

HIGHLight

Bromley Reform Synagogue newsletter



The magician kept young and old entertained at the Winter Magic Party on 28 February

The Communal Seder

As always, our Communal Seder will be held on the second night of Pesach, which falls this year on **Saturday, 23 April**.

If you have not already applied, please do so urgently, using the booking form sent out with last month's *Highlight*.

Please note the new starting time of 5.30 pm to allow young families to attend.

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BRS EU Referendum Debate

Are you undecided or wavering?

Confused by contradictory claims in the media?

BRS Can Help You!

Join us on **Sunday, 8 May**

"Europe – to stay or not to stay?

That is the Question"

Speaking for "Remain"

Martin Wolf

Chief Economics Editor at the FT

Speaking for "Leave"

To be confirmed asap

The debate will be held in the Synagogue

Refreshments at 7pm, 7.30 pm start

Tickets £5 to cover costs

from the Synagogue office

0208 460 5460

or **Barbara Kurtz - a.bkurtz@talktalk.net**

April 2016 – Pesach 5776

BROMLEY REFORM SYNAGOGUE

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HONORARY OFFICERS

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IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

(in the event of a bereavement)

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

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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.

A bit calmer this year – Chairman’s Report to the AGM of 15 March 2016

At an annual general meeting, nearly everyone feels amazed at the passage of another year, and the difficulty of summing it up in a few pages. This year is no exception. This has been my second year as Chairman of the Synagogue. After last year’s Jubilee year, which was so very busy, I can report that it has been a bit, but not very much, calmer. The focus has been different, but there has been a great deal going on, and some new challenges have arisen.

If you were at last year’s AGM, you will know I made some glaring omissions, so it is with a view to repairing these that I am going to mention the social group BR5&6 first, and move on from there.

BR5&6 Due to the fact that Jews in this part of London are fairly thinly spread, it was realised about 25 years ago that sometimes a more local group should be set up to enable people living closer to each other than to the Shul to get together socially. The first of these groups was BR5 and 6, established by members living in those two post codes. This very successful group is still very much a going concern. Over the past year, as Zena Goodman reports, they held at least 12 events, including teas at the homes of the Noyeks, the Zerihans, the Garelicks, the Radfords, and Annie Gold. They have had a last night of the Proms at Nadia Gilman’s house, and visited local garden centres for lunch or craft fairs (and tea, I am guessing!). Dianne Mathews hosted one of the many Chanukah candle lightings for the group. Their report stresses that they aren’t exclusively for folks in BR5 or 6 – anyone is more than welcome to join them at an event. This group is a fantastic model for other local groups affiliated to the synagogue.

SE10 and beyond ... Another group, but a more recently established one, is the one calling itself “SE10 and Beyond”, established in December 2013. Although many of the members are also members here at Bromley, SE10 is for “Jews” rather than shul members. (so members of Catford shul, and more or less observant people all take part) Under the determined stewardship of Michelle Brooks-Evans,

this has grown into a thriving group with 43 members on its mailing list. Throughout the year most meetings are held in the evening and there can be anywhere from 8 to 20 people attending. The meetings are very informal and they usually take place in someone’s home.

SE10 is a very varied group of people from all walks of life and of all ages, in which the women outnumber the men. In fact, really the only thing group members have in common with the others is a strong Jewish bond and they have learnt a lot from each other. The past year was packed with group events, which included a film night in Blackheath, a book club evening, a Passover Seder, a Chanukah candle lighting, as well as some enjoyable Friday night dinners together. The group bring refreshments to the home of the volunteer host. At one meeting they had a map of the world and pinned all the places their ancestors came from before ending up in the UK, and the most recent meeting was memories of festivals where some people brought family memorabilia to share.

One of the most exciting things is that the new friendships made have led to activities within the group - people have gone to the theatre, to concerts, for days out, or just been on hand for a cup of tea and chat. Michelle comments that she did not know there were so many Jewish people in the SE10 area, and has really enjoyed having an opportunity to meet and get to know them.

Facebook

BR5&6 and SE10 groups can be considered “outreach” of the synagogue, as they extend the relationships between members and with other members of the wider community. It is only natural that, in the teen years of the 21st century, virtual outreach has also widened the shul’s sphere of influence. We have had a website and a forum for members online for a few years, but this past year, thanks to the stalwart enthusiasm of Benjie Butler, there is now a Facebook group named **South East London Jewish Community**. I strongly suggest you take a look if you haven’t already. This is not solely for members of this congregation, but our

events are mentioned, as are those of SE10 and beyond, and I see some lively discussions and titbits of information about the Jewish history of this part of the world, which is not quite the desert those from North London might believe.

Membership

This is a small group which most definitely isn’t a committee! It met twice this year, but has managed to get an impressive amount of things done.

There was a family Shabbat hosted in a member’s home – held chez de Lange with over 30 people. The group would like to repeat this, if anyone would like to host it.

The group helped the Rabbi to run the “*I am Jewish, my partner isn’t*” course, reinstated the habit of welcoming new members with a “goody bag” and arranged the Winter Magic Party, as well as supporting the setting up of the Facebook group for South East London Jews

The Membership Group is beginning to explore ways of designing a membership fee structure which suits younger members. This is very much still ongoing.

A synagogue needs members of course!, so nurturing these relationships and the development of new ones is a key activity. During the past year we have had the addition of seven single memberships and three family ones. Sadly there have been eight deaths during the same period.

Joanna Koenigsberg (retiring)

Chairman

keesabromley@gmail.com

The above is only the first part of the Chairman’s report to the AGM. To read the report in full, which deals principally with the activities of the various committees, please go to the synagogue’s website:

www.bromleyshul.org.uk/?p=2627

The Accounts - a note from the Treasurer

If you would like a copy of the full set of accounts for the Financial Year 2015 (22 pages), please email Janet in the synagogue office (janet@bromleyshul.org.uk).

Freedom Is Not Just About Freedom



Each year at the Passover Seder we pick up a millennia-old conversation on the meaning and importance of freedom.

This topic is at the heart of our Jewish tradition. Our Torah begins by talking about people created in God's image, and therefore deserving of a certain amount of dignity and respect. Yet, for all sorts of reasons, such as Egyptian slavery, that ideal is not always realised. This theme has parallels in some modern secular philosophers. **Jean-Jacques Rousseau**, writing in 1762, said that "Man is born free, yet everywhere he is in chains." He was talking about how people, by nature, ought to be free yet various features of society such as inequality and violence prevent that.

The common link between philosophers like Rousseau and the Torah is that their concern for freedom comes out of a real concern for the well-being of each individual. Freedom is not about indifference to other people and their lives, rather it is about caring for other people. Therefore, the lesson of Passover cannot just be limited to freedom. It is also about empathy, justice and compassion. Each year we say that the lesson of Passover can only be learned if we see ourselves as slaves redeemed from Egypt. That slavery ended because God cared about the well-being of the slaves and Moses did something about it, even though he was raised as an Egyptian prince and could have lived out his life as a shepherd, unconcerned with Pharaoh or the Hebrew slaves. The lesson about freedom in the Passover story is that it only comes when people care about others.

Rabbi Jason Holtz
jsholtz@gmail.com

Council of Christians and Jews
South East London Branch

Tuesday 12 April at 8 pm

Refreshments from 7.45 pm

**at St Stephen's Church,
College Road, Dulwich, SE21**

"EU In/Out! Should Christians and Jews care?"

CCJ SE London branch is inviting a discussion around ethical and moral issues associated with the UK staying or leaving the EU, inviting all groups to participate. The meeting is intended to provide a fair platform for discussion of all relevant views on the topic.

All national organisations engaged in the Yes/No debate are invited to send speakers and participants.

CCJ is neutral in the EU In/Out debate.

For further details, please contact Alison Scammell
tel 07711 351268
ascammell@blueyonder.co.uk

Introduction to Judaism

- Series of in-depth introductory courses
- Each course is stand-alone. Take whichever ones you want
- Free to all synagogue members and their partners and to people in the conversion programme. Open to all others at a small charge.
- All sessions take place on Thursday evenings from 7:30-8:45 pm.
- The remaining courses in the current Introduction to Judaism series are:
 - *The People of the Book: Introduction to the Jewish Library* - 7, 28 April and 5, 12 May
 - *All Your Questions Answered (or Dodged): Ask the Rabbi* 19 May



To RSVP or for more information call 020 8460 5460 or e-mail janet@bromleyshul.org.uk

Traditional Jewish Food and Cooking

Passover Made Easy

The next session of the group will be on **Wednesday 13 April at 6.30 pm** in the shul kitchen

We will be making **Mandel Bread** (which is a delicious cookie similar to biscotti) with a demonstration on how to make matzah balls while it is baking.

As before, everyone of all ages is welcome, as no previous cooking experience is required. Come and join us for a yummy evening of baking and socialising.

We would also like to encourage you to bring along your own Passover recipes so we can share and discuss while eating!

Contacts: Michelle Morgan
(michellemorgan21@icloud.com),
Michelle Brooks Evans
(michellebrooksevans@gmail.com),
Jodi Holtz (jodiholtz@gmail.com)

“Who is a Christian, who is a Jew?”

CCJ SE London meeting on 1 March at St Stephens Church, Dulwich

On Tuesday, 1 March, CCJ SE London was treated to a fascinating discussion on the question “*Who is a Christian, who is a Jew?*” led by Bishop Michael of Woolwich and Chairman CCJ, and Clive Lawton OBE, a founder of Limmud.

Interestingly to this writer and entirely unexpectedly, both panellists looked to a shared time and place (the 1st century AD/ CE in time, the eastern Mediterranean in place) as the starting point of their answer.

Clive Lawton explained that, at least since Rabbinic times (starting around the 1st Century of the Common Era, located in the land then known as Judaea and/or Palestina), Jews are either Jews by birth, born from a Jewish mother, or Jews by conversion - a highly testing process, requiring approval by a court of three rabbis. He cited the example of Ruth, the prototype of a Jewish convert, who insisted three times to her Jewish mother-in-law that “your people are my people”. Being Jewish is not an act of faith, but an act of belonging to a people.

Clive went on to explain that, up to broadly 200 years ago, Jews could agree on the identity of another Jew. However, as the progressive/reform wings of Judaism have grown in strength and self-confidence, with different standards for conversion and with some strands of progressive Judaism going so far as to recognise, in certain circumstances, a Jew descended from a Jewish father, there is no longer a consensus today among those who call themselves Jews as to “who is a Jew”.

For his part, Bishop Michael found his answer to the question “who is a Christian” by getting us to focus on the first group of disciples of Christ to be known as “Christians”, the Christian community in Antioch in the 1st century. He compared 1st century Antioch to 21st century London ... a great metropolis with an astonishing variety of language, food, music and religions ... being an active Christian meant in Antioch, and means today in London, an active identification with Christ, demonstrated by praying together.

Bishop Michael went beyond a merely linguistic definition of a Christian, to explore what it might mean

to lead a Christian life, using the social structure of Antioch as an allegory for a model of Christian behaviour.

Bishop Michael explained that Antioch was broadly categorised into 3 classes: citizens, resident aliens (“perioikoi” in Greek, literally those who live near the house) and slaves (who were the property of someone else). Bishop Michael urged Christians to behave both like citizens, with responsibilities; and, like “perioikoi”, to be ready to wander, to travel far, to explore in search of Christ ... like pilgrims, which is an English word ultimately rooted in the Greek word “perioikoi”.

Listening closely to Bishop Michael, this writer sensed that, beneath the surface message, was a much deeper philosophical challenge to consider what is “a good Christian”, in the spirit of the Greek philosopher Plato who asked “what is a good life”? I had not expected Neoplatonism, the intellectual framework of the Hellenistic world, to be such a key part of the answer to “what is a Christian?”.

This (classically-educated) writer could not but notice that for his co-religionist, the Jewish speaker, the underlying models were exclusively the great personalities of the Hebrew Bible: Abraham, Jacob/Israel, Moses, Ruth ... without referring to models outside the Bible.

The difference between the two religions could not have been expressed more clearly, more succinctly, more intelligently by two highly articulate men in the prime of their lives who have spent a lifetime thinking, studying and speaking about identity in religion.

Thank you to St Stephen’s Church, Dulwich for their warm hospitality, and to a most stimulating pair of speakers.

Stephen Weil

The next meeting of the CCJ SE London branch will be on **Tuesday, 12 April**, again at St. Stephen’s Church Dulwich, on the theme of the EU Referendum. See the details on the preceding page of this *Highlight*.



The Jewish Music Fair

Ann Fried reports

The Jewish Music Fair is an annual, all-day event, which was held this year on Sunday, 21 February at North Western Reform (Alyth) Synagogue.

There was a choice of 20 music sessions throughout the day, offering a chance to perform, participate, listen and learn. It was relaxing or stimulating according to the individual choice and to your mood. Workshops included choirs, Israeli dance, percussion and drumming, cantillation, Yiddish and vocal coaching and there were some fine Jewish musicians and teachers to lead and inspire.

I chose *Singing and Moving* – led by **Alexander Massey** who sees prayer as a whole-person tool for change. We used gentle movement and gesture to embody personal and communal prayer. Whilst all of this sounds a bit “hippy” and to start with it felt a bit self-conscious, it made a great start to the day.

Secondly I joined a composer called **Joseph Finlay**, who is musical director of Hendon Reform Synagogue. We learned and sang his own compositions to our old favourites, like *Shalom Aleichem* and *Osei Shalom*. There were some wonderful voices in the room creating tremendous atmosphere.

And, thirdly, my most surprising choice was *Percussion for All* – in other words drumming. **Ronen Kozokaro**, a professional musician who works with, amongst others, the Matthew Bourne Dance Company and the Jewish Band Shir, led us in wonderful new rhythms on drums of all kinds.

Watch out for the Jewish Music Fair next year – it’s very much worth going.

Ann Fried

Knit and Natter

Tuesday,
19 April
from 10.00 am
at Pauline’s home.

Pauline Jeffree,
020 8650 4860
pauline.jeffree@btinternet.com



Social Centre News

When the Social Centre met on 24 February there was the usual flow of conversation while we had our morning coffee/tea and biscuits. The main topic was how we could encourage more shul members to come along. One suggestion was that perhaps we could provide transport to bring people from their homes and take them back at 2.30 pm. Pauline said she was looking into this possibility. We felt that some people are discouraged from attending because of the problem of getting here and back.

The exercises with Andreas were, as usual, an enthusiastic part of our morning. Afterwards there was a general discussion, led by Rolf, on whether we were “in or out” of Europe. A few were undecided, but Rolf gave a convincing argument to leave. He thought that it would not affect our generation, but our children and grandchildren will be affected by the fact that this country will have to admit many different nationalities and we will be overwhelmed which might change the culture of of Britain. There was quite a heated discussion about this, with most people disagreeing.

There was also a heated discussion about the difference between being a British Subject and a British Citizen. It was pointed out that being a British Subject does not automatically entitle you to be a British Citizen.

Our lunch was, as usual, very good and enjoyed by everybody.

To end I would like to tell you a true conversation I heard many years ago when Ted Heath was trying to negotiate the entry into the Common Market. I heard two women standing by the fish counter in Sainsbury’s and one was saying to the other that she and her husband had gone to Calais for the day but they couldn’t find that common market that Heath kept talking about.

Zelda Stone

Brenda Houlden reports on the Social Centre meeting of 9 March: It was lovely to see Valerie and Lionel back after their illnesses. Hopefully they will stay well. We had exercises with the wonderful Andreas and Lionel brought us up to date with his family and very interesting it was.

Continued at foot of col. 2

Cheder News

Hello, lovely members. Because of the holidays, this issue of Cheder News has been moved forward, so that means it will also be a bit shorter than usual as not much has happened since the last article! Still, I’ll do my best to keep you up to date:

1. By the time you read this, our community will have been treated to the hotly anticipated “Shushan Night Fever: A Disco Operetta” as part of our Purim celebrations. I’m sure our Rabbi and the rest of the cast blamed it on the boogie in style!
2. We’re also getting ready for our next Communal Seder, which will take place on Saturday evening, 23 April at 5.30 pm. This earlier start is to make our Seder more child friendly, with extra music and activities provided. Please book in advance through the shul office, and contact Harriet Posner to see how you can help: posner.harriet@googlemail.com
3. This term our Cheder children collected literally hundreds of milk bottle tops for Sophie’s Appeal, a children’s cancer charity. By supporting your children in this way, you’ve shown them that there are

Social Centre News cont. from col. 1

We then had a delicious vegetable & barley soup, home-made of course. Followed by fruit strudel and custard or ice cream. Always tea or coffee. Unfortunately it was then time to go home. Until the next time.

Programme for April

Please note that on **Wednesday, 13 April** we shall be having an ‘Open Day’, so our timetable is slightly different and anyone interested is welcome to come.

Exercises: 11.00 am.

11.45 am: Talk by **Janet Posner**, who will tell us about the JJBS and answer any queries.

We will serve lunch at the slightly later time of 1.00 pm. (See the notification elsewhere in *Highlight*).

On **Wednesday, 27 April**, after our 12.30 lunch, we will be having another of our popular **musical entertainments with David and Tom**.

Dianne Mathews

many ways to fulfil the mitzvah of looking after the sick (“Bikur Cholim”), and we thank you.

4. We are combining our next Children’s Service with the shul’s SHAVUOT service - which happens to fall on 12 June - a Sunday this year! This means that Cheder won’t be cancelled, but the service will take place during the Cheder day with the whole shul invited to attend. More details to follow ASAP so watch this space...
5. Youth Club is happening! Once a month after Cheder, our shul is open for all children in the community aged 12-19. You do not have to be involved in Cheder to join the club, as long as you are a member of the shul. We have table tennis, snooker, foosball and air hockey. Lunch is provided, so if you’re the right age, come along! Just email the shul to let me know.
6. And finally, a reminder that Kittah Chet will be hosting their annual Chet service as their final act as Cheder children! The service will take place on Saturday, 16 July, so do come along and see what our oldest children can do.

That’s all for now... With wishes for a happy and healthy April,

Vicki, Cheder Head Teacher
vickiashmore@icloud.com

The Bromley Beit Midrash

*An advanced course with
Rabbi Jason Holtz*

The next session will be on Sunday morning, 10 April, 10–11 am, on the subject:

The Flames of Justice: Justice and Mercy in Kabbalah

Further information from the Rabbi or Barbara Kurtz on a.bkurtz@talktalk.net.

Highlight Profile: Vicki Ashmore, Head Teacher

Where do you come from?

New York! I moved here 20 years ago, but I was already a “fully cooked” American when I moved here.

What is your background?

I grew up in an Orthodox Jewish family on Long Island. I went to Yeshiva from the time I was 5 years old until I graduated High School at 17, where I studied half the day in English, the other half in Hebrew. I then went to Barnard College (Columbia University) where I got my degree in Biology before moving to England to study Drama!

Who's in the Family?

My husband is Olly and I have 3 daughters named Rachael, Aimee and Jemma. Oh, and two kittens, Doodles and Woof.

How did you become involved in the BRS community?

I had been working as a professional actress for about 6 years when I finally decided it was time to settle down. Olly and I got married and, as he had a beautiful flat in Greenwich, I moved in with him. BRS became our local synagogue. My first service was a Purim service, where I met Elka. She told me she was the Head Teacher, and I told her I could speak Hebrew and offered to help out. That was the last free term-time Sunday morning I can remember...

What's most interesting about your family?

My husband is a composer and probably the most talented person I've ever met. He's written at least a dozen musicals, and supervises Christmas pantomimes for about 15 professional theatres every year. My daughter Rachael is at secondary school and recently won second place in a Bromley-wide contest called “*The True Meaning Of Islam*”! My 11 year old daughter Aimee is a really good violinist and 8 year old Jemma is thinking about world domination...

What else do you do outside the synagogue?

I work in the Deaf Community. I found that acting and raising a family didn't really mix and, as Sign Language is my third language (after English



and Hebrew!), I became involved in supporting Deaf people with communication. I also volunteer at a local charity called Deaf Access - a fantastic organization that supports Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing people in Bromley.

What's next?

My friend and I recently set up a new charity group at Deaf Access called BRIGHT. We support deaf-blind people who use BSL as their primary means of communication. These people can find themselves suffering severe isolation, so we help by arranging coffee mornings and events, keeping their special needs in mind.

How do you mix your two worlds?

Mitzvah Day in the Cheder was the first time I tried - by inviting the Deaf Community to us. They were so impressed with how friendly we all were and how we learned some BSL to make them more comfortable. Sometimes the smallest mitzvah can make the biggest difference. I'm always looking for fundraising opportunities for Deaf Access and BRIGHT, so if BRS is looking for mitzvot to do, you know where to find me!

If you're interested in supporting Vicki with her work in the Deaf Community, please get in touch with her at vickiashmore@icloud.com

Judi Sheffrin asked the questions.

We plan to profile more of our members in *Highlight* from time to time.

Welcome to the New Board

At the AGM on 15 March **John Posner** was elected unopposed as our new Chairman and **Kieron Hyams** as our new Vice Chairman. **Anna Sedenu** will continue in office as Secretary and **Sandra Hurley** as Treasurer.

Special thanks are due to the retiring Chairman and Vice Chairman, **Joanna Koenigsberg** and **Matthew de Lange** for all their devotion and hard work during a particularly busy period for the Synagogue, which included our Jubilee Year.

Both Joanna and Matthew will continue to serve on the Synagogue Board, which is now constituted as follows following the resignations of Jason Friedler and Janet Posner:

Elka Carr, Matthew de Lange, Marilyn Freeman, Judith French, Graham Harris, Adrian Jackson, Pauline Jeffree, Joanna Koenigsberg, Barbara Kurtz, Shane Lask, Lisa Lewis, Daniel Posner and Ruth Rolle.

Our thanks are also due to all the members of the Board for their unstinting service during the past year.

Calling all Accountants

The Synagogue is a registered charity. As such, its accounts are required to have an Independent Examination each year.

This work has been undertaken for many years by my firm, Harris & Trotter LLP, and Nigel Springer's firm, Thornton Springer LLP. It is now time for us to pass the baton to someone else.

We are looking for an accountant in a practice registered to carry out audit work. You will know who you are! The books and records of the shul are maintained in an exemplary fashion but the statutory requirements have to be complied with. The role of Independent Examiner carries with it the gratitude of the whole community, although it does mean that you would not be able to sit on the Synagogue's Board of Directors.

If you are in a position to take on this very real mitzvah, please contact me.

Thank you.

Hugh Lask

hughlask@gmail.com

Everything You Need to Know about the Jewish Joint Burial Society

If you are a member of Bromley Reform Synagogue, then you are a member of the Jewish Joint Burial Society (JJBS). Come and hear about your entitlements and the burial options that are available to you.

Janet Posner, BRS Governor to JJBS, will be talking about the society and answering any questions you may have.

Wednesday 13 April at 11.45 am in the Garden Room.

If you would like to stay for a 1.00 pm lunch, cost £5, please let **Dianne Mathews** know on 01689 826096 or email diannem3@googlemail.com

The 999 Club – important notice

Please would the generous Bromley Reform Shul members please note that the requirements for donations have altered as the 999 Club has changed its remit. It is reducing the numbers through the doors, but with a higher percentage of specific, targeted assistance for the homeless service users.



The 999 Gateway Centre no longer requires donations of clothes or foods. The service users will be sent to other agencies for some of these things.

However, they would still appreciate the following:

- New male and female underwear (not socks though);
- Toiletries such as razor and shaving creams, toothbrushes (not toothpaste), deodorant, ladies sanitary goods, wipes;
- Towels and tea towels.

Many thanks for all your help in the past.

Shane Lask



The FOJ (Friends of Joanna) team were the winning team with 93½ points at the highly enjoyable Quiz Evening on Saturday, 12 March



WHAT PUTS 200,000 BOWLS OF CHICKEN SOUP ON OUR TABLES EVERY YEAR?

Every day, we serve 8,000 delicious hot kosher meals. We serve them to people visiting our community centres; to people we're helping to stay in their own homes, and to people living in our care homes. And it's not just about good food. It's a sign of the Jewish values we share with our entire community. We can only do it thanks to kind people who have remembered us in their Will. Because £1 in every £4 we raise comes from Gifts in Wills.

PLEASE REMEMBER JEWISH CARE WITH A GIFT IN YOUR WILL



To find out more about including a gift in your Will to Jewish Care in complete confidence, please call Alison Rubenstein on 020 8922 2833 or email arubenstein@jcare.org

jewishcare.org/legacy

REMEMBER **JEWISH CARE**

Social and Personal

DEATH - We are very sad to report the death of our member **Estella Henning** and extend sincere condolences to her children Lynda and David and their families.

Get well soon - Pauline Jeffree writes: We wish well to **Janine Campling, Anthony Frankel, Gerda James, John Koekoek, Edith Michaels** and **David Zerihan**. Our thoughts are also with those known to us who are attending hospital for investigations or awaiting an operation.

Welcome to new members - **Ms Jackie Hoskins** and **Ms Sue Williams** of Bexleyheath and **Mr Adam Lindsey** and **Miss Amy Simons** of Bromley.

Big birthdays

A message from Ronnie and Judi

To celebrate our respective big birthdays we shall be leading the Shabbat morning service on **Saturday, 4 June** and hosting an extended Kiddush afterwards. Everybody is invited, as we would very much like all our friends in the BRS community to share a sumptuous spread and meet our special guests. Please allow at least an hour longer than you normally would on a Saturday morning.

Ronnie Goldberg and **Judi Sheffrin**

Good Luck Joe!

Proud Mum Judith French reports: "Joe [Parks] played absolutely superbly at the BBC Young Musician Percussion Category Final on Tuesday [8 March] in Cardiff, and Roger, Joshua and I were beyond proud of him. We'd like to thank everyone at BRS for their good wishes. It meant a great deal to Joe to feel the support of the community behind him. For those who would like to see him play, the Percussion Final will be shown on BBC Four TV on the evening of Friday 22 April" (As that Friday will be the first Seder night, you can also watch on BBC iPlayer for up to 30 days afterwards).



**Chag Sameach Pesach
to all our readers**



Jodi demonstrated how to make Hamantaschen at the first session of the Traditional Jewish Cookery class on Thursday, 10 March

Well done Joan!



A hearty mazal tov to **Joan Preston** (seen here with the Mayor of Bromley - Councillor Kim Botting) who has received the Mayor of Bromley's Award "In recognition of many years of unstinting service to the people of the London Borough of Bromley". The award was made in particular in recognition of her services and contribution to Cancer Research U.K.

Youth Club for Grown-Ups

A letter from Judi Sheffrin

Dear All

Why should young people have all the fun? On a recent Shabbat, some of us realised that we need a youth club for grown-ups, and I was asked to suggest some dates. I assumed that these would be week nights, but Rabbi Holtz has mentioned the concept of Shabbat Rec, i.e. a chance to socialise and play games after Shabbat morning services.

As no time and date is ideal for everyone, perhaps we could try some Shabbat and some evening sessions to start with, just to see what works. Please bring a snack to enjoy or share, whether it's after Shabbat service or after work. We can then play table tennis, snooker etc. or card and board games, or just enjoy a hot drink and a schmooze. Come when you can and we can discuss how we'd like it to develop.

First two months:

Saturday 16 April, 1-3 pm, then at 7-9 pm on Wednesday 11 and 1-3 pm on Saturday 21 May.

If you have questions or suggestions, please contact me at judishef@aol.com

Judi Sheffrin

BRS SOCIAL GROUP

Dates for your diary

Saturday 14 May -

Yom Ha'atzmaut Party at the Shul - Israeli music and food

Sunday, 18 September - Afternoon tea and fashion show in the Garden Room (outside if the weather is good). Further details will follow, but meanwhile please contact **Lesley Freeman** on 07790 260582 or email her at b_freeman1@sky.com if you need any information.

Foodies Club - will meet once a quarter for dinner at restaurants suggested by you, the group members. Please contact Brian at b_freeman1@sky.com or call/text him on 07970 068749 if you would like to come along. Suggestions of good local restaurants would be much appreciated.

Remembering Edward Roberts, 5 February 1920 - 23 January 2016

Edward Roberts was born in 1920. His mother, born in 1883, came from a fishing village in Fife on the Firth of Forth opposite Edinburgh. She became a nurse and took care of soldiers who were injured in the first World War. Edward's father was one of those soldiers. He was nursed by Edward's mother and subsequently married her.

Edward's childhood was a time of much poverty and upheaval. There were lots of hunger strikes and begging in the streets. They moved to London, where his parents rented a house in New Southgate. Edward called New Southgate genteel but not affluent. His father was doing a desk job in the Post Office. He worked odd hours, starting at 4 or 5 in the morning. In 1934, his parents bought a newly built house in rural Southgate for about £1,000. The cost of houses in that area ranged from about £300 to £999, so their house was quite large. Edward's father was still working in the Mount Pleasant post office and his mother was a housewife. The lighting was gas. In the house they had open fires - really cold in the winter. He only had a fire in his room when he was ill with mumps.

After passing the 11-plus Edward went to Southgate County School. The school was about a mile away, which he walked, but he also went home for lunch, so that was four miles a day going back and forth. Edward was a reasonable scholar. He was good at handicrafts and did poker work with heated metal in a Bunsen flame. He made a raffia stand, burning a pattern with the hot poker. In 1936, when he was 16, he left school, having matriculated in French, English and maths.

After he left school he joined the North Metropolitan Electricity Company. After about two years he was moved to the accounts department, which he really disliked, so he left the electricity company and did art at City and Guilds - 'teaching crafts' including woodwork, which he was good at.

Edward had poor eyesight and, when called up in 1940, he was recruited to the Royal Army Pay Corps and was stationed in Sidcup. He got

fairly frequent passes to go home for the weekend and he would travel back to Kent from Southgate on a Sunday night, which could take time because of the air raids. He was in Sidcup for three years, but was then given the choice of either joining the infantry or going overseas. He chose to go overseas and was sent to North Africa in 1943. He went to Algiers, Tunisia, Sfax, and Alexandria. From there, he made his way to Jerusalem, where he stayed for three years. Edward used to go on leave every three months or so and would travel widely.

Edward was demobilized after the war and took advantage of educational opportunities offered by the government to soldiers whose education and career opportunities had been disrupted by the war. He studied architecture in the Polytechnic of Central London in Regent Street, now the University of Westminster. Edward then worked for a firm in Central London designing buildings before moving to work for Kent County Council, where he stayed for most of his working life.

Soon after the war, Edward met Gertrud, a nurse, through an army comrade who was her sister's husband and they married. They had two children, Miriam and David. Edward designed and built their family home in Bromley, just up the road from the shul.

Edward loved creating art. He was a talented artist and continued to paint until his vision completely failed and, even with his blindness, he continued to create the most amazing pottery.

Edward was an idealist. He was committed to pacifism, became involved with the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament and joined the Communist party. Peace News was delivered every week and he was a Guardian man to the end. Edward was a Buddhist for many years, but later in life he converted to Judaism. Edward and Gertrud had a chuppah wedding at Bromley Reform Synagogue. When Gertrud founded the Social Centre, Edward served as its treasurer.



Edward at the Shul in 2006

David remembers Edward being a very committed father. Miriam describes her dad as being solid and stable, always keeping things going. David remembers how his dad would take him to football matches, despite the fact that Edward was not really a fan of the game, but he was, however, enthusiastic about spending time with his son. David, as a teenager, was astonished at how much Edward cared for him. He remembers running away once and his dad then drove around for hours and hours looking for him. He was glad when he finally caught up. Edward was the sort of father who offered guidance and encouragement. David went on to become a writer because Edward had supported him in doing so. Edward taught David never to give up and that if you want to do something, you can.

Despite disability in later life, Edward soldiered on. He received his newspapers on disk from the Royal National Institute for Blind People and listened to the radio at all times of day and night. His latter years in Nightingale were well spent. He enjoyed the men's discussion group run by Monty Schwartz and he gave up his pottery only a few weeks before he died. He was blessed with good friends, such as John and Janet Posner, with whom he would have conversations about everything and anything, right up to the very end. He will be missed greatly by family and friends.

John Posner and Rabbi Jason Holtz

The Israel Security Conference

We attended the conference in London on 6 March, organised by the New Israel Fund and Yachad. Its premise was that there is a false dichotomy between peace and security in the context of the Israeli Palestinian conflict. Proponents of peace are accused of being prepared to take unacceptable risks with Israel's security, while those who prioritise security are said to be uninterested in peace.

The distinguished speakers from Israel and the Palestinian territories sought to bridge that divide. They argued that the status quo is unsustainable, and that Israel must relinquish its control over the lives of Palestinians if it is to remain true to its founding principles as a Jewish and democratic state.

Talia Sasson said that one must distinguish the State of Israel from its government, and that time is running out for a resolution of the conflict. **Major General Eyal Ben Reuven** pointed out that at present the Jewish population of all the land held by Israel is 51% and the Arab 49%. Demography means that in a few years the Jewish population could be in the minority.

Brigadier General Israela Oron reminded us that today's threats to Israel are not conventional armies but missiles and terrorism. The military has no answer to the current terrorist attacks because they are spontaneous, and there is no intelligence that can disrupt them. This exposes the limits of military power, and the insecurity caused by the absence of borders. The solution is an agreed separation from the Palestinians, to be negotiated within five years. **Brigadier General Gadi Zohar** agreed, and was supremely confident that the IDF could protect Israel's borders wherever they are drawn.

Jerusalem is central to the conflict, but while the current government is pledged to a united city, **Daniel Seidemann** explained that in reality the city is already divided. There are areas where it is too dangerous for him to visit unaccompanied as an Israeli Jew, and 38% of Jerusalem's population comprises disenfranchised Palestinians.

Palestinians **Aziz Abu Sarah** and **Ashraf Al-Ajami**, a former member of the Palestinian Authority, said they understood Israel's fears and need for

security, but this could only be achieved by an agreement with the Palestinians. They acknowledged the major obstacle to an agreement posed by Hamas, but believed this could be overcome.

A gloomy note was sounded by **Barak Ravid** of *Ha'aretz*. In his view there is no prospect for peace given the current leadership. He saw Netanyahu and Abbas as two sides of the same coin, who would rather maintain the status quo.

Undeterred by the complexity of the current situation, **Dr Nimrod Goren** and **Professor Matti Steinberg** see a real opportunity in the Arab Peace Initiative, proposed in 2002 and again in 2007. In essence this proposes a peace treaty between Israel and the Arab states, in return for a withdrawal from land occupied in 1967. There are many details to be hammered out, in particular the destiny of Palestinian refugees, but they believe that Israel should grasp the opportunity to use the initiative as a basis for negotiations.

Anat Heifetz from Kibbutz Nirim on the Gaza border and film maker **Anat Saragusti** provided eloquent reminders of the cost of conflict, particularly to women and mothers. They stressed the importance of an agreement that brings peace, whatever the details of that agreement may be.

This conference did not shy away from the problems and challenges facing Israel, but whatever one's own views, it was heartening to see the enthusiasm, commitment and good humour of the speakers. If these reasonable people were the leaders of Israel and Palestine, peace and security could surely be achieved.

Michael and Lesley Zuke

Bromley WIZO Eretz will be holding a Bridge Afternoon on Sunday, 22 May in the Garden Room from 3 to 6 pm.

Non-bridge players are welcome to come along, as other board games will be available.

Donation £10 - refreshments will be served.

Contact **Barbara Fizzon** on 020 8658 6060 or by email bafizz@virginmedia.com

This Seder night, please thank your CST volunteers



CST, Community Security Trust, is here to help ensure that Jews throughout the UK are protected and reassured. We are a registered charity that wants every member of our community to be able to lead the Jewish lives of their choice. Sadly, we do live in a world where there are problems with both anti-Semitism and terrorism.

This is why CST exists, but our goal is to encourage Jewish life, not for people to be scared by the presence of security measures and CST volunteers. We want to take action against the problems and we want to empower everybody to play their part in that.

Our work relies upon our local CST volunteers, who give their time to stand guard outside your synagogue, either during services or at special events. Indeed, you yourself may be one of those CST volunteers: or they could be your husband, wife, son, daughter, friend or neighbour. Alternatively, you may well be one of the many people who help to assist in our work, by joining security rotas at schools and shuls.

The fact is that CST draws all of our strength from all of our communities. We see no distinction between us and the community that we serve. So, this Seder night, as we gather together with family and friends, bear in mind what Pesach tells us about where we once were as a people, where we are now and all the good things we have in our Jewish lives. Be grateful for that: and if you are one of the many people hosting someone at your Seder night who helps CST throughout the year, then please make a point of thanking them, for what they do on behalf of us all.

Yours, CST.

In an emergency ring the Police on 999, then contact CST: 0800 032 3263

In a non-emergency, please call the Police on 101, then contact CST: 020 8457 9999

The Best Mistake I Ever Made by James McKeever

Twenty years ago I was a reluctant 7-year old cheder pupil at Bromley Synagogue. I am now an Israeli citizen, have served in the IDF and become a qualified Israeli tour guide living in picturesque Kibbutz Ein Gev. This is the story of how I got here. Apart from my mother, Marilyn McKeever having told me that I was Jewish, I had no real knowledge of what that meant practically or theologically. 5 years later I was a smiling bar mitzvah boy with braces on my teeth. I continued as a helper and later as a teacher at the Cheder until my GCSEs.

Eight years later my dad called me at university asking for the hundredth time what I plan to do with my life after my exams. Half joking and pointing out that my mum might reprimand him for suggesting the British army, who were in Iraq and Afghanistan at the time, he suggested that I joined the IDF. The idea appealed to my sense of adventure, but sat in the back of my mind as an unlikely possibility.

After graduation I went on a Taglit Birthright tour. It is a free trip for 18-26 year olds in which you are taken through a 10-day highlight tour of Israel. On one of the days we saw a youth organization made up of pre and post army youths who were running youth clubs, building a park and filling in bomb craters in a troubled neighborhood of a town in the north. We also met IDF soldiers on the trip. I was amazed and impressed by the prevalent attitude of young Israelis to improve their country. By the end of the trip I was sure that I would return to Israel to be a part of this effort, although I was still not sure how.

One year later, I flew to Israel to volunteer in the IDF for a year and a half. I still call going to the IDF the best mistake I ever made. Logically speaking, I would consider “stupid” as being a kind word to describe someone who leaves his home to enlist in a foreign army in a country where he does not speak the language and has only ever been for 10 days of his life. But it was one of the best things I ever did. I lived in my Kibbutz in the north by the Sea of Galilee, but spent the vast majority of my time with my infantry unit (Givati) in the desert in the south. The army was a mixed experience, but overall a great

one and the best *ulpan* (Hebrew course) in Israel. As a 22-year old, dealing with 18 year old Israelis was a challenge with the age difference. The culture shock was compounded by the pressure cooker atmosphere of the army, with everyone living together in tents during training for up to 21 days at a time before a weekend at home.

During basic training, one of the guys in my platoon came up to me and asked me in heavily accented and broken English which football team I support. To his surprise I told him I don't have a team. Undeterred, he told me that he supports West Ham United and asked me if I could teach him the lyrics to “I'm forever blowing bubbles” (a West Ham song). I knew the words and taught him. That evening was one of the most surreal of my life. Stark naked in a shower with eight Israelis in the middle of the Negev desert and our rifles hanging up 5 metres away, a loud chorus of “I'm forever blowing bubbles, pretty bubbles in the air” erupted around me, which I joined in, uncharacteristically singing at the top of my voice. This was one of many strange and memorable experiences of my service, including a rather scary couple of weeks waiting to go into Gaza for Operation Pillar of Cloud, which never materialised.

After the army, I made Aliyah and became a fisherman for my kibbutz on the lake. I was still not sure what I wanted to do with my life despite thinking about it on many long guard shifts. But I was deeply upset by my realisation of the lies told about Israel and the IDF in the British media and knew I wanted to do something to combat this.

After one of my best friends, Edan, suggested to me that I join him as a tour guide, I studied a 2-year course about a year after my release from the army. For a new immigrant, or “*oleh chadash*”, this course was one of the best gifts I could have possibly given myself. Apart from providing a livelihood, it gave me an intimate knowledge of my new country, the land, its history, people and religions.

It was fascinating to learn about places in Israel unknown, even to many Israelis. It was amazing to see the evidence of Joshua's destruction of the city of Hatzor from the bible or see the



James with his maternal grandparents and sister Jennifer on the Golan Heights

tool marks of some of the first copper miners in the world in Timna. After the army I never wanted to see another grain of sand in my life, but the course also taught me to love the desert. Not only is it a beautiful place, but also contains the cities of the Nabatean perfume traders from the Roman era and the *makteshim* or huge craters in the desert mountain ridges. The Golan Heights are filled with hidden springs and water falls as well as the history of Israel's wars and a personal favourite of mine are the Crusader buildings and citadels dotted around the country. Israel is home to many UNESCO sites, including the Bahai gardens in Haifa, but also the less well visited biblical city of Beer Sheva and Bronze Age city of Arad, one of the first cities in the world, with a fort from the time of the first temple period above it. Desert farms in the salty soil of the Arava are another modern wonder of the state of Israel, fulfilling Ben Gurion's dream of making the desert bloom.

I still live in my kibbutz between the lake and the mountains, hiking, swimming and exploring hidden paths in my new home. It would be wonderful to share some of the marvels I have found with people from my old home. Now I am qualified, I would love to help some people from the shul discover more of Israel. If you would like to know more, please contact me:
j.mckeever@hotmail.com
972 (0) 522-541-674

Hesped for Julius Pachter, 6 August 1918 to

30 January 2016

Julius Pachter was born on 6 August 1918 in Trebic, Czechoslovakia, the only child of Arnost and Malvine Pachter. His father worked in Hamburg, where Julius went to school and learnt German, which later was to save his life. The family returned to Czechoslovakia. War broke out. Dad came to England with £3 in his purse and met his guarantor **Len Morris**. He was never to see his parents again. Eventually he got a job, without having a work permit (there was no welfare state in those days!), was kept in Brixton prison each night and booted out each morning. It was a case of work without a work permit and break the law or don't work, and starve!

He met my mother after being given a task of delivering her some nylons, at Tunbridge Wells train station, fell in love and married her. One of the pre-conditions of the marriage was that he would keep a promise he made to his first cousin, Bromley Reform member **Hana Coulson**, before escaping, that he would come and collect her after the war and bring her to England. I believe my mother wasn't too chuffed about this, but my father insisted. In 1948 my parents and Hana had a lovely honeymoon! Hana was then 11. The three of them came back to England. My brother Martin was born in 1950, I was born in 1954. Hana grew up with us and was like a daughter to our parents. Our mum Lisa grew to love Hana, Martin and I looked upon Hana, and still do, as a big sister.

From a penniless pauper our father, through hard graft, effort and determination, built up a fantastic business in the lighting trade. He was a brilliant provider for his family, who never went short of anything; most particularly of love for us all. He provided the children with a good family home in Streatham, a good education for us both, supported us in work, and taught us the correct ethics, values, morals to become decent honest human beings.

Dad worked hard and often left it to mum Lisa to take us to see our beloved Crystal Palace. Hardly surprising, as his

SERVICES

April 2016 – Adar 2/Nisan 5776

*All Fridays at 7.00 pm, unless otherwise stated.
Saturdays at 10.30 am, unless otherwise stated*

Friday 1 April

Saturday 2 April

Parah (23 Adar 2)

Friday 8 April

Saturday 9 April

Rosh Chodesh Nisan

Hachodesh (Tazria - 1 Nisan)

Service of Induction of the new Board

Friday 15 April

Saturday 16 April

Hagadol (Metzora, 8 Nisan)

Friday 22 April

Saturday 23 April

First Seder Night

First Day of Pesach (15 Nisan)

Friday 29 April

Saturday 30 April

Seventh Day of Pesach

Service at 10.30 am in the Synagogue

Acharei Mot

knowledge of football was very limited “Why are all of the players kicking a different ball” he said as they came out of the tunnel for their pre-match kick around, “I was sure they only play with one ball!”

He was terrific on holiday and can be forgiven for leaving Martin in a busy Italian market stall and myself on a busy beach in Yugoslavia! Julius and myself escaped Czechoslovakia in 1968 when the Russians invaded (I was 14 at the time!) ”Don't worry” he said as we were heading to the Austrian border, “but if you see a Russian tank just lie flat on the floor of the car and don't move!” Dad was married to mum for 60 years before she passed on in 2007. I won't say there was never a cross word, but it was a happy, successful marriage.

Dad's passions in life were cooking and fishing. Not known for his patience, he would however sit on the bank of a river, more often with Martin and myself and while away the hours waiting to catch a fish. He was brilliant at cooking. He told me he learnt that skill from suffering from hunger during the war. He taught my mother how to cook. He used to love getting the family together for a paella or a salt beef evening. Mum loved all of that, but complained that he was the only person in the world who would dirty four pans to boil an egg - no dishwashers in those

days!

In 2007 mum died. Dad was distraught (as we all were) and found life desperately difficult without her. As his body became weaker, his hearing went and he became more and more depressed. He never really got over the appalling death of his parents and contemporaries in the war. Losing mum was the last straw and, when his independence disappeared, he was ready to meet his maker and join mum. Thankfully he died peacefully in his sleep.

Lastly, some personal thoughts: Martin and I were very pleased that he saw the rabbi the day before he died, they exchanged views and it was very clear that dad was ready to go. I was very happy that he met Marilyn whom I married in August 2015. In 2011, when he was aged 93 we managed to take him back down memory lane and took him to Trebic the place of his birth, where he visited the sadly derelict shul and graveyard of his ancestors. We also met the few remaining relatives and offspring: I know he enjoyed that.

Let the good memories of Julius aged 97 years be in the forefront of our minds, let's remember the days of our childhood and beyond, how proud he was of his family

Gerald Pachter 30/1/16

Dates for Your Diary

April

F	1	
S	2	Parah (Shemini)
S	3	
M	4	
T	5	
W	6	
Th	7	Introduction to Judaism - 7.30-8.45 pm
F	8	Rosh Chodesh Nisan Hachodesh (Tazria)
S	9	Service of Induction of the new Board
S	10	New Cheder term begins Bromley Beit Midrash , 10-11 am at the Synagogue
M	11	
T	12	CCJ Meeting on the EU referendum, 7.45 pm at St Stephen's Church, Dulwich
W	13	Social Centre , 10.30 am to 2.30 pm Talk by Janet Posner on JJBS , 11.45 am in the Garden Room Traditional Jewish Cookery , 6.30 pm in the kitchen
Th	14	
F	15	
S	16	Hagadol (Metzora) Youth Club for Grown-ups , 1-3 pm
S	17	
M	18	
T	19	Knit and Natter , from 10 am at Pauline's home
W	20	
Th	21	
F	22	First Seder Night
S	23	First Day of PESACH Communal Seder , 5.30 pm at the Shul
S	24	
M	25	
T	26	
W	27	Social Centre , 10.30 am to 2.30 pm
Th	28	Introduction to Judaism - 7.30-8.45 pm
F	29	Seventh Day of PESACH
S	30	Acharei Mot







May

S	1	No Cheder - Bank Holiday weekend
M	2	
T	3	
W	4	
Th	5	Yom Hashoah Introduction to Judaism - 7.30-8.45 pm
F	6	
S	7	Kedoshim
S	8	
M	9	Rosh Chodesh Iyar
T	10	
W	11	Social Centre , 10.30 am to 2.30 pm Youth Club for Grown-ups , 7-9 pm
Th	12	Introduction to Judaism - 7.30-8.45 pm
F	13	Family Friendly service with shared meal at 6.30 pm
S	14	Emor Yom Ha'atzmaut Party at the Shul
S	15	
M	16	
T	17	
W	18	
Th	19	Introduction to Judaism - 7.30-8.45 pm
F	20	
S	21	Behar Youth Club for Grown-ups , 1-3 pm
S	22	WIZO-Eretz Bridge Afternoon , 3-6 pm in the Garden Room
M	23	
T	24	
W	25	Social Centre , 10.30 am to 2.30 pm
Th	26	Lag b'Omer
F	27	
S	28	Bechukotai
S	29	Cheder Half Term
M	30	
T	31	

The Caretaker by Harold Pinter at the Old Vic Tuesday 29 March – Saturday 14 May

Starring Timothy Spall, Daniel Mays and George MacKay.
7.30 and 2.30pm. £12-£60. **Old Vic Theatre**, The Cut, SE1; 0844 871 7628. www.oldvictheatre.com

Contact details for subcommittees and other groups

<p>BR5 and 6 and Friends: Jean Garelick, 01689 850668 genie.jeannie@btopenworld.com</p> 	<p>J.J.B.S.: Janet Posner, 020 8650 7521 janet.posner@talk21.com</p> 
<p>Board of Deputies Rep.: Joe Millis, 020 8299 3458 roejoebentoby@gmail.com</p> 	<p>Kiddush Rota: Harriet Posner, 07810 361731 posner.harriet@googlemail.com</p> 
<p>Caring Community: Pauline Jeffree, 020 8650 4860 pauline.jeffree@btinternet.com</p> 	<p>Membership Inquiries: Janet Burlem, 020 8460 5460 janet@bromleyshul.org.uk</p> 
<p>Cheder Head Teacher: Vicki Ashmore, 020 8290 4220 vickiashmore@icloud.com</p> 	<p>Newsletter Editor: Bob Symonds, 020 8402 2197 bobsymonds@mac.com</p> 
<p>Cheder B'nei Mitzvah Kiddushim Elka Carr, 020 8699 2138 elkacarr@gmail.com</p> 	<p>Religion and Ritual: Daniel Posner, 07866 761 181 posner.dan@googlemail.com</p> 
<p>Choir: Dianne Mathews, 01689 826096 diannem3@googlemail.com</p> 	<p>SACRE Samantha Barnett, 020 8467 8868 idb001@ntlworld.com</p> 
<p>Communications: Judi Sheffrin, 07968 324981 judishef@aol.com</p> 	<p>School Visits Coordinator: Marilyn Freeman, 020 8650 7178 marilynfreeman221@btinternet.com</p> 
<p>Education (including Josef Hausmann Library) Barbara Kurtz, 020 8650 1284 a.bkurtz@talktalk.net</p> 	<p>SE10 and Beyond Michelle Brooks-Evans, 020 8293 4999 michellebrooksevans@gmail.com</p> 
<p>Gan Yeladim: Sue Bowyer, 020 8464 6738 sukeydebowyer@live.co.uk</p>  	<p>Security Graham Harris, 020 8656 7611 grahamh4@aol.com</p> 
<p>Tracy Frankel, 01732 843224 6frankels@gmail.com</p>	<p>Social Centre: Dianne Mathews, 01689 826096 diannem3@googlemail.com</p> 
<p>Hooray Cheder: Dani Hall, 07740 282 562 dani_hall@hotmail.com</p>  	<p>Subscriptions: Janet Posner, 020 8650 7521 janet.posner@talk21.com</p> 
<p>Michelle Brooks-Evans, 020 8293 4999 michellebrooksevans@gmail.com</p>	<p>Website: Kieron Hyams, 07980 647108 mail@kieronhyams.co.uk</p> 
<p>Housing, Health and Safety: Graham Harris, 020 8656 7611 grahamh4@aol.com</p> 	<p>Youth: Linda de Lange, 020 8858 6206 lindascottdelange@googlemail.com</p> 
<p>Israel Information: via e-light judishef@aol.com</p> 	



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