
CHADASHOT

Kingston, Surbiton & District Synagogue
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NEXT EDITION OF CHADASHOT: **Copy Date:** 15 April 2015
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**c/o The Editor at The Synagogue:-
Rosie Ritchie: 020 8390 1872**

The views expressed in Chadashot are not necessarily
those of the Editorial Board, or the Shul Council
The Editor's decision is final.

★ “Distant Wars, Local Communities”

A large audience drawn from all faiths in the Royal Borough came together at the synagogue, organised by Kingston Inter Faith Forum and the Race and Equality Council, to hear Professor Sir Lawrence Freedman speak on “Distant Wars, Local Communities”. He was introduced by the Deputy Mayor, Cathy Roberts, who highlighted the important work of volunteers of Kingston Refugee Action, integrating refugees into the Borough.

Lawrence Freedman contrasted the two approaches to war, Realpolitik, which emphasised the nation’s own interests, and the Interventionist viewpoint that it was morally necessary to help in a particular war.



He spoke of the diverse population of this country. Overall, 11 % were not born in the UK, whereas in London the figure was 40%. Fortunately most live peaceably together, but there is now the new phenomenon of jihadists, often second generation well-educated youngsters, who have been radicalised by the internet and their religious leaders, who are going to Syria to fight. Some become disillusioned and want to return to the UK, but some pose a danger to us if they come back with extreme views.

In terms of the casualties of war in the world, Gaza comes 7th in the list, after Syria with 200,000 dead since 2011, and South Sudan with 100,000 dead in two years. Mexico also has a surprisingly high death rate. In Gaza, probably 50% of those killed were militants, not civilians, but this is not reported in the Press.

The emphasis on Gaza is due to the fact that many of the world’s Press are based in Israel, as it is safer there, and Israel gets undue attention.

He felt that the biggest threat to world peace was Ukraine and Putin’s role there. He thought Russia was weaker than it is portrayed, and Ukraine difficult to control by the Russians.

Professor Freedman referred to the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq and thought that one of the biggest problems was creating stable institutions to run the country after the fighting ended. He thought there would not be British or American troops on the ground in Iraq or Syria as a result of the ISIS threat, but they would provide advisers and training for the local armies.

He stressed that the challenge to local communities was to avoid distant wars spilling over to the UK, by seeking to understand the complexities of conflicts, and that it was often reactions to media images which made inter-communal relations so difficult.

Questions followed, and the audience greatly appreciated the speaker’s wide ranging review of the conflicts throughout the world and his clear exposition of the problems that we all face.

Anne Lyons and Hazel Green

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It was October '84
When we first opened up the door
To those who liked to share their time
With likeminded folk – no stairs to climb!
We planned and schemed,
Tears even streamed.
We talked, we laughed,
We made many a draft.
At last, all set, the day came round.
We hoped our guests wouldn't mind a few \$s
To enjoy a day with food galore.
So many hopes we had in store.

We loved to see those happy faces.
Some worked hard with exercise paces,
Some played cards, while many discussed
Affairs of the day, some showed disgust!
Then came our birthday. We made a fuss
Of all our guests. They rallied round us.
The cake, the candles, the scones and cream,
The party champagne – all to a scheme.
Balloons to celebrate the day,
Everyone cheered HIP – HIP – HOORAY!

Pearl Gordon



An Accolade for the Riverside Club

On Tuesday 4th November 2014 the Riverside Club celebrated its 30th birthday – and a party was held in the Synagogue.

On arrival tea, coffee and biscuits were served and then for those who wished to take part, a discussion took place in the Library chaired by Martin Levey. The discussion is always the latest news, and comments are given by the members – things can get quite lively!!

We were told that no money was to be paid for the day out because it was the Club's 30th birthday – and we were all given a present of a compact double sided mirror. On this special occasion the lunch was to be served earlier than usual, as the tables had to be made ready for the guests who would be arriving shortly – the guests consisting of past members and volunteers.

Lunch consists of soup – always appreciated and most people would relish the idea of another bowlful but “I will not be able to eat my dinner” is the usual comment! Then we were given a piping hot jacket potato and salad. On the table was grated cheese and butter pats for use with the potato. Usually we are given poached salmon or smoked salmon and salads for lunch but were told that today - this would be omitted as we were to be given a big tea.

Tea was provided after Michael and Christine Freedman entertained the members with

popular songs which proved most enjoyable - and to join in the singing!

TEA – what can I say except that it was truly delightful – smoked salmon, chopped herring and egg mayonnaise bridge rolls on huge platters, tea cakes with jam and cream and loads of little biscuits – and piping hot cups of tea.

The birthday cake in blue and white was beautiful – it looked too nice to be cut and eaten, but our Rebbetzin - Shoshanna was given the honour to cut the cake and to blow out the candles. After the cake was cut – portions were given to everyone – accompanied by a glass of “bubbly”.

Thanks were given all round – but I really want to put this in black and white – ALL the wonderful volunteers who regularly give up their time every two weeks to provide a wonderful day out deserve a huge “THANK YOU” because without this devoted band of helpers the Riverside Club would not be able to function.

To close – for those people who sit at home and wish they could have a splendid day out every two weeks – why not come along to the Riverside Club – you will be “wined and dined” and will want to come along on a regular basis. This is a fact and I should know because it happened to me!

Millicent Challis

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Synagogue

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★ A Visit to Delhi

In common with others we know, when we visit a country that is new to us, we seek out local synagogues. And when we find one, we are often struck by an indefinable emotional tie that we feel to those communities, though its cause is difficult to define.

In November, we visited India. and found it a fascinating mix of the old and the new, with temples, mosques, forts and palaces sitting side by side which spoke volumes of the cultural mix.

India has had a small Jewish population for millennia. The majority, the “Bene Israelis”, claim direct descent from the “ten lost

Subsequently, “the Baghdadi Jews” joined them from the Arab countries and Iraq, escaping from their own persecution and seeking economic improvement.

In India, they were always free to practise their Judaism, living and working in apparent harmony with other religions. Ironically, in Cochin, the community split into two and these elements fought each other!

At the time of Indian independence from the British in 1948, there were about 20,000 Jews, but their enthusiasm for the newly created State of Israel led to mass emigration, so that there are now probably no more than 5,000 Jewish people in the whole sub-continent.



Delhi Synagogue

tribes” of Israel, arriving in India two thousand years ago when they escaped from persecution by the very Greek rulers that persecuted Judas Maccabeus. They consider themselves as neither Ashkenazi nor Sephardi.

The small shul that we visited in Delhi epitomizes this, as there are only ten families remaining as the core Jewish community. However, the Diplomatic Corps, notably Americans and Israelis, swell the congregation for regular weekly services, using familiar Artsroll sidurim.

We met the Rabbi / Secretary, who told us of the distinguished British visitors that he has welcomed and showed us the neighbouring Jewish cemetery. He is now elderly and we were left wondering whether the next Rabbinic incumbent would be an Indian or ex-pat enthusiast.

Ann Rinsler

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What a wonderful term we have enjoyed. The new Reception children have settled into school life really well. Year 1 continue to develop and learn at an amazing pace. The interest in the school for our 2015 intake has at times been overwhelming with recent Open Days being oversubscribed.

If you are interested in Reception to Year Two places for 2015 and would like details of our new purpose built school in Roehampton, which opens in September 2015, please book a slot on one of our January Open Days - Thursday 8th January 9.15am or Tuesday 13th January 9.15am. Call the school to book a tour 020 8944 8731.

MJPS Send Festive Cheer to the Armed Forces

The children have been busy preparing for the forthcoming festive season. As they prepare to celebrate festivals including Hanukah and Christmas they have taken time to reflect on one of their key topics this term – Remembrance.

To reinforce their class-based work to mark Armistice Day the children undertook a special trip to the Wimbledon War Memorial. During this trip the children learnt about Paul Mervis, a member of the South London Jewish Community and soldier of the 2 Rifles Battalion. Sadly Lieutenant Paul Mervis died during a foot patrol in Afghanistan in June 2009.

Seeing Paul's photograph and hearing his story brought the reality of remembrance to life for the children. As their school term draws to a close the children have been busy making a range of festive cards and they wanted to share their work beyond their immediate families and friends. So the children decided to make cards for soldiers in our armed forces. With the help of Paul's

family they have been able to send their beautiful creations to Paul's former colleagues in 2 Rifles.

2 Rifles are currently serving in Afghanistan, based in Kabul as the last remaining UK troops due to return home in the spring.

Headteacher, Kate Baum, commented on this special project, "We are immensely proud of the children for their thoughtful and creative work. We hope that the members of 2 Rifles enjoy the children's cards and being remembered during the festive season when so many members of our armed forces are far from their loved ones."



Building Work Begins

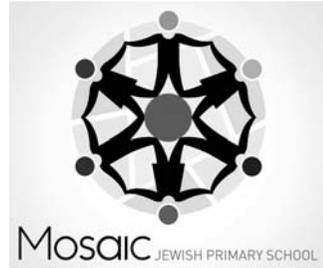
At last – after years of planning – the builders have now moved on to our permanent site at 170 Roehampton Lane. The last few months have seen many meetings, negotiations, re-negotiations, challenges and rewards as we have worked tirelessly with the Education Funding Agency, architect and builders to reach agreement on the next steps for construction, so we can transfer to our permanent home in September 2015.

Photographs are being taken to record our journey to opening. A variety of different contractors have been on site and the programme of works has begun!!

What's behind this intriguing door?



Beyond the door is the garden behind Hartfield House, which will provide outdoor space for the children, even after 14 classrooms, a large hall and studio have been built.



It promises to be a wonderful site for the school which will encompass the best affordable school design with the refurbishment of the splendid early 1900s Hartfield House which will include the administrative heart of the school as well as a community room and a visionary space for designing and creating.



Naomi Reiniger



Personal Page

MAZAL TOV to:

Leah FREEDMAN on the birth of a GREAT-GRANDSON
Ruth and Anthony COWEN on the birth of a GRANDDAUGHTER
Rosalind FREEDMAN and Sarah NAAR on being ESHET CHAYIL
Francesca SIMKIN on the birth of a DAUGHTER
The REBELLO family on the Barmitzvah of SAMMY

CONDOLENCES to:

The family of Ralph SIMONS
The family of Millicent APPLEBOURNE
Andrea GORDON on the loss of her SISTER
Sonia COOK on the loss of her MOTHER
Harold SHATTOCK on the loss of his SISTER
Michael ZEFFMAN on the loss of his MOTHER

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBER

Sharon Nakar

**We would like to thank the following
for providing KIDDUSHIM:**

Michael and Christine Freedman, Keith Mann, Rosalind and
Anthony Freedman, Helen and Stanley Moss, the Rebello family

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★ SHABBAT TIMETABLE

Sidra	Date	Service	Shabbat Commences	Shabbat Ends
Beshalach	30/31 Jan		16:30	17:41
Yitro	6/7 Feb		16:43	17:53
Mishpatim (Shekalim)	13/14 Feb		16:55	18:05
Teruma	20/21 Feb		17:08	18:17
T'tsave (Zachor)	27/28 Feb		17:21	18:29
Vayakhel/Pekudei	13/14 Mar		17:45	18:53
Vayikra (HaChodesh)	20/21 Mar		17:57	19:05
Tsav (HaGadol)	27/28 Mar		18:09	19:17
Summer time begins	29-Mar			
First day Pesach	3/4 April		See Pesach times	
Eighth day Pesach	10/11 April		See Pesach times	
Shemini	17/18 April	19:00	19:45	20:57
Tazria/Metzora	24/25 April	19:00	19:56	21:10
Acharei/Kedoshim	1/2 May	19:00	20:08	21:24
Emor	8/9 May	19:00	20:19	21:38
Behar/Bechukotai	15/16 May	19:15	20:30	21:52
Bemidbar	22/23 May	19:15	20:40	22:06
Shavuot	23/24/25 May		See Shavuot times	

Articles of a controversial nature should be submitted at least ten days before copydate of the next issue in order to allow time for the right of reply to be exercised. Please limit articles to 600 words to enable the inclusion of a larger variety of material

Pesach Timetable

Date	Service/Comment	Time
Thursday 2 April	Search for Chametz after nightfall	8:26 PM
Friday 3 April	Erev Pesach Morning Service (Fast of the first born) Stop eating chametz by Burn/Destroy chametz by Yom Tov Evening Service Candle lighting	6:45 AM 10:53 AM 11:59 AM 7:00 PM 7:22 PM
Shabbat 4 April	First Day Pesach and Shabbat Morning Service Afternoon and Evening Service Shabbat ends and candle lighting after	9:30 AM 7:00 PM 8:27 PM
Sunday 5 April	Second Day Pesach Morning Service Afternoon Service Festival ends	9:30 AM 7:00 PM 8:29 PM
Monday 6 April - Thursday 9 April	Chol HaMoed Morning Service	6:45 AM
Thursday 9 April	Afternoon/Evening Service Candle lighting (and eruv tavshilin by)	7:00 PM 7:33 PM
Friday 10 April	Seventh Day Morning Service Afternoon/Evening Service Candle lighting before	9:30 AM 7:00 PM 7:34 PM
Shabbat 11 April	Eighth Day and Shabbat Morning Service Festival Ends (allow an hour for chametz to be rebought)	9:30 AM 8:40 PM



When I was asked a few weeks ago to make some table arrangements for a charity event, I thought about the cost of flowers in November, which is somewhat prohibitive. I looked around my own garden and was struck by the colour in it which would be there all through the winter and realised it was all from the non- deciduous shrubs (bushes which don't drop their leaves in winter). Not only was there a lot of different greens but there was also silver, cream, yellow, white and pink and shades of soft red.

What is this free foliage to fill your vases in the winter? The backbone is ivy. Love it or hate it, it is a most useful plant. It comes in many leaf shapes, sizes and colours, ranging through yellow, silver, white, cream and green. It loves to clamber up walls, fences and trees but will also scramble along the ground and become the best ground cover for inhospitable dry shady spots where almost nothing else will grow.

Another wonderful yellow or cream and green leaved shrub is *Elaeagnus*. It can quickly grow quite tall, but is amenable to being pruned into shape. Watch out for branches which have reverted, i.e. have only green leaves, these need to be cut out immediately as they are stronger than the variegated leaved branches. This is because the fully green leaves contain more chlorophyll which enables that branch to produce more energy and grow quicker. Therefore the green leaved branch will soon take over the whole shrub.

Pittisporum is widely used by florists and is commercially grown. However, you can grow much prettier ones yourself. I have one which has delicate red stems and red, pink and white tinged leaves which are oval in shape. I also have one that is bright green and yellow with frilled leaves and another with frilled leaves which is cream and grey/green. None of these grow very fast

but all should have their tops and sides pruned in the spring so that they remain bushy and don't become leggy.

Euonymus is a very useful and easy shrub. Again many leaf colour variegations and sizes but even the green is very glossy with tiny little flowers which look delicate and are an asset to the base of any flower arrangement.

Ilex (holly) also comes in different variegations mainly extending through white, cream and yellow. Not all have prickly leaves, so look around the nursery before you buy if you want to use it indoors.

Vinca (Periwinkle) is an evergreen trailing sub-shrubby plant. Mine is almost completely pale yellow. It grows wonderfully long trails which are interesting for arrangements and also has the plus of blue purple flowers through the winter on the non- trailing part of the plant. Again this can be planted in a shady position and is great for ground cover.

Finally a favourite shrub of mine is *Abelia*. It flowers July – November and even when the tubular pale pink/white flowers drop there are the pink calyxes left and together with the glossy bronze tinted foliage it makes a delightful addition to a winter arrangement. This is not an exhaustive list, but space precludes any more. However, if you have any queries please pass them on to the Editor and I will do my best to answer them.

Elise Wolfson



South London Israel Forum

Members of South London Israel Forum were joined by Christian Friends of Israel and Ebenezer Group members in pro-Israel activism in Kingston Town Centre. Seasonal greetings cards highlighting the plight of Christians in the Middle East (with the exception of those lucky enough to be in Israel) were handed out to the public.

Hazel Green



Alison Urwin

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★ What's on In and Around London

Kingston JLGB : Tuesdays 7.30pm – 9pm

This is the only South London branch of the Jewish Lads' and Girls' Brigade. JLGB also is the only operator of 'Kosher Duke of Edinburgh' awards scheme. Contact Amy Dodd on 07960662271 or kingstonjlgb@yahoo.co.uk

South London Jewish Youth Group (SLJYG): Sunday Afternoons

This is an informal, relaxed group not affiliated to any shul for children aged 9-16. They play sports, do arts and crafts as well as other activities. Parents are welcome. Contact: Stephen King on 07984 185407 stephenking32@sky.com

The Rose Theatre

Address: 24-26 High Street, Kingston, KT1 1HL
Box Office: 020 8174 0090

W: www.rosetheatrekingston.org

The Boy In The Striped Pyjamas:

28th April - 2nd May

Based on the best-selling novel by John Boyne, *The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas* is a heart-wrenching tale of an unlikely friendship between two innocent boys during WW2.

The Jewish Museum London

Address: Raymond Burton House, 129-131 Albert Street, London NW1 7NB
Tel: 020 7284 7384

W: www.jewishmuseum.org.uk

For Richer For Poorer - Weddings

Unveiled: 13th February - 31st May

This exhibition will look at Jewish weddings in Britain in the first half of the 20th century. Wedding dresses, invitations and menus will be displayed alongside vintage wedding photographs, particularly those of East End wedding photographer Boris Bennett.

JW3

Address: 341-351 Finchley Road, London NW3 6ET

Tel: 020 7433 8988 W: www.jw3.org.uk

Hamsa: 7th February

Hamsa unite the music of Jewish Eastern Europe, Greece and Turkey in a Mediterranean melange, fusing grooves from both the shtetl and the souk.

The 2000 Year Old Man: 9th - 22nd March (excluding Fridays)

by Mel Brooks and Carl Reiner. The first ever recreation of Mel Brooks and Carl Reiner's classic comedy creation. Mel Brooks originally played *The Old Man*, who has lived through all of human history. Carl Reiner was *The Interviewer*. Brooks would improvise answers to Reiner's questions.

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Jewish Tour at the Museum of London - From Roman Emperors to Kosher Winemakers: 22nd February, 26th February, 1st March

This tour reveals the hidden story of the Jews of London, the ways in which their culture influenced the city, and how excluded traders became Lord Mayor.

King's Place

Address: 90 York Way, London, N1 9AG.

Box Office: 020 7520 1490 W:

www.kingsplace.co.uk

Jewish Book Week: 21st February – 1st March

Top writers and journalists from Britain, Europe, the Middle East and the US are speaking at the festival.

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2.00pm arrival for 2.30pm commencement

This year's theme is Keeping the Memory Alive
Rabbi Landau and the Cheder will be significantly involved

We will be lighting one of 70 candles being lit around the country
to commemorate 70 years since the liberation of Auschwitz.

We hope the community will support this important event

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Rabbi Landau's Report

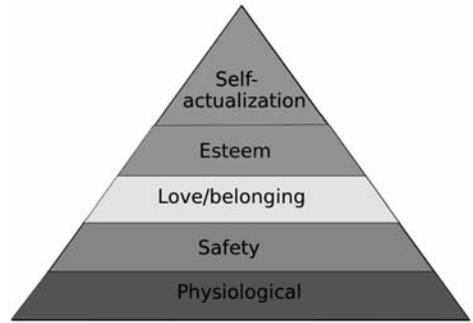
What an amazing few months it has been for our wonderful community. The number of events, activities and initiatives and the response to them has been overwhelming. From the Shabbat UK Friday night dinner with over 200 members involved to the Cheder Supper quiz with over 130. From the Remembrance Shabbat service with the pride of the synagogue swelling to the Rebello Bar-Mitzvah with a true celebration of our Jewish future. From the talk by Lawrence Freedman recognising our community's place within the Royal Borough to that by the Mayor of Sderot demonstrating our commitment to Israel. From the Cheder for grown-ups where we enjoy and learn the basics together to the Sunday Cheder with our youth being enthused and inspired. The list goes on. The energy in our congregation is incredible.

This issue of Chadashot will cover the Pesach period. Pesach is referred to in our prayers as, "The time of our freedom". What is freedom? In the context of the Pesach story, freedom seems to be clear; we were in bondage to Pharaoh in Egypt and then we left. With an outstretched arm and strong hand the Almighty redeemed us from oppression and servitude. Is this what freedom is; simply the absence of captivity?

Many distinguish between liberty and freedom. Liberty is the American dream; to live as we would choose for ourselves. Liberty is the absence of restriction. Freedom is the Jewish dream; to live as G-d would wish us to choose. Freedom is not merely the absence of captivity but a positive state of being. The Lord did not simply take us out from Egypt, but made us into an empowered nation on the road to the Promised Land. G-d gave us a mission and a home. This is freedom; to have the means to live a fulfilled, meaningful life of true soul-expression.

In 1943, the psychologist Abraham Maslow, generated a universal hierarchy of needs. It

is depicted below:



The freedom that G-d gave us is an ability to occupy every level of the pyramid. Our physiological needs and safety are provided by a country that is fertile to Jewish hands and protected by Divine Providence. The love and belonging is found by being one nation, one community, one family. Esteem is provided by a life of Torah discipline and the dignity that it engenders. Finally, self-actualization, or the ability to follow the dictum, "What a man can be, he must be," is profoundly achievable in Judaism. We have been given a soul and spirit, our inner identity, which is unlocked, enabled and ennobled through the Torah's words. Soul-actualisation allows us to be a light unto the nations and achieve our personal and national potential. This is freedom, this is all we could ever need, and this is what G-d gave us with the redemption from Sinai.

Over the past few months, the self-actualisation of our community has been marvellous. On a communal level we are climbing the pyramid of needs; as successful and meaningful members of our community in Kingston, as committed supporters of our national home in Israel and as a collective faith group that is searching to understand, live and learn our heritage. May we continue to grow as a community of freedom as we celebrate the festival of freedom.

Rabbi Samuel Landau

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Philip Baum, editor of “Airport Security International”, an expert on airline and airport security, who appears regularly on the BBC, CNN and Sky, gave a talk to a large audience entitled “Could my fellow passenger be a terrorist?”

Giving an outline of the history of aeroplane hijackings and terrorist attacks, involving planes and airports, he gave us a fascinating insight into the different methods used, and the plots which had been foiled.

Mr Baum considers passenger profiling is the best method of dealing with the problem and referred to Israel’s very effective use of this system. The evening was hosted by David and Sandra Assersohn and over \$400 was raised for WIZOUk’s SDS campaign supporting disadvantaged students in Israel.

Philip Baum’s aunt, Linda Kingsley, gave the vote of thanks.



Pictured are Mr Philip Baum, Jan Kosky, David & Sandra Assersohn

Hazel Green

Forthcoming events:

Saturday 7th February

Quiz@home Supper

If you would like to join a quiz party as a guest, please contact Anne Lyons on 020 8399 1452 or email ajlyons@onetel.com

Sunday 22nd March

7.00pm “Jews on the Titanic” by Raymond Hart

at the home of Colin and Hazel Green, 9, St Leonards Rd., Surbiton KT6 4DE

Suggested donation £15 Refreshments to include bridge rolls.

Book your place with Etta Ralton on 020 8390 3613. Limited numbers.

May - June

Book Circle - led by Dr Helen Setright

4 weekly meetings. Please register your interest with Anne Lyons 020 8399 1452 or email ajlyons@onetel.com

★ Kingston JLGB

100% Attendance, plus a few extra non-members. That's what we had at Summer Camp this year, more than any other JLGB unit in the country. That wonderful achievement provided a great springboard for one of the best terms I've ever had at Kingston JLGB.

From the start of term, making our own Crazy Golf holes (average par per hole about 25 – they were impossible!) to Emily Samuels leading our debate over whether homework should be banned (obviously it was a resounding 'YES') and our concluding Chanukah Party lighting the candles together on the first night of Chanukah, we have had a brilliant term.

We have enjoyed a mini 'pub quiz' with members showing particular flair for dingbats and taboo, but more homework required on music from TV ads. The shul has been transformed into a sports and games venue; with members playing volley-



ball, table tennis and hide-and-seek in the dark.

We had great fun shaping our own Challah in the week of Shabbat UK. Shana Landau led the session, re-educating us on what Challah really is, and showing off her amazing plaiting skills, before letting the members loose on their own dough – we've definitely got some budding bakers in our ranks!

The highlight of this term was our Poppy Mural. This was inspired by both the incredible display of poppies at the Tower of London, and also the Poppy Mural JLGB created at summer camp this year, where we commemorated the 525 members of JLB that were killed in the war. We gave the members a blank canvas and a range of materials and asked them to create something that we could present to the community. The members did us proud and came up with the fantastic mural that I had the honour of presenting at Remembrance Shabbat. They wanted to focus on what each poppy represents, so the mural is a close up of one poppy in a field of poppies and has the quotation 'A hero is somebody that gives up his/her life to something greater than themselves'. JLGB also had the



honour of stewarding AJEX parade at the Cenotaph, and Kingston was well represented, with Jordana Price proudly carrying our Company Standard in the Colour Party.

Our membership has increased by over 50% this term, which means we regularly have at least 15 on parade each fortnight. Thanks must go to Rabbi and Shoshana Landau, who promote JLGB at every opportunity. They have been instrumental in increasing the membership from our community, and it's lovely for us to be so involved with the community again. It is really brilliant for us as staff to have a thriving unit and to be able to give our older members the leadership and development opportunities that JLGB prides itself on here in South London.

Our members are currently getting very excited for National Winter Camp, where they will 'Rewind' to the 20th Century and see in 2015 in style with their friends from all over the UK. Locally, we have some great sessions planned for next term, including an outing to a trampoline park, our take on 'The Apprentice' and a trip to Liverpool in March to compete to find out which is the best unit in JLGB.

We are always open to new members, and welcome anyone who is 11 this academic year and older, and offer great leadership and development opportunities for older members. If you are interested in joining us, please call or email me on 07960662271 or amyrdodd@yahoo.co.uk

Amy Dodd





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Act of Remembrance

Everyone is familiar with the Nation's Act of Remembrance at the Cenotaph on the Sunday closest to the anniversary of the signing of the Armistice on 11 November. The entire nation's very Great and Good, led by HM The Queen, and hosts of servicemen and women from all campaigns gather to pay homage to our war dead. Since 1934, each year on the following Sunday, the Association of Jewish Ex-Servicemen and Women is afforded the privilege of holding their own Remembrance Ceremony. As the years pass the number of participants who served in the Second World War, in subsequent campaigns or who were in National Service dwindles. Those who served are either now in their late 80's or in their 90's but still they are proud to parade. Their ranks are swelled by sons, daughters, grandchildren, many of them wearing the medals their relatives earned.

Each year I march with the Old Comrades Association of the Jewish Lads and Girls Brigade. This year our detachment had our highest attendance of recent years with 40 on parade. I am proud to carry our Banner at the head of the parade along with all of the banners of other AJEX units. Other members of KS&DS also paraded, or were with the JL&GB contingent or supported the ceremony from vantage points in Whitehall. This year we commemorated the outbreak of the First World War and the 70th anniversaries of the Battle of Arnhem and the D-Day Landings. Having visited the landing beaches in Normandy only a few weeks previously, Hazel and I were pleased to meet with a very sprightly D-Day veteran just after the parade.

The Reviewing Officer this year was Admiral of The Fleet, The Lord Boyce, accompanied by the President of AJEX, Hon Rear Admiral The Lord Sterling of Plaistow. Coming out of the Home Office, instead of going to his position at the Cenotaph, Lord Boyce took

everyone by surprise by walking about the massed ranks of the parade and stopping to talk to a number of marchers. Cue anxious looking at watches by the Parade Marshals, as we were by then operating on Jewish Mean Time and were already somewhat delayed. The Chief Rabbi conducted a simple service, including a prayer for the safety of the British Armed Forces, Kaddish was recited by those present, wreaths were laid, everyone obeyed a perfect two-minute silence, and then Adon Olam and the National Anthem were sung with accompaniment from the Band of the Grenadier Guards, no less.

The Parade then made its way back to Horse Guards Parade where Lord Boyce took the salute and addressed all present. He had done his homework, noting that of the estimated Jewish population of 400,000 in the UK in 1939, some 70,000 Jewish



men and women served in the British Armed Forces in World War Two. He spoke warmly of our contribution and as a Naval man, paid particular tribute to Petty Officer Tommy Gould VC.

At this point please note Sunday 15th November 2015 in your diaries and help swell the numbers at the next AJEX Parade.

Michael Myers

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This term has gone by in a flurry of learning activities at Cheder! Due to the convenient timing of the Yom Tovim we were able to cover every festival with ease and in great detail whilst also managing a special Tishri Event covering all the festivals during the month of Tishri in one morning showing the connection of each holiday to the others that fall in the same month! This gave the children a more rounded view of Jewish life at this time of year and instead of learning about each festival in isolation they were able to see the bigger picture whilst getting to eat some delicious Rosh Hoshana food well before the rest of us!!

The children excelled themselves at the Mayoral/Remembrance Shabbat with their insightful thoughts about the First World War and in general the plight of the soldier in battle. We were all very proud of them for their contribution and their excellent public speaking skills.

Our Shabbat module led to a Shabbat Event



one Sunday morning in November when the children made amazing loaves of Challah using Grodinsky dough and learned how to plait their dough with the wonderful Shoshana! The other activity of the morning was making Challah cloths! This involved huge amounts of fabric, glue and some rather splendid tassels which proved to be more difficult to stick than we had anticipated! Plus some lovely designs were created on the cloths and parents were delighted to receive them at the end of the morning!

After these fun activities we had a mock Shabbat meal which consisted of lovely





fresh Challah bread and Shoshana's butter-nut squash soup! The children thoroughly enjoyed this meal all together and very raucous bensing ended a very successful morning! Of course mornings such as these are only made possible by the volunteering of our lovely Cheder parents and Committee



without whom we would have to stick to less interesting and messy activities!

We finished the term with a great Chanukah morning when the children sang all their Chanukah songs, made a human Chanukia, and retold the Chanukah story in class presentations. We celebrated with donuts and squash at break time and I think the children

are very impatient for Chanukah to start!

As I said it has been a very busy term with tons of activities at Kingston Cheder. However I must also mention the wonderful work done by the Cheder Fund Raising Team this term. We thank Stephanie Edward,



Suzanne Phillips, Frankie Alford, Debra Webb and Melissa Rubok for all their hard work organising the Cheder Fund Raising Quiz which was a fantastic evening enjoyed by everyone and extremely successful. Thanks to their commitment we are able to continue doing activities with the children like the Shabbat Event or the Tishri Event all of which need funding in order for them to happen.

Gill Varon





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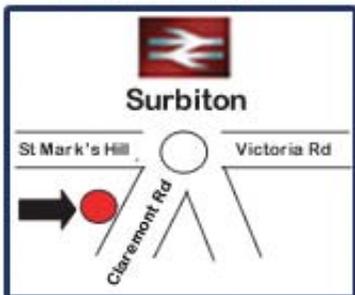
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The Cheder Supper Quiz: A Review

'Please,' urged many of the 130 guests at the end of the Cheder Supper Quiz, 'You must do this again next year. It was a truly wonderful evening.'

After three months of meticulous planning, advertising, question creation, menu discussion and food shopping in North West London, Kingston's very own Cheder Fundraising Supper Quiz swung into action at 6.45pm on Sunday 30th November. Masterminded by a dynamic duo, Suzanne Phillips and Stephanie Edward, this proved to be a fantastic event. Drawing crowds from far and wide, valiant members of our Kingston community were joined by intrepid quiz teams hailing from as far afield as Croydon, Sutton, Richmond and Bushey Heath!

Guests arrived to find the Synagogue transformed - a scene of absolute elegance, with tables beautifully laid, adorned with stunning central plant arrangements exquisitely crafted by Elise Wolfson. The excitement was great and the atmosphere immediately

felt electric.

Delicious food and wine, the latter of which was generously donated, followed on swiftly and, within minutes, even tables of relative strangers were buzzing with high spirits. As the quiz itself commenced, starting with the challenge to identify logos and decipher 'dingbats', the joviality and camaraderie was further cemented as team-spirit took hold.

Competing tables, sporting such names as 'The United Nations', 'The Superlative Seniors', 'The Noah'it alls' and the 'Old Young Marrieds', threw themselves head-long into a fast moving and highly varied cerebral challenge. Brains fired on all cylinders as a host of cryptically named rounds were delivered. From Geography to Literature and spice smell identification to Music, the topics were as wide-ranging as the questions were challenging. The intoxicating atmosphere was magnified by the charismatic input of our Quiz Master





Magnifique, yes, our very own Rabbi Landau. Donning flamboyant evening dress, he delighted all with both his delivery and wit.

The evening could not have flowed more smoothly; the buzz could not have been better!

Backstage, meanwhile, the fundraising team worked tirelessly but unobtrusively to ensure that every detail kept on track. Scorecard maestros Peter Edward, Berkeley Phillips and Ed Webb worked diligently throughout the evening; competing teams witnessed the ebb and flow of their scores; rivalry was intense and everyone was enthralled. Cheers raised the ceiling as teams celebrated their successes. After mid-evening refreshments, further challenges followed. Time flew past, teams redoubled their efforts and, all too soon, the final round was complete.

It is not often that two teams emerge as joint winners but this year's Cheder Supper Quiz was to provide one such occasion. Many congratulations go to 'Family Misfortunes' and 'Universally Challenged'.

The much anticipated raffle followed next. With many extraordinarily generous donations (and we really are incredibly grateful to our truly magnanimous donors), each prize was a real treat. A significant number of individuals were to enjoy such good fortune.

In some way it could be said that everyone who attended was a winner for all those present had been part of a truly dynamic and enjoyable social event. What's more, thanks to them all, the primary objective of the evening had been achieved. Over £1,900 had been raised for our super Cheder.

We, the fundraising team (Suzanne Phillips, Stephanie Edward, Debra Webb, Melissa Green and myself), would like to thank everyone for their support in whatever way it was given. Not just those who generously gave their time or donated raffle prizes, but also those who ultimately made the evening the success it was by buying tickets and participating so enthusiastically.

Frankie Alford.



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The 18th UK Jewish Film Festival ★

Once again Judy Ironside, Founder and Executive Director of the UK Jewish Film Festival, and her excellent team have put together an amazing selection of feature films, shorts, Q and A sessions, and of course the special Galas. This year the Film Festival became embroiled in an exceedingly unwelcome run in with The Tricycle Theatre, which resulted in the team having to find alternative accommodation for many films. The upside of this was that new locations resulted in new members, and the audience figures were greater than ever.

The opening film was the UK Premier of The Art Dealer L'Antiquaire, a Parisian drama played in the form of a detective story, about art stolen during World War 11. Introduced by Francois Margolin, the Director, this was well received by a capacity audience.

For me, the poignant Documentary, Brave Miss World, directed by Cecilia Peck (daughter of famous actor Gregory Peck) and Inbal Lessner, was quite incredible. When Linor Abergil was 18 she was crowned Israeli beauty queen in front of a throng of people. With tears streaming down her face she accepted the honour, then told the audience that she had been raped in Milan two months before by an Israeli travel agent, and

this was the first time she was speaking about it. Following on from this she spent five years, with Cecilia, interviewing others who had suffered the same fate, including actress Joan Collins, who subsequently married the man who raped her. Her mother encouraged her every step of the way. Interviewing her for Sunday Jewish Radio, she told me how important she felt it was to enable people to talk about their experiences, by giving it as much publicity as possible. Further information can be found on her website www.bravemissworld.com

Fun for Kids

On a lighter note, we took our three and a half year old grandson, Solomon, to the theatre for the first time. Tall Stories production of Room on the Broom at the Lyric Shaftesbury Avenue, was such fun. Well produced and all young ages catered for, it is coming to the Rose Theatre in February. There are many more productions by this company, so check out www.tallstories.org.uk and take your children/grandchildren/nephews/nieces to brighten up the dark days of winter.

Simone Halfin



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SHABBAT UK - 24/25 OCT '14

One of the most pressing issues today in the Jewish community is the lack of wider community engagement. This is an enormous topic but, as they say, if you have to eat an elephant (only metaphorically of course), then you do it bite by bite!

The South African community took this approach in 2013, when they organized a single Shabbat in which they invited Jews around the country to celebrate Shabbat, which plays such a crucial role in Jewish identity, in a way they never had before.

The project was such a success that it was adopted world-wide, and the Chief Rabbi, Ephraim Mirvis, put out a general call for UK Jewry to celebrate ShabbatUK on the weekend of Friday 24th and Saturday 25th October 2014, joining hundreds of communities worldwide in the International Shabbos Project.

The objective was to reach as wide a range of people as possible, from the most observant to those whose rarely, if ever, keep Shabbat. It was an opportunity to join with fellow Jews around the world to experience life, for just one day, disconnected from the daily grind and engage with Shabbat in a meaningful way. At its core, ShabbatUK was about harnessing all the goodness and uniqueness of a traditional, authentic Shabbat.

The idea was taken on board by Jill Prager, Sheila Mann and Hazel Green and they led

the complex organisation of the many hosts and guests for Friday night dinner or Saturday lunch. They had a phenomenal response and were so successful that over 200 people, maybe 220, either hosted or were hosted for meals in the homes of members of the community.

To prepare for the event, the Rebbetzin organized a Challah Bake the day before, bringing the dough from North London ready to be plaited into shape – a popular evening with all the women, men and children who came along, which was both great fun and informative.



Personally, I had never tried using prepared dough before. Now I would have no hesitation in buying it to make my own Challahs – there really is nothing like freshly home



baked Challah for a Friday night meal.

As one of the many hosts, we had both good friends and others who had never been to our home before, round our table. We had a great evening, with enthusiastic singing and a good laugh.

This was so much more than a social event. And it was greatly supported by the Shabbat UK Survival Kit – a 50 page booklet, designed to enhance the experience, covering all the aspects of Shabbat for unsure hosts, from lighting Friday night candles, blessing their children or by inviting others into their home to share the Shabbat.

All elements of the project, from the Challah Bake right through to Havdalah on Saturday evening had Shabbat content.

KS & DS got behind the idea of the grass-roots nature of the activity to help people to participate in a very big way. The statistics tell their own story. We had over 200 people engaging in the Friday night activities from a community of 330. Proportionately, we probably had the highest participation of any synagogue in England.

And more importantly, it proved inspiring both to those who hosted the meals and those who were invited into their homes.

Ann Rinsler



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Celebrating Chanukah



**Visits to members
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A fun evening celebrating Chanukah was held by the Israeli Dancing Group.

★ Nothing changes in Israel...

As always, nothing changes in Israel; a common sight in the newspapers and TV news reports is of daily rocket and mortar attacks from Gaza hitting southern communities.

This summer saw a complete change in the Israeli Government's attitude as Hamas's rockets targeted Tel Aviv. As soon as Tel Aviv was hit, IDF troops and armoured divisions rushed to the Gaza border. Israeli air strikes on Gaza were reported day and night in an attempt to silence the rocket barrages – it failed, the rocket fire continued.

The strangest part of this war was the general public's attitude towards Gaza and the Palestinians. The war broke out with the sudden unexpected sound of sirens in Tel Aviv for the first time in years. Many of our office colleagues are foreign, are not used to this kind of thing and were quite shocked. The first reaction in our office was panic and confusion as we dropped our phones and rushed to the basement. Even more confusing was the fact that we were the only ones there! Later we found out that everyone else was on the roof taking a tea break whilst the sirens sounded. They were cheering as Israel's new sophisticated missile shield intercepted the rockets.

The second siren went off nearly every day afterwards; however no one rushed for the bomb shelters. In fact, after several days people seemed completely relaxed. When the siren sounded, colleagues joked about Hamas and continued with their work as normal. We also saw that on the busy streets of Tel Aviv, people were not rushing for shelter but just looking up at the skies watching the rockets being intercepted.

By the end of the war, things had not changed at all. News media reported that a temporary ceasefire had been put in place and that Gaza was in ruins from the IDF

retaliation. Most of my colleagues were enjoying a BBQ on the beach celebrating a colleague's birthday.



For the people in the south of Israel the ceasefire brought a feeling of relief and an end to their constant daily suffering but most people whom I spoke with in Tel Aviv, including my work colleagues, were complaining that Israel had not continued the war and finished Hamas off for good. Israel had the excuse, the initiative and the ability to silence the rockets once and for all but again missed an opportunity. As for the future, we are now so reliant on our missile defence system that perhaps Israeli society has fallen into another false sense of security, believing that they are untouchable.

On a positive note, we are relieved to see that Hamas's huge financial investment and time in preparing for this war came to nothing. Instead, now Hamas faces a tough and bold society in Israel who now care little about their attempts to disrupt Israel's day to day activities. From what I've seen in Tel Aviv, the Israeli public has clearly adapted to living in a constant state of war. We must commend the Israeli Government and the IDF for learning from its mistakes from the Lebanon war in 2006 and for the amount of money from the pockets of Israeli tax payers well spent in protecting the country from the threat of multiple rockets. Now Israeli technicians have to concentrate on another threat – detecting tunnels deep underground and under their borders.

Daron Green

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Youth Activities some Sunday evenings
- TUESDAY:** Day Centre 10.30 am - 3.25 pm at the Synagogue
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- Lunch and Learn 1pm - 2pm, monthly
Contact Philip Weinberg for details: 0208 549 9951
- THURSDAY:** Morning Service 7.00 am
- FRIDAY:** Kabbalat Shabbat Service (See Shabbat Timetable)
- SHABBAT:** Morning Service 9.30 am
Reading of the Law 10.00 am,
Sermon at end of service
Adon Olam & Kiddush 12 noon
-

In addition to the above, other social, cultural and educational activities take place fortnightly or monthly - these activities are always announced in the Synagogue on the previous Shabbat, provided that they have been booked in the official Synagogue Diary. Events can then be given publicity in the HASHAVUA and CHADASHOT in addition to announcement in Synagogue.

PLEASE NOTE: To avoid the clashing of functions and meetings and to obtain the maximum support for all communal events, Secretaries of Committees and Groups are advised before confirming a date to first clear the date in the SYNAGOGUE DIARY to ensure that the date has not been previously booked for another communal event and that the function booked will receive the maximum publicity.

THE SYNAGOGUE DIARY is kept by Carol Abrahams
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