

HIGHLight

Bromley Reform Synagogue newsletter



Ivor and Hilda Lask (second and third left) celebrated their diamond wedding with a festive kiddush after the Shabbat morning service on 28 December. Here they are photographed with their children Laura and Hugh, son-in-law and daughter-in law Michael and Shane, and granddaughters Emma and Molly.

What does Kashrut mean to you?

Something my grandmother did, but meaningless to me personally

An important part of being Jewish

No pork

Separation of milk and meat

No shellfish

Animals should be slaughtered without stunning

I keep it at home, but not when I eat out.....

What does the Bible say about it? What do the Rabbis of the Talmud say about it?

Express your views and listen to those of others. Maybe even change your views?!

I hope to see you on Thursday, 12 March for a sicha (discussion), starting with a cup of tea/coffee at 7.30 pm, finishing no later than 9.30 pm.

John Posner

john.posner@talk21.com

The Beatles of Shushan

Live performance

at Bromley Reform Synagogue

Sunday, 8 March

Refreshments at 10 am

seating at 10:30 am

Help wanted! Auditions open to all adults and children, regardless of experience or ability level, to join the Fab Four

Traditional Megillah

Reading, with Fancy Dress parade and Hamantaschen, on Erev Purim,

Wednesday, 4 March

7.30 pm.



In This Month's Highlight

View from the Chair	3
There is no Haman	3
Cheder News.....	4
Social Centre News.....	4
SE10 and Beyond.....	4
CCJ.....	4
Remembering Lila and Shoshana	5
Statement from Rabbi Laura Janner-Klausner	5
Talmud Study Classes.....	5
Civic Service Sermon	6
Social and Personal	7
Knit and Natter.....	7
Connections Rio 2015.....	8
Recipe for Hamantaschen	8
Services	9
Riding4Reform	9
Bet Debora	9
Dates for Your Diary	10
Synagogue Contacts.....	11
Advertisements	12

March 2015 – Purim 5775

BROMLEY REFORM SYNAGOGUE

A constituent of the Movement for Reform Judaism

28, Highland Road, BROMLEY, Kent, BR1 4AD

Telephone: 020 8460 5460

E-mail: janet@bromleyshul.org.uk

Website: www.bromleyshul.org.uk

(Office - 9.30 am to 12.30 pm on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays)

Minister: Rabbi Jason Holtz

07454 021 892

Synagogue Administrator: Mrs Janet Burlem

HONORARY OFFICERS

President: David Barnett

Vice-Presidents:

Desirée Barnett	Zena Goodman	Sally Rosebery
Norman Goldberg	Ivor Lask, MBE	Bob Symonds
Ronnie Goldberg	Dianne Mathews	David Zerihan

Executive Officers

Chairman:	Joanna Koenigsberg	020 8309 1061	keesabromley@gmail.com
Vice-Chairmen:	Toby Allin Matthew de Lange	01892 528053 020 8858 6206	toby.allin@gmail.com matthew_delange@yahoo.co.uk
Secretary:	Lesley Freeman	01689 818731	b_freeman1@sky.com
Treasurer:	Sandra Hurley	07770 661 898	llkulparis@hotmail.com
Senior Warden:	Larry Shall	01732 873361	offhamshalls@btinternet.com

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

(in the event of a bereavement)

Contact Mrs Janet Posner: 020 8650 7521 (Mobile: 07841 373 309)

or Stephen Weil: 020 8299 4141 (Mobile: 07764 475209)

Editor: Bob Symonds: 020 8402 2197; bobsymonds@mac.com

Opinions expressed in "Highlight" are not necessarily the official policy of the Synagogue

Tell the Community

This cut-out slip is a regular feature in Highlight to enable you to inform the community of any appropriate event - birth, marriage, engagement, illness, bereavement, birthday celebration, examination success etc. Please complete and return to the Editor c/o the Synagogue office.

We would like you to know that

.....

.....

Name Tel. No.

We're a little famous – View from the Chair



I've discovered we're a little famous: when we had our Civic Service on 24 January, the Bromley MP Bob Neill came and later wrote about it on his website.

He seems to have enjoyed himself and to appreciate the fact that we are outward looking and try to reach out to the whole Bromley community. He posted the group picture of all the dignitaries. I think my eyes are closed in the picture, but everyone else looks lovely!

Being a Board member means attending meetings throughout the year, and listening to many details about the running of your shul. Being a shul member, there is only one big meeting you need to remember to attend – the Annual General Meeting. This

year it takes place on Tuesday 17 March at 8:00 pm.

It just so happens that this year a sizeable group of Board members have decided to step down for a variety of reasons, so a new group have stepped forward to become Board members – but they need to be elected to serve. The voting is the duty of each synagogue member – please come to the meeting to hear about what's been happening over the past year, to thank past members for all their hard work, and to elect the new ones.

I enjoy it when the shul tries something new. In *Fiddler on the Roof*, great importance is placed on "tradition!", but there's room within that tradition to explore new ways of doing things. The complete unrolling of a Torah scroll at Simchat Torah is one such innovation and this year we did something different for Tu B'Shvat. When my children

were in the Cheder, I remember the frantic fruit chopping for the customary Seder which celebrated the birthday of the trees. This year Vicki and the Rabbi (assisted by many others) orchestrated a child- and family-friendly service, which involved many of the Cheder children. There was lots of music, involving the congregation in singing.

I enjoyed it, as it was so lovely to hear the confident Hebrew and presentation styles of our Cheder children. The songs were cheerful and uplifting, and the chopped fruit still featured, as the Kiddush! Each year I try and remember the different classifications of the fruit (edible outside not inside/edible inside not outside) and every year I forget!

Please remember to attend the AGM! I look forward to seeing you there.

Joanna Koenigsberg, Chairman
keesabromley@gmail.com

There is no Haman, but there are plenty of Mordecais and Esthers

2014 was not an easy year for Jewish communities across Europe and, after the murders in Paris and Copenhagen, 2015 is not off to a good start. Here in the United Kingdom, the Community Security Trust recorded over 1,100 anti-Semitic incidents. This is twice as many as 2013. It's a frightening trend. Some people are going so far as to wonder what the future of Jewish life in Europe is going to look like. We also have to remember that this isn't just political talk or something that affects a community in abstract ways. Real people are affected. For some families that have been touched by violence, things will never be the same. People are understandably concerned about this rise in anti-Semitism. I am concerned also. But I am not panicking.

This month we celebrate Purim. As much as it is a holiday where we do our best not to take anything seriously, there is actually a serious message behind it. In the Biblical Book of Esther, the Jewish people face the worst possible fate from Haman. Only Queen Esther, placed in a position close to the king, perhaps by chance or perhaps by Providence, was able to influence the outcome. The great danger that the Jews

faced was because Haman was in power and no one, save the Jews, seemed to care that he was bent on genocide. Only when Esther, whose very name means "hidden," reveals not only her identity, but the fact that she cares, does the danger begin to pass. There are many, many things that are different between now and Esther's time. For one, we have no Haman. Haman is not the villain because he dislikes Jews. He is the villain because he had the power to act on his anti-Semitism. There is no one in Europe with that much power that has an anti-Semitic agenda. Sure, there are some politicians — too many — who harbour anti-Semitic views. Yet these politicians are very small in number and have little, if any, real power. Rather, our government leaders are not only not Haman, they are a lot less like King Ahasuerus, who is largely indifferent, and more like Mordecai or Esther, people who care and are doing something. This is true even in France, which is perhaps struggling more than any European nation with anti-Semitism.

In the United Kingdom, 2014 was the worst year on record (going back several decades). Yet having said that, there was only one extremely violent anti-Semitic

incident and it was not fatal. That is serious, but with statistics like that, I still worry more about getting hit by a car in a traffic accident.

I do not mean to minimise everything that has happened, just the opposite. Much of what helps me to be reassured is that others, particularly government leaders, do not minimise it either. And, oddly enough, that is why I still feel perfectly comfortable and safe living in London. We will and we should take precautions, but those precautions must enable us to live and not stop us from living as we should. Life not only can go on, but it must. Jewish life is too important.



Rabbi Jason Holtz
jsholtz@gmail.com

Torah Text Study Group

This very popular Monday evening study group, led by **John Posner**, will meet on **9 and 23 March**.

It runs from 7.30 to 9.30 pm and there is no obligation to attend every session - just drop in when you can.



Cheder News

Hello Cheder Parents, Gan Parents, and anyone else who is interested in what BRS is doing with the littlest members of our community! Here's what's happening in Cheder:

- 1) We had a little experiment with moving our Cheder day to Saturday in honour of **Tu B'shvat!** Formal Cheder was replaced by a Children's Service, and I hope you'll agree that our children did a wonderful job leading us through the Shabbat service and tying it in to Tikkun Olam - looking after the world around us. It was so lovely seeing *all* the members, young and old, in the same room at the same time. In fact, it was so successful that we may try to repeat the experience next term, so watch this space!
- 2) Emma Mittelman came to talk to us about a charity that she and her friend are setting up called **Summer Hype** - a camp for children in Hackney who might not otherwise have opportunities like these. Emma is one of our former students and helpers. It really is wonderful to see our children grow up and become such productive members of society, living a life of charity and chesed - kindness. We are looking forward to supporting her by using our Tzedaka money collected this term for Summer Hype. Well done Emma!
- 3) By the time you read this, rehearsals for our **Purim Shpiel** will be under way. We are so looking forward to seeing how the Beatles conquer Shushan as part of our Purim celebrations at Cheder, so let's hope we have a great turnout and a day full of hamantaschen.
- 4) Plans are also under way for our next **Cheder Seder**, which will take place **on the last day of Cheder** this term - **22 March**. This is a proper joint child and parent seder, and will be the only children's seder the shul will offer this year. We absolutely need help from parents for this event to take place, so please contact our joint heads of **Horaay Cheder**, Dani and Michelle, to see how you can help. You can contact them by email: Dani at dani_hall@hotmail.com or Michelle at mbe@jrwe.wanadoo.co.uk



The Cheder Tu b'Shvat Tree in the synagogue foyer - Everyone was invited to take a recycled paper leaf and write on it how we can help the trees or how the trees help us, before attaching it to one of the tree's branches.

- 5) **Family Services** are continuing, with one planned every other month. These are Rabbi-led family-friendly services (not to be confused with *Children's Services*, which are led by the children). They're shorter and the music is a bit bouncier than regular services, so why not give one a try?
- 6) And last, but not least, we are planning a mandatory **Security Meeting** for the parents, where we will discuss our current security arrangements and our plans for carrying them forward. This meeting is very important and will be **mandatory** for parents of children in Cheder, so please look out for flyers and/or emails from **Tamir Hargittai**, our head of security.

That's all for now ... With best wishes for a happy and healthy March,

Vicki, vickiashmore@icloud.com

Council of Christians and Jews
South East London Branch

Tuesday, 3 March at 8.00 pm

Refreshments from 7.45 pm

at Catford and Bromley

Synagogue, Crantock Road, SE6

Sacred Music: how Christians and Jews use music to create sanctity

Our discussions will be led by

Rev'd Dr Rebecca Lloyd, Curate,
St Stephen's, South Dulwich

The Rev David Rome, Cantor and
Leader of Catford Synagogue

*For further details, please contact
Stephen Weil on 020 8693 2051;*

E: stephen.weil@talk21.com

Social Centre News

Wednesday, 28 January was a very cold and windy day, but there was a warm welcome for everyone at the Social Centre.

Our guests were two charming Japanese ladies who had visited us before. Previously, they had taught us origami and, this time, they showed us how to make sushi rolls, using rice, smoked salmon and asparagus. They looked so attractive when completed (and tasted delicious).

Jean Wallis is moving to live with her daughter in North London. We all wished her good luck and expressed the hope that we might soon see her again. We look forward to seeing everyone at our future meetings.

Valerie Cohen

Social Centre Diary Dates

<p><i>Wednesday, 11 March</i> Talk by Stephen Ison of Jewish Care</p>
<p><i>Wednesday, 25 March</i> Exercises, Socialising and Lunch; also Hi Kent hearing aid clinic, 10.30 to 12 noon</p>

SE10 and Beyond

Michelle Brooks-Evans writes:

All are welcome to any or all of the future planned dates:

Monday, 9 March, 7.30 pm at Barbara's in Blackheath - **Jewish Artists**

Friday, 10 April, 7.30 pm at Michelle's in Greenwich - **Passover**

Tuesday, 19 May, 7.30 pm at Maxine's in Lee - topic to be decided

We had a great evening at the beginning of February at Sue Blackie's house, where twelve of us gathered around a giant map of the world to discuss where we came from. It was a lively discussion with fabulous food, too.

If you are interested just drop me a line: michellebrooksevans@gmail.com

Advance Notice

A Jewish Kent Yom Ha'atzmaut event is being planned for

Sunday 19 April, 2.00 pm at Chatham Memorial Synagogue, followed by tea.

Yom Ha'atzmaut Today

What it means

Where Israel is going? ...

Speakers to be confirmed.

Remembering Lila

... One of the places where Lila liked to spend her time was working at a charity shop to benefit Save the Children. Oddly enough, that is where she was



discovered as a television talent. She was featured in a segment on *Mary Queen of Shops*. Because her personality was so well received on-air, she went on to film several segments and even went on other fashion shows as well. In fact, she was working up until only about three years ago.

Lila loved crossword puzzles and had a very unique talent. She could recite the entire alphabet backwards at lightning speed. She loved the opera and had seen all of the great stars. Her favourite actor was Sir Laurence Olivier and her first son was named after him. Lila was an entertainer. She was a lovely cook and made an especially great pie. Sunday lunches were fantastic.

Lila had a very outgoing and bubbly personality. She had a great sense of humour and was quick with the jokes. The thing with her jokes was that, while Lila appeared innocent, she would lean over and then whisper something shocking and a bit risqué in your ear. Lila was a generous person, always giving presents.

Lila was proud to be Jewish and was active and well loved at Bromley Reform Synagogue.

More than anything, Lila loved her family. She loved her family as a child, she loved Jack, she loved her children, her grandchildren and her great grandchildren. Jack's sudden death in 1995 hit her very hard. It took her some time, but becoming a great grandmother seemed to give her a new lease on life...

Lila died very suddenly—no one was expecting her to go when she did. Her death is beyond sad. Yet her life was blessed. She was blessed with good friends and a loving family, and she offered her blessings of humour, of kindness, of caring and most especially of love. Now that she has passed, may her memory be for a blessing.

From the Hespel for Lila Cailes redacted by Rabbi Jason Holtz

Remembering Shoshana

Before there was a State of Israel, Shoshana was born in Jerusalem on 30 June 1930 to Yitzchak and Dina Dassa. Dina was actually the very first female police officer in British Mandate Palestine...

Shoshana loved cities and her greatest pastime was shopping, even if she didn't buy anything. She loved going up to the West End, to Oxford Street and Regent Street. She really enjoyed spending a day out in central London, and sometimes would go up twice a week. She was a woman full of energy, always running around. Her sons suggested to me that perhaps she was always running around because she never had a car. She had countless lessons, even took the test, but as soon as she did, she never drove again. Still, she moved at 500 mph...

Shoshana was an independent woman. She was a leader. She was very supportive, very caring and very opinionated. In many ways she was the epitome of a native born Israeli, a true sabra, a cactus — strong on the outside, and very sweet on the inside. More than anything, Shoshana was a woman who loved her family. She was an excellent mother and very supportive of her children...

Towards the end, Shoshana sometimes found life painful and difficult. When she suffered, those who saw her and loved her suffered too. Despite that, though, she was blessed with the presence of all of you who love her, and she in turn was a blessing to everyone else through her love, care and devotion. May Shoshana's memory be for a blessing. Amen.

From the Hespel for Shoshana Dassa redacted by Rabbi Jason Holtz

Introduction to Judaism

taught by Rabbi Jason Holtz

This Sunday morning series will continue in March with an **Introduction to Sacred Jewish Texts on March 1 and 15.**

A new series: **Introduction to the Jewish Life Cycle** will begin in May, with sessions on Sundays, **10 and 17 May.**

All the courses will be held in the Sanctuary and will run from 10:00-11:00 am

Statement from Rabbi Laura Janner-Klausner following the attacks in Copenhagen

The news from Copenhagen this weekend is deeply saddening. We stand in solidarity with the Jewish communities of Denmark at this time, sending prayers of comfort, strength and consolation.

As with the attacks in Paris, our response must be to continue to live our Jewish lives with pride and dedication. No one should ever gather in places of worship in fear or feel that their continued participation in the life of their country has no future.

In particular, the tragic death of **Dan Ozen**, a volunteer security guard, reminds me of the important work done by such volunteers in our communities. I thank them for their dedication and for looking after us.

Talmud Study Classes

Rabbi Jason Holtz, instructor

The Talmud is the foundational literature of Rabbinic Judaism. Full of legend and law, its teachings have guided Jews for thousands of years, and it is still hugely influential. No prior knowledge is necessary for this course, but it is proving challenging and thought provoking for all.

Students need to bring their own copy of Tractate Berachot, and they are recommended to bring a Tenach (Bible) as well. Many publishers have printed a version of the Talmud that will work well, but the Koren Talmud, with a translation and commentary by Rabbi Adin Steinsaltz, is recommended. This version can be purchased from Amazon.co.uk

The course meets on Thursdays from 10:30-11:45 am.

For more information, please contact **Rabbi Jason Holtz** on 020 8460 5460 or **Barbara Kurtz** by e-mail at a.bkurtz@talktalk.net

Civic Service Sermon given on 24 January 2015 (Shabbat Bo)

by Rabbi Jason Holtz

Mr Mayor and distinguished guests, my fellow synagogue members and I are honoured to have you at our Sabbath service today.

This past year, we have been celebrating our Golden Jubilee — 50 years of organised, and I use the word organised loosely, Jewish life in Bromley. Today marks the final service during this special anniversary year, and we are so pleased to be able to share it with so many civic and religious leaders from the area.

I am certain that everyone has caught on by now that I am originally from America. I grew up in Florida, in a small coastal town called Ormond Beach. It is a great place to live, but otherwise is not known for much. In fact, it's easier to talk about what it's near. It is fairly close to Cape Canaveral, home of NASA. We're also one of the closest beaches to Orlando. Orlando is an interesting place because its claim to fame is its most illustrious resident, an 87-year old five-foot tall talking mouse named Mickey. Just to the north of Ormond Beach is the oldest city in the United States, St Augustine. It's well over 500 years old. Which means it has nothing on Bromley. But, to American ears, anything that's over 500 years old is pretty impressive. When I first came to England, I was taking pictures of every plaque that said that the building was established over a hundred years ago. I ran out of space on my camera very quickly

There were several adjustments that both the synagogue community and I needed to make after I arrived. It took a few tries, but I've adjusted to driving on the left side of the road and using roundabouts. I remember, actually, the first time I came across a roundabout here. I was very much unprepared. I was test-driving a Ford. Fortunately, the car salesman, who was not expecting to be my driving instructor, was quick to react. "Stop!" he yelled, with a bit of terror in his voice. "Look right, go left!" Lesson learnt and adjustment made. There have been adjustments that the synagogue has had to come to as well. I came not knowing some of the British liturgical music that is customarily used here, and what's worse, when I sing some liturgical music that is more



The Mayor and Mayoress of Bromley, Councillor and Mrs Benington, photographed with synagogue chairman Joanna Koenigsber and Robert Weiner, chairman of MRJ, at the Civic Service on 24 January.

common in the United States as a substitute, I do a terrible job at it, singing completely off-key. This is a very kind and forgiving group.

People often ask me if it is very different living here compared to America. This is what I say: "At least 95% is the same, but it's easier to spot the differences than the similarities." America doesn't have the royal family. Although, I have to admit, after American politicians were deadlocked for the umpteenth time last year and the Federal government shut down, many were wishing that the Queen would graciously take back America in forgiveness, intervene and dissolve Congress. America also does not have the NHS or anything at all similar for most people. Whatever flaws and problems anyone might see with the NHS, the United Kingdom should be very proud of it and the values behind providing healthcare as a basic right.

Still, most things are the same. American or British, or whatever else, people are people. We laugh, cry, care, love, grieve, regret, celebrate, become angry, aspire and are inspired and usually for similar reasons. So much of what makes us human doesn't change, even when crossing a border. The side of the road one drives on, linguistic variations and so on aren't ultimately what makes us human.

Because it is easier to spot the differences, it is sometimes easy to make more of the differences than the similarities. We look at people or peoples who are different and say they are not just different, but very different. Strangely different.

A few weeks ago, Jews all over the world began reading from the Book of

Exodus. It contains the story that is at the heart of the Jewish faith. We were once slaves and then we were redeemed. Not only that, but we must always remember our origins as slaves and always empathise with the other, with the disadvantaged and the downcast. The Exodus, and the Passover festival that is described in today's reading, is not just a celebration of the Israelites' freedom, it is a reminder of our responsibilities. The Exodus is ultimately a story of morals, of right and wrong.

The sin of the Egyptians was an extreme refusal to see anything but the "otherness" of the Israelites. When the Egyptians looked at their neighbours they did not see 95% the same, they saw only the 5% that was different. Joseph, himself both a Hebrew and the Prime Minister in Egypt, was aware of this tendency. Towards the end of the Book of Genesis, Joseph told his brothers to be slightly less than honest with the Pharaoh about being shepherds. Shepherds, Joseph said, were abhorrent in Egypt. It's part of the 5% that's different. So what did his brothers do? They said they were shepherds. What could they do? You're not allowed to lie on immigration papers.

As the Israelites are being led out of Egypt, they are given one of their most important lessons, which is found in the very first verse of this week's Biblical reading. "There shall be one law for both the native-born citizen and the sojourner who now dwells amongst you." After Egyptian slavery, the Israelites know first-hand the evils of magnifying the differences between one people and another, and so legal protections are now enshrined in Biblical law. That was a radical idea thousands of years ago, and unique in the Hebrew Scriptures at the time. Even the greatest Greek philosophers, Plato and Aristotle, did not subscribe to such a radical notion of equality.

Many Jews around the world, particularly in Europe and even in the United Kingdom, are worried that they are increasingly being noted more as being "other". There is a lot of anxiety about an increase in anti-Semitism. Some look at the events in Paris and say, "Could

continued on page 8

Social and Personal

BIRTH - Lesley and Mike Zuke are so happy to announce the birth of Evelyn Laila Zuke Olson, a first grandchild, on 16 January at Lewisham Hospital. The proud parents are **Jon and Elinor Olson** (nee Zuke).

DEATH - We are very sad to report the death of our member **Shoshana Dassa** and extend sincere condolences to her sons, Richard and Tony Oakes, and their families.

BEREAVEMENTS

Sincere condolences to **Jean McKennell** on the sad loss of her mother, Pamela Bradshaw,

and to **Tim Miles** and his family on the sad loss of his father, Don Miles. (Tim is the husband of our Chairman, Joanna Koenigsberg).

GET WELL SOON

Pauline Jeffree writes:

We wish well all those who are ill at this time, and we are thinking of all those attending hospital, receiving treatment or waiting for results.

Thanks to the congregation:

from Erin Frankel

Erin Frankel would like to thank the whole community for their support on the occasion of her Bat Mitzvah on 29 November 2014. Erin writes: A special thank you to Larry Shall, Rabbi Holtz, Pauline Jeffree and all my Cheder teachers over the past five years, who have prepared me for this special day, which I will treasure forever.

from Stanley Solts

Stanley and Brenda Solts would like to thank the Rabbi and all members of our very caring community for being so supportive following the sad loss of Stanley's mother, Hannah Solts.

Call for Sponsors

Judi Sheffrin, Jo Jaekel and their friend Jenny are swimming in aid of Marie Curie Cancer Care on 19 April and plan to swim a total of 5,000 metres.

They would welcome your financial support.

Their team giving page address is <https://my.swimathon.org/sponsor/not-waving-but-drowning>



Rabbi Dr. Kate Briggs, who is still a Bromley member, but is now rabbi at Glasgow Reform Synagogue, was our guest preacher on 21 February (Shabbat Terumah).

Thanks to the congregation

from Pauline Jeffree

Dear All,

I have been quite overwhelmed not only with all the beautiful cards I have received wishing me well, but also by the visits you made whilst I was in hospital and the chocolate challah I shared with others in my bay.

In every way I have been aware of your kind and practical support and I do thank you.

I came home to find it was easier for me to manoeuvre with friends who ensured that, as one bed went out of my front door, all was ready to receive the NHS bed in time for my discharge. My freezer and fridge were organised and dear residents and friends at Park Court were bending over backwards to help me.

I am 'open' for visitors, whether by a personal drop in, e-mail or telephone and you are all most welcome. However, you might need to make your own tea or coffee!

L'shalom

Pauline Jeffree

Welcome to the Community

There will be a festive kiddush after the service on Saturday, 28 March (Shabbat Ha-Gadol) to welcome the Campling and Waterman families into the community.

A Date for Your Diaries

Jubilee Lecture, 2015

Sunday, 10 May,
7.15 pm refreshments,
8 pm start

Come and hear our very own
Baroness Professor
Alison Wolf

Sir Roy Griffiths Professor of
Public Sector Management at
Kings College London

speak on -

"Not Quite Utopia?"

"There are now many millions of educated, professional working women, who are transforming societies around them. But have we got the world that feminists and reformers dreamed of? Or have new problems and injustices been created along the way?"

Professor Wolf has recently published a book covering this topic: *"The XX Factor: How Working Women are Creating a new Society"*

Barbara Kurtz

a.bkurtz@talktalk.net

Knit and Natter

The next 'Knit and Natter' will be on **Monday, 9 March**, from 2.30 pm at Pauline Jeffree's home.

Pauline writes:

"All are welcome. We can help you to learn how to knit. Currently, to support St. Christopher's fundraising, we are making chicks. I have the wool, the needles and all the extras for the beaks and eyes.

Please come - you are most welcome. Tea or coffee or cold drinks with cake are also available for us to enjoy.

Parking is available within the grounds, if there are spaces. However, there are other parking places not too far from the flat."



Please ring Pauline on 020 8650 4860 or email pauline.jeffree@btinternet.com to say you are coming.

Civic Service Sermon

continued from page 6

London be next?" Thank God, we have not experienced a parallel attack. Even so, anti-Semitic crime is on the rise. So let me address this issue. In Europe generally, this may not be the best of times. However, it is certainly not the worst of times either. Far, far from it. And London is not Paris. I simply don't experience British society as anti-Semitic. Neither do the vast majority of British Jews that I speak with. Rather, British society as a whole is remarkably tolerant and respectful. While there is an increase in anti-Semitic incidents committed by a relatively small handful of people, we know that our non-Jewish neighbours are as upset about it as we are. We know, too, that government and police leaders are taking it seriously and working to combat it. There has been a continuous Jewish community in Great Britain for nearly 360 years. This is our home and our community is proud to be British. I believe that when all is said and done, and the history books are written about Jewish life in Great Britain, this time period will be remembered as one of the best in history. Rarely has any country anywhere in the world at any time had it so good. All of the citizens benefit from that, including the Jewish ones. Great Britain is truly *great*. The United Kingdom is truly *united*, even in its diversity.

As beautifully diverse as humanity is, and it is diverse, we share in a common humanity. Let us celebrate and always, always remember that.

Shabbat Shalom

We are reproducing Rabbi Jason Holtz's sermon in response to requests from synagogue members.

Recipe for Hamantaschen

Ingredients

Makes: 24

- ◆ 3 eggs
- ◆ 200g (7 oz) caster sugar
- ◆ 175ml (6 fl oz) vegetable oil
- ◆ 2 1/2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- ◆ 110ml (4 fl oz) orange juice
- ◆ 675g (1 1/2 lb) plain flour
- ◆ 1 teaspoon baking powder
- ◆ 300g (11 oz) fruit preserves, any flavour



Method

Prep: 30 min > Cook: 12 min > Ready in: 42 min

1. Preheat oven to 180 C / Gas mark 4. Grease baking trays.
2. In a large bowl, beat the eggs and sugar until light and fluffy. Stir in the oil, vanilla and orange juice.
3. Combine the flour and baking powder; stir into the egg mixture to form a stiff dough. If dough is not stiff enough to roll out, stir in more flour. On a lightly floured work surface, roll dough out to .5cm (1/4 in) in thickness. Cut into circles using a

pastry cutter or the rim of a drinking glass. Place circles 5cm (2 in) apart onto the prepared baking trays.

4. Spoon about 1 dessert spoon of preserves into the centre of each circle. Pinch the edges to form three corners.
5. Bake for 12 to 15 minutes in the preheated oven, or until lightly browned. Allow biscuits to cool for 1 minute on the baking tray before removing to wire racks to cool completely.

<http://allrecipes.co.uk/recipe/1403/hamantaschen.aspx>



At Connections 2015, to be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, members of the World Union for Progressive Judaism will celebrate the diversity of the Progressive Jewish world, showcasing the strength and growth of the Latin American Progressive Jewish community.

Connections 2015 in Rio will serve to strengthen the bonds between our communities, united forever by a common Jewish destiny.

This year's conference theme is "**Simcha, Soul and Solidarity**". CONNECTIONS 2015 is essentially a celebration, a Simcha, of who we are: our differences, our similarities, what we stand for and why. The conference offers a wide range of opportunities to nourish the soul: learning, spirituality and various forms of observance that reflect the diversity of our different Progressive communities. By bringing our worldwide family of Progressive Jewish communities together, CONNECTIONS 2015 will also convey a powerful message of solidarity. With our deep belief in the concept of Peoplehood, the conference will also enable us to reiterate and reaffirm our strong, eternal support for Israel. And because CONNECTIONS 2015 is in Latin America for the first time, this region will have the opportunity to showcase its thriving communities.

Over the days of the conference, we will offer workshops and panel discussions, hands-on Tikun Olam activities, study and entertainment, and the most uplifting and international Shabbat celebration observed anywhere in the world.

Registration Fees

Adult Participants \$600; Youth Participants (up to age 30) \$300

INCLUDED: Participation in the Opening Ceremony and Reception, all sessions and materials, nametag credentials, field trips, walking tours, Closing Ceremony and Gala Reception, all transport during the conference, lunch and dinner every day except Thursday dinner, and CONNECTIONS 2015 souvenirs. Participation will include transport to and from the Temple, prayer services and Shabbat dinner with host families. There are no refunds for meals not taken or events/days skipped.

NOT INCLUDED: Travel to, from, and within Brazil, airport taxes, airport transfers, passport and visa fees, border taxes (where applicable), hotel accommodation, breakfasts, dinner on Thursday evening etc.

To register and for further information go to: www.wupjconnections.org/

LEO BAECK COLLEGE LEHRHAUS

Home of Adult Education
**New opportunities for
study in 2015**

Sign up today to feed your enthusiasm for Progressive Jewish Education.

All the courses are taught by the College's faculty. Our teachers are both passionate about their subject and deeply knowledgeable.

Tuesdays, 3 - 24 March

at 7.45 to 9.15 pm

Why Did God Laugh? - Introduction to Midrash with Rabbi Colin Eimer

Information and Registration

For full details about courses and registration see

http://bit.ly/LBC_Lehrhaus_2015 or
phone/email Jarek on 020 8349 5600
or jarek.lodzinski@lbc.ac.uk

Riding4Reform 2015



The 12th annual Riding4Reform five-day bike ride is just around the corner! This unforgettable experience is an opportunity to

meet Reform and Progressive Israelis, visit IMPJ communities and enjoy the beautiful scenery that Israel has to offer.

Riding4Reform is an unforgettable ride through the width of the Galilee, passing by the Carmel region and Emek Jezreel, and a chance to support Israel and Reform Judaism.

Following feedback from the past year the organisers have decided to make the light route easier so that more people can participate. Combined with the original "challenging" track and the walking track, the R4R event is suitable for all levels of riders and walkers.

For the first time in its history, the ride will take place in April, hitting the road on **Sunday, 26 April** and ending the ride at the sea of Galilee on **Thursday, 30 April**.

Join those who have already confirmed their participation and send an e-mail with a picture and a few words about yourself to r4r@reform.org.il

SERVICES

March 2015 – Adar/Nisan 5775

All Fridays at 6.45 pm, unless otherwise stated.
Saturdays at 10.30 am, unless otherwise stated

Wednesday 4 March

Erev Purim

Reading the Megillah with Fancy Dress parade and Hamantaschen, 7.30 pm in the Synagogue

**Friday 6 March
Saturday 7 March**

Ki Tissa (16 Adar)

**Friday 13 March
Saturday 14 March**

Parah (Vayakhel-Pekudei - 23 Adar)

**Friday 20 March
Saturday 21 March**

**Rosh Chodesh Nisan
Ha-Chodesh** (Vayikra)

**Friday 27 March
Saturday 28 March**

Ha-Gadol (Tzav - 8 Nisan)
Festive kiddush to welcome Campling and Waterman families into the community

Bet Debora

**7th International Bet Debora Conference
of European Jewish Women, Activists,
Academics and Rabbis**

**Engendering Jewish Politics – Redefining
the Role of Women**

in Hoddesdon, Hertfordshire

Thursday, 16 to Sunday, 19 April

After a series of successful conferences in European cities we invite interested people from all streams of Judaism to our 7th conference, this time taking place in England. Our aim is to further the meaningful exchange of ideas and thoughts between people who come from different backgrounds. This conference will be of interest to anyone for whom the future of Judaism and Jewish women in Europe is of consequence and will include lectures, workshops and plenary discussions:

Presenters from Eastern and Western Europe, Israel and the USA will determine the form of the conference. The conference language is English.

Programme Information

The conference venue is the High Leigh Conference Centre in Hoddesdon, Herts.
All conference meals will be vegetarian.

Conference costs

Residential participation (all accommodation and meals):

Single room with en suite bathroom: £300

Double / Twin room with en suite bathroom: £300

Non-en suite accommodation in a single room with shared bathroom: £220

Non-residential participation (all meals, no accommodation):

Whole Conference: £180; Day Pass per day: £70

Booking closes on 31 March via www.bet-debora.net

You can also contact **Rabbi Sylvia Rothschild** at sylviarothschild@hotmail.com for further information.



Dates for Your Diary


March

S	1	Beatles of Shushan rehearsal , 1.00-2.30 pm at the Shul
M	2	
T	3	CCJ meeting on Sacred Music , from 7.45 pm at Catford Synagogue
W	4	Erev Purim - Reading the Megillah, 7.30 pm in the Shul
Th	5	PURIM Talmud Study , 10.30-11.45 am
F	6	
S	7	Ki Tissa
S	8	The Beatles of Shushan live , 10.30 am at the Shul (refreshments at 10 am)
M	9	Knit & Natter , from 2.30 pm at Pauline's Torah Text Study Gp , 7.30 pm at the Shul SE10 and Beyond , 7.30 pm at Barbara's in Blackheath: 'Jewish Artists'
T	10	
W	11	Social Centre , 10.30 am to 2.30 pm, talk by Stephen Ison of Jewish Care
Th	12	Talmud Study , 10.30-11.45 am Sicha on Kashrut, 7.30 pm at the Shul
F	13	
S	14	Parah (<i>Vayakhel-Pekudei</i>)
S	15	
M	16	
T	17	Synagogue AGM , 8 pm at the Shul
W	18	
Th	19	Talmud Study , 10.30-11.45 am
F	20	
S	21	Rosh Chodesh Nisan Ha-Chodesh (<i>Vayikra</i>)
S	22	Cheder Seder and end of term
M	23	Torah Text Study Gp , 7.30 pm at the Shul
T	24	
W	25	Social Centre , 10.30 am to 2.30 pm at the Synagogue Hi Kent , 10.30-12 noon
Th	26	Talmud Study , 10.30-11.45 am
F	27	
S	28	Ha-Gadol (<i>Tzav</i>) Festive kiddush after the service BST begins (clocks go forward one hour)
S	29	Cheder Pesach Break
M	30	
T	31	Shirah (<i>Beshallah</i>)

April

W	1	
Th	2	Talmud Study , 10.30-11.45 am
F	3	First Seder Night
S	4	First Day of Pesach Communal Seder , 7 pm
S	5	Cheder Pesach Break
M	6	
T	7	
W	8	Social Centre , 10.30 am to 2.30 pm at the Synagogue
Th	9	Talmud Study , 10.30-11.45 am
F	10	Seventh Day of Pesach SE10 and Beyond , 7.30 pm at Michelle's in Greenwich: 'Passover'
S	11	Shemini
S	12	Cheder Pesach Break
M	13	
T	14	
W	15	
Th	16	Talmud Study , 10.30-11.45 am 7th Bet Debora Conference begins at Hoddesdon, Herts
F	17	
S	18	Atzma'ut (<i>Tazria-Metzorah</i>)
S	19	New Cheder Term begins Bet Debora Conference ends
M	20	Rosh Chodesh Iyar
T	21	
W	22	Social Centre , 10.30 am to 2.30 pm at the Synagogue
Th	23	Talmud Study , 10.30-11.45 am Yom Ha'Atzma'ut
F	24	
S	25	Acharei Mot-Kedoshim
S	26	
M	27	
T	28	
W	29	
Th	30	Talmud Study , 10.30-11.45 am

Contact nos. for subcommittees and other groups

BR5 and 6 and Friends: Jean Garelick, 01689 850668 genie.jeannie@btopenworld.com	
Board of Deputies Rep.: Joe Millis, 020 8299 3458 roejoebentoby@gmail.com	
Caring Community: Pauline Jeffree, 020 8650 4860 pauline.jeffree@btinternet.com	
Cheder Head Teacher: Vicki Ashmore, 020 8290 4220 vickiashmore@icloud.com	
Cheder Security: Tamir Hargittai, 01689 600142 thargittai@yahoo.com	
Choir: Dianne Mathews, 01689 826096 diannem3@googlemail.com	
Communications: Judi Sheffrin, 07968 324981 judishef@aol.com	
Education: Barbara Kurtz, 020 8650 1284 a.bkurtz@talktalk.net	
Gan Yeladim: Sue Bowyer, 020 8464 6738 sukeydebwyer@live.co.uk	
Tracy Frankel, 01732 843224 6frankels@gmail.com	
Horaay Cheder: Dani Hall, 07740 282 562 dani_hall@hotmail.com	
Housing, Health and Safety: Graham Harris, 020 8656 7611 grahamh4@aol.com	
Israel Desk: Hugh Lask, 020 8467 0470 hughlask@gmail.com	
J.J.B.S.: Janet Posner, 020 8650 7521 janet.posner@talk21.com	

Kiddush Rota: Harriet Posner, 020 8291 9775 posner.harriet@googlemail.com	
Library: Judi Sheffrin, 07968 324981 judishef@aol.com	
Membership Inquiries: Janet Burlem, 020 8460 5460 janet@bromleyshul.org.uk	
Newsletter Editor: Bob Symonds, 020 8402 2197 bobsymonds@mac.com	
Religion and Ritual: Larry Shall, 01732 873361 offhamshalls@btinternet.com	
SACRE Samantha Barnett, 020 8467 8868 idb001@ntlworld.com	
School Visits Coordinator: Marilyn Freeman, 020 8650 7178 marilynfreeman221@btinternet.com	
SE10 and Beyond Michelle Brooks-Evans, 020 8293 4999 michellebrooksevans@gmail.com	
Social Centre: Dianne Mathews, 01689 826096 diannem3@googlemail.com	
Subscriptions: Janet Posner, 020 8650 7521 janet.posner@talk21.com	
Security: Eric Lewis, 020 8460 4353 e.lewis@btinternet.com	
Website: Kieron Hyams, 07980 647108 mail@kieronhyams.co.uk	
Youth: Linda de Lange, 020 8858 6206 lindascottdelange@googlemail.com	



Find us on Facebook!

www.facebook.com/BromleyReformSynagogue

or Tweet us @BromleyShul) ...



David Jacobs
Wedding Photography
Specialist

2. Falcon Avenue
Bickley ~ Bromley
Kent ~ BR1 2EH

Tel: 0208 460 3194
077 5432 4400

The.Wedding.Specialist@gmail.com



Highlight Advertising **Fill this Space!**

Advertise your business and support your shul by advertising in Highlight. £80 will secure you a box measuring 100 mm x 120 mm for a whole year (11 issues)

Contact **Dianne Mathews**
(diennem3@googlemail.com;

01689 826096) or the Editor
(bobsymonds@mac.com) today.



TOTAL COMPUTERS



for all your
computer needs

Don't let a virus have the
last word

Call Michael
PC Problems

No job too small

Phone and Fax
01322 667061

E-mail

michael.e.jenkins@hotmail.co.uk

STRAWBERRY HOUSE CLINIC



BACK PAIN?

We offer effective treatment for back and neck problems, sciatica, sports injuries and much more.

Andreas Jochim DO MSc
Candice McKendrick
M.Ost DO ND

12 Station Approach Hayes
Bromley Kent BR2 7EH

020 8650 0509

www.strawberryhouseclinic.co.uk

BEAUTIFUL CARDS for every occasion



A percentage of every sale will go to the Synagogue.

Details, prices and samples from
Judi Sheffrin: 07968 324981
judishef@aol.com