, it was from this building that before and during World War II, wartime defence was planned and controlled, and the

Battle of Britain was won.

Mosaic Masorti member Sue Krisman gave us an excellent introduction to the building. She is a guide at the museum and has contributed to the displays, so was the ideal person to show us around. Then we explored the Museum's galleries, with talks from two other very knowledgeable guides. We learnt about the leadership of 'The One' – Air Chief Marshall Sir Hugh Dowding; the courage of 'The Few' – the Battle of Britain aircrew; and the work of 'The Many' – those on the ground without whom victory could not have been possible.

The story of Sergeant Alfred Lipscombe (pictured), an air gunner who retrained as a radar operator, touched us all. When his plane was set on fire a long way out to sea in May 1940, his instinctive reading of the data and directions saved his and his pilot's



life. Sadly, he died four months later when they were shot down. This story was related to us by Steve Maddock, one of the guides, who is Alfred Lipscombe's nephew.

After lunch in the welcoming pretty café at the museum, some of us visited the site of the underground bunker and walked around the Italianate gardens on the estate.

Such a memorable visit, and the museum is so easy to get to. They also have talks on Friday mornings at 11am.

We felt very welcomed and our group said that they would like to come back and explore this interesting museum again in more depth as there is so much to see and understand.

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

*Friday 28th June and Friday 19th July 6.30 pm*

### **Shireinu and potluck dinner**

Come join us as we welcome Shabbat in song with Shireinu, Mosaic Jewish Community's musical Kabbalat Shabbat service. This is inspired by the musical, non-denominational services you may have heard about (or been to) in Israel and the US. Led by Rabbi Anna, Joseph and a host of musicians from our community. If you sing or play an instrument and would like to be involved in the service, please contact [rabbiana@choosemoaic.org](mailto:rabbiana@choosemoaic.org). Service will be followed by a potluck dinner. Please contact Rabbi Anna to coordinate what fish or vegetarian dish to bring.



*Monday 1st July*

### **Film Mosaic, 8.00 pm**

Mosaic Culture Hub is thrilled to invite you to the film evening at Mosaic Jewish Community for a viewing of *Golda*, (with subtitles). Helen Mirren is Golda Meir in this totally absorbing 2023 movie. The film deals with the immediate lead up to the Yom Kippur War, the war itself, plus the decisions and fear of total destruction of the Jewish State. Liev Schreiber plays Henry Kissinger and is supported by an ensemble cast of outstanding British actors. By the end of the movie it is hard to believe that you have not been watching the real Golda. Mirren is simply superb.



Film Mosaic is open to everyone, so 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.

*Thursday 11th July, 10.30am*

### **East End Jewish Walk**

Mosaic guided walks for summer 2024 with Blue Badge Guide Steve Levinson are restarting.

Book your place for 10.30am on Thursday, 11th July starting from the Kindertransport Memorial in front of Liverpool Street mainline and underground station, (see picture). Limited places are available, so first come, first served. This Jewish-flavour walk takes approximately 2 to 2.5 hours.

Price £10 per head. For further details and booking visit the Mosaic website.



## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

*Saturday 13th July*

### **Family Service 10.45am and Mosaic family picnic**

Come have a play, sing some Shabbat songs, and read a story with us in our Family Saturday morning service. Recommended for children 0–6 but everyone is welcome. After Kiddush we will head over to Stanmore Recreation Ground to share a picnic. Youngsters can play on the swings etc. and there will be games for anyone who wants to join. Our family picnic is for people of all ages. Please bring a fish or vegetarian packed lunch for your party.



*Wednesday 17th July*

### **Meet the Author, Rabbi Dr Andrew Goldstein, 12.30pm**

Mosaic Culture Hub invites you to Meet The Author, Rabbi Dr Andrew Goldstein.

Join us for a light lunch before the Rabbi discusses *Judith's Diaries* with aslide presentation.

Rabbi Andrew Goldstein is the Emeritus Rabbi of the Northwood and Pinner Liberal Synagogue. He developed an interest in the Montefiores whilst at

Leo Baeck College and this led to a PhD on Travel to the Holy Land in the first quarter of the 20th century. Inspiration for that work came from access to two unpublished handwritten diaries by Judith Montefiore of tours around Europe and Ireland in 1823 and 1825. Two further diaries from 1816 and 1817/18 were discovered in the Hebrew University.

In 1990 Rabbi Andrew and his wife Sharon replicated a journey the Montefiores made to Jerusalem in 1827, travelling overland and by sea.

Judith, Lady Montefiore was a British linguist, musician, philanthropist and travel writer. Married to Sir Moses Montefiore, she wrote the first Jewish cookbook written in English.

Please book via the Mosaic website by Wednesday, 10th July for catering purposes. There is a £7 charge which will increase to £10 from 11th July.

# FORTHCOMING EVENTS

*Saturday 27th July*

## **Shabbat Shira**

We are delighted to invite you to Shabbat Shira, our family friendly service, led by David Pollak and Rabbi Kathleen. Sing all the familiar and joyous Shabbat Shira tunes

See, touch and hear the Torah. Help in dressing and undressing the Torah Scroll and hear the story of the week. The service is recommended for children under 11, but all ages are welcome and older siblings are invited to take an active part in the service.



*Sunday 1st September, 3.00 pm*  
*Dedication of 1a Halsbury Close, see p9*



*Wednesday 4th September, 12.30 pm*

## **Liesel's Story: Man Proposes – God Disposes**

Mosaic Culture Hub invites you to a presentation by member Joan Noble. Join us for a light lunch before Joan relates the story of her mother and grandparents. It is based around a diary written in 1933 by her mother at the age of 16.

The contents of the diary were unknown until recently when it was transcribed from old-style German and translated, relating much about the normal life of a teenage girl living in pre-war Germany. Her mature insight into those crucial years records vividly how life totally changed.

Details emerged years later when research by a local German historian filled in the unanswered gaps and facts of the Holocaust, revealing the fate of Joan's grandparents. Please book via the Mosaic website by Wednesday 28th August for catering purposes. There is a £7 charge which will increase to £10 from 29th August.

*Monday 9th September* **Film Mosaic, 8.00 pm**

Mosaic Culture Hub is thrilled to invite you to the film evening at Mosaic Jewish Community for a viewing of *Ushpizin*. In Jerusalem's orthodox neighbourhoods it's Succot, seven days celebrating life's essentials in a Sukkah into which it is a Mitzvah to invite strangers. A devout couple, Moshe and Mali, married nearly five years and childless are so poor that they can't afford to build a Succah. They pray for a miracle. Suddenly, miracles abound: a friend finds Moshe a Sukkah which he says is abandoned, Moshe is the beneficiary of local charitable fundraising, and two escaped convicts arrive on Moshe and Mali's doorstep in time to be their Ushpizin, their guests. The miracles then become trials.

This charming Israeli film is funny, deeply spiritual and absolutely uplifting. You won't leave without a smile on your face. (In Hebrew with English subtitles)

Film Mosaic is open to everyone, so 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.





# FORTHCOMING EVENTS

## SAVE THE DATE

### LIVE SCULPTURE OF HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR

**JOANNA MILLAN BEM**

**BY INTERNATIONAL SCULPTOR FRANCES SEGELMAN**



DATE: SUNDAY 22ND SEPTEMBER 2024

VENUE: NORTH LONDON TBC

TIME: 3.00-5.30

£20 - INCLUDES DELICIOUS CREAM TEA. LIVE SCULPTURE AND OPPORTUNITY FOR JOANNA TO SHARE SOME OF HER LIFE STORY



ALL MONEY RAISED WILL GO DIRECTLY TO BFIWD



British Friends of Israel War Disabled have again chosen Mosaic as the venue for a live sculpture event on Sunday, September 22nd at 3pm.

This follows a successful art exhibition held at Mosaic in December, organised by committee member Joan Noble to raise funds for BFIWD, Edgware & Stanmore Committee.

You are invited to watch Frances Segelman FRSA MRSS as she creates a sculpture of local Holocaust survivor and campaigner Joanna Millan BEM. Frances is celebrated for her sculptures of members of the Royal Family, personalities from the worlds of entertainment, politics and sport as well as Holocaust survivors.

Joanna will be recounting her story of survival, left as an orphan at 18 months old in Theresienstadt and brought to England aged three, followed by a Q&A.

Tickets are £20 each, to include a delicious cream tea. All proceeds will go via BFIWD to the Beit Halochem Rehabilitation Centres in Israel for mentally and physically injured and disabled soldiers.

Numbers are limited, so early booking is recommended. Please also invite your friends and family.

Call Jackie Stimler on 07904 193139 for further details and email [jackie\\_stimler@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jackie_stimler@yahoo.co.uk) to confirm your booking. Payment can only be made in advance, not at the door, to BFIWD, sort code 20-29-37, account number 80245038, reference 'Mosaic'.



*Sunday 24th November, 7.00 pm*

### **Mosaic Culture Hub Presents Life Against The Odds**

This performance is a fusion of dramatic storytelling, songs and music from the Greek, Jewish and Balkan traditions. Join us for a theatrical and moving performance of real-life narratives of the Jews in Thessaloniki, Greece during the Holocaust (1933-45).

There are very few Greek Jews left in Thessaloniki today and only a handful that have living memories of the Holocaust and who experienced the concentration camps. Award-winning performance storyteller and author Anna Conomos-Wedlock has conducted extensive research over the last two years in Greece, Poland, Israel and the UK. She interviewed the last survivors and their families, visiting the landmarks of the Second World War that feature in her performance.

Anna's dramatic performance is inspired by their experiences and by the stories of Greek families that hid Jews during the Nazi occupation of Thessaloniki between 1941 to 1944. The performance includes music and songs with highly acclaimed musician, Anna Golitzin. The performance is suitable for adult audiences and children aged over 7. There will be refreshments after the performance and time to ask questions about the show. Please book via the Mosaic website by Thursday 14th November for catering purposes. There is a £12 charge which will increase to £16 from 15th November.



"A vibrant mesmerising performer" – Jewish Museum, Sydney, Australia

"Fascinating, spellbinding, amazing!" – Dr Elias Dinas, Politics and International Relations, Oxford University

"Anna Conomos-Wedlock has revived this neglected tradition of storytelling for the grown-up world. The snatches of unaccompanied song in her tale tugs at the heart, and transports us with the narrative into a place of wonder."

The Telegraph

This event is being supported by the Sidney Fenton Education Foundation.

### **5785 – ROSH HASHANAH GREETINGS – 5785**

You are invited to place a New Year greeting to friends and family in the Rosh Hashanah edition of *Kehila*. The cost is £10 for up to 30 words. Please email the greeting to: [newsdesk@choosemosaic.org](mailto:newsdesk@choosemosaic.org) or use the form below (or a photocopy) and post to *Kehila*, 1a Halsbury Close, Stanmore HA7 3DY.

Payment can be made in the Mosaic office by card or by BACS directly to account no. 43671224, sort code 20-74-12, making sure that you provide a reference that includes your name. Please notify the office if your payment is sent via BACS.

The LAST DAY for acceptance of orders is 12th August 2024.

See Order Form on Calendar of Events, page 50

## Why is this night different?

**Y**es, we do know that Pesach is past, but the Yomim Noraim are coming up in a couple of months, so we are asking for contributions to the second in our series of family Yom Tov traditions, including taking and breaking the Fast.

I don't remember how my maternal grandparents started their Fast, but Grandpa always broke it on a glass of Vishnik (a sweet cherry liqueur) and some schmaltz herring, while Grandma preferred a cup of tea and a piece of honey cake, a pattern we follow in our home to this day.

How does your family Fast? Perhaps you start with traditional Ashkenazi kreplach soup and chicken, or does a lighter grilled sole do it for you? And what is your pleasure 25 hours later? A feast of bagels or tea and toast? Fried fish or a salad buffet? Do you follow your own parents' pattern or have you developed some twenty-first century traditions of your own. Please write and let us know, and we will



feature a selection in our Rosh Hashanah issue.

It's not just Yom Kippur we're interested in. Perhaps you also have memories of Rosh Hashanah or Sukkot that you'd like to share with the Community. Favourite recipes

maybe, or the remembrance of being buttoned into your new winter coat or suit even if the temperature was unseasonably hot. Did your family bring out treasured silverware for that once a year Rosh Hashanah meal, or did you help build and decorate your Sukkah on a tiny balcony or patio?

We look forward to hearing about your family traditions, wherever they come from, and please do include pictures and recipes if you can.

The Rosh Hashanah issue of *Kehila* will be published on 12th September, so please email your articles, photographs, recipes and nuggets to [newsdesk@choosemosaic.org](mailto:newsdesk@choosemosaic.org) to arrive by Monday 12th August at the latest.

### ROSH HASHANAH GREETINGS ORDER FORM.

Greeting (max 30 words) .....

.....  
 .....  
 .....

Family Members' Full Names.....

£10 payment by card or via BACS

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Mondays	10.30	Creative Writing Class (fortnightly)
Tuesdays	10.00	Mosaic Walks – email <a href="mailto:admin@choosemosaic.org">admin@choosemosaic.org</a> for meeting point
	11.00	Mosaic Friendship Club
	19.00	“Untangling our Traditions” with one of our Rabbis
Wednesdays	10.30	Knit & Natter (First Wednesday of the month)
	10.30	Mosaic Melody Makers (Second Wednesday of the month)
Thursdays	11.00	Israeli dancing (fortnightly)
	11.00	Chit-Chat b'Ivrit (fortnightly)
	11.00	Music for memory (Last Thursday of the month)
	14.00	Bridge & Games
	20.00	Talmud class with Rabbi Anthony
Fridays	18.30	Shabbat Beiteinu – Second Friday of the month (unless otherwise stated)
Saturdays	09.45	Masorti service (unless otherwise stated)
	10.30	Reform service
	10.45	Liberal service
Sundays	09.45	HaMakom (during term time)

## JUNE

Sun 30 <sup>th</sup>	13.30	Tombstone consecration – William Warren, Cheshunt Woodland
	14.30	Tombstone consecration – Dennis Weinberg, Cheshunt

## JULY

Mon 1 <sup>st</sup>	20.00	Mosaic Film – <i>Golda</i>
Sat 6 <sup>th</sup>	10.30	Kabbalat Torah Service
Wed 10 <sup>th</sup>	22.00	Mosaic Reform AGM
Sun 14 <sup>th</sup>	09.45	HaMakom – term ends
Wed 17 <sup>th</sup>	12.30	Culture Hub – Rabbi Dr Andrew Goldstein
Sun 28 <sup>th</sup>	11.00	Tombstone consecration – Ashley Crowe. Cheshunt Woodland
	12.00	Tombstone consecration – Michelle Singer. Cheshunt Woodland
	14.00	Tombstone consecration – Phyllis Kline. Cheshunt Woodland

## AUGUST

Mon 12 <sup>th</sup>		Kehila copy date
Sun 25 <sup>th</sup>	10.00	Tombstone consecration – Aubrey Scott, Edgwarebury Lane

## SEPTEMBER

Sun 1 <sup>st</sup>	15.00	Dedication of Mosaic building, Stanmore Hill
Wed 4 <sup>th</sup>	12.30	Mosaic Culture Hub – Liesel's Story
Sun 8 <sup>th</sup>	12.30	Tombstone consecration – Anthony Share, Edgwarebury Lane
	14.00	Tombstone consecration – Neil Hershman, Cheshunt Woodland
	14.45	Tombstone consecration – Larry Frost, Cheshunt Western
Mon 9 <sup>th</sup>	20.00	Mosaic Film – Ushpizin
Sun 15 <sup>th</sup>	14.30	Tombstone consecration – Angela Brand, Edgwarebury Lane
Wed 18 <sup>th</sup>	19.30	Panel Discussion
Thur 19 <sup>th</sup>		Kehila distribution



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

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**HaMakom (Religion School):**

Toria Bacon and Viki Kenton  
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**Bereavement Support:**

Bobbi Riesel 020 8428 7977

**Development Rabbi – Rabbi Anna Wolfson**

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



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Ziants 07841 375458

**Liberal Judaism:**  
020 7580 1663

**Undertakers:** Kings Funeral  
Directors  
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Gill Ross – 07428 162473

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

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