

THE MAGAZINE OF THE S&P SEPHARDI COMMUNITY

sephardi.org.uk

The home of the Sephardi community since 1656





The Sephardi Bulletin

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Editor

Alison Rosen

Contributions

Any submissions for inclusion in the Bulletin should be sent to the editor alison@sephardi.org.uk. The next issue will be shortly before Pesach and the deadline for submissions will be published nearer the time. Text should be typed and sent as a Microsoft Word document. Photographs or illustrations should be sent as either tiff or jpeg files, and should be emailed or sent on CD. Only high resolution images can be used.

Environmental policy

The paper used in the printing of the Sephardi Bulletin is made from pulp manufactured using timber from sustainable forests.

S&P Sephardi Community

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The High Holy Days bring with them a sense of awe and reverence as we come together to connect both to G-d and our own identities; as well as thinking about our past and future. They bring a profound sense of community as we see our synagogues full and we sit with friends and family engaging in our prayers and traditions.

Thankfully, the vibrancy of the community continues beyond Rosh HaShana and Yom Kippur and the year is filled with lovely opportunities for us to share, learn and grow together. It is on these days that we meditate on all aspects of our lives and how we wish to live them. Integral to our lives are the relationships and communal bonds that we have and that we wish to build. Our community synagogues and events are at the heart of our unity and growth as a people.

As we stand before G-d we both dedicate ourselves to living our best lives and to engaging in a personal inventory of our choices and actions; we include in that our involvement in our community. Much of our individual identity is tied to our social interactions and dealings with our friends and fellow community members.

Our greater Sephardi community is a diverse and beautiful one that has experienced positive growth and development over the last two years and it is only the beginning. Much of that growth and success has been because of the enthusiasm and dedication of its constituents in all of their various locations. I have had great joy in encountering it personally over and over again during my visits to our various synagogues and congregations. The commitment of our Yehidim is a cornerstone of our strength. May it flourish and yield many blessings.

Margalit and I wish the entire community a year of health, happiness and success and we pray that G-d bless all with peace, unity and camaraderie.

On Rosh Hashanah -- the first two days of *Aseret Yemei Teshuvah* -- we are meant to see all of our coming days as blank pages, and write in them what we want the stories of our lives to be. In doing so, the seeds planted for us this Rosh Hashanah will grow strong, and the seeds planted next Rosh Hashanah will be full of even greater potential. May we all see a year of meaningful memories.

Tizku Leshanim Rabot.

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MEMORIES

Rabbi Joseph Dweck

SENIOR RABBI





the SAPHARDI bulletin

FROM ALISON ROSEN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I am pleased to wish you a Happy New Year from the S&P Sephardi Community at the end of a year with yet more changes that will take us forward.

New Board

In July we were pleased to announce a new Trustee Board (Board of Elders) of nine following recent elections. Sabah Zubaida has been appointed as Chair (Parnas Presidente). He is a previous Gabay (Treasurer) of the Community during a period which saw significant change, Sabah is also involved as a Trustee with other charities including medical charities such as the British Lung Foundation as well as educational and children welfare charities.

David Ereira, who is also Chair of Norwood and Alan Mendoza who is co-founder and Executive Director of The Henry Jackson Society were appointed Vice Chairs. Mark Salem, who has a background in business and finance, takes over as Gabay.

The new Board follows a governance review with a move to more modern governance, complying with charity best practice and maximizing strong leadership.

The new Board looks forward to working together with the Jewish Community at large on the furthering of worthy causes for the benefit of Anglo Jewry, as well as extending a warm welcome to other Sephardi communities to work with us to achieve our goals within the wider community

Staffing

As well as the new Board we now have a Senior Management Team in place that will ensure the operations of the S&P are efficient and effective. Below is a list of staff that you may wish to contact on administrative matters:

SMT

Alison Rosen	Executive Director	alison@sephardi.org.uk	02074817822
Edward Howard	Programme Director	edward@sephardi.org.uk	02074817830
Les Dittrich	Financial Controller	les@sephardi.org.uk	02074817824
Jetcy Jacob	Office Manager	jetcy@sephardi.org.uk	02074817821
Ben Morrison	Fundraising Consultant	ben@sephardi.org.uk	02074817831

Other key operational staff

Maurice Bitton	Bevis Marks Manager	maurice@sephardi.org.uk	02076211188
Diana Zelouf	Lifecycle Manager* PA to Rabbi Elia	diana@sephardi.org.uk	02074817827

Rachel Menachem	PA to Exec Director	rachel@sephardi.org.uk	02074817823
Andrea Silverman	PA to Senior Rabbi	andrea@sephardi.org.uk	02074817828
Monika Kruk	Accounts Manager	monika@sephardi.org.uk	02074817825
Minna Birshan	Finta/donations	minna@sephardi.org.uk	02074817826
Harvey Spillman	Hebra Business Manager	harvey@sephardi.org.uk	02074817843
Linda Granville	Welfare charities	linda@sephardi.org.uk	02074817832
Cassie Mann	Marketing & events	cassie@sephardi.org.uk	0207487840

Ecclesiastical

During the year we saw the retirement of Rabbi Abraham as Beth Din Registrar and welcomed Rabbi Daniel Kada who took up this position in conjunction with his existing post as Rabbi of Wembley.

We hope that you enjoy reading articles by our Senior Rabbi Joseph Dweck, Rabbi Israel Elia of Lauderdale Road, Rabbi Shalom Morris of Bevis Marks and Rabbi Daniel Kada of Wembley within this issue.

Lastly we would like to welcome Chaim Richman the new Director of the SKA replacing Rabbi David Steinhof who will retire later this year. We look forward to the SKA going from strength to strength.

Please note full details of our festival services are included in a separate newly published programme which is also available on our website.

We wish Besiman Tob to our Chatanim and their families.

Fundraising

We would like to thank the congregation for their continued support for our Kal Nidre Appeal. This year we will be raising funds earmarked for the youth and also the continued maintenance of Bevis Marks. We are also launching a Patrons Campaign and if you are interested please contact Ben Morrison. Please also see the article on legacies below:

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Mr and Mrs Simon and Kate Adler and Family Mr and Mrs Jack and Ranna Arazi and Family Mr and Mrs Edwin and Sandra Birnbaum and Family

Mr and Mrs Gerard and Caroline Bitton and Family Mr Jacob Confino

Mr and Mrs John and Judy Cooper

Mr Philippe Dana

Mr and Mrs Alon and Jessica Demol and Family

Miss Mary Eleini

Mr Issac Eleini Mr and Mrs Ian and Roxane Glick

Mr Louis Glick

Mr Saul Glick

Mr Joseph Glick

Mr Alan Howard and family

CONGREGATION NEWS CONT.



the S&PHARDI

Ms Sabine Howard and family

Mr James Martin

Mrs Fav Mesrie

Mrs Keren Moreno and family

Mr Robert Murad

Miss Jennifer Murad

Mr and Mrs Anthony and Karen Nahum and Family

Mr Richard Nathan

Miss Laura Sefton

Mr and Mrs Malcolm and Sarah Setton and Family

Mr and Mrs Charles and Sue Shamash

Mr Raphael Smadia

Mr Jonathan Somekh

Miss Eve Wilson

Mr Michael Zelouf

MEMBERS HAVING MARRIED UNDER OUR AUSPICES

Emma Graham and Mark Haguenauer Stacey Frimerman and Michael Khalastchi

Nicola Heniq and Simon Bagel

Colette Murray and Lee Murad

Liliane Dwek and Darren Fogelman

Mary Dwek and David Radnor

Rebecca Marcus and Joev Hasson

Hannah Seal and Jonathan Masri

Lyndsey Woolley and Adam Greenberg

Sarah Sopher and Elliot Arwas

Amy Bear and Alex Weichselbaum

Nadia Perkins and Olivier Lesser

Bernice Nathanson and Charles Chanon

Jennifer Rosenberg and Richard Rosenthal

Lauren Dias and Darryl Taylor

Alice Prevezer and Gary Hill

Marina Goldstein and Jamie Rahamim

Marion Stewart and Benjamin Schiff

Alexandra Nitka and Jay Aaronson

Amanda Tamman and Daniel Timianko

Dayle Perles and Richard Fattal

Demi Berkowitz and Asher Budwig

Abigail Hoyland and Yoni Weiner

Nelly Morgan and Daniel Levene

Rebecca Dianogly and Benjamin Livingston

Jessica Bromley and Anthony Tricot

BIRTHS

Congratulations to the following new parents:

Anna and Jeremy Sanders Hannah and Joseph Bekhor Claudia and Alan Mendoza Jennifer and Michel Ghatan

Sukina and Sascha Khakshouri Victoria and Jeremie Goldsztain

Lina and Daniel Ofer

Irene and David Zubaida

Aaron and Alexandra Cohen

Libby and Simon Dangoor Dan and Sara Benveniste

Liliane and Darren Fogelman

ENGAGEMENTS

Katie Phillips and Samuel Murray Dina Kalinko and Daniel Moses Laura-Lisa Saunders and Maurice Esterkin Natasha Nineberg and Elliott Stern Bettina Caro Fox and Gerry Defries Julie Dwek and Dan Endlar Jessica Elias and Benjamin Charkham

Carla Bradman and Alex Segall Charlotte Ashton and Alex Baroukh Jennifer Dallal and Gideon Mendel Natalie Howard and Paul Macatonia Nicole Dousie and Toby Marks Jessica Lever and Alexander Halban Paloma Sackman and Isaac Blugerman

FUNERALS

Doris Shalom Isaac Ascher Yehouda Fattal Clara Nunes Sir Naim Dangoor CBE Alice Lys Lakeland Khatoon Abednejad Florine Wahba Valentina Shohet Ann Cohen Hilda Gee Kamal Zloof Marie Morris Eunice Yvonne Benbassat Gisele Fineberg **Enid Perez**

Sylvia Da Costa Sarah Elias Sion Abraham Ezekiel Michael Shemtob Victor Sassoon **Esther Sopher** David N Khalastchy Henry Ani

FUTURE STONESETTINGS

Name of deceased	Cemetery	Date of service	Time
September 2016			
Yehouda Fattal	Edgwarebury	11/09/2016	11.00 am
Sir Naim Dangoor CBE	Hoop Lane	11/09/2016	11.30am
November 2016			
Khatoon Abednajad	Edgwarebury	06/11/2016	1.00 pm
Valentine Shohet	Edgwarebury	27/11/2016	10.15am
December 2016			
Isaac Ascher	Edgwarebury	11/12/2016	1pm
January 2017			
Gisele Fineberg	Hoop Lane	15/01/2017	10.15am
March 2017			
Sylvia Da Costa	Edgwarebury	19/03/2017	1.30pm
Sarah Elias	Edgwarebury	19/03/2017	10.15am
Michael Shemtob	Hoop Lane	26/03/2017	11.00am
June 2017			
Esther Sopher	Edgwarebury	11/06/2017	2.30pm

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF DEPUTIES

bulletin

LEGACIES

October 2016 / Tishrei 5777

Requested by the Board to take on "Legacies" with the objective of encouraging Yehidim to consider making a legacy to the Synagogue in their Will - with the able assistance of Alison Rosen and Ben Morrison a brochure has been compiled and a suitable note added to the synagogue website.

A "Legacy Tea" has been arranged to take place at Lauderdale Road on November 27th when Lord Woolf, former Lord Chief Justice of England, has kindly agreed to speak - all interested are invited to attend.

Arrangements are in hand in setting up a permanent "Endowment Fund" whereby capital will be invested and income generated used only for synagogue purposes. This will enable Yehidim to choose to either donate to specific projects or the general Endowment fund in the knowledge that their donation will be held for the long term and its capital will be preserved.

Abfred Magnus

Alfred Magnus



E-MAIL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CONGREGATION

If you have not yet subscribed to our weekly newsletter you can do so at www.sephardi.org.uk





In 5776, the Board of Deputies' profile has been raised to a new high. We are setting and leading the national agenda on the matters which count for Jews in this country.

When allegations of antisemitism emerged in the Labour Party we confronted the problem head-on, raising concerns robustly in a face-to-face meeting with party leader Jeremy Corbyn. We were quoted throughout the national media on our response to Ken Livingstone's outrageous anti-Semitic remarks about Hitler and Zionism and when I gave evidence to the Home Affairs Select Committee on antisemitism. We made a detailed submission to the Chakrabarti Inquiry into antisemitism in the Labour Party and responded to what we saw as the shortcomings in Ms Chakrabarti's report.

This has been the most tumultuous year in British political life in living memory, with a decision by referendum to leave the European Union and a new government. Throughout it all the Board of Deputies has been heard as the clear and calm voice of British Jews, addressing the issues with clarity and firmness of purpose. The Board has had a long and warm relationship with Prime Minister Theresa May. After the Paris attacks, she addressed the Board of Deputies and held up the sign "Je Suis Juif". I met with her as Home Secretary – raising issues ranging from anti-Semitic demonstrations to the Syrian refugee crisis – and she lit the Chanukiah at the Board's most recent Parliamentary Reception.

Early in my tenure as President, I was pleased to have a number of meetings with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. On each occasion I assured him of the Board of Deputies' and the community's steadfast support. Whether it is speaking at demonstrations, making the case in the media, challenging BDS or supporting grassroots advocacy organisations and Christian allies around the country, through the excellent work of Steven Jaffe, we have kept that promise and will continue to find new ways to do so.

We continue to be staunch defenders of Jewish schools and Jewish education in both the mainstream and Charedi sectors. When the Hebrew GCSE and A-Level came under threat again this year, we successfully campaigned to protect it. And we have continued to educate others about Judaism, challenging prejudice and ignorance through our sector-leading new textbook on Judaism for non-Jewish schools, written by leading educationalist Clive Lawton.



Meanwhile, we have redoubled efforts at interfaith relations with Christians, Muslims, Hindus and others, including through the Government-funded Muslim-Jewish Women's Network Nisa-Nashim and an interfaith project where girls from Jewish, Muslim and Catholic schools came together at Twitter's UK HQ to study computer coding.

We have continued to interact through all levels of government, from desk officer to secretaries of state. This year, we produced the first-ever Jewish manifestos for the Scottish, Welsh and Northern Irish elections, and are planning seminars for local councillors across the country. Our Employer's Guide to Judaism, launched by then Secretary of State for Work and Pensions Iain Duncan Smith, is available online and provides clear and comprehensive information, and we continue to support individual Jewish employees and students to get time off for religious festivals.

We have provided vital services for the community without asking for any more money for 10 years. As our costs have risen over this time, this year the Community Contribution will be slightly increased from £25 to £30 per annum. By working efficiently and keeping costs to a minimum we are happy that we have been able to keep the Community Contribution down to a very affordable figure. I hope you will agree that we are providing excellent value in return for a very modest sum.

In 5777, we will continue to represent your interests as only a democratically elected body can. May this New Year bring you, your families and all of Am Yisrael health, strength and peace.

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Another Arlander

Jonathan Arkush President





A COLLECTION OF PHOTOS FROM OUR EVENTS AND PROGRAMMES IN THE PAST YEAR

For more information on any of our events visit sephardi.org.uk/events

bulletin

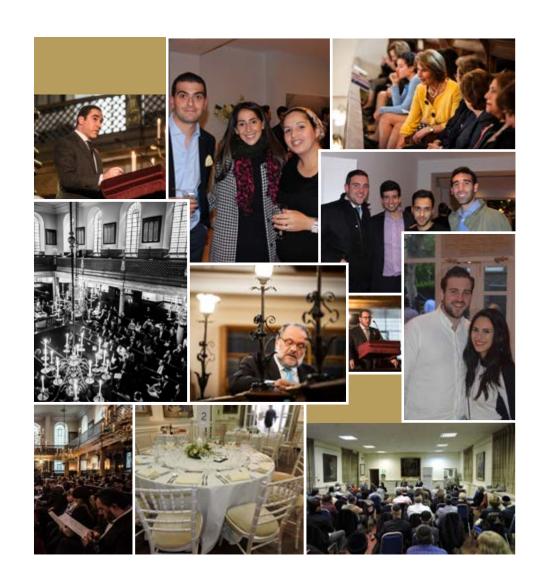
Photo Events 2015/16





Photo Events 2015/16









COMMEMORATION
OF THE CENTENNIAL OF
THE BATTLE
OF THE SOMME





"WE WILL REMEMBER THEM"

On Thursday 30th June, The S&P Sephardi Community were honoured to host an extremely poignant event at the beautiful Bevis Marks Synagogue.

Over 250 people gathered in London's East End for the landmark launch of 'We Were There Too', an incredible online database of Jewish soldiers during World War 1.

Representatives from across the community came together to remember British Jews whose lives were sacrificed in the carnage that followed, on the worst day in British military history.

This marked the Centenary of 30th June 1916, the night before the first day of fighting of the Battle of the Somme.

The memorial candle was lit in the Synagogue and the evening ended with a rousing rendition of God Save The Queen which truly sent shivers down the spine.



Blake Ezra

Blake Ezra

Photo credits

HIGH HOLY DAYS INFORMATION



the SAPHARDI bulletin

PRE ROSH HASHANA DAYS AT CEMETERIES

18th September with Rabbi Jeff Berger
11:00am

18th September with Rabbi Israel Elia 10:30am

25th September with Rabbi Jeff Berger 10:00am

25th September with Rabbi Jeff Berger 11:30am

SECURITY

Please be extra vigilant during this time of heightened security when arriving and leaving Synagogue premises. No bags other than small handbags will be allowed into any of the Synagogues.

Mobile telephones should not be brought into any of the Synagogues. They may be removed at the entrance by the security officers.

At Lauderdale Road any non-member who has not been issued a ticket may be refused admission on the first day of Rosh HaShanah and Yom Kippur.

MINISTERS

ROSH HASHANAH

BEVIS MARKS:

Rabbi Shalom Morris and Philip Maurice

LAUDERDALE ROAD:

Main Service: Rabbi Joseph Dweck, Rabbi Israel Elia, Adam Musikant and Amos Hadad

Mizrahi Service: Rabbi Joseph Dweck, Amos Hadad and Hazan Ezra Misri

RH DAY 1 R' Dweck will speak after Sepher in the Main Synagogue and before Musaph in the Mizrahi service

RH DAY 2 R'Elia will speak before Musaph

WEMBLEY:

Rabbi Daniel Kada and Nachshon Rodrigues Pereira

YOM KIPPUR

BEVIS MARKS:

Rabbi Shalom Morris, Philip Maurice and Nachshon Rodrigues Pereira

LAUDERDALE ROAD:

Main Service: Rabbi Joseph Dweck, Rabbi Israel Elia and Adam Musikant Mizrahi Service: Rabbi Joseph Dweck and Ezra Misri

KN R'Dweck will speak before Arbit, R'Dweck will give a Shiur after Arbit.

YK DAY R'Dweck will speak before Musaph, R' Elia will speak before Neilah.

Rabbi Farhi will lead an explanatory service from 11:00am - 4:00pm.

WEMBLEY:

Rabbi Daniel Kada and Amos Hadad

HATANIM

BEVIS MARKS:

Hatan Torah: Rabbi Joseph Dweck Hatan Bereshit: Jonathan Solomons

LAUDERDALE ROAD:

Hatan Torah: David Dwek

Hatan Bereshit: Simon Sacerdoti

WEMBLEY:

Hatan Torah: Charles Dallal Hatan Bereshit: Daniel Sassoon

LAUDERDALE ROAD YOUTH PROGRAMME & SERVICES

ROSH HASHANAH

Children's Services at 10:30am (Both Days)

Explanatory Service for Years 9-13 at 11:30am with Kiddush (2nd Day)

YOM KIPPUR (KAL NIDRE)

Service for Years 4-6 and 7-9 (During Selihot)

YOM KIPPUR (DAY) Children's Services at 11:30am

Discussion on Free Speech for Years 9-13 at 1pm

SUCCOT

Children's Services at 10:30am (Both Days) Succah Crawl for Years 4-8 at 4pm (2nd Day)

'Pizza in the Hut' for Years 9-13 (Thursday 20th)

SHEMINI ATZERET & SIMHAT TORAH

Children's Services at 10:30am (Both Days)

Discussion Group for Years 9-13 at 11am, followed by Musaf (Tuesday 25th)

See notice boards for locations. Regular children's services will take place every Shabbat at 10:30am

HIGH HOLY DAY BOOKINGS (ONLINE)

BEVIS MARKS:

www.sephardi.org.uk/product/hhd-bm

LAUDERDALE ROAD:

www.sephardi.org.uk/hhd-lr

LULABIM

Lulabim will be available to order online for £30 per set. Please visit www.sephardi.org.uk/product/lulabim/for more information.

PRAYER BOOKS

Prayer books for Rosh HaShanah, Yom Kippur and Succot may be purchased from the office. Full details, including prices, may be obtained from the office as above.





2 Heneage Lane, London EC3 5DQ. T 020 7626 1274 www.sephardi.org.uk

Rabbi Shalom Morris has been with us for a year. His presence has made a big difference and none of the good things have been lost! Our team of lay shelieh tzibbur Maurice Martin, Jeremy Schonfield, Frank Martin, Howard Martin and Lawrence Kilshaw have continued their great job in leading parts of the service. The team has expanded to include Rabbi Morris, Aaron Kaiser-Chen, Ilan Lazarus and Joseph Smith. Our 'home team' plays a great role in supporting Rabbi Morris' process of learning all the tiny (and huge) details of our minhag.

A special thank you to our other 'home team' of 'Kiddush organisers' lead by Joyce Nunes Vaz supported by Adele Leffman, Gusti Martin, Carole Morgenstein, Pat Zekaria and Lesley Bennet.

Rabbi Morris has also been very active promoting our synagogue as a centre of Jewish Learning and Entertainment in the City. He has raised our synagogue profile in social media and organised weekly lectures and events like Bevis After Dark Tour, Passover Wine Pairing, Yom Haatzmaut Party with Imported Israeli Beers, and BBQ in the courtyard, and Historic Jewish London Walking Tour. He also organised themed Friday Night dinners and has hosted dinners in his home on other weeks. His Young Professional dinners have grown in popularity to an extent that the last one held in June was fully booked and there was no real room to host 'walk-ins'. He has taken the baton of the morning services from Rev Michael Gingold [who is retiring] in organising the weekday services that have grown in strength and have seen a number of City professionals join the regular minyan. Last but by no means least we have been lucky enough to hear interesting and thought-provoking (and sometimes challenging) sermons every week during Friday night Kiddush and before Musaf on Saturday morning.

Rabbi Dweck's monthly talks have been welcomed and their attendance has grown steadily reaching out to a large number of city workers and synagogue members. The Dweck family visits have been particularly appreciated by regular congregants and visitors.

Last year also saw an increasing trend in visitors to our synagogue; schools from all over London and overseas, American and Scandinavian universities all organised visits for their students. We welcomed National Trust members, friends of the V&A museum, people from University of the Third Age, walking tours, overseas visitors and people from many Jewish institutions. We welcomed, once again, the Christian Aid Circle in the City, charity walkers and very large numbers visited the Synagogue on Open City day last September. Wedding bookings are up and the coming year's bookings are encouraging.

We welcomed Philip Maurice and his family for the High Holidays and we enjoyed his high level of Hazanut last Rosh HaShanah, Kippur and Shavuot. Nachson Rodrigues Pereira from Amsterdam was also present during the High Holidays with his equally excellent Hazanut.

Rabbi Dweck read the Megillah on Purim, Rabbi Morris hosted communal Sedarim on both nights and Philip Maurice provided a beautiful service on Shavuot.

This year also saw the number of Parnassim increased to four. The newcomer being Tony Morris who joined Lawrence Kilshaw, Howard Martin and Frank Martin.

This year also saw the move of Revd and Mrs Benarroch out of their home in the area in order to be near their children. Maurice Bitton also moved away from the area, his role as Shammash has been taken over by volunteers especially Stuart Morgenstein on Shabbat and John Sloggem during weekdays. Bevis Marks has a tradition of welcoming visitors and those who live in London for some time, by the end of their stay our community has become the home away from home. 'Locals' who live in the area move away and new people come in. Thanks to the efforts of Rabbi Morris this year we have seen several new faces becoming regulars, some of them also moved away or went back home after a while and we are looking forward to welcoming new people during the forthcoming High Holidays and turn them into regulars for whatever time they will stay in London.

The past year saw a Bar Mitzvah for the Gee Family, a second Bar Mitvah for our one-time choir master Sam Dias and the 80th birthday celebration of our choirmaster Maurice Martin. Sadly we also mourn the loss of Esther Platford, an impressive figure in our community.

The synagogue hosted a very moving service for the 100th anniversary of the Battle of the Somme.

We look forward to welcoming the Hatanim for this year.

Rabbi Yweck and Jonathan Solomons

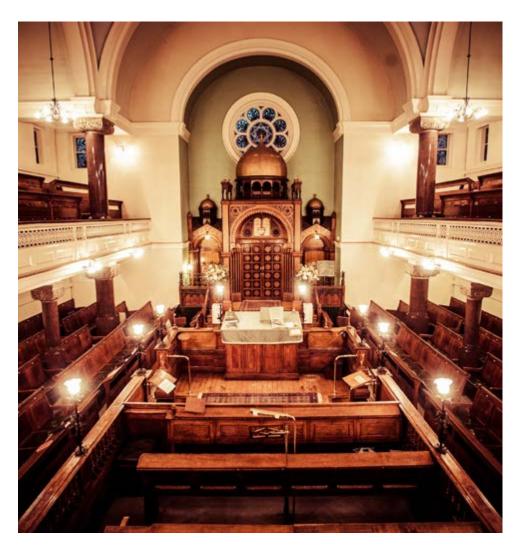
Rabbi Dweck as Hatan Torah and Jonathan Solomons as Hatan Bereshit

Bevis Marks Synagogue



BEVIS MARKS ZEMIROT AND HAFTAROT ROTA

<u>Date</u>		<u>Parasha</u>	Zemirot	<u>Haftara</u>
3-Oct-16		New Year 1	Joseph Smyth	Jeremy Schonfield
4-Oct-16		New Year 2	Aaron Kaiser	Howard Martin
8-Oct-16	Shabbat Shubah	Vayelech	Frank Martin	Maurice Martin
12-Oct-16		Kippur Morning	Jeremy Schonfield	Lawrence Kilshaw
12-Oct-16		Kippur Mincha		Frank Martin
15-Oct-16		Haazinu	Howard Martin	Kenneth Emmanuel
17-Oct-16		Succot 1	Ilan Lazarus	Gideon Osen
18-Oct-16		Succot 2	Evan Der Millner	Robrt Behar
22-Oct-16		Chol Hamonged	Jeremy Schonfield	Edward Album
24-Oct-16		Shemini Atseret	Aaron Kaiser	Howard Martin
25-Oct-16		Simchat Torah	Howard Martin	Stephen Saady
29-Oct-16		Bereshit	Frank Martin	Sam Dias
5-Nov-16		Noach	Jeremy Schonfield	Jonathan Solomans
12-Nov-16		Lech Lecha	llan Lazarus	Kenneth Emmanuel
19-Nov-16		Vayera	Joseph Smyth	Jacques O'nona
26-Nov-16		Chayei Sarah	Aaron Kaiser	Leon Sassoon
3-Dec-16		Toledot	Frank Martin	Raph Setton
10-Dec-16		Vayetse	llan Lazarus	llan Lazarus
17-Dec-16		Vayishlach	Jeremy Schonfield	Edward Album
24-Dec-16		Vayeshev	Evan Der Millner	Howard Martin
31-Dec-16	Chanukah	Mikketz	Joseph Smyth	Daniel Dias







Community
Events
Jewish life
Learning
Youth
Family

DEBAR TORAH

The official name for our community is Kahal Kadosh Shaar Hashamayim. The Kahal Kadosh is often written simply as KK. Kahal Kadosh is usually translated as Holy Congregation; however the meaning of Kahal is more profound. In the Torah we are told 'vayakhilu Moshe et kol adat bnei yisrael', that Moshe gathered all of the people of Israel together. Kahal, in its essence, means a gathering; a coming together.

A Kahal is an all-encompassing Jewish community. It is a term that implies more than a synagogue as a place for prayer. Rather, it indicates the presence and maintenance of all of the institutional needs of a Jewish community, including kashrut, burial, education, welfare, elder care, and more. Historians refer to this as the 'kehilla model' of Jewish community. It refers to a time when there was one synagogue in a town and they took responsibility for all of the community's needs.

The Kahal in this sense is something uncommon in modern times wherein most communal institutions operate independently from the synagogue. Remarkably, Shaar Hashamayim, the S&P Sephardi community, has found a way to maintain this historic model, whilst also incorporating many synagogues and more modern forms of governance. This model places great weight upon our community, but also preserves and promotes something invaluable, a cohesive, natural, and fully functioning Jewish community. It means that there is a continuity that pervades throughout our Jewish lives, from birth to burial.

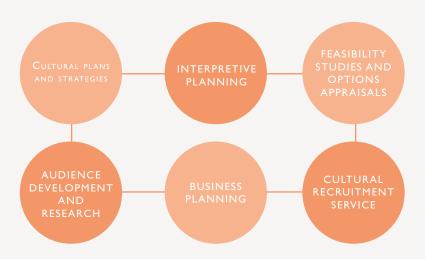
We live in incredibly complicated times. We are connected to people and to places all around the world, yet often disconnected from our more immediate surroundings. That bifurcation weighs on our souls, threatening to decompartmentalise our life experience, whether our physical from our

spiritual or our Jewish lives from the rest of our pursuits. The Kahal is the antidote to this. It ensures that so many elements in our lives remain united and true. The Kahal ensure that we gather together for all of life's joys and sorrows, but it also ensures that all of the components of our lives gather together in common goal and purpose.

Rabbi Morris

BARKER LANGHAM

A global cultural consultancy creating exciting and sustainable projects with local communities.



ABOUT US

Barker Langham is a cultural heritage consultancy based in London, working across the UK and around the world. Across the museum, heritage and cultural sectors we develop creative and robust visions, strategies and plans to benefit the sites, stakeholders, and wider communities.

We are Mentors to the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) and are leaders in planning and delivering projects for historic buildings, museums, land-scapes and visitor facilities.

Recent projects have included:

- Developing a Concept Paper for the UK Holocaust Learning Centre
- Delivering research on Jewish cemeteries for Historic England
- Supporting the Bevis Marks Synagogue to submit an application to the HLF
- Creating the Business Plan for the Manchester Jewish Museum

Tel: 020 7278 7847 / info@barkerlangham.co.uk www.barkerlangham.co.uk



9 Lauderdale Road, London W9 1LT T 020 7289 2573 www.sephardi.org.uk

SEATING AT LAUDERDALE ROAD

- **1.** Throughout the year every effort is made to accommodate requests for permanent seats at Lauderdale Road. Currently there are very few empty seats available, but requests should be sent to the office for the attention of the seating committee.
- **2.** For the High Holy Days this year, we request that seat holders inform the office whether they are attending on the First Day of Rosh Hashana or on Yom Kippur.
- **3.** Following last year's success, there will be an Oriental service in the Montefiore Hall on the First Day of Rosh Hashana and on Yom Kippur. This service will be open to all congregants but non members need to register in advance.
- **4.** Members without permanent seats are welcome to attend the Oriental service or to sit in any seat in the main synagogue which is marked as available.
- **5.** We advise all permanent seat holders to be in their seats by 09:30 on the first day of Rosh Hashana and on Yom Kippur.



The LRSA is the social and charity fund raising committee of the Synagogue. We meet monthly to plan our activities. Lunch in the William Fattal Succah, the recent highly enjoyable BBQ, Quiz Evening, and Card Evening are some of the many functions we organise. We also have an outing every year, in the past this has included Highclere House (Downton Abbey), the Isle of Wight, Highgrove and also Lille on the Eurostar. The money we raise is divided between charities here and Israel. Gentlemen and ladies (yehidim /yehidot) can join us.

Do contact Suzanne Magnus for more information and if you are interested in joining us. suzanne@magnus.org



LAUDERDALE ROAD COMMITTEE

We've been going for just over a year and making some progress with a remit to reflect the needs and wishes of Lauderdale Road congregants. Understanding that one of the keys to a successful synagogue is a culture of welcoming, we already greet strangers, help them to find a tallit or prayer book and ensure they come in for kiddush after a service where they can be introduced to other members of the congregation. At the beginning of the year, we hosted a highly successful and well-attended kiddush for our new members and we have nearly completed work on a new and vibrant multi-media welcome pack.

Our young are of paramount importance and we are paying the utmost attention to ensure that all children's activities, including the various services for them and Hebrew classes, are of the highest calibre. This is of course in support of and supported by our Rabbis.

Other areas that we concentrate on are the running and maintenance of Lauderdale Road buildings, courtyards and gardens, security, and social events for every age group. We also aim to increase our programme of caring for the community. Many of our members at times of need are well supported by friends and family, but there are also occasions when neither is available. We would never go uninvited, but believe we could provide a valuable service in co-ordination with the Rabbanim, the synagogue office, Friendship Club and the Welfare Board.

We would love more people to join us to make sure that we continue to grow our community for the future.

Barbara Simon

Barbara Simon



LAUDERDALE ROAD FRIENDSHIP CLUB

The club meets every Wednesday afternoon in the Montefiore Hall and provides a warm and friendly environment for the not so young members of the community and their friends. We mark the various events in the Jewish Calendar - e.g. Yom Ha'Atzmaut, with an Israeli tea; provide weekly entertainers & speakers; choirs and opera singers; quizzes and bingo; theatre outings and garden parties; as well as celebrating members' birthdays and anniversaries with cream teas. Do come and join us - we promise to give you a very warm





Community
Events
Jewish life
Learning
Youth
Family



DEBAR TORAH

At the Holiest time of the Jewish year, it is appropriate to remember Parashat Emor.

Parashat Emor forms a key part of what scholars call the "Holiness Code"—the central chapters of Vayikra, itself the central book of five-books of Torah.

If a child asks what is in the Torah, the stories we tell—the parting of the Red Sea, David and Goliath—make Leviticus seem what writers dread—"mid-book lull." But in fact, the central portion of Vayikra gives the Jewish nation its special task in the world—the special Jewish mission. Understand this and the Red Sea begins to look like detail.

Chapters 17 to 26 of Vayikra stand out because the word "Holy" appears again and again, amid law after law. Many of the laws shaping Jewish life are found here. And Torah is clear—obey these laws and thrive—disobey and be punished.

G-d commands "Be Holy, for I am Holy." Holy means "separate", "distinctive", "different"—the consequences of being His chosen people. Jews are not free—as they say in America to "Go along to get along." They must obey the laws, and so stand separate from the world.

Standards are set first and foremost by the Priests, set apart for lives that embody Holiness. They must lead perfect lives, serve only if they have perfect health, bring perfect sacrifices, and lead perfect services, from Shabbat to the annual festivals that mould the year.

And the people are not let off lightly. There are many laws for them, foremost the "Golden Rule"—to treat others as we would be treated—our most civilised law.

The Israelites were freed from Egypt, and 50 days later, on Shavuot, the nation received G-d's Torah at Mount Sinai. Suddenly, the new freedom is curtailed. Israel is still free but differently free—"Freedom, Not License"—in Jewish tradition, truly free to serve G-d.

Jewish law reduces personal freedom but there is a trade-off. It also checks the behaviour of other people and so makes society safer. In an unsafe society, freedom is much more severely curtailed. You may not be free to leave the house if you risk being mugged in the street or burgled at home.

Israel the People separates itself by diet, by symbols, by festivals and hopefully by standards of behaviour.

Israel the Nation separates itself by democracy, the rule of law, and by its striving for peace.

Trying to be Holy in our everyday lives does not always make us popular in this imperfect world. But we have been commanded. I pray G-d will give us strength to follow His commands

Rabbi Israel Elia

Rabbi Israel Elia







Shanah tova!

Another busy year from the Sephardi Kashrut Authority. A few highlights from my perspective are the successful Clifford Chance channukah party hosted at the Savoy; having several restaurants open over Pesach (including my personal favourite, Zest); and certifying Gefiltefest food festival in the summer. All these events require many hours of preparation behind the scenes to run smoothly, which often goes unnoticed.

We're also saying goodbye to Rabbi David Steinhof who has worked for the SKA for many years. The SKA has grown enormously under his leadership, and we wish him all the best for the future. We will miss his experience and mastery over all the many moving parts of the SKA. Our new director is Chaim Richman, and we look forward to working with him for many years to come. I think the SKA has lots of opportunities to grow and develop – new products to be certified; restaurants and caterers who might want our supervision; and Chaim will be the right man to take us there.

Another thank you goes to Rabbi Dweck for his rabbinic leadership - particularly over Pesach - and to Eddie Cohen our chairman, and the other members of the SKA committee.

Every year I wonder why honey is kosher. Typically, if a non-kosher animal produces something, that output isn't kosher. So: pigs aren't kosher; pig-milk is also not kosher. Ostriches aren't kosher, so we can't eat ostrich eggs. But although bees aren't kosher, all of a sudden we begin the New Year by dipping challah and apples into their honey. This discussion is held in the Gemara (footnote: Tractate Bechorot 7b). One opinion is that honey isn't really made by bees at all but merely processed, so it doesn't count. The other explanation given is that the Torah specifically allows us to eat honey. Also worth noting is that SKA policy is that not only is all pure honey kosher, it's also kosher on Passover without requiring a special certificate. Indeed, the only place where honey isn't acceptable is in the Temple mincha offering (footnote: Vayikra 2:11). Other than that, it's good anywhere.

On that sweet note - best wishes for the New Year

Hanny Kessler

Danny Kessler



THE HOME OF THE SEPHARDI KASHRUT AUTHORITY



SOME FACTS YOU MAY NOT KNOW ABOUT THE LONDON BOARD FOR SHECHITA

WHAT DOES THE LONDON BOARD FOR SHECHITA (LBS) DO?

The LBS is a charitable organisation operating on a non-profit basis to ensure the provision of kosher meat to the Jewish public. It has fulfilled this role for over two centuries.

In simple terms, it's the job of the LBS to make sure that every one of its licensed kosher butchers and meat product manufacturers is able to get kosher meat and poultry throughout the year, for every Shabbat and every Yom Tov. In doing so, it will know the source of every leg, wing, steak, chicken liver and chop that crosses a counter or decorates a dinner plate.

That capability and certainty of knowing where it all came from and where it's all going is what gives the LBS its cachet in today's world. The LBS plays no role in buying livestock or in wholesaling meat and poultry. Its role is to employ teams of shochetim – Jewish religious slaughtermen (and their aides, who do the checking and the sealing) at abattoirs, whose job is a religious calling, requiring years of training before even picking up a knife. The Board also employs shomerim, essentially Food Inspectors, who

oversee kashrut operations in the premises of Licensees and, particularly, the porging (removal of forbidden fats and sinews) and the koshering. It finds abattoirs who are willing to provide facilities for shechita – there are very few in England – and will award Licences only to butchers and factories it deems fit and worthy to handle kosher meat and poultry.

When consumers see an LBS Licence Certificate displayed in a shop window, they can be safe in the knowledge that what it says on the label of what they're buying is what they will get in their basket.

IS KOSHER MEAT AS GOOD QUALITY AS NON-KOSHER MEAT?

No - it is superior! Consumers buy Kosher meat for a variety of different motives. Apart from religious reasons, quality is a very important factor and consumers are able to choose the level of quality of product by shopping around amongst LBS Licensees. There is also a large variety of LBS certified product available in Jewish grocers and some supermarket chains.

WHY IS THERE A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE PRICE OF KOSHER AND NON-KOSHER MEAT?

The LBS is a charity and so is not in business to make profits. It gets no donations but charges fees to its Licensees for its services and for the people it employs. Occasionally, one will see negative stories in the Jewish press about these shechita fees. However, tough management and tighter economic controls have led to the Board's "fees per kilo" being lower now than in 2005, and this in a period in which worldwide meat and poultry prices have increased. The LBS is seriously concerned about the price of keeping kosher, but it must be stressed that it plays no part in setting the prices charged by Licensees to consumers.

Regarding price comparisons with the non-kosher world, it must be borne in mind that all licensed kosher butchers in the UK are operated by their individual or family owners: none are part of supermarket chains. Their prices should therefore be compared with local independent non-kosher butchers offering a bespoke personal service - not with those of multinational operations, focusing on price or market share

The LBS believes from experience and market research that its consumers want it to try to secure as much of its meat as possible from British Isles-bred and processed product, with short supply chains offering fresh deliveries several times weekly. This emphasis on home production demonstrates the need of the Jewish community for shechita to continue in the UK, which insulates the community from exchange rate fluctuations and being beholden to other countries permitting shechita for export.

HOW CAN I LEARN MORE ABOUT THE LONDON BOARD FOR SHECHITA?

While the LBS might be more than two centuries old, it fully acknowledges the reach and influence of social media in today's world. It has an interesting website (with lots more information) and has popular Facebook and Twitter pages (search "Enjoy Kosher Meat"), with lots of information on the various meat cuts and recipes.



To find out more look at www.shechita.co.uk

Like the "Enjoy Kosher Meat" Facebook and Twitter Pages or write to us info@shechita.co.uk



The Spanish and Portuguese Sephardi Community is currently going through a very exciting period, and its Beth Din is likewise fully involved in all the changes affecting the wider community.

Our Beth Din is the oldest known Beth Din in the United Kingdom and has operated continuously since 1656. In January 2015, our Beth Din sustained a grievous loss when its Rosh Beth Din, Dayan Saadiah Amor Z"L, passed away. His leadership and guidance during the seven years of his tenure, and the authority that he exercised over the Beth Din's operation, was virtually irreplaceable. However, the Beth Din was fortunate enough to find a substitute in the person of Dayan Yaron Navon of Bnei Berak, Israel. Dayan Navon's installation as Rosh Beth Din added a new dimension to the Beth Din and it is benefiting increasingly from his erudition and vast knowledge.

A Beth Din normally comprises of three Dayanim. Sitting on the Beth Din together with Dayan Navon are Dayan Abraham David of Od Yoseph Hai and the Senior Rabbi. Joseph Dweck.

The range of issues the Beth Din deals with on a regular basis is extensive. All marriages conducted under the auspices of our community have to first be authorized by the Beth

Din. Although this is normally a straightforward procedure, there are sometimes situations where a marriage may contravene Jewish Law and the Beth Din will attempt to rectify the situation. In the sad event of a marriage breaking down irretrievably, the Beth Din will affect the issuance of a *Get* from the husband to his wife

Another important role of the Beth Din is to adjudicate Halachically between two or more observant litigants in financial, civil and domestic matters and will attempt to dispense justice and peace. The Beth Din also oversees the important work of the Sephardi Kashrut Authority (SKA) and ensures that all its licensed caterers, restaurants and food manufacturers are being run according to the letter of Jewish Law.

The Beth Din processes conversion to Judaism applications. If one is accepted upon a conversion course it will normally take approximately two years to convert. During this period the Beth Din will oversee the progress in study and observance of the potential convert and when successful, will conduct the conversion ceremony. The Beth Din currently has applications from all over the world including Israel, Spain, Portugal, France, Germany, Turkey and even the Caribbean!

Before any case is brought to the Beth Din, the party in question will first turn to the Registrar of the Beth Din. The Registrar will organize the details of the case and will present it to the Beth Din who will then advise how to proceed with the case. Following the retirement of Rabbi I S Abraham after serving as registrar of the Beth Din for the past 15 years, he has been succeeded to this office by Rabbi Daniel Kada.



the S&PHARDI

bulletin



Application for welfare continues to rise. In the last year, 117 grants were given at Rosh Hashana and the same at Pesach. Grants were given to 49 children to enable them to take part in Jewish summer schemes. The families that are helped include single parents, the unemployed and many with severe chronic illness. The Welfare Board was established many years before the welfare state, but unfortunately there is still substantial need especially if an observant home is to be maintained. The assistance that is given can make a significant difference to those who are helped.

To continue, the Welfare Board needs extra funds - please contribute generously to make a difference in the lives of these Sephardi families.

To contribute, please contact Linda Granville, tel: 020-7481 7832, email: linda@sephardi.org.uk

You can also donate online on the Synagogue's website.

Sylvia Graham

Sylvia Graham

President, Welfare Board



SEPHARDI MEN AND WOMEN VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Over 350 years ago, Jews were allowed to re-enter Britain; one of their first actions was to establish (in 1678) the Society of Lavadores.

It was essential for this new community to buy land for a cemetery and to form a group to carry out the rites necessary in preparation of burial – as burial of the dead is of paramount importance.

Since that time, the Society of Lavadores (originally known as the Brotherhood Mikveh Israel) has carried out these holy duties. The ritual has been written down and texts revised over the years, always with the hope that the sacred rites our predecessors followed will continue to be carried out in the future.

Currently, we need more volunteers (both men and women) to carry out this mitzvah - the final mitzvah that one person can do for another with devotion, respect and dignity and with the reward in the act and not in thanks. We urgently require more members from amongst the S & P Sephardim who are willing to consider becoming Lavadores.

It is not a sinister or worrying experience and no special qualities or qualifications are required. It is one of the most important mitzvot you could perform for your fellow Jew and your Community.

Please contact any one of the people listed below to find out more about becoming a Lavador or Lavadora. You will not be pressurised into making a commitment but we will aim to answer your questions and take away the mystery and fear that surrounds this mitzvah.

PLEASE CONTACT

Daniel on 020 7266 7633, Roger on 020 8958 0126, Kris on 020 7624 3836, or Viviane 020 7266 7633



We are delighted to be associated with the S&P Sephardi Community and wish everybody a very happy, healthy and successful New Year

HW Fisher & Company is a top 30 UK chartered accountancy firm.

Our services include audit, taxation, forensic accounting, business recovery, payroll and bookkeeping.

For more information, please contact:

Julian Challis T 020 7380 4969 E jchallis@hwfisher.co.uk





Jewish Private schools. It has enjoyed a positive past school year with the

arrival of our new headmaster. Rabbi

Shalom Morris.

SHA'ARE TIKVAH

Rabbi Morris worked closely with Lauderdale Road Synagogue's Rabbi Israel Elia as well as with the school's Educational Committee. They revamped the school curriculum, putting in place a structured and progressive learning model. Children worked diligently to master their Hebrew reading skills, whilst also familiarising themselves with the stories of the Torah, the themes and customs of the Jewish holidays. and the principles of Jewish values. They also enjoyed special informal learning programmes for Purim and Pesah. Older students also gathered each morning for communal tefillah in the Dangoor Synagogue, with the wearing of tallit and the communal singing of the prayers according to the community's traditions.

Rabbi Morris has worked to increase

parents' engagement, instituting with the committee several annual parent breakfasts. These are opportunities for parents to connect with one another, to study about Jewish parenting, as well as to promote our school with prospective families. Rabbis Morris and Rabbi Elia have made concerted efforts to reach out to our community's families to ensure that all eligible students are attending the school. It is with this in mind that the school looks forward to a larger student body in the year ahead.

the S&PHARDI

bulletin

This year also marked the culmination of Marc Pereira-Mendoza's many years of service to Shaare Tikvah. He served as the head of the school committee for the past nine years, taking the school through ups and downs, ensuring that it remained true to its values and intact for what we pray will be a bright future for many years to come. We welcome Sara Jackson as our new Committee Chair and wish her the best of success as she assumes her new role.

the S&PHARDI bulletin

46 Forty Avenue, Wembley, Middx, HA9 8LQ www.wsps.org.uk Co-chairmen: Julia Ben Nathan & Haroun Mahgerefteh Email: secretary@wsps.org.uk

KIDDUSHIM

Many thanks for the donation of kiddushim to: Denny Sabah, the Mahgerefteh family, Maurice Rahamim, Family Arwas, Martin Ben-Nathan, George Dallal, Daniel Sassoon, Jackie Mahgerefteh, Julia Ben-Nathan, Geoffrey and Margaret Ben-Nathan. Olivia Cowan and Sas Timam and Ira MacMull.

Kiddushim are central to the community aspect of our Synagogue and we are highly appreciative of any kiddush which is donated by members of the community, as it helps with this allimportant aspect, and adds a personal touch to kiddushim. It also allows for the donor to mark a special occasion and share it with their community such as a wedding anniversary, the anniversary of a Bar Mitzvah, a birthday, in memory of a loved one, to commemorate a birth, an engagement, a marriage, etc.

Please visit our website www.wsps. org.uk to see a list of dates available for sponsorship and also a scale of charges. You may also book by emailing secretary@wsps.org.uk

BIRTHS

Congratulations to Daniel and Sara Esther and to their son Michael. Benveniste on the birth of a son, Joshua Louis. Congratulations to AGM Vivien and Ruben Mazin, on the birth parents Lisa and Tal Shani.

Congratulations to Betina Fox (Caro)

on the birth of a grandson, Isaac, and to parents Allesandra and Greg Corin.

ENGAGEMENTS

Congratulations to Jennifer Dallal. daughter of Ronnie and Jean Dallal. on her engagement to Gideon, son of Naomi and Stephen Mendel.

MARRIAGES

Congratulations to Robert Salman Dallal, son of Nadia and George Dallal. on his marriage to Danielle Niren in Scottsdale. Arizona.

BEREAVEMENT

The community suffered the loss in July of Victor Sassoon. Victor had been a member of the Wembley community for over 40 years, and a visible and active member at that. He had been on the Committee for almost two decades. and had overseen maintenance of the building for just as long. He had been a stalwart of the community and one of the most regular faces. Our deepest condolences go to his wife Sonia. his children Richard and Daniel, and their families. He will be greatly missed.

We give our condolences to Victor Sopher on the passing of his wife.

In this year's Annual General Meeting, of a grandson, Daniel Abraham, and to which was well attended, it was decided that Nadia and George Dallal will be taking over as co-Treasurers from Roger Leon. We thank Roger for his years of successful service in this role.

INAUGURATION OF RABBI KADA

A service was held during last Chanukah at Bevis Marks for the joint inauguration of Rabbi Kada and Rabbi Morris. There were many esteemed guests and a very enjoyable performance by the children's choir. The menorah was then lit by some of our junior members.

VISIT OF THE CHIEF RABBI

In January, we were honoured to receive a visit from Chief Rabbi Mirvis. After Shahrit and a sumptuous breakfast. Rabbi Mirvis gave an inspirational talk followed by a Q and A session. The guestions focused mainly on the teaching of Islam in Jewish schools and the answers were very informative.

EVENTS

A bingo evening was held which was a great success, with several dozen people in attendance.

We held our annual Purim party. It was wonderful to see so many children at the synagogue and wearing such an impressive array of costumes.

The combined local synagogues of Wembley, Kenton and Kingsbury United, together with Nevei Shalom and Wembley S & P, hold a regular programme of lectures, details of which are circulated to our Kahal, and are also on our website

In December KKW5 held a follow up event from Shabbat UK. This was a melava malka with a delicious light supper and guest speaker Rabbi Tatz.

Wembley S&P hosted a talk in the run-up to the EU referendum given by Rony Sabah, based upon his 35 years working for the European Commission.







PARNASSIM

September - Anthony Leon 07825 761 016 anthonyleon@googlemail.com October - Daniel Sassoon 020 8950 9181 daniel.sassoon@confero.co.uk November - Anthony Leon

07825 761 016 anthonyleon@googlemail.com **December - Mark Sabah**

07968 372891 marksabah@gmail.com

January - Daniel Sassoon 020 8950 9181 daniel.sassoon@confero.co.uk

February - Anthony Leon 07825 761 016 anthonyleon@googlemail.com

March - Geoffrey Ben Nathan 020 8907 1613

g.ben-nathan@sky.com

April - Mark Sabah 07968 372891 marksabah@gmail.com

Requests for aliyot should be made to the presiding Parnas of the day well in advance (preferably at least two weeks ahead) and not via any intermediary, to ensure that the appropriate mitzvah is received. Requests can also be made by emailing parnas@wsps.org.uk

TIMES OF SERVICE

Friday evening services: Kabbalat Shabbat at 6:30 pm on the 1st and 3rd Fridays of the month followed by a hot kiddush.

Shabbat morning service at 8.45am. Question and Answer session on the third shabbat of the month. Mincha in the winter months is held directly after Kiddush.



ZEMIROT AND HAFTAROT, SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER 2016

Date	Shabbat/Festival	Zerimot	Haftorah
17th Septem	ber Ki Tetze	C Ben-Nathan	A Ben-Nathan
24th Septem	nber Ki Tavo	M Ben-Nathan	A MacMull
1st October	Nitzavim	J Zelouf	Prof M Alpert
3rd October	RH 1	Rabbi Kada	Rabbi Kada
4th October	RH2	Nachshon	C Ben-Nathan
8th October	Vayeleh	M Ben-Nathan	Dr Adam Webber
12th October	r YK Shaharit	Amos	A MacMull
12th October	r YK Mincha		M Ben-Nathan
15th October	r Haʻazinu	M Ben-Nathan	C Ben-Nathan
17th October	r Succot 1	Rabbi Kada	J Zelouf
18th Octobe	r Succot 2	C Ben-Nathan	P Zelouf
22nd Octobe	er Shabbat Chol Ha-Mo	oed J Zelouf	M Sabah
24th Octobe	er Shemini Atzeret	M Ben-Nathan	Prof M Alpert
25th Octobe	er Simchat Torah	C Ben-Nathan	Joe Kaye
29th Octobe	er Shabbat Bereshit	J Zelouf	Rabbi Kada
5th Novemb	er Noach	M Ben-Nathan	Dr Adam Webber
12th Novemb	oer Lech Lecha	Rabbi Kada	David Avital
19th Novemb	oer Va-Yera	C Ben-Nathan	D Ben-Nathan
26th Novem	ber Hayyei Sarah	G Ben-Nathan	C Ben-Nathan
3rd Decemb	er Toledot	Rabbi Kada	A MacMull
10th Decemb	oer Vayetzei	M Ben-Nathan	S Kaye
17th Decemb	oer Va-Yishlach	J Zelouf	Dr A Webber
24th Decem	ber Va-Yeshev	C Ben-Nathan	Richard Sassoon
31st Decemb	oer Mikketz, Chanukah 7 Rosh Chodesh	' G Ben-Nathan	J Zelouf



I first met Victor Sassoon when he was serving in the RAF and stationed in Hong Kong in May 1949. The Island - then a British Possession - was in imminent threat of invasion by the victorious Communist Forces from mainland China. We, my parents, myself and six siblings were evacuees resettled in Hong Kong by the British just before our hometown of Shanghai fell under Communist rule. Once there, my Mother let it be known that any Jewish personnel serving in H M Forces would be welcome

IN MEMORIAM EVERY INCH A GENTLEMAN

Victor Sassoon was our first guest, and

at our table for

Shabbat meals.

in tow, he subsequently brought other Army, Navy and Air Force personnel to us for Shabbat. A strong friendship developed between the Servicemen and my family during the four months we remained in Hong Kong.

Often accompanied by several Servicemen, we made full use of the Island's numerous beaches, and explored all of Hong Kong's tourist attractions. In all of these activities Victor was the natural and undisputed leader. Without assuming any form of superiority or pulling rank, it was

his view, and his suggestion that was willingly accepted by all present.

His concern for others and his genuine interest for their wellbeing, combined with an innate nobility of character and refined mannerisms, endeared him to all, and ensured an eager welcome for his anticipated participation in all our outings. Although imbued with definite views, and motivated by determined principles, he was never vociferous about them. Indeed, he kept them largely to himself. In fact, I cannot

recall him ever raising his voice. [In later life, the lines of a former Poet Laureate struck me as befitting

Victor most aptly: "Far from the madding crowd's ignoble strife, Their sober wishes never learned to stray; Along the cool sequestered vale of life, they kept the noiseless tenor of their way,] He was every inch a Gentleman! Personally, I feel bound to add that it was due in very large measure to our meeting with Victor that my parents turned from their original intention of moving to America from Hong Kong and instead, consider England as an alternative.



After inquiring generally about Jewish life in England, it was Victor who contacted his father on our behalf and put forward this proposition to him. In turn, his father approached a near neighbour - a Mr. Berthold Strauss who 'happened' to be a Trustee of the Jews' Temporary Shelter in Mansell Street. Aldgate, and immediately a cable was despatched urging us to sail for England without any undue delay. The Consular Authorities in Hong Kong arranged passage for us on one of H M's troopships, and thirty-five days later in November 1949, we sailed into Southampton Waters. The rest is history.

Ever since, our families have kept in touch with one another, mutually marvelling and rejoicing at the growth and development of each, and always delighted to meet on shared celebrations and public functions. Finally, it is particularly gratifying for me personally to note and record that recently two grandsons of mine have repeatedly been called upon to walk from Golders Green to Wembley on Shabbat morning in order to read the week's Parasha in the Synagogue attached to Edinburgh House.

Rabbi Isaac Abraham

Rabbi Isaac Abraham





Community Events Jewish life Learning Youth Family



Meet Nathaniel Carlebach - New Youth Director

My name is Nathaniel Carlebach and I'm hugely excited to spend the coming year working as Youth Director of the community. I'm 18 years old and will be at university in London studying European Social and Political Studies. alongside my work as Youth Director. My interests include politics, football, basketball and languages (I speak of our Forefathers - which we often Hebrew and Spanish).

I will be based at Lauderdale Road on Shabbat and Hagim, as well as occasionally during the week for youth activities. There will a be variety of children's and youth services, activities, shiurim, educational programmes and other exciting events running throughout the year. I have been part of a Sephardi community for five vears and am passionate about Torah education and Sephardi heritage.

As we approach the month of Elul. there are two important ideas that we should keep in mind. The first idea is mentioned in Pirke Avot by Akiva ben Mehalalel - 'know where you are coming from, where you are going, and before whom you will give judgement and account'.

As Elul is a month for Teshuba, this message is especially relevant at this time of year. Both recognising our past and deciding our future path are part of Teshuva, and reflecting on these is important as part of preparing for the Yamim Noraim. Following on from this is the idea of Zehut Avot - the Merit mention in our Tefilot.

In order to claim the merit of our ancestors, we must first consider whether our actions truly emulate theirs. By trying to do so and applying the same values to our modern lives. we can forge our own path in the world

Please come and ask me any questions vou may have or just say hello, as I look forward to getting to know everyone!

YOUTH SERVICES OVER HIGH HOLY **DAYS AT LAUDERDALE ROAD**

Open to all children and youth.

ROSH HASHANAH Children's Services at 10:30am (Both Days)

Explanatory Service for Years 9-13 at 11:30am with Kiddush (2nd Day)

YOM KIPPUR **KAL NIDRE**

Service for Years 4-6 and 7-9 (During Selihot)

YOM KIPPUR DAY

Children's Services at 11:30am Discussion on Free Speech for Years 9-13 at 1pm

SUCCOT

Children's Services at 10:30am (Both Davs)

Succah Crawl for Years 4-8 at 4pm (2nd Day)

'Pizza in the Hut' for Years 9-13 (Thursday 20th)

49

SHEMINI HAG'ATZERET AND SIMHAT TORAH

Children's Services at 10:30am (Both Davs)

Discussion Group for Years 9-13 at 11:00am, followed by Musaf (Tuesday

See notice boards for locations. Regular children's services will take place every Shabbat at 10:30am.



Nathaniel Carlebach Youth Director



DUTIES OF THE SHAMASH IN THE AN UNLIKELY 'GUET' **EARLY NINETEENTH CENTURY** AN ABANDONED WOMAN

On 26 May 1829 Mary Denney, living at No. 2 Hansbram Court. Rosemarv Lane, wrote to the Gentlemen of the Synagogue warning "Your Society" could be imposed upon by a man named Moses De Langy who had lived with her for 5 years. She had a 3-week old child and had seen the man only once since the birth when he had told her he was going to be married to a young woman "belonging to the Society" and should receive £250 with her. He said he did not care about her and would leave and come with Marv if she would go into the country with him. He was to blame for her misfortune as she was in "a good place of service until he seduced [her] from it." We have no record of this man.

MARRIAGE FEES

In February 1844 the widow of Saul Rodrigues applied to the Mahamad for some assistance to enable her to be married to a German (i.e. Ashkenazi) named Jacob Benjamin who was unable to pay the fee required by the Duke's Place synagogue amounting to £3-13-6. The application was refused.

In July 1845 Samuel Ventura applied to the Mahamad for permission to send a 'Guet' to his wife at Smyrna with a view to marrying a daughter of David Bensusan with whom he had lately absconded. The Mahamad "reprobated his conduct" and peremptorily refused his request.

BETH HOLIM PEWTER

In 1948 three pewter plates, a beaker and a bowl, originally in use at the Beth Holim, were examined by experts at the Victoria and Albert Museum and dated to 1787-1800. A few months later they were disposed of, unfortunately without any consultation of the Records and Treasures Committee.

On Sunday 21 November 2015 some 80 people gathered in the Montefiore Hall for an afternoon marking the centenary of the Records and Treasures Committee.

Rabbi Dweck opened the proceedings and stressed the importance of history to the life of the Congregation.

The Committee's Chairman Miriam Rodrigues-Pereira gave an account of the history and scope of the archives dating from the 1660s to recent times. drawing attention to some unique features.

Edgar Samuel, distinguished historian of Portuguese Sephardim, former director of the Jewish Museum and very longstanding committee member. talked about Abraham Lopes De Oliveira, our congregation's silversmith with illustrations of his excellent craftsmanship.

After an interval for tea, generously provided by the Mahamad and organised with the help of Joyce Sopher and Sylvia Graham, the company was then treated to an illustrated talk by Estelle Levy. Vestments Committee member and accomplished embroiderer, about the beautiful vestments the Congregation possesses. To everyone's surprise and delight some lovely examples were displayed by Julia Mocatta. Vestments Committee Chairman and Estelle

The final talk was given by Rachel Montagu, also a committee member and volunteer in the archives, who explained the ways poorer members of the congregation were helped and cared for by its leaders in the days long before the Welfare State was dreamt

Everyone said how much they had enjoyed the unique celebration. It clearly showed the great interest there is in the Congregation's remarkable history and a keen desire to know more.

Miriam Rodrigues-Pereira

Miriam Rodrigues-Pereira



We have welcomed some new volunteers recently. Rebecca has been helping in our newest adventure. We joined LONDON SPORT'S new pilot programme of sitting netball, along with six other homes in Brent. It was an eight week programme and LONDON SPORT has supplied training, support and the equipment. The sitting netball has been added to our regular activities programme and has been fun for staff and residents alike.

Our other new volunteer is Betty's daughter Jeanette, who has been holding a Storytelling programme. Her last session was in glorious sunshine on the back patio garden of the Home. It was such a peaceful setting for a lovely gentle afternoon.

Of course we still provide varied musical entertainment programme. Our wonderful volunteer singer Leon is coming at least twice a month - he's now a firm friend to the residents.

Amongst the school visits, pupils from our local Jewish primary school Noam, have delighted our residents.

Thanks to Leila Patashnik, a long term volunteer to our Day Centre and a resident of our Harris Court, the children from Torah Leminah school have visited and have proven to be one of the best choirs we've had at Edinburgh House.

The mini bus has regularly been out and about. We've enjoyed many picnics at old and new haunts.

Some Home and Harris Court residents attend the Lauderdale Friendship Club where they enjoy meeting other people. They recently had a trip to the theatre in Richmond and our residents had a wonderful time.

We've joined Kew Gardens Community Programme. We've managed one outing so far with the Day Centre and Harris Court members - hard work but very enjoyable. We took our own picnic lunch and refreshments, provided by our catering team.

The Home was invited again this year to Woodside Park Synagogue, for its annual afternoon tea and entertainment

for its associated communities. Wonderful time had by all, so good we've cheekily asked Chazzan Robins and friends to entertain at Edinburgh House and they've agreed, which is terrific.

Stop Press - Edinburgh House has its own Choir. Residents and staff have started rehearsals with the help for Caroline of "Music for Life" and Wigmore Hall fame and Phillip our piano recitalist, who is sponsored by Maurice Benaim. Bookings will be taken for major social occasions!

Edinburgh House, Wembley

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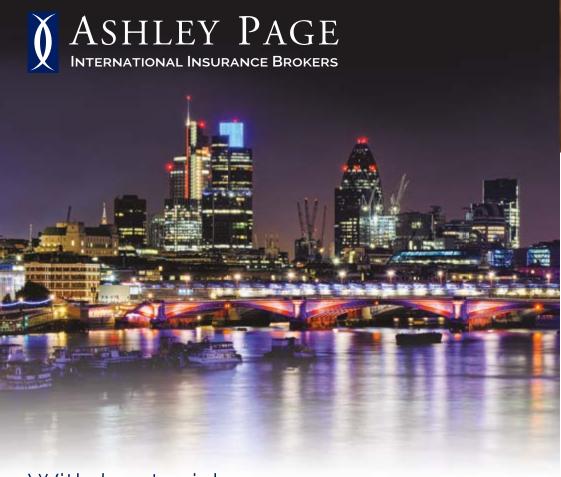
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"It has been such a comfort to me to see the patience and respect with which you all treat my mother and I am so grateful" - Mrs. G, Wembley.

Registered Charity Number: 230822 (Beth Holim)



With best wishes from Family Rogoff

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The trustees are proud to announce that the Montefiore Davanut Course, to be delivered by Eretz Hemdah, Jerusalem, will open in November 2016. This is a fiveyear, part time course of study in Marriage, Conversion and Divorce, leading to Semicha Yadin-Yadin for the Diaspora. Over ten rabbis from London, Manchester, Amsterdam and Sydney have already been jointly selected by the two institutions to participate in the learning. It is expected that at least two rabbis (Rabbinical Council of America) from the U.S. A. will also be joining the Course.

The Montefiore Semicha Course, currently training eight future rabbis for the community, will be continuing into its eleventh year in November.

The Montefiore Gap-Year Scholarship Scheme selects up to ten school-leavers each vear who have already been accepted by Eretz Hatzvi or Midreshet Harova for a year in Jerusalem. Participants, chosen for their potential leadership qualities, are awarded a generous bursary and treated to a high-level series of lectures at Mishkenot Sha'ananim during their time at yeshiva or sem. Every two years the Endowment also runs an intensive elite Graduate Leadership Course at Mishkenot Sha'ananim Jerusalem

The Montefiore Synagogue and Mausoleum at Ramsgate remains open to visitors by appointment (see www.montefioreendowment.org.uk for details). The Endowment's superb collection of ritual silver may be viewed at the Victoria and Albert Museum in London and in the Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge, where it is currently placed on loan.

The Endowment's website www.montefioreendowment.org.uk is hugely popular, containing as it does full details of its collections of manuscripts and its programmes of publication and research.

Lucien Gubbay



8 St. James's Gardens, London, W11 4RB Tel: 020 7603 7961/3232 Fax: 020 7603 9471

Email: admin@hollandparksynagogue.com Web: www.hollandparksynagogue.com

Congregation founded 1910 Synagogue opened 1928

MINISTER Rabbi Abraham Lavi

TIMES OF SERVICE

FRIDAY EVENING Minha followed by Arvit.

Times to be announced in the Synagogue

SHABBAT MORNING Shachrit at 8.45am. Service followed by Kiddush.

Mincha 1½ hours before the end of Shabbat until winter

when it shall be recited after Kiddush

SELICHOT SERVICE This will be held on Sunday 18th September at 7.30am

and followed by a special breakfast provided by Ladies

from our Community

YAMIM NORAIM

Times for all High Holy Days Services will be sent out separately with the Admission Ticket

SERVICES FOR THE HIGH HOLY DAYS

The Executive Committee welcomes Rev Nissim Ashkenazi who will be assisting Rabbi Abraham Lavi. Both will address the Congregation during the High Holy Days Services.

The President, Mr. Stanley Grant together with the Honorary Officers and Executive Committee wish Rabbi & Mrs Lavi, their family and the entire Congregation a very happy and peaceful New Year.

PRE-ROSH HASHANAH CEMETERY VISITS

These will take place at the following times on Sunday 25th September:

12.30 Edgwarebury Lane Cemetery Hoop Lane Cemetery 1.30

Please note it will be a communal service and not individual.

ADULT EDUCATION

Monday

Parasha with Rashi and PirkeiAvot. This Shiur is held in the Semoff Hall at 8.30pm

the S&PHARDI

DURING THE YEAR THE CONGREGATION RENEWS ITS CONDOLENCES TO THE MOURNERS.

• Yosef Tammam Ben Isaac • Valentine Bat Victoria

Bat Chana

 Banin Ben Miriam and Menachem Banin

(Hakkak)

Benezra

Rafael Torel

• Joya (Julia) De Nissim

and Nesim Pontremoli • Sarah de Abraham

• Shoshana (Jocelyne)

• Sidney (Saadi) De Israel • Shoshana (Stephanie) Ha'Levv

De Shaoul Ussiskin

Wahnon

Juliet Sweiry

• Naomi Leah De Baruch • Hilary Bat Leah

Fredjohn

STONESETTINGS

Benveniste

The stone setting for the late Naomi Benveniste z"l will take place on Sunday 11th September 2016 at 10.30am at the Edgwarebury Lane Cemetery.

The stone setting for the late Julia Benezra z"l will take place on Sunday 25th September 2016 at 2.30pm at Hoop Lane Cemetery, Golders Green.

BESIMANTOV ON HAPPY OCCASIONS ARE EXTENDED TO:

BIRTHS

Danielle & Cedric Boghanim on the birth of their daughter on Monday 16th

BAT BATMITZVAH:

Rabbi Yosef and Rebbitsen Regine Lynn on the happy occasion of their eldest daughter, Naomi Rachel's Batmitzvah, celebrated in Jerusalem, Besimantov to Naomi's grandparents, Collette and Leon Sassoon

ENGAGEMENTS:

Sheerelle, daughter of Dyora and Rabbi Lavi, to Matthew, son of Jane and Brian Marks Karen Carmona Joss on the engagement of her son, Marc, to Saskia. daughter of Vanessa Feltz.

Robert and Mandy Behar on the engagement of their daughter, Rachel, to Tal Geron Aron Azouz to Lia Burkeman



WEDDINGS:

Sarah Anticoni on the wedding of her daughter, Miriam, to David Shaw. Besimantov to grandparents Ros & George Anticoni

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES:

Carol & David Sauerteig on their 60th Wedding Anniversary

LIFE ELDERS:

The following members were honoured during the year as Life Elders Mrs. Laura Behar. Mr. Issac Amzallag and Mr Ya'acov Banin

KIDDUSHIM: If you have a Simcha, birthday or Nahala then why not sponsor a Kiddush? For more information please call the Synagogue office.

DONATIONS

We are most grateful to our members, their relatives and friends and to our visitors for their generous donations, which are highly appreciated.

OR' TORAH CHADASH CLASSES:

The children at the Or Torah Chadash Sunday classes enjoyed cream cheese with crackers and cheesecake to help celebrate Shavuot. They also enjoyed a Berachot party in honour of Jerusalem Day.

On 3rd of July we had our prize giving assembly where we recognised and applauded the efforts and achievements of our pupils.

The success of "Or Torah Chadash" is not only due to the children and the teaching team. There are many others whose support is important including Rabbi Lavi, Rabbi Freedman, Mesod Wahnon, Michael Sharron, Laura Behar, Felicity Miller, our caretakers and, of course, security.

Thank you all for your help and assistance throughout this last year. Have a good Summer break and we look forward to seeing you on 11th September.



PAST EVENTS:

Holland Park Megillah reading Wednesday on 23rd March at 7pm. Following which we partnered the NWE congregation for a 'Purim Jewsical Review'.

Thursday 24th March at 8am. We had our traditional Megillah reading at Holland Park Synagogue followed by a light breakfast.

FUTURE EVENTS

A Selichot Service will take place on Sunday 18th September at 7.30am and will be followed by a breakfast in the Suzanne Dellal Hall provided by the Ladies of our community. To book your place please call or email the Synagogue office no later than 12th September.

Chanukah Celebrations and Candle Lighting to be announced.

The annual General Meeting will be held on Sunday 18th December at 3.00 pm. in the Suzanne Dellal Hall



Yavneh College, 6th Form Block Hillside Avenue, Borehamwood, Herts. WD6 1HL Website: www.rambam.org.uk

Rabbi Jeff Berger - 07855-284-360

rabbijefflondon@gmail.com

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drnathanhasson@gmail.com

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Ladies Guild - Lea Misan

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Kiddushim - Michie Berger

myana@ecm.com

Security Rota - Natan Servi

nathanever82@hotmail.com

Fundraising - David Albohayre

SERVICE TIMES

Kabbalat Shabbat Services - 6th Form Block at Yavneh College, Hillside Avenue. Borehamwood WD6 1HL.

Shir HaShirim

30 minutes before candle-lighting

Minha

15 minutes before candle-lighting

Kabbalat Shabbat

beginning at candle-lighting (Times may shift during the year)

Shabbat Morning Services - 6th Form Block at Yavneh College, Hillside Avenue, Borehamwood WD6 1HL.

Zemirot 9.00am Shaharit 9:45am Parasha 10:15am Children's Services 10:30am Musaf & Sermon -11:15am Followed by Kiddush

Rambam Sephardi Synagogue qualifies for the "attendance point" system (CRP) for admission purposes at Jewish schools. If you wish to be included in our email list, please enter your details on our website. www.rambam.org.uk

HIGH HOLIDAY SERVICE TIMES
(ALL SERVICES AT YAVNEH COLLEGE
UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED)

1st Eve Rosh Hashana - 18:15 Sun 2nd October

1st Day Rosh Hashana - 8:30 Mon 3rd October

2nd Eve Rosh Hashana – 18:00 Mon 3rd October

2nd Day Rosh Hashana - 8:30 Tues 4th October

Kabbalat Shabbat - 18:00 Fri 7th October

Shabbat Shuvah - 9:00 Sat 8th October

Eve Yom Kippur - 17:45 Tues 11th October

Yom Kippur -8:30 Wed 12th October

1st Eve Sukkot -17:45 Sun 16th October

1st Day Sukkot -9:00 Mon 17th October **2nd Eve Sukkot –** 17:30 Mon 17th October

2nd Day Sukkot -9:00 Tues 18th October

Kabbalat Shabbat - 17:30 Fri 21st October

Shabbat Hol HaMoed - 9:00 Sat 22nd October

Eve Shemini Atseret - 17:30 Sun 23rd October

Day Shemini Atseret - 9:00 Mon 24th October

Eve Simhat Torah - 17:30 Mon 24th October

Day Simhat Torah -9:00 Tues 25th October

Kabbalat Shabbat - 17:15 Fri 28th October

Shabbat Bereishith - 9:00 Sat 29th October



SUMMARY

During our 5th anniversary year 2015/16, Rambam Sephardi took several significant positive steps forward.

First, we had a Tu B'Shvat Gala Dinner with a £50,000 fund-raising goal, and thanks to our generous supporters, to-date we've achieved nearly 80% of our target. Over the past 12 months, several new family members have joined, and we've hosted more successful events than in any previous year – including our popular Shesh Besh Tournament.

More recently, we began regular Kabbalat Shabbat services, and from July 2016 we happily moved to the 6th Form Block at Yavneh College. (Sincere thanks to Allum Hall who hosted our minyan for 5 years!) Administratively, we've launched the new Rambam Sephardi Website and Member Management System while also continuing to keep member fees low.

As a family-friendly neighbourhood, Elstree/ Borehamwood continues to attract young couples; primarily due to good schools (HJPS, Yavneh) and the extensive Jewish living infrastructure (i.e. Eruv, Mikveh, kosher shops and restaurants). Though house prices have risen steadily over the past 2 years, thankfully, much new building is going on and supply just about outpaces demand.

Rambam Sephardi has become known as the destination for Sephardim in Hertfordshire. Our social events are recognized as providing well-above-expectations for a community of our small size. At the same time we can't emphasize enough our immense gratitude for the continuing support received from both within and outside of the wider S&P community.

KAICIID FELLOW

Rabbi Berger was one of 20 candidates chosen from a pool of international applicants for this year's KAICIID 2016 Fellowship. The only Jewish delegate on a year-long programme concentrating on peace-building & conflict-resolution involving participants from five major world faiths (Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Buddhism & Hinduism), the Rabbi will conduct a workshop activity in the UK to demonstrate fluency with the core concepts.

In addition to presenting numerous Jewish Assemblies at Hertsmere JPS and Yavneh College, this past year the Rabbi also spoke twice to the children from Wareside Primary School. He submitted a couple of articles to the Jewish News as well as appearing as a guest on more than 6 hours of Ask the Alim, an inter-faith Q&A programme produced by British Muslim TV.

Separately, the Rabbi chairs the Society for Jewish Study, an organization formed in 1948 to promote Jewish adult education in the North-west London area.

HATANIM 5777

B'Siman Tob to Derek Sheena (Hatan Torah) and to David Gasc (Hatan Bereishith). We wish them and their families a wonderful year as our Hatanim.

EVENTS

October - AGM & Film Evening:

On Sunday 11th October, we offered a free film evening for members who attended the Rambam Sephardi AGM. More than 50 people joined for a robust discussion of our Mission & Ethos and for the re-appointment of honorary officers. Afterwards, Kazablan starring Yoram Gaon was enjoyed by all; one of the film's original dancers was even in the audience!

November - Olfactory Workshop:

Perfumer Olivier Kummer from Belgium delivered an exceptional olfactory experience on Sunday 15th November to more than 80 participants, demonstrating an exotic array of authentic aromas from the ancient Sephardi world.

December - Shesh Besh Debut:

Another Rambam Sephardi first was initiated by Joe Arazi, who on 8 December brought together 24 players to join in a locally-held Shesh Besh tournament at Orli Bakery in Borehamwood. The evening was so popular, we've since held 2 more tournaments on 9 May & 4 July 2016. Our 4th tournament is scheduled for 11 September. Contact Joe to be put on our mailing list.

January - Tu B'Shvat Gala Dinner:

More than 165 adults attended our Tu B'Shvat Gala Dinner at Yavneh College on Sunday 24th January with Keynote Speaker Rabbi Joseph Dweck. In addition to an acapella performance by Koli Essa (Gedalya Alexander soloist), there was an auction, and an opportunity to pledge 'leaves' on our Rambam Sephardi Standard 'Tree of Life'. Our trademark dessert exceeded expectations with an assortment of more than 60 species of fruits, nuts and berries.

NEW MEMBERS

David & Rimonit Chriqui, Ya'acov, Yonatan & Yael Barukha Rami & Debbie Maya Jason & Laura Sasson, Oliver & Levi Daniel & Lucy Sitton, Lara & Sam Gary & Debbie Somers, Eliana & Micah Abraham & Annette Wahnon, Josh, Simmy, Michael & Raffi



March - Purim Play:

The Megillah was read in an authentic Persian melody by Rabbi David ben Yoav. We again performed an amateur Purim play on the afternoon of 24th March. Many thanks to Rivka Azair & Yuval Cohen for their enormous efforts. Congratulations to our young Rambam Sephardi actors & actresses, stage hands and prompters and to Brian Kaye for sourcing the Purim Seudah.

May - Lag LaOmer Bonfire:

Double the number of participants from last year enjoyed our annual Lag LaOmer Bonfire held at Well End Scout Activity Centre on Thursday 26th May. In addition to the warm fire, guests enjoyed a BBQ and a talk about the Temple Period and Rabbi Shimon Bar Yohai. Sincere thanks to Rivka Azair for coordinating this event.

June - Yom Yerushalayim

Jointly sponsored with Harif, Rambam Sephardi hosted our first Yom Yerushalayim celebration on Sunday 5th June. Close to 90 people attended the musical evening with performance by the London Cantorial Singers, poetry reading by Daniel Hirschfield, and talks by Michelle Huberman and the Rabbi. Thanks to Lea Misan for being the driving force behind this event.

June - Shavuoth BBQ

There was a special Members and Friends 1st day Shavuoth service (12 June) followed by BBQ luncheon attended by more than 100 adults and children. The member-initiated event had no entry fee; each participant was asked to contribute an item of uncooked food. We used the opportunity to explain, to the children especially, the meaning of Receiving the Torah as well as some laws of cooking on Yom Tob.

June - Maccabi GB Community Fun Run

Rambam Sephardi was fortunate to be sponsored in this year's Maccabi GB Fun Run on 19th June, having a table in the pavilion as well as fronting 20 runners. Thankfully, the £800 raised was used to fund this year's Camp Rambam.

July - Summer BBQ:

Enjoying perfect sunny weather and high temperatures, more than 100 adults and children attended our annual summer BBQ in the garden of Neville & Natalie Levy on 17th July. Once again our chair, Dr. Nathan Hasson and Vice Chair, Joe Arazi manned the grill, together with Nathan's son Jeremy. In addition to the usual talent show, penalty shoot-out, ping-pong tournament, bouncy castle and face painting, we also had a caricature artist.

Special thanks to Michie Berger, Rivka Azair, Lorraine Kaye and Derek Sheena for preparing the dessert buffet. Thanks to Sam Misan and Rivka for organizing all the entertainment, and to Brian Kaye & Yuval Cohen for managing such an enjoyable event.

August - Camp Rambam

More than 30 children participated this year in Camp Rambam from 1st - 4th August at the Well End Scout Activity Centre. Though the weather could have been more accommodating, the children (and some adults) experienced campfire food, sleeping in tents, hikes in the nearby woods, archery & crossbows, bouldering and more.

An enormous effort went into setting-up and breaking down the campsite. Special thanks to 'Camp Mother' Rivka Azair, to support staff Sylvia Kozon, Eliana Levy & Benjamin Cohen, as well as to Derek Sheena, Neville Levy, Nathan Hasson & Yuval Cohen. Thanks to the Rabbi for starting the fire each morning. Special thanks to Rabbi Natan & Ariella Levy who participated in full force. Camp Rambam is a unique locally-based opportunity for our children and one that's growing in popularity from year-to-year.

PASTORAL

Congratulations & Mazal Tob to:

30 Aug 15 - Wedding of Laurence Hasson to Sophie in Reading **25 Sept 15 -** Victor & Juliette Mayer on the birth of daughter Carlota **2 Oct 15 -** Martine Stone & Chaim

2 Oct 15 - Martine Stone & Chaim Rubinstein on Tovya's bar mitzvah in Israel

23 Oct 15 - Rimonit & David Chriqui on the birth of daughter Yael Barukha

23 Oct 15 - Elisheva & David Gasc on the birth of daughter Sarah Adele

24 Nov 15 - Elisheva & Moishe Gotlieb on the birth of son Gabriel

30 Nov 15 - Lauren & Daniel Carmel on the birth of son Asher Levy

12 Jan 16 - Laura & Davide Halfon on the birth of Noah Asher

13 Feb 16 - Bar Mitsvah of Sam Misan at Bevis Marks Synagogue

16 Feb 16 - Myriam & Gedalya Alexander on the birth of son Eliezer Zehariah

20 Feb 16 - Bar Mitsvah of Noah Arazi at Borehamwood United Synagogue

12 Mar 16 - Bar Mitsvah of Sam Feigenbaum at Lauderdale Road Synagogue

20 Mar 16 - Raphael & Melanie Kessler on baby naming of Leya Rivi Kessler

28 May 16 - Bar Mitsvah of Joel Shamash, Shaun Afergan & Jordan Misan

16 Jun 16 - Sara & Daniel Benveniste on the birth of son Joshua



2 Jul 16 - Bar Mitsvah of Daniel Cohen
9 Jul 16 - Bat Mitsvah of Emma Levy
16 Jul 16 - Bat Mitsvah of Orli Mocatta

GET-WELL WISHES:

We wish a continuing Refuah Sheleimah to: Elka bat Esther Shoshi. Talya bat Mira, Gaby bat Irene, Irene bat Mary, Nava bat Vicky, Naomi Joy bat Hanina. Liron Efrat bat Vered. Navah Rahel bat Esther Mina and Ida bat Rivka. To Albert Alizade. Shmuel Simha ben Yita Applebaum, Shalom Barukh ben Breinah Leah, Yacov Pesah ben Esther Shoshi, Amos ben Esther Halfon, Shlomo ben Miriam Gee, David ben Eva Gherson, Ephraim Noah ben Yetta, Shamai Zvi ben Basha Rachel Leah. Joshua ben Reuben. Shlomo Yaacaov Ben Boruch Fliezer and David Reuben ben Tziviya.

LONG LIFE:

The community wishes hayim arukhim to:

14 Jul 15 - Faye Hai, for her husband, the late Joe Hai

14 Dec 15 - Naomi Walton, for her mother, the late Kathleen Walton

9 Feb 16 - Natalie Levy, for her father, the late Bernard Bookey

14 Mar 16 - Danny Tahor, for his father, the late Yitshak Tahor

15 Apr 16 - Malcolm Setton, for his uncle, the late Selwyn Horne

7 Jul 16 - David Saleh, for his mother, the late Florence Saleh

13 Jul 16 - Abe Wahnon, for his grandmother, the late Sarah Wahnon

18 Jul 16 - Warren Palmer, for his wife, the late Tanya Palmer

19 Jul 16 - Sonia Sassoon, for her husband, the late Victor Sassoon 20 Jul 16 - Rabbi Berger, for his

mother, the late Betty Berger

THANK YOU KIDDUSH SPONSORS: 2015

8 Aug - Lorraine Kaye for her father's nahala

29 Aug - Levys & Bergers for wedding anniversaries

5 Sept - Jennifer Brooke for her father's nahala

12 Sept - Sammy Ezrahi for his birthday

19 Sept - Michael Ben-Hayim for his mother's nahala

29 Sept - David Chriqui in his father's memory

24 Oct - Erik Misan for his father's nahala

31 Oct - Carmel Family for Yosef's 3rd birthday

7 Nov - Alexander Family for Yehudit's birthday

14 Nov - Jack Azair for his father's nahala

21 Nov - Gasc Family for birth of daughter Sarah Adele

28 Nov - David Chriqui in his father's memory

5 Dec - Joshua Benjamin's bar mitzvah anniversary

12 Dec - Alexander Family for Gamliel's birthday

16 Jan - Freddy David for nahala of Hakham David Hayim

23 Jan - Rabbi Berger for his father's nahala

13 Feb - Misan Family for Sam's bar mitzvah

20 Feb - Arazi Family for Noah's bar mitzvah

27 Feb - Friends of Moishe Zimon, for his recovery

19 Mar - Hilsenrath Family for Chloe Loewe's nahala

26 Mar - Cohen Family for Ron's bar mitzvah anniversarv

2 Apr - Alexander Family for birth of Eliezer Zehariah

7 May - Rambam Sephardi in honor of Renee Wasserman

21 May - Jonathan Bahar for his father's nahala

28 May - Afergan Family for Shaun's bar mitzvah

4 Jun - Hilsenrath Family for Raphael Loewe's nahala

11 Jun - Rachel Cohen for her birthday

18 Jun - Levy Family

25 Jun - Sammy Ezrahi

2 Jul - Cohen Family for Daniel's bar mitzvah

16 Jul - Levy Family for Emma's bat mitzvah

30 Jul - Lea Misan for Rabbi Elazar Abouhasseira's Hillula

To book a Kiddush please contact Michie Berger Tel: 020-8386-4386

OTHER 'ESTEEMED THANKS':

Volunteers Taking Services

Over the past months volunteers have helped read services or parts of the parasha. We wish to thank the following:

Joe Akerib, Gedalya Alexander, Josh Antian, Joe Arazi, Joshua Benjamin, Shlomo Biton, Jonathan Cabessa, Daniel Carmel, David Chriqui, Freddy David, Joe Eikareb, Sammy Ezrahi, David Gasc, Oliver Hazan, Michael Hilsenrath, R Daniel Isaac, Anthony Kent, Neville Levy, Michael Loewe, Yosef Menhaem, Natan Servi, Raph Setton, Charles Silas, Gary Somers, Abe & Mesod Wahnon and Simon Wasserman.

We enthusiastically welcome volunteers to read Parasha, Haftarah or to take Tefillah. A new programme, initiated by Moishe Gotlieb, encourages young



boys below the age of bar mitzvah to read the Maftir portion from the Torah.

To participate, please contact Moishe at 07723-052-114 to get on our Rota.

ADMINISTRATIVE

GET WELL LIST:

Prayers are recited every Shabbat morning for Refuah Sheleimah in front of the Echal. To be included please send to the Rabbi the English and Hebrew names of the person(s) concerned.

SHABBAT CHILDREN'S SERVICES:

Rambam Sephardi offers weekly Shabbat children's services. The programme is supervised by Lea Misan jointly with Rivka Azair, and is led most weeks by Simmi Wahnon.

REQUESTS FOR ALIYOT:

Members are asked to please advise Uri Kamara (uri.kamara@ntlworld.com) or the Rabbi before Shabbat if they wish to be called to the Sefer for a Simha or a Nahala.

MEMBERSHIP:

Rambam Synagogue is affiliated to the Spanish & Portuguese Jews' Congregation in London. A full-membership pack which includes a special rate for those holding other

synagogue memberships, can be obtained from our membership Secretary Brian Kaye at membership@ rambam.org.uk

YOUR SUPPORT IS IMPORTANT TO US

Spread the Word:

Our community is situated in Hertsmere, one of the fastest developing Jewish areas since the 2011 census. The community has an Eruv, Mikveh, kosher restaurants & shops. For example, Sephardi families who used to live close to Maida Vale, Wembley and Hendon have recently moved into our area.

Please let your friends and family know there is a warm, caring Sephardi community to welcome them in Elstree/Borehamwood. Hospitality is available for Shabbat and Festivals but kindly let us know your plans in advance.







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Neveh Shalom Sephardi Community
352/354 Preston Road, Harrow, Middx HA3 OQJ
Tel: 020 8904 9402 Website: www.nevehshalom.com E-mail: info@nevehshalom.com

TIMES OF SERVICES:

FRIDAY EVENING: Approximately 15 minutes after the commencement of Shabbat.

SHABBAT: Shaharit 9:00 a.m.

Minha, approximately 1 hour before the termination of Shabbat followed by a Shiur and Arvit Motzae Shabbat, although times for afternoon services will vary when there is a Seudah Shlishit. During winter Minha is held after Shaharit and Kiddush.

Any changes will be announced in the morning on Shabbat.

SUNDAY MORNING: Shaharit 8:15 a.m.

MAZALTOV:

The community is delighted to wish Mazal Toy to:

Mr. Elliott and Mrs. Freda Myers on the birth of their grandson, Daniel Joseph, son of Mr. Adrian and Mrs. Liliane Connell

Mr. Elliott and Mrs. Freda Myers on the birth of their granddaughter, Miriam, daughter of Rabbi Mayer and Mrs. Michal Myers.

Mazeltov to Mr. Ezra and Mrs. Avril Meallem on the birth of their first granddaughter, Sequoia Levia, a daughter for Ilana and Itamar Cohn in Israel.

Mr. Albert and Mrs. Denise Outmezguine on the birth of their granddaughter, Tamara Libby daughter of Oshri and Michael Outmezguine.

Mrs. Antoinette Battat, on the birth of her granddaughter, daughter of Karen and Stewart M'pherson in Australia.

Mr. Ben Shalom and Mrs. Lynda Gentely on the birth of their granddaughter, Leni, daughter of Mr. Simon and Mrs. Lee`at Gentely.

Mr. Yigal and Mrs. Linda Samuel on the birth of their grandson, Joseph Eden, son of Mr. Daniel and Mrs Lauren Fries in Berkeley, California.

Mr. Roni and Mrs. Ava Rashti on the birth of their granddaughter, Aurora Giulietta, daughter of Joelle and Jonathan Rich. Mazal Tov also to the great-grandmother Mrs. Katie Rashti.

Rabbi Irving and Mrs. Anne Jacobs on the barmitzvah of their grandson, Dov-Shlomo Durcharch, son of Dr. Benjamin and Mrs. Raquel Durcharch.

Mr. Edward and Mrs. Sarah Cohen, on the barmitzvah of their son, Jonathan. Mazal Tov also to the grandparents Mr. Albert and Mrs. Joyce Cohen and Mr. Solomon and Mrs. Rosalind Tamman. And also to the great-grandparents Mr. Gabi and Mrs. Lina Tamman.

Mr. Faiz and Mrs. Bushra Khalastchi on the engagement of their son, Rudi, to Frances Fogel, daughter of Steven and Joan Fogel.

Mazal Tov also to the grandmother Mrs. Jacqueline Khalastchi.

Mr. Joe and Mrs. Jocelyne Hazan together with Mrs. Susan Simms on the birth of their grandson, Daniel, son of Mr. Greg and Mrs. Claire Simms.

Mazal Tov also to the great grandmother Mrs. Cecile Hazan.

Mr. Jack and Mrs. Brigitte Hikmet on the birth of their granddaughter, Alexa, daughter of Mr. Nigel and Mrs. Samantha Hikmet.

Mazal Tov also to the great grandmother Mrs. Jacqueline Khalastchi.

Mr. Adrian and Mrs. Michelle Levy on the barmitzvah of their son, David. Mazal Tov also to the grandparents Mrs. Esther Kamhi and Mr. Jack and Mrs. Helen Levy.

Mr. Justin and Mrs. Orline Bannerman-Lloyd on the celebration of the barmitzvah of their son, Noah. Mazal Tov also to the grandparents, Mr. Zaki Ishag and Mrs. Betty Ishag.

Mr. Freddy and Mrs. Souad Khalastchi, on the celebration of the barmitzvah of their son, Aran.

Mazal Tov also to the grandmothers Mrs. Jacqueline Khalastchi and Mrs. Samira Elias.

Mr. Mark and Mrs. Lana Misan on the celebration of the barmizvah and batmitzvah of their son and daughter, Jordan and Cara.

Mazal Tov also to the grandmother Mrs. Vicky Misan.

Mr. Alan and Mrs. Claudine Mendoza on the birth of their son, Theodore Yacov Alexander.

Mazal Tov also to the grandfather Mr. Adrian Mendoza.



Mr. Benjamin and Mrs. Carmen Gabra on the birth of their grandson, Noam, son of Mr. David and Mrs. Talya Gabra, in Israel.

Mrs. Vivienne Zubaida on the birth of her grandson, Aaron, son of Mr. Tony and Mrs. Sarah Zubaida.

Mr. Jack and Mrs. Simone Tamman on the birth of their grandson, Eitan Yoseph, son of Mr. David and Mrs. Venessa Tamman.

Mr. Alan and Mrs. Judy Sitton on the marriage of their son, David, to Lizzy, daughter of Mr. John and Mrs. Thelma Spratt.

Mazal Tov, also, on the marriage of their other son, Jonathan, to Charlotte, daughter of Mr. Keith and Mrs. Anne Fisher.

Mr. Faiz and Mrs. Bushra Khalastchi on the birth of their grandson, Felix, son of Ray and Navit Khalastchi.

Mazal Tov also to the great-grandmother Mrs. Jacqueline Khalastchi.

Mr. Jeffrey and Mrs. Ivy Vernon on the birth of their grandson, Asher, son of Darren and Gallit Vernon.

DOUGHNUT DAY

In November we held a cooking demonstration for the first time in many

vears. Mrs. Esther Kamhi demonstrated her famous doughnuts ahead of Chanukah, while Shmuli Jacobs showed us how to make sambousaks and cheese muffins. Around 100 women. men and children turned up for the event and everyone had a chance to get their hands dirty and to test their own cooking skills. The cooking was a great success and as soon as the food was ready it disappeared into eagerly awaiting mouths. We would like to thank Esther and Shmuli for all their efforts in organising and running the demonstration and we do hope we will be able to make these cooking demonstrations a more regular event.

JEWS OF SUDAN TALK BY LEON COHEN

At the end of November, well over a 100 people turned out to hear Leon Cohen talk about the Jewish community in Sudan. This event was held under KKW5, the group of 5 local synagogues, and so it was wonderful to be joined by members from Kenton and Wemblev and other local communities. Leon's talk was beautifully presented and most fascinating giving us an overview of the geography, culture and society of the country as well as a unique insight into life growing up as a Jew among the Sudanese. After the talk, in typical Sudanese hospitality, Leon treated us all to a wonderful spread of food.

A few interesting facts from the talk are as follows: The British conquered Sudan in 1898 and allowed the Jews to live as a community in the country. At this time there is a record of eight Jewish families of which seven were Sephardi and one was Ashkenazi. Many of the Jews became successful businessmen, some dealing in textiles and spices. Relations with the local Muslim community were good and amazingly at Leon's Bar mitzvah party, as there was no Jewish band, the Head of Police sent the Police band to provide the music. At its peak the Jewish community numbered around 1,000, but when Sudan became independent in 1956, the Jews' situation took a turn for the worse and many of them left. Later, in 1977, fearing vandalism at the Jewish cemetery in Khartoum, members of the Sudanese Jewish families, including Zaki Ishaq, daringly arranged an air-transfer of graves from Sudan to Jerusalem.

CHANUKAH PARTY

In December the community enjoyed an entertaining Chanukah party. Various activities were available for everyone to take part in including biscuit decoration thoughtfully organised by Shmuli Jacobs, as well as lantern decoration which was as popular among the adults as the children and lots of other activities for the younger kids. We all then gathered around to light our

beautiful Chanukiah which was donated to the synagogue in memory of Gilda Cohen. We finished off the evening by enjoying a lovely buffet meal and lots of doughnuts! Many thanks to the Events Team and everyone who helped to make it such an enjoyable afternoon with particular thanks to Ralda Elton and David Menachem.

LADIES NIGHT

The Ladies Night on 28th February was a first for our community. A number of stalls were set up around the synagogue selling jewellery, hair products, candles, handmade gifts and make up as well as a nail bar. All the ladies were able to shop and pamper themselves for the evening. Thanks to all our stall holders and all the ladies and gents, who helped to make this a fun and enjoyable evening.

SHABBATON

After a lot of hard work we held our first full Shabbaton on 4th and 5th March. We were overwhelmed by the incredible response and support of our community with well over 100 members attending both Friday evening and Saturday afternoon. It was wonderful to have so many of our members all together to bring in and then celebrate the Shabbat and there was a real community spirit. We were treated to shiurim by both Zvi and Yossi and they also hosted a marathon "Ask the Rabbi" session,



during which they were challenged on a broad and eclectic range of subjects. We all very much missed Rabbi Jacobs and we wish him a speedy recovery and look forward to seeing him in synagogue as soon as possible.

PURIM

Superman, Peter Pan, princesses. soldiers, captains, cowboys, teddy bears and many others turned up for Purim. We had a fantastic attendance, which ensured that we had a noisy and lively evening. Following the megillah reading, which was beautifully read by Zvi as always, we all enjoyed a party put on by the Events Team. There was a great spread of food and there was also a popcorn and candy floss maker which was enjoyed by both children and adults. We all left in high spirits with the children clutching goodie bags.

SHAVUOT KIDDUSH

Cheese cake, bubbly, lollipops and sweets galore were in abundance with delicious cakes, biscuits and sandwiches at the David Ishag Synagogue on Sunday 12th June to celebrate the festival of Shavuot. The synagogue was adorned with flowers giving a beautiful ambience and festivity to the place.

Many thanks to all those who organised the fabulous Kiddush and Mrs Gladys Benson, who as in previous years, bought the beautiful flower displays. Many thanks also go to Rebecca Menachem who organised a thought provoking children's service on Shavuot, the Book of Ruth and the fifth commandment - Honour your mother and father. All the children participated and we had a lively discussion

SPECIAL BIRTHDAY KIDDUSH

Zaki Ishag gave a special Kiddush in honour of his birthday. Zaki has been with the community from the very early days and was instrumental in helping to set up a permanent building for the congregation. He is an active member and popular in the community and we are grateful for all his continual support. We wish him many more happy years.

SUMMER BBQ

The summer kicked off with the synagogue barbeque in July which was very well attended and went exceptionally well helped by the perfect weather. The food was excellent and with the bouncy castle, candy floss, popcorn, football and music entertainment, there was something to keep everyone busy and entertained. We would like to thank Ralda and the Events Team for all their considerable work in organising the barbeque and making it such a successful afternoon. We also celebrated the 100th birthday of Lorri, who presented the synagogue with beautiful silver Havdala set in

memory of her husband Bernie Ereira. Bernie was a founding member and was our first secretary, who worked hard to establish the David Ishag synagogue.

KKW5 TALKS AT NEVEH SHALOM

Over the last six months we have had a series of excellent speakers come to address us on subjects related to Purim, Pesach, Shavuot, Prayer, Giving and Freewill just to name a few. The speakers, Rabbis Heller, Farhi, Katz, Yossi David, Daniel Rowe and Shimshon Silkin, have all given inspiring and thought provoking talks, which have been thoroughly enjoyed by all those who attended. We are grateful to David Ishack for helping to organise them and we intend to continue this series of talks in the future. Information on these talks will be circulated as they are organised and we encourage everyone to try to come alona.

CONDOLENCES:

We extend our deepest sympathy to:

Mr. Alan and Mr. Michael Sitton on the passing away of their mother, Mrs. Yolande Sitton.

Mrs. Antoinette Battat on the passing away of her husband, Mr. Edward Battat. **Mrs. Jocelyn Hazan** on the passing away of her mother, Mrs. Gladys Guened.

Mrs. Carmen Gabra on the passing away of her mother, Mrs. Tuffacha Bekhor.

Mrs. Sally Del Monte on the passing away of her brother, Mr. Nicholas Landau.

The family and friends of Mrs. Florine Wahba on her passing away.

Mr. Sam Tamam and Mrs. Jennifer Morris, on the passing away of their mother, Mrs. Lily Tamam.

Mrs. Valerie Schneider and Annabelle on the passing away of their husband and father, Mr. Walter Schneider.

Mrs. Margaret Erdman on the passing away of her aunt Rahma bat Dina Hela. Mr. Jack and Mrs. Paula Sitton and Mr. Michael Sitton, on the passing away of their daughter and sister, Mrs. Tanya Elizabeth Palmer.

We wish them and their families a long and peaceful life.

KIDDUSHIM AND SEUDOT:

Our appreciation goes to the following for their kind donations of kiddushim and seudot:

The Hatanim, Mr. David Tamman and Mr. Edward Cohen and their families for both kiddushim on Simchat Torah evening service and the following morning service.

Messrs. Robin and Sam Samra in memory of their father Mr. Ovadia Samra.

Mrs. Monique Arazi and her children



Shafit, Simone and Joseph in memory of their husband and father Mr. Ram Arazi.

Mrs. Arlette Hanen and her children Victor and Lina in memory of their husband and father, Mr. Raymond Hanen

Mmes. Joyce Cohen, Edna Harrison, Aimée Leon and Myrna Doppelt in memory of their father Mr. Edward Dwek HaCohen.

Messrs. Saleh, Zaki and Elie Ishag in memory of their father Mr. David Ishag.

Mr. Ben-Shalom Gentely in memory of his mother, Mrs. Miriam Gentely.

Mrs. Denise Shemtob, Mr. Sam Shemtob and Mrs. Susan Shemtob in memory of their son, brother and husband Mr. Jack Shemtob.

Mr. Jeff Solomon in memory of his - Dwek. father Mr. Isaac Solomon.

Mrs. Jacqueline Khalastchi, Mrs. Suad Sebti and Mr. Jamil Khazoom in memory of their father, Mr. Yousef Khazoom and of their late aunt, Mrs. Margeurite Al-Akri bat Dina.

Mrs. Betty Ishag, Mrs. Freda Myers, Messrs. Leon and Berto Cohen in

memory of their father Mr. Joseph Aslan Cohen

Mr. Elliott and Mr. Eyal Myers, Mrs. Alice Levy and Mrs. Ilana Hebert in memory of their mother Mrs. Liliane Myers.

Mrs. Sue Khazoom in memory of her mother Mrs. Daisy Peress.

Mrs. Jacqueline Khalastchi and her children Mmes. Bushra Khalastchi and Brigitte Hikmet and Mr. Freddy Khalastchi in memory of their husband and father Mr. Haron Khalastchi.

Mr. Jack Hikmet in memory of his parents Mr. Naji and Mrs. Juliette Hikmet.

Messrs. Robin and Sam Samra in memory of their mother Mrs. Mounira Samra.

Messrs. Saleh, Zaki and Elie Ishag in memory of their mother Mrs. Oro Ishag - Dwek.

Mmes. Betty Ishag and Freda Myers and Messrs. Leon and Berto Cohen in memory of their mother Mrs. Marie Cohen.

Mmes. Joyce Cohen, Edna Harrison, Aimée Leon and Myrna Doppelt in memory of their mother Mrs. Fortunée Dwek HaCohen.

Mmes. Rosy Cohen, Joyce Tamam and Claudy Huttrer in memory of their mother Mrs. Jacqueline Fiss.

Mr. Ben-Shalom Gentely in memory of his father Mr. Zevulun Gentely.

Messrs. Elliot and Eyal Myers and Mmes. Alice Levy and Ilana Hebert in memory of their father Mr. Mayer Myers.

Mr. Maurice Madjar for a seuda in memory of his mother, Mrs. Celine (Sarah) Madjar and in memory of his father, Mr. Jacques Madjar.

Mr. David Judah for a seuda in memory of his mother Mrs. Rachel Judah.

Mrs. Esther Kamhi and family for a seuda in memory of their husband and father Rabbi Dr. David Kamhi.

Mrs. Marie Del Monte, Mrs. Sally and Mr. Richard Del Monte for a seuda in memory of their husband and father, Mr. Sydney Del Monte.

Mrs. Palmer in memory of her sister, Mrs. Florine Wahba.

Mrs. Ivy Vernon in memory of her father, Mr. Selim Rabee.

Mrs. Antionette Battat and her daughters Lisa and Karen in memory

of their husband and father Mr. Edward Ezra Battat.

Mrs. Clemy Lagnado and her children Bettie and Victor in memory of their husband and father, Mr. Myer Lagnado.

Mrs. Yvonne Fattal and Mrs. Vivienne Zubaida in memory of their mother, Mrs. Dinah Zelkha.

Mr. Edward and Mrs. Caroline Cohen in celebration of the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Jonathan.

Mr. Faiz and Mrs. Bushra Khalastchi on the marriage of their son, Rudi, to Frances Fogel.

Mr. Roni Rashti on the birthday of his mother, Mrs. Katy Rashti

Mr. Adrian and Mrs. Michelle Levy in celebration of the Bar Mitzvah of their son, David.

Mr. Justin and Mrs. Orline Bannerman-Lloyd in celebration of the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Noah.

Dr. Benjamin and Raquel Durcharch in celebration of the Bar Mitzvah of their son,

Dov-Shlomo Durcharch.

Mr. Freddy and Mrs. Souad Khalastchi



in celebration of the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Aran.

Mr. Mark and Mrs. Lana Misan in celebration of the Bar Mitzvah and Bat Mitzvah of their son and daughter, Jordan and Cara.

THE NEVEH SHALOM CLUB:

The club, which is open to all synagogue members and their friends, meets regularly every Tuesday from 1:00 to 4:00pm and on the first Sunday of every month from 1:00 to 4:00pm. New members are always welcome.

Please contact the following members of the committee for details of any activities:

Mr. Cesar Benson - on 020 8904 3009 or via email gladysandcesarbenson@gmail.com

Mr. Alphonse Salem - on 020 8904 4205 or via email alphonse.salem@gmail.com

CHILDREN'S SERVICE:

A special children's service followed by a children's kiddush is held at the synagogue in the Victor Saleh lecture room on the first Shabbat of every month as well as on festivals.

Young children or grandchildren of the community members are most welcome to join and help establish the next generation of our congregation.

Parents are asked to sit together with their children in synagogue for at least part of the prayers whenever they attend.

LIBRARY:

All those wishing to borrow books from the Synagogue library lending section are very welcome to do so.

Please remember to note the details of the book, your name and contact information in the blue file which is kept in the library. This way the librarians, Mr. Yehuda Erdman and Mr. Jack Sitton will know where these books are. Thank you for your co-operation and enjoy your reading!



Under Supervision of the Beth Din of The Federation of Synagogues, London. KF

DAVID ISHAG SYNAGOGUE HIGH HOLIDAYS TIMETABLE

Festival and Fast begin

Kol Nidre

6.02 p.m. Chol Hamoed

6.15 p.m.





SUNDAY 2ND OCTOBER		WEDNESDAY 12TH OCTOBER		FRIDAY 21ST OCTOBER		SATURDAY 29TH OCTOBER		
Erev Rosh Hashanah		Yom Kippur		Chol Hamoed		Shabbat Beresheet & Mevarchim		
MORNING SERVICE	8.00 a.m.	Zemirot	8.30 a.m.	Shabbat commences	5.40 p.m.	MORNING SERVICE	9.00 a.m.	
(Including Selihot & Hatarat	: Nedarim)	Shahrit	9.45 a.m.	EVENING SERVICE	5.45 p.m.	EVENING SERVICE	5.30 p.m.	
Festival begins	6.22 p.m.	Sepher	11.30 a.m.			Shabbat terminates	6.27 p.m.	
EVENING SERVICE	6.30 p.m.	Musaph	12.45 p.m.	SATURDAY 22ND OCTOBER			·	
		Minha	3.45 p.m.	Shabbat Chol Hamoed & Erev Hos-				
MONDAY 3RD OCTOBER		Hashkavot	5.35 p.m.	ha'anah Rabbah		SERVICES DURING THE YEAR ARE	\s	
First Day Rosh Hashanah		Neila	6.05 p.m.	MORNING SERVICE	9.00 a.m.			
MORNING SERVICE	8.30 a.m.	Shofar	7.01 p.m.	EVENING SERVICE & LIMMUD	5.45 p.m.			
EVENING SERVICE	6.15 p.m.			Shabbat terminates	6.40 p.m.	FRIDAY EVENINGS		
Tashlikh	6.45 p.m.	SUNDAY 16TH OCTOBER				approx. 15 minutes after commencement of Shabbat;		
		Erev Souccot		SUNDAY 23RD OCTOBER		SATURDAY MORNINGS 9.00 am;		
TUEDAY 4TH OCTOBER		MORNING SERVICE	8.15 a.m.	Hosha'anah Rabbah		SATURDAY EVENINGS		
Second Day Rosh Hashanal	h	Festival begins	5.51 p.m.	MORNING SERVICE	7.45 a.m.	approx. one hour before termination of	of Shabbat;	
MORNING SERVICE	8.30 a.m.	EVENING SERVICE	6.00 p.m.	Festival begins	5.36 p.m.	SUNDAY MORNINGS 8.15 am;		
EVENING SERVICE	6.15 p.m.			EVENING SERVICE	5.45 p.m.			
Festival terminates	7.18 p.m.	MONDAY 17TH OCTOBER						
		First Day Souccot		MONDAY 24TH OCTOBER		For security reasons, you are kindly re	auested:	
WEDNESDAY 5TH OCTOB	ER	MORNING SERVICE	9.00 a.m.	Shemini Atseret		Not to park in the vicinity of the Syr	·	
Fast of Gedallah		EVENING SERVICE	5.45 p.m.	MORNING SERVICE	9.00 a.m.	nor congregate outside the front o		
Fast terminates	7.10 p.m.			EVENING SERVICE	5.45 p.m.	at any time;		
		TUESDAY 18TH OCTOBER		Simchat Torah Hakaphot 6.45 p.m		2. To be vigilarit, to report anything suspicious to the		
SATURDAY 8TH OCTOBER		Second Day Souccot		2s.ac 13.a tanapoc 0.40 p.m.				
Shabbat Shuvah		MORNING SERVICE	9.00 a.m.	TUESDAY 25TH OCTOBER				
MORNING SERVICE	9.00 a.m.	EVENING SERVICE	5.45 p.m.	Simchat Torah				
EVENING SERVICE	6.15 p.m.	Festival terminates	6.50 p.m.					
Shabbat terminates	7.09 p.m.	Chol Hamoed		MORNING SERVICE	9.00 a.m.			
				EVENING SERVICE	5.30 p.m.			
TUESDAY 11TH OCTOBER		WEDNESDAY 19TH OCTOBER		Festival terminates	6.35 p.m.			
Erev Yom Kippur		Chol Hamoed						
MORNING SERVICE	6.30 a.m.							
(Including Selihot & Hatarat	: Nedarim)	THURSDAY 20TH OCTOBER						
English and an all English and a	C 00	Challlana and						



ELECTIONS

THE FOLLOWING WERE ELECTED FOR THE FORTHCOMING YEAR:

President: Michael Khodadad Treasurer: Stephen Elias

Chairman: Anthony Sultan **Hon Secretary:** Ros Farshi

Members of the Council:

Reuben Solomon, Lesley Sher, Jonathan Committee: Shasha. Ros Farshi Jennifer Coh

Wardens / Parnassim:

Michael Sherbourne, Victor Hassan, Reuben Solomon

Lady Members of the President's Committee:

Jennifer Cohen, Ros Farshi

FUNERALS

Albert Mesrie, Netta Levy, Julia Lazare, Elie Braka, Betty Lent, Yedidya Jebreel, Vera Bolchover, Jocelyn Cohen, Janette Cattan, Maurice Hakim, June Churba Natalie Vallance, Michael Hillel and Fileen White

BARMITZVAH

James Browr Ilan Benhaim

WEDDINGS

Simi Kirsch to Joe Shammah Lee Khodadad to Nati Cohen Emma Charles to Edward Avery-Gee Amanda Lee to Marcus Dysch Natalie Peppi to Danny Ginsburg Claudia Tishbi to Adam Lipman

BAT CHAYIL

Amy & Lily Mesrie Mai Ozon

EVENTS

Last November Rabbi Robby Berman from New York, founder of the Halachic Organ Donor Society, gave a presentation on organ donation at the home of Jaleh and Yusef Tishbi.

Introduced by Rabbi Amir Ellituv, Rabbi Berman described a number of scenarios where the carrying of donor cards had led to the saving of life. He urged as many people as possible to carry a donor card.

Rabbi Shlomo Ellituv thanked Rabbi Berman on behalf of all the members present.

A communal family party was held in our hall for all the South Manchester synagogues on the first night of Chanucah. A large gathering enjoyed varied activities, traditional fare and the lighting of the Menorah. Thanks go to Rabbi Amir Ellituv and Tova for organising such a successful event.

At the end of January we held our annual quiz. We were indebted to Jennifer Cohen, Mike Khodadad, Igal Farshi and their team, together with our Question Master 'Doc' Kaye for ensuring the evening was a great success.

We celebrated Purim in the traditional manner with the reading of the Megilla followed by our superb Persian Dinner. Our thanks go to Igal Farshi and Mike Khodadad and their team for organising the evening.

In March a special Kiddush was held in honour of Vera Cohen's 100th birthday. Vera has lived all her life in Didsbury and she enjoyed celebrating the occasion with her large family and many friends. The President Mike Khodadad presented Vera with an inscribed clock on behalf of Shaare Hayim.



Founded 1980 Istambuli Synagogue, 18 Bet El Street, The Jewish Quarter, The Old City, Jerusalem E-mail: Shaare_ratzon@yahoo.com. Web address: www.sandpjerusalem.org
Facebook page: K.K Sha'are Ratzon Spanish and Portuguese Synagogue (Jerusalem)

The Synagogue will hold services on the following days:

Rosh Hashana First Day	Monday	03/10/16
Rosh Hashana Second Day	Tuesday	04/10/16
Erev Yom Kippur-Kal Nidrei	Tuesday	11/10/16
Yom Kippur	Wednesday	12/10/16
Succot, First Day	Monday	17/10/16
Hosha'ana Rabba	Sunday	23/10/16
Parashat Noach	Saturday	05/11/16
Parashat Toledot	Saturday	03/12/16
Parashat Mikketz (Hanuka)	Saturday	31/12/16
Parashat Va'era (Rosh Hodesh)	Saturday	28/01/17
Parashat Terumah	Saturday	04/03/17
Shushan Purim (Eve)	Sunday	12/03/17
Parashat Vayikra	Saturday	01/04/17
Pesach, First Day	Tuesday	11/04/17
Pesach, Seventh Day	Monday	17/04/17
Parashat Emor	Saturday	13/05/17
Shavuot	Wednesday	31/05/17
Parashat Korach (Rosh Hodesh)	Saturday	24/06/17

The morning services start at 8.00 a.m. and are followed by Kiddush.

In addition to the above, the Synagogue holds occasional Friday evening services courtesy of Kehilat Yedidya, 12 Nahum Lifshitz, Baka, Jerusalem. Details of these services, as well as other events that are occasionally held, are only available by e-mail or on our Facebook site.



My interest was first aroused by a 2011 article in the Adelaide Advertiser, concerning the WW2 exploits of Lieutenant Alan Gubbay. It caught my attention because of the coincidence of names — I have

a brother Alan Gubbay - and because of a fancied resemblance in one of the lieutenant's pictures to a photograph of me in my younger days. It prompted me to search for the lieutenant's origins in an attempt to trace a possible connection to my own family.

The result was partly successful in that, though failing to identify the particular Gubbay clan from which he was descended, I did manage to trace the lieutenant's family back to Baghdad in the early years of the nineteenth century. Life in Baghdad was then becoming increasingly intolerable. Not only was the city much decayed by long neglect following natural disasters, but its Jews were also being subjected to vicious persecution by avaricious Ottoman governors. Many Jews, including my own ancestors, departed at that time.

The search was disappointing to me in another sense because it seems that, with scarcely a backward glance, the lieutenant's grandfather, David Gubbay, decisively turned his back on his Jewish roots on reaching Australia in 1880.

However, the account of one family's journey from oppression in a decayed province of the Ottoman Empire to the brave new world of Australia and the Pacific Islands – from Baghdad to the Commonwealth War Memorial in Papua New Guinea on which Lieutenant Alan Gubbay's name is inscribed - may be of wider interest.

FAMILY ORIGINS

Except when necessary for trading with Europeans, or to identify with a famous ancestor or a particular place or occupation, family names were rare in Baghdad until at least the latter part of the nineteenth century. A man was simply identified by his given name, his father's name, his grandfather's name and so on. The Hebrew name Gabbai is generic, the title of the Treasurer of an important Jewish institution or charity - or even the Treasurer of an Ottoman provincial governor. My own ancestor, Haham Saleh b. Aharon (1725-1772) was appointed Gabbai of the Charity of the Four Lands in Baghdad; and so prestigious was that appointment that his sons adopted Gabbai as their family name. The European spelling Gubbay was adopted by family members who



emigrated from Baghdad to British India and was later copied by their cousins who had gone to Aleppo; and that same peculiar English spelling of the Hebrew name persists to this day.

There were three main clans of Gubbays in Baghdad, each traceable back to the early 1600s and genetically distinct. With the increasing use of family names, others also adopted the name Gubbay for a similar generic reason or, with the same spelling, to associate themselves with a prestigious family. Several smaller clans of Gubbays thus came into existence.

ABDALLAH AND RACHEL (NÉE JOSHUA) GUBBAY

In the early years of the nineteenth century Abdallah Gubbay, together with other Jews, quit Baghdad to seek new opportunities abroad. Abdallah's own departure can probably be dated to around 1830. He and his wife travelled to Surat, and then via Bombay to Calcutta in British India, where they established themselves and where their son David was born in 1860.

Abdallah later moved to Hong Kong, midway between the port cities of Calcutta and Shanghai, each already containing a community of formerly Baghdadi Jews. He traded in cotton and opium (then a respectable commodity)

between the two centres. David was brought up in Hong Kong, for which he entertained lasting affection.

Years later in 1880. Abdallah decided to move on to Shanghai 'with many members of the Sassoon family' to set up a real estate (property) business there. Shanghai was then home to a small colony of Baghdadi Jews, most of whom worked for one of the Sassoon enterprises. Other perspicacious Baghdadi families had already amassed huge fortunes in Calcutta and Bombay by such investment and Abdallah may well have been inspired by their example. One of his descendants claims that there were some 'five or six' marriages between Abdallah's family and the Sassoons; and no doubt Abdallah hoped to profit from that real or imaginary connection.

It was at that point that the family divided. David refused to accompany his parents to Shanghai and instead set out alone to blaze a new trail.

DAVID GUBBAY

Armed with his British passport and an impressive wooden travelling trunk, on which the initials D.G. were emblazoned in gold letters, David arrived in Sydney, Australia, in 1880.

He was determined to make Sydney his home and lost no time in starting to manufacture high-quality sweets, said to be the best in New South Wales. He also created and sold pates de fruit (fruit 'jellies'). In 1891 he was described in official records as a confectioner from Burwood, a suburb of Sydney. Business prospered; and only a few years after his arrival in Australia, David took on employees, bought a fine house and married.

His wife Matilda Kerr (b. 1865 Glasgow; d.1914 NSW) had come to Australia with her parents from Scotland. Kilts were worn and bagpipes played at their wedding in Sydney in 1883.

It was not easy for Jewish men who had chosen to settle in the remoter parts of the Australian bush to persuade Jewish women to leave the comforts of the city to share in their lives of isolation and probable hardship; and so marriages between them and local non-Jewish women were not uncommon. However David cannot have experienced any such dilemma for there is no evidence that he ever identified with Sydney's Jewish community. His name does not appear anywhere in its records, which at first made him difficult to trace. It seems clear that, apart from naming his firstborn son Abdallah after his father, he must have turned his back on his Jewish.

roots. In her book published in 1998, David's grand-daughter Denyse-Anne Gubbay-Pentecost, scarcely mentions the family's Jewish background. So whether David's abandonment of his Babylonian Jewish heritage was a conscious decision, or whether it arose more gradually because of enthusiasm for his much admired new environment, is not known.

The birth of a son, Abdallah David named after David's father, was registered in Sydney in 1884. Another son Albert Gubbay was reported by the family to have been born in Sydney four years later: Albert married in 1917 and died in Nouméa in 1972 without issue. Details of a third son, Percy Joseph, were registered in 1887

According to the account of David's divorce in the Sydney Morning Herald, he married Matilda Kerr in 1883 (the Evening News incorrectly reported his marriage date as 1886). David lived with his wife for only six years before filing for divorce in Sydney in 1891 on the grounds of her adultery. Newspaper accounts of the court proceedings, with all the distressing details, are available. Denyse-Anne's book gives a very different account of the circumstances that led to the divorce. According to her, Matilda was too independently-minded for her husband who, because of his



family upbringing, was accustomed to submissive women; also, he neglected her badly after falling in love with another woman, Jane Grant.

Matilda Gubbay gave birth to a daughter Beatrice in 1899, several years after her messy divorce. No father was named on the birth certificate and, as there is no mention of Beatrice in the family account, David is unlikely to have been the girl's father.

David's health was not good at the time of his divorce. He suffered badly from asthma and bronchitis; and his doctor advised him that oil extracted from the Niaouli tree to be found in New Caledonia, could perform miracles for his ailment. So shortly after the decree nisi was granted, David and his two sons left for Nouméa, a French possession. There he was joined by Jane Grant (1855-1931) and her two children Emily and John Childs; and they were married on Christmas day.

David fell in love with the beauty of the island. He abandoned confectionary and started to manufacture soap. Before long he engaged in trading copra and the coconuts from which it is derived. Later he also dealt with the many imported products including wine, sold in his store in Nouméa. Nickel and gold were mined in New Caledonia and that activity must have enhanced

its prosperity, but it seems that David distrusted dealing in minerals. David and Jane, together with their four children, came to regard Nouméa as their home; and they both died there.

There is also a record of David Gubbay's trading activity in Port Vila. New Hebrides (now Vanuatu), islands just over three hundred miles from Nouméa. Though discovered by other Europeans. the New Hebrides were first named by Captain Cook in 1768. Outside interest was stimulated in the nineteenth century by the discovery there of precious sandalwood and then by the exploitation of its natives in a vicious system of longterm indentured labour akin to slavery. French and British settlers planted cotton and, when the price collapsed during the American Civil Way, they shifted to growing other crops of which the cultivation of coconuts became the most profitable. The early colonists had totally shattered the traditional Melanesian system of law and order and their protecting powers made no very determined efforts to replace it until an Anglo-French condominium was established over the islands in 1906. Therefore for enterprising traders seeking to make their fortunes, and willing to risk the hazards of living in so uncertain an environment, the prospect of relative freedom from customs, taxes and other restrictions must have been attractive.

David Gubbay is mentioned in a history of Port Vila, (France and England in the New Hebrides by Edward Jacomb, 1914), as one of its two important local traders. The other important local trading firm was Kerr Brothers Ltd., which suggests that David's first wife, might possibly have been the daughter of one of his business friends or rivals.

Edward Jacomb wrote of settler life in Port Vila that: British settlers are for the most part fairly well-to do. They are not rich men. Rich men do not live in out-of-the-way spots of the earth. . . . they are . . . small traders who live simply but comfortably from the proceeds of their trading with the natives and who invest their modest profits in the planting and development . . . of coconuts. It might reasonably be supposed that the everyday life of settlers in Nouméa, where David lived and worked for the latter part of his life, cannot have been very different.

ABDALLAH (LATER DAL) DAVID GUBBAY

Abdallah was born in Glebe, a suburb of Sydney, NSW in 1884. He is listed as 'Abdullah David' on his wife's family tree; but later became known as Dal, under which name his official documents were issued.

He was sent by his parents, then living in Nouméa, to a boarding-school in Sydney. There, increasingly embarrassed by his foreign-sounding name, and by the frequent explanations demanded of him because of it, he started to use the nickname 'Dal', which to him sounded more English, and even Australian. Later he dropped Abdallah completely and employed Dal as his first name, thus severing the last link with his past.

In 1900, when only sixteen years old, Dal as we must now call him was abruptly recalled from school by his father and sent to promote David's business affairs in Port Vila, capital of the New Hebrides. Dal worked in Port Vila for many years. visiting his family in Nouméa for varying periods. An admirer of English ways. he is said to have had English tastes and an English sense of humour. He adapted well to the club life of the island's European traders and planters. He dressed well, kept fit, rode a horse for sport - though his refusal to drink must to some extent have set him apart from the others. One of his more daring exploits, involving swimming through a shark-infested lagoon to settle a bet. became a local legend. All was not play though; for Dal diligently attended to his father's business affairs, which included running a store, acquiring plantations and making plans for the building of a modern hotel on the island.



Dal married Simone Marthe Walemot (described in a press report of the 1952 divorce proceedings as a well preserved French woman with dark eyes) in 1928. They had five children, including Alan the later War Hero, whose births were registered in Glebe, a suburb of Sydney. There is some doubt about the reported dates for, according to Australian army records, Alan was born in 1923; but he may possibly have falsified his age in order to be able to enlist in the army in 1942 and not need his parents' permission to fight offshore.

Dal and Marthe were recalled to Nouméa from time to time to see the family and eventually because of his father's failing health and eventual death. He also had to deal with the business crisis brought about by the Wall Street 'crash' of 1929.

It seems that it may not always have been a happy marriage, for Dal (in his later divorce proceedings) accused Marthe of misconduct, saying I have forgiven her time after time. Be that as it may, Marthe left the New Hebrides in 1938 to live in a house in Sydney bought for her by Dal. She later claimed that this was in preparation for her husband's selling his business in Port Vila and retiring to Sydney.

Dal did eventually retire and return to Sydney in 1949, eleven years later. He then bought a hotel in Narrabi, 300 miles away, but only lived there for a few months before leaving his wife and going back to Sydney. He divorced Marthe in 1952, and a lurid press report exists of the alleged goings-on in the Narrabi hotel.

Dal died in 1974. The cemetery in which he was cremated contains a Jewish section; but his ashes were 'collected', not buried. Marthe died in NSW some ten years later and was buried in a Catholic cemetery.

LIEUTENANT ALAN ROBERT GUBBAY

According to Australian army records, Alan was born on 9 January 1923 in Nouméa, New Caledonia. His mother being Catholic, Alan was not halachically Jewish; and on enlistment he declared his religion as 'C. of E.' (Church of England).

He and his brothers were educated at Canberra Grammar School, a prestigious Australian private boarding school to which his war medals were later donated.

Alan joined the Australian army during

WW2 and died in action on Kairiru Island in 1945. He was described in Australian. War Memorial documentation as a native of Nouméa. New Caledonia: and it was also noted that he had worked as a customs clerk in Elizabeth Bay, New South Wales before enlisting in the army. Following his commissioning as an officer, he served with the 2/3rd Infantry Battalion before being transferred to the prestigious Z Special Force of commandos; and led an eight-man unit to reconnoitre Muschu Island off Wewak on the coast of New Guinea. Following an encounter with a Japanese patrol and having lost much of their equipment, several of the men. including Lt. Gubbay, managed to put to sea in an attempt to make contact with allied forces, but were never seen again. Having no known grave, his death was commemorated on the Commonwealth War Memorial at Lae. Papua New Guinea.

That official account was later challenged by Alan's younger brother Donald Gubbay, then living in Sydney, who claimed that the Lieutenant had in fact been buried in a cave by Christian natives. As reported in 2011 by the Adelaide Advertiser, Donald maintained that Lt. Alan Gubbay's body

was recovered in 1947 and transferred to the Commonwealth War Cemetery at Lae, Papua New Guinea. Until 1966 it was Australian policy to bury war dead as close as possible to where they had fallen. The Commonwealth War Graves Commission documents indicate that Lt. Gubbay is buried in a joint grave with fellow commando Lt. T. J. Barnes.

In 2011, Donald sought to persuade the authorities to repatriate Alan's remains home to New Caledonia and even sought the help of the French government, but without success.

Lucien Gubbay

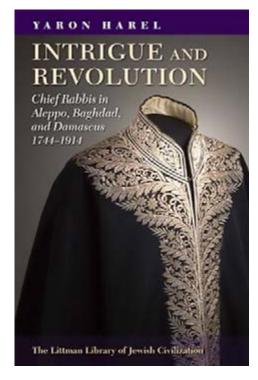
May 2016



YARON HAREL. INTRIGUE AND REVOLUTION. CHIEF RABBIS IN ALEPPO, BAGHDAD AND DAMASCUS 1744-1914

(English Translation: The Littman Library of Jewish Civilisation 2015) ISBN: 978-1-904113-87-4 £39.50 / Published 18 June 2015

Yaron Harel explains in his introduction to Intrigue and Revolution that he was prompted to write the book after discovering the surprising fact that the majority of the Chief Rabbis of Aleppo, Baghdad and Damascus in the nineteenth century were deposed during their terms of office. Even those who managed to survive rarely escaped becoming embroiled in conflict with one or other of the leading factions in the communities they served. The author supports his views with a detailed survey of the internal governance of the three communities, based on painstaking research into the relevant archives. He deals at length with the nuances of community leadership, describing how changing attitudes, times and political realities affected the relationship between the (Ottoman appointed) political Chief Rabbis, the local Torah scholars long-accustomed



to having their decisions unchallenged and the wealthy lay leaders who had in the past shared their authority with the local rabbis in varying proportions.

Though a serious academic work, some 370 pages long and packed with data, this book is so enthralling that it should not be missed by anyone interested in the Jewish communities

of the Middle East in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Joseph C Dwek of Manchester deserves thanks for supporting the underlying research and for enabling the resulting book to be published in excellent English translation.

As we know, the Ottoman Sultans largely left their minority populations to rule themselves, so long as they kept the peace, paid their taxes and did nothing to undermine the rule of Islam or the Sultan: for example, until the Young Turk revolution of 1908 their young men were exempted from military service. Ottoman government reforms in the nineteenth century, and in particular the Jewish millet decree of 1864-5 disturbed the status quo and both brought to the surface and aggravated the existing tensions within the leadership of the major Jewish communities of the Empire. In addition, the author insists that the plain jealousy, hatred and rivalry of those competing for power, including the rabbis, played a large part in exacerbating the situation.

The Haham Bashi of Constantinople, the Ottoman capital, was the appointed head of all the Jewish communities of the Empire. Though with little actual power outside the city itself, the Sultan's government dealt with its

Jewish population through him almost exclusively. He was a senior government official, with all the external trappings of office; and it was he who had the authority to appoint or to depose the (local) Haham Bashi of major cities.

The Haham Bashi of each of the three Jewish communities described in this book was therefore chosen for his political ability as an agent of the administration rather than for his deep knowledge of Torah. He was invested with all the prestige of an important government official, with impressive robes of office and bodyguards of staff-bearing, ground-thumping Turkish soldiers. It is no wonder that he was often bitterly resented by the often far more learned local rabbis, whose rulings had previously been accepted without question.

Harel explains that the Sultan's intention was for each local Jewish community to be ruled by a balanced triumvirate consisting of the Haham Bashi (Chief Rabbi appointed by the Sultan), a Beth Din of local Torah scholars and a group of the wealthiest laymen (gevirim). A continuous struggle for power between these three elements was the primary cause of the seemingly never-ending conflict which is the subject of this book.



To complicate the equation, Harel claims that, towards the end of the period, the mass of poor Jews began to resent their financial exploitation by the wealthy and their exclusion from power. They too joined in the struggle by demonstrating outside the homes of rabbis, evicting them from their synagogues, cursing and assaulting them and even, on occasion, denouncing them to the Ottoman authorities. The Haham Bashi under attack sometimes retaliated by inflicting corporal punishment, imprisonment or banishment on his more violent opponents.

European influences, mainly the introduction of secular studies by the school network established by the Parisbased Alliance Israélite Universelle, added yet another dimension to the general discord by pitting the deeply conservative religious establishment against so-called modernising tendencies encouraged by the wealthy mercantile élite.

Reading Harel's book comes as a shock to those who had previously believed that the Jewish communities of the Middle East were ruled benevolently by their respected rabbis and lay leaders, acting in harmony. Instead of that ideal picture, we are presented instead with a picture of bitter conflict between the

governing factions and of a widespread lust for power, accompanied by deplorable invective and sometimes even with physical violence - more often than not resulting in the ousting from office of the incumbent Haham Bashi. The author reports that as well as the Chief Rabbis, other prominent Torah sages of previously unblemished reputation also became involved in unedifying personal squabbles during which they attacked each other with shameless ferocity.

Intrigue and Revolution is far more than just a history. The author clearly intended it to reveal the depths of behaviour to which human beings, however learned in Torah or however well-intentioned, can descend when struggling for personal advantage. It also contains valuable social insights into the everyday life of the time. The constant exploitation of the poorer members of the Jewish community by their wealthy leaders is one of the worst abuses that the Chief Rabbis were unable to stop. Another and more colourful failing was their inability to prevent the Jewish Quarters of Damascus and Aleppo from becoming the red light districts of their towns. Such accounts are deeply disturbing; and if correct, many will have to revise previously held assumptions, however comforting they may have been.

A peer-based review of Harel's work would be much welcomed as there are important questions to be answered which this general reader, is simply not qualified to address. Most significantly, has Yaron Harel drawn the right conclusions from his research? Has he presented a balanced picture of the societies he examined and not over-emphasised his more sensational discoveries? Is it legitimate simply to have ignored positive aspects, if any, of Jewish life in the declining years of the Ottoman Empire?

This brief description of some of the more sensational content of Intrigue and Revolution was written for the benefit of the general reader to bring this amazing book to the attention of those who might otherwise miss what may well turn out to be an important contribution to our knowledge of the past.



review by **Lucien Gubbay** November 2015

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Advocating investment and pride in Israel through the sale of Israel bonds is global in scope. Worldwide sales are approaching \$40 billion since the first bonds were issued in 1951 and proceeds from the sale of Israel bonds have played a decisive role in Israel's rapid evolution into a ground-breaking, global leader in high-tech, green-tech and biotech.

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He added, "The Israel Bonds programme has helped transform this country from many perspectives, salient among them the homes that were built and the jobs created for the hundreds and thousands of Jews who made aliyah from the former Soviet Union and Ethiopia during the 1990s, enhancing the already rich mosaic of Israel's society."

The Israel Bonds operation has helped make Israel's economy one of the most resilient in the world and BDS (boycott, divestment and sanctions) advocates respond by calling for boycotts of Israeli products, companies and social institutions and divestment from corporations that do business with Israel. They demand that companies and institutions rid their portfolios of Israel bonds, and argue for sanctions against Israel in diplomatic and economic forums.

Their actions raise the question of who actually wants Israel boycotted. Certainly not people around the world who benefit from Israel's life-saving advances in science and medicine, certainly not the millions of people utilizing Israeli technology to improve their daily lives and make them more productive and certainly not the distressed citizens of nations afflicted by natural disasters – Nepal, Japan, the

Philippines, Haiti and more - who rapidly receive vital supplies and essential medical care from Israeli emergency response teams.

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For more information, prospectus and for current rates, please visit our website www.bondsisrael.com or contact Israel Bonds UK office on 020 7446 8670, info-uk@bondsisrael.com





the SAPHARDI bulletin

Pararsha	Start Date	Start Time	End Date	End Time	Pararsha	Start Date	Start Time	End Date	End Time
Re'eh	02-Sep-16	19:31	03-Sep-16	20:31	Shemot*	20-Jan-17	16:13	21-Jan-17	17:22
Shofetim	09-Sep-16	19:15	10-Sep-16	20:15	Vaera	27-Jan-17	16:26	28-Jan-17	17:33
Ki Tetze	16-Sep-16	18:59	17-Sep-16	19:58	Во	03-Feb-17	16:38	04-Feb-17	17:44
Ki Tabo	23-Sep-16	18:42	24-Sep-16	19:41	Beshalah	10-Feb-17	16:51	11-Feb-17	17:56
Nitzabim	30-Sep-16	18:26	01-Oct-16	19:25	Yitro	17-Feb-17	17:04	18-Feb-17	18:08
Rosh Hashanah 1st day	02-Oct-16	18:22	03-Oct-16	19:21	Mishpatim + Shekalim*	24-Feb-17	17:17	25-Feb-17	18:20
Rosh Hashanah 2nd day	03-Oct-16		04-Oct-16	19:18	Terumah	03-Mar-17	17:29	04-Mar-17	18:33
Zom Gedaliah	05-Oct-16	05:30		19:10	Fast of Esther	09-Mar-17	04:51	5 T T IG. 17	18:35
Vayelach + Shubah	07-Oct-16	18:10	08-Oct-16	19:09	Tetzaveh + Zahor	10-Mar-17	17:42	11-Mar-17	18:45
Yom Kippur	11-Oct-16	18:02	12-Oct-16	19:01	Ki Tissa + Parah	17-Mar-17	17:54	18-Mar-17	18:57
HaAzinu	14-Oct-16	17:55	15-Oct-16	18:55	Vayakhel-Pekude + HaHodesh*	24-Mar-17	18:06	25-Mar-17	19:09
Succot 1st day	16-Oct-16	17:51	17-Oct-16	18:50	Vayikra	31-Mar-17	19:17	01-Apr-17	20:22
Succot 2nd day	17-Oct-16		18-Oct-16	18:48	Tzav + Hagodol	07-Apr-17	19:29	08-Apr-17	20:34
Shabbat Hol Hamoed	21-Oct-16	17:40	22-Oct-16	18:40	Latest time for eating Hametz	09-Apr-17	10:47	10-Apr-17	20:32
Shemini Atzeret	23-Oct-16	17:36	24-Oct-16	18:37	Latest time for burning Hametz	09-Apr-17	11:55	10-Apr-17	20:32
Simchat Torah	24-Oct-16		25-Oct-16	18:35	Shabbat Chol Hamoed	14-Apr-17	19:41	15-Apr-17	20:47
Bereshit *	28-Oct-16	17:26	29-Oct-16	18:27	Shemini*	21-Apr-17	19:53	22-Apr-17	21:00
END BST	30-Oct-16				Tazria - Metzora	28-Apr-17	20:04	29-Apr-17	21:14
Noah	04-Nov-16	16:14	05-Nov-16	17:16	Ahare - Kedoshim	05-May-17	20:16	06-May-17	21:27
Lekh lekha	11-Nov-16	16:02	12-Nov-16	17:06	Emor	12-May-17	20:27	13-May-17	21:40
Vayera	18-Nov-16	15:52	19-Nov-16	16:57	Behar-Behukotai*	19-May-17	20:37	20-May-17	21:53
Haye Sarah *	25-Nov-16	15:45	26-Nov-16	16:51	Bemidbar	26-May-17	20:47	27-May-17	22:04
Toledot	02-Dec-16	15:39	03-Dec-16	16:47	Erev Yom Tov	30-May-17			22:03
Vayetze	09-Dec-16	15:37	10-Dec-16	16:46	Shavout 2nd day	31-May-17		01-Jun-17	22:12
Vayishlah	16-Dec-16	15:37	17-Dec-16	16:46	Naso	02-Jun-17	20:55	03-Jun-17	22:14
Vayesheb *	23-Dec-16	15:39	24-Dec-16	16:50	Behalotekha	09-Jun-17	21:02	10-Jun-17	22:22
Miketz	30-Dec-16	15:45	31-Dec-16	16:55	Shelah*	16-Jun-17	21:06	17-Jun-17	22:27
Vayigash	06-Jan-17	15:53	07-Jan-17	17:02	Korah	23-Jun-17	21:08	24-Jun-17	22:28
Fast of Tebet	08-Jan-17	06:16		16:58	Hukat	30-Jun-17	21:07	01-Jul-17	22:26
Vayehi	13-Jan-17	16:02	14-Jan-17	17:11					

SHABBAT TIMES 5777

Pararsha	Start Date	Start Time	End Date	End Time
Balak	07-Jul-17	21:04	08-Jul-17	22:21
Fast of Tammuz	11-Jul-17	O1:35		22:12
PinEhas	14-Jul-17	20:58	15-Jul-17	22:13
Matot Masel *	21-Jul-17	20:51	22-Jul-17	22:03
DeBarim	28-Jul-17	20:41	29-Jul-17	21:51
Fast of Av	31-Jul-17	20:50	01-Aug-17	21:39
Vaethhanan	04-Aug-17	20:29	05-Aug-17	21:37
Eke	11-Aug-17	20:17	12-Aug-17	21:22
Re'eh *	18-Aug-17	20:03	19-Aug-17	21:07
Shofetim	25-Aug-17	19:48	26-Aug-17	20:50

Lisa Advisors

Lisa Advisors is a Sephardi-cause organization based in Spain that was founded by Adv. Maya Dori and is named after her beloved Sephardic grandmother, Lisa Romano.

Maya Dori is a Sephardic lawyer who received her Spanish citizenship several years ago after a long battle with the Spanish authorities during which she proved that her family fled from Toledo, Spain back in 1492. Maya holds an L.L.B from the Tel Aviv University, an MBA from IESE business school, an MA (cum lauda) in Economics from the UAB and is currently completing her PhD.



Adv. Maya Dori, Founder and CEO

The Spanish and the Portuguese laws' first year started with Lisa Advisors assisting who turned out to be the first Sephardi Jew in the world to obtain his Spanish citizenship under the new law and continued with assisting many more Sephardi descendants and their families to obtain their Spanish and Portuguese citizenships.



Lisa Advisors achievements and endeavours for the Sephardi worldwide community has already received the recognition of the Spanish authorities and featured some of the most known Jewish newspapers as the Jewish Journal and the Jerusalem Post.

Lisa Advisors is now expanding and will be delighted to offer its services to the Sephardi Community members with their Spanish and Portuguese citizenship applications.

For additional information, please contact visit our website www.lisaadvisors.com or contact us at: info@lisaadvisors.com



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