

FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION

ALL THINGS JEWISH

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SHAVUOT

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HALL HIRE

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Follow EHRS on Facebook for current news and subscribe to our YouTube Channel for videos of events. See page 15 for more information.

Edgware & Hendon Reform Synagogue ק״ק לדור ודור

CONTACT US

At the time of writing the synagogue premises are closed, although we hope some activities to restart depending on government regulations. There is no access without prior appointment. The synagogue offices and departments are trying to operate as much as normal as is possible within the government regulations at this time.

The telephone is operated during the normal office hours. Although the staff are operating from home, they are reachable via the usual telephone numbers and email addresses. Please listen to the menu when you call, to be connected as appropriate.

Please try to make any payments online via the synagogue website at **www.ehrs. uk/payment**, via bank transfers or over the phone with credit or debit cards. Please do not send cheques by post.

BEREAVEMENT

During office hours: in all cases of bereavement please contact June Lewis, the Rabbis' Personal Assistant.

Out of office hours: in all cases of a bereavement outside office hours requiring a burial at any cemetary or cremation please call the Jewish Joint Burial Society on 020 8989 5252 and listen to their full message.

JJBS email info@jewishfunerals.org.uk

THE RABBIS

Our EHRS Rabbinic Team are always happy to hear from you, please contact their Personal Assistant, June Lewis on 020 8238 1002 or june.lewis@ehrs.uk

You can contact them directly:

Rabbi Mark Goldsmith (Senior Rabbi)
020-8238 1020, rabbi.mark@ehrs.uk
Rabbi Debbie Young-Somers
020-8238 1019, rabbi.debbie@ehrs.uk
Rabbi Roberta Harris-Eckstein
020 8238 1017, rabbi.roberta@ehrs.uk

Outside office hours our 24/7 EHRS Emergency Line is **07708 731862**, it will be answered by one of the Rabbinic Team.

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL

Have you Got News for Us? Whether it be a birth, anniversary or special birthday, please let us know so it can be announced. Please email communications@ehrs.uk

RIRTHS

Sonny Harry, a son for Vicky & Adam Baginsky, a grandson for Sidney & Linda Baginsky.

Myles Rex, a son for Nicola & Nick Lee, a grandson for Melanie & Paul Levene.

Ryan David, a son for Amy & Craig Taub, a grandson for Sandra Young & Michael Lerman, and Pam & Len Taub.

Oliver Andrew, a son for Karen Keane & Adam Serota, a grandson for David & Vanessa Serota, a great grandson for Faye Serota, a nephew for Sarah & Rob Koster.

Harley, a son for Sabrina and David Sherman, a brother for Jesse Sherman, a grandson for Dani Moss and Howard Moss z'l, a nephew for Ashley Moss.

BAR/BAT MITZVAH

as currently scheduled

8 May - Alexander Bloom, son of Nicola and Richard. Jaye Okin, daughter of Michelle and Andrew.

15 May - Charlotte Laymond, daughter of Elizabeth and Spencer.

22 May - Jayden Flatter, son of Natalie and Benjamin.

12 June - Noah Mitchell, son of Amanda and Daniel.

19 June - Harry Bilgora-Kelly, son of Ema and Steve.

26 June - Jolie-Belle Herman, daughter of Nicky and Paul.

3 July - Zac Galan, son of Karen and David.

BIRTHDAYS

Mazel Tov to Malcolm Harris on his 87th birthday.

ANNIVERSARIES

Mazel Tov to Ben and Rita Sacks on their Diamond Wedding Anniversary.

Mazel Tov to Martin and Daphne Lee on their Diamond Wedding Anniversary.

Mazel Tov to Malcolm and Toni Cooper on their 55th Wedding Anniversary.

Mazel Tov to Lionel and Helen Price on their Golden Wedding Anniversary.

TOMBSTONE CONSECRATIONS Wednesday 7 July

10:00 at Hoop Lane – in memory of Inge Katz, mother of Rabbi Steven Katz.

This will be held privately.

CONDOLENCES

To Babs Appleberg on the loss of her husband, Maurice Appleberg.

To Ita Richards on the loss of her husband, Alfred Richards.

To Elaine Waitsman on the loss of her husband, Nicholas Waitsman.

To Joy Nathan on the loss of her husband, David Nathan.

To Harvey Stewart on the loss of his wife, Linda Stewart.

To Melvin Gamp on the loss of his wife, and Gary Gamp on the loss of his mother, Rose Gamp.

To Stephen Brown on the loss of his wife, and to Jack, Johnny and Joel on the loss of their mother, Samantha Brown.

To Jeremy Garson on the loss of his father, David Garson.

To Julian Castle on the loss of his father, Edward Castle.

To Naomi Castle on the loss of her father, Kenneth Teacher.

To Yvonne Delane on the loss of her mother, Helen Fern.

To Yvonne Cole on the loss of her mother, Muriel Cole.

To Ruth Abraham on the loss of her mother, Judy Benton.

To Silvia Smaus-Press on the loss of her brother, David Aschenbrenner.

To th<mark>e family of Hector S</mark>herling.

To the family of Rita Temple.

To the family of Reva Solomon.

To the family of Maurice Levene.

NEW MEMBERS:

A warm welcome is extended to the following new members of our community:

Alice Goldsmith and Jonathan Bensusan-Bash.

Nanette Albert.

Sophie Edward and Tom Goddard.

Danielle McCarthy.

Francesca Goldhill.

Joanna Slater.

Candice Fisher.

Frances and Timothy Beasant.

Pamela and Raymond Zetter.

Wayne and Rebecca Solomon.

Julia, Alexander and Abigail Morrow.

Amy, Richard, Zachary, Mason and Max Howard.



Erev Shabbat Service

Every Friday Evening, 18:30 Led by our Rabbis through the EHRS Livestream Classic Channel.

Shabbat Morning Service In Person, 10:30-12:30

We are able to welcome a small in person congregation to the EHRS Beit Tefillah (sanctuary). A maximum of 45 people will be able to book in directly and simply through the calendar on the EHRS website, www.ehrs.uk. If you are not able to use the Synagogue website, then please call the EHRS office by the Thursday of week of the service to give us the details we need. For the time being all seating is socially distant and we are unable to share a Kiddush or Tallitot. Hand sanitising is available in the Beit Tefillah. Also available on the EHRS Livestream Classic Channel.

Sunday Shacharit in Person, 09:30-10:00

Join our weekly Sunday Shacharit from the spacious EHRS Community Centre upper floor with in-person participation possible. We can accommodate up to 15 participants socially distanced. If you would like to join the in-person minyan, please ensure you register via the calendar on the EHRS website, www.ehrs.uk. For safety and traceability, you will need to register that you would like to join us by the Thursday before the service and we apologise that we cannot let anyone in who has not pre-registered. Also available on the EHRS Livestream Classic Channel.

Kuddle Up Shabbat by Livestream

Every Friday Afternoon, 16:15-16:45

Go to the EHRS website at 16:15 and join our Rabbis and their Shabbat Dinosaurs for Shabbat stories and songs through our livestream on the Learning and Soul Channel. Best for younger children. Please check the EHRS Our Week Ahead email for the opportunity to join on Zoom so we can

hear your suggestions for what to put in the chicken soup pot and where you have your Shabbat feelings!

Kuddle Up Shabbat In Person

Friday 21 May & 25 June, 16:15-16:45 On these dates Kuddle Up Shabbat will be held in person at EHRS in our spacious Community Centre, or weather permitting, outside in the Synagogue courtyard. You will need to book in for either of these on the Synagogue website or call the Synagogue office.

Friday Night Lights

Fridays 30 April & 4 June, 20:00-20:45

Join our Rabbis on Erev Shabbat for a warm and friendly candle lighting and Shabbat songs, on Zoom or the EHRS Facebook page through Facebook Live.

Cornerstone Shabbat Service

Saturday 1 May, 10:30

An explanatory service for those new to Judaism or wanting to deepen their knowledge and engagement with our prayers. All are welcome to come and learn and pray together. With Rabbi Debbie. Best experienced on Zoom.

HaKol B'Seder Service

Saturday 8 May, 10:30-12:15

Join Rabbi Debbie and Student Cantor Rachel Weston for a special service which includes new music from the Reform and Conservative Jewish world, an interpretative Torah reading and plenty of participation. The service uses our regular Reform Judaism Siddur. You can join us on the EHRS Facebook page or on Zoom.

The EHRS Shabbat Family Service

Saturdays 15 May & 19 June, 11:00-12:00

Our innovative and participative Shabbat service for young people aged 6-12 and their families uses Zoom so we can pray, sing, learn and question together. It is led by our Rabbis and the young people of our community. Join us on Zoom or the LeDor VaDor Livestream.

Kitzur Shabbat Service In Person

Saturdays 15 May & 19 June, 10:15-10:55

This is a special substantially shortened Shabbat service which takes place in the spacious EHRS Community Centre for people who would like to try coming back to the EHRS campus in person for Shabbat but need a bit of help feeling confident to mix with other people again. Led by our

Rabbis. You will need to book your place in order that it can be set up as safely as possible. Please use the booking form on the Synagogue website or call the shul office.

Torah and Tots Service

Saturdays 15 May & 19 June, 11:00-12:00

Our Shabbat morning service for the youngest in our community. Specially made for o-6 year olds and led by EHRS's Young Families Lead, Sarah Koster.

Archaeology Service

Saturday 22 May, 10:30

We are so used to the prayers we say in synagogue that we may never think of their background and history. Yet some of them are of very great age. In some cases, archaeology is able to illustrate this, and during our service Rabbi Roberta will talk about some of the objects from Bible times that have a direct bearing on our prayers.

Shabbat B'Bayit

Saturday 5 June, 11:00

Join Rabbi Debbie LIVE on the EHRS Facebook page or on Zoom for Shabbat B'Bayit, a fun Shabbat morning service with songs, stories, and reflections to give you Shabbat flavour without the formality.

Argumentative Service

Saturday 12 June, 10:30-12:00

Do you have difficulties with some of the ideas presented in our prayers?
Do you find them hard to take and tough to believe? Rabbi Roberta is leading this service to enable us to argue it out.
Be ready to hear each other and to share your own ideas. On Zoom and our Learning and Soul Channel.

Into the Wood Service

Saturday 26 June, 10:30

The best of Shabbat – in the outdoors! Join Rabbi Debbie in a Borehamwood wood for a beautiful opportunity to connect our Judaism to the world around us! Please check Our Week Ahead for details closer to the date, and come dressed for the weather on the day!



SHIRU L'ADONAI SHIR CHADASH - You can always sing a new song

The first time I got properly involved in the festival of Shavuot, exactly forty years ago, it made a huge difference to my life. Like so many Jews the festival normally passed me by. I would enjoy a bit of Cheesecake without knowing much about why but otherwise, unlike for the High Holy Days, Sukkot, or Pesach there is nothing much

that I would do to celebrate. Then I went to Senior Kadimah, the Liberal Judaism summer camp for mid to late teenagers in the 1970's and 1980's and got to know Rabbi Cliff Cohen, currently Rabbi of Thanet Reform Synagogue in Ramsgate. Cliff was then the epitome of a youth oriented Rabbi, zany, spiritual, wonderful at talking about life, the universe and everything with earnest teenagers till the early hours of the morning at camp. Indeed he often used "Hitchhikers Guide to the Galaxy" to get Jewish teachings across to us.

When I was eighteen Rabbi Cohen invited me to come to his Synagogue at the time, Southgate Progressive, to experience something I had never heard of before, a Tikkun Ley'l Shavuot. This is a night of Jewish study on Erev Shavuout, that is meant to

go all the way through the night until dawn so that you hear the Ten Commandments on Shavuot, just like our ancestors did, as the sun rises. He explained it as being just like talking through the night as teenagers would, but with lots of Jewish attached.

I am so glad that I accepted the invitation. It was wonderful to study with a small group of people with, because we were going to finish at dawn, no rush to do anything and was my first experience of proper adult Jewish learning. I am sure that that evening set me on my journey towards the rabbinate. Ever since then, in 1981, I have loved Tikkun Ley'l Shavuot, and am delighted that for my third time at EHRS we will at least be going through midnight learning together for anyone who wants to join me (next year through to dawn?).

Cliff taught me that the secret to meaningful Judaism was very simple - try something new in our tradition. Don't get stuck in ruts with what you will or won't do. I took this lesson with me into studying Mussar, Kabbalah, Talmud, Jewish Business Ethics, experiencing and then joining Reform Judaism, visiting Synagogues of all kinds and denominations, combining Yoga with Judaism etc. etc. and it is why Judaism never bores me. There is always something new to discover, something new to try and you may find it invigorates your spirit in amazing ways. Hope to see you at our Tikkun Ley'l Shavuot this year for one hour or the whole thing.

Rabbi Mark Goldsmith

PESACH AT EHRS 2021

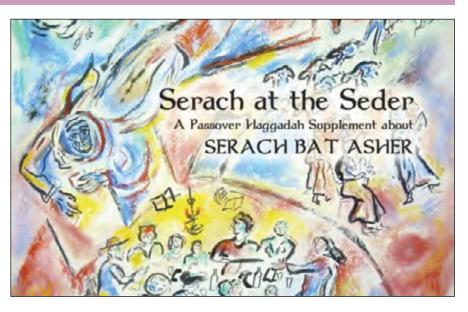
Finding Freedom at Home

As we settled down to our first Zoom sedarim in 2020, all grappling with the new technology, we could never have imagined that we would be doing the same in 2021. But we did and we managed it!

EHRS's Pesach began with learning sessions for all ages from mid-March, teaching how to enhance a Zoom Seder, how to create a basic Seder if you have never done it before and how to make Seder more meaningful for veterans. Our young people joined over five hundred of their fellow Reform Jews as the national RSY-Netzer Chocolate Seder, having been delivered their tasty supplies by EHRS volunteers. We learned Pesach Pie cookery at Rabbi Debbie's cook-a-long and then twenty of our youngest families joined Rabbi Mark and

Sarah Koster, the EHRS Young Families lead at Kuddle Up Seder, a Pesach experience for o-6s.

Our Pesach services on the first and seventh days of the festival saw the welcome return of the EHRS choir and the special quality that their music brings to the community, together with our first congregations in person since November. Hundreds of members of the congregation joined us from home through our Classic Channel Livestream, and many others joined our family services and parallel services 'Clearing out the Chametz from our Lives' and 'Pesach BaBayit (at home)'. Murray Brown, EHRS's Youth Worker, ran our Pesach Scheme for children together with our Youth Centre Madrichim, to keep our children active at home during the school holidays.



We also brought the meaning of Pesach right up to date with the moving testimony of Rahima Mahmut, teaching us about the oppression of the Uyghur people today by the Chinese government in a zoom session attended by fifty EHRS members, now available on our EHRS You Tube channel. On the Seventh night of Pesach the legend of the immortal Serach Bat Asher was introduced by Rabbi Debbie so we know that it's not only Elijah who may turn up on our doorstep.

Perhaps the highlight of Pesach was our Zoom Communal Seder, led by Rabbis Debbie, Mark and Roberta together, a technological step up from last year's and full of laughter and togetherness for more than a hundred and twenty EHRS members. Next year in Stonegrove!

EDUCATION UPDATE

As I write this update in the first week of April, the Education team is busy planning and preparing to reopen in-person classes for those families who want their children to return to EHRS. We have done well on Zoom over the last year, but many of our parents especially in Orot, are saying we want our children to return to the synagogue, and we of course want to welcome them back. We have updated our risk assessment and plans of how we will return safely to EHRS. For example, all our teaching staff will be taking COVID tests on the day prior to teaching at EHRS. We will be offering online classes for those children who are not ready to return to in-person classes yet. I think we can be proud of what we have achieved over the last year in Orot, the BBM classes and ATJ. We have helped our members young and old stay connected to EHRS through our fantastic programmes and events we have put on through Zoom. We have brought smiles and appreciation from families by sending out resources for our special events themed around festivals. But when possible we welcomed our members into EHRS such as for Chanukah, when we held sessions for the different ages to come and enjoy the celebrations, not least the fire eater entertainer. But people who could not come didn't miss out as we live streamed our event for them to enjoy. For Tu B'Shevat we were not able to meet in person, but that didn't stop us planting a pear tree and burying a COVID time capsule at EHRS, visiting Canons Park, Neot Kedumim in Israel and Melbourne, Australia to enjoy the trees of each country. Our children in Orot received carob seeds and seed paper that we hope is starting to sprout wildflowers when planted. Please take photos to show us the progress! Similarly, for Purim on Zoom we made cocktails with a professional mixologist, got historical with the story of Purim, got close up to the megillat Esther and tested our Purim knowledge on Kahoot.





Above: Chocolate Seder resource bags sent to Orot children

As our end of term neared, Orot prepared for Pesach, by participating in the Reform Judaism chocolate seder with 400+ participants from Reform community chedarim all over the country on Zoom. The children received gift bags of all the ingredients they needed for that, delivered by volunteer drivers. It was special for our children to experience being part of the hundreds of children who meet on Sunday mornings in synagogues all over the country, and they made us very proud by delivering their dayenus at the event.

To celebrate their term of learning on the theme of avodah (service), our b'nei mitzvah children very beautifully led the Friday night service on March 19. They each received a gift of challot and a siddur in memory of our beloved Rabbi Neil Kraft z'l. Thank you to all our volunteer drivers who have delivered all these gifts to our members. We know the many smiles and thanks we received makes our efforts all worthwhile. But nothing replaces the connections we can make in person. So subject to our moving out of lockdown as planned and getting some semblance of normal life slowly returning, next time I write an update I hope it will be about what we have been doing in person at EHRS.

Marian Cohen, Director of Education

Left: Shabbat giftbags for b'nei mitzvah students

World Union for Progressive Judaism Havdallah Saturday 22 May

EHRS and Isaac M. Wise Temple, Cincinnati are joining for a Havdallah (end of Shabbat ceremony) and get together to celebrate the bonds that tie Reform congregations all around the world on this weekend.

Normally there is a physical get together in Jerusalem of worldwide Progressive Judaism every two years but due to the pandemic that is being replaced this year with a virtual link up of communities. We have been 'twinned' with the Isaac M. Wise Temple, the original Reform synagogue in Cincinatti which was founded in 1840 and Is foundational to American Reform Judaism. Join the EHRS Havdallah group and our new friends in Cincinatti for a heartwarming hour.



Photos: Exterior and Interior of the Isaac M. Wise Temple, Plumb Street, Cincinnati

Full details including timing closer to the time.

COMMUNITY CARE

Let's Talk Mental Health and Social Media - Sunday 2 May 2021

EHRS launched our Let's Talk mental health initiative in February 2020 with a focus on the mental health of children, young people and their families. Less than a month later Covid-19 gripped society with the first lockdown and there is no doubt that the past 12 months has had an effect on everyone's wellbeing and mental health. Children have been home schooled with this added pressure on their parents. With so much uncertainty about their future, many children and young people have spent additional time on social media and the effect of this has been widely publicised.

We are pleased to announce that to coincide with Mental Health Awareness week this year we have arranged this event on Sunday 2 May, 19:00 to discuss the effects of social media on young people's mental health which will give you the opportunity to ask questions to our panel led by Jonny Benjamin MBE. Jonny is a mental health campaigner who set up his mental health charity Beyond to provide mental health support for young people, their families and teachers.

Joining Jonny will be Louisa Rose, CEO of Beyond and an experienced social media consultant who recently led Inside Out Day/Beyond School's festival in February 2021 on wellbeing and mental health with 1200 schools taking part. Louisa also visits schools to give talks to students and parents on the use of social media.

They will be joined by Ian Russell who created the Molly Rose Foundation, a suicide prevention charity in memory of his daughter who took her own life in February 2017. Ian is a mental health activist campaigning for social media platforms to be made more responsible for the content on their platforms.

Also joining the panel will be a student who will talk about how they overcame the abuse they suffered on social media.

Please email Community Care communitycare@ehrs.uk for the Zoom link.

The EHRS Let's Talk Mental Health working group has now held two Zoom meetings since the start of 2021 and is chaired by EHRS member Michael Benjamin. The aim of the group is to help, signpost and provide support wherever we can to parents, siblings, grandparents and friends affected by the mental health of our younger members. Our work to date includes establishing a dedicated EHRS Let's Talk email



Bereavement Support at EHRS

Have you suffered the loss of a partner, relative or friend?

Would you welcome the opportunity to talk to someone who will listen to how you are feeling?

EHRS offers reassurance, comfort and the chance to explore your emotions.

If you are recently bereaved and would like more information please contact the Community Care Department on 020 8238 1013 or email communitycare@ehrs.uk



address and adding a Mental Health and Wellbeing page to the Community Care section on the EHRS website. Michael has also produced an excellent article on sleep, which you can find there. If you feel you need to speak to a member of the Lets Talk team on a confidential 1:1 basis please contact our dedicated email address at letstalk@ehrs.uk. You will

find support information and helplines on the EHRS website and the following can also be contacted for support:

Samaritans 24/7 Helpline - Call 116 123, Grief Support - grieftalk@ griefencounter.org.uk

In addition to our focus on mental health in this issue, Val, Marissa and our many volunteers continue to provide support to our isolated and vulnerable members through various projects including Telenet, Community circles, Befrienders,



Memory Way Café. We hope to resume the ever popular lunch club in the next few months and will post further updates regarding our plans in the EHRS weekly email and the next edition of this magazine.

communitycare@ehrs.uk

Val: 020 8238 1013 Marissa: 020 8238 1015



Has your partner passed away? Are you aged 60 plus? Would you like to be part of an informal, friendly and caring social group?



In these unreal times, we are reaching out to our community and beyond, to create an opportunity for people to connect. Whatever your circumstances, you will be welcome, whether you have lost someone during Covid or in recent years.

It can be difficult to take that first step but please do pick up the phone or email Val Joseph, on 020 8238 1013 or communitycare@ehrs.uk for more information. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sunday 16 May

Shavuot 2021/5781

Erev Shavuot Service, 19:30-20:30

Led by our Rabbis on the EHRS Classic Channel.
This service introduces us to the festival for this year.

Tikkun Ley'l Shavuot, 20:30-00:15

The Torah is for Today - Our Tikkun Ley'l Shavuot this year takes us through the whole of the Torah and brings each of the books bang up to date. You can join us for all three sessions or just one or two, depending on your choice of bedtime! Our Rabbis will be teaching with experts to bring out key issues in each book of the Torah for the twenty first century. A Rabbi-Astrophysicist (Rabbi Neil Amswych, making a welcome Zoom return to EHRS) for the creation story in Genesis, a story teller to help us to understand why the stories in Genesis have such longevity, a refugee to Britain for the escape story in Exodus, a lawyer to help us to see how the laws of Torah underlie everyday life today in Britain, a farmer for how the fallow land regulations in Leviticus are still part of modern farming - you get the idea? Sessions will run:

20:30-21:15 (Genesis), 21:15-22:00 (Exodus), 22:15-23:00 (Leviticus and Numbers) and 23:15-00:15 (Deuteronomy) with breaks to get a coffee and piece of cheesecake to keep you going!

Full details in the EHRS Our Week Ahead emails including Zoom details closer to the time.

Monday 17 May

Service from our Sanctuary, 10:30

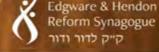
You will be able to attend in person by booking through the EHRS website or our Synagogue office. The service, led by our Rabbis, will also be broadcast on the EHRS Classic Channel where the Machzor will be easily available for you to follow the service. It includes the reading of the Ten Commandments and all the ingredients of a regular Shavuot

Shavuot B'Bayit, 10:30-11:15

Join our Rabbis LIVE on the EHRS Facebook page for Shavuot B'Bayit, a Shavuot morning service with songs, stories, and reflections to give you a chance to stand at Mount Sinai without the formality.

Shavuot for Kids, 11:30-12:15

Join our Rabbis LIVE on the L'Dor VaDor Channel or by Zoom (details in EHRS Our Week Ahead email) for Shavuot for Kids, a Shavuot morning family service to make our festival come alive with a cheesecake of song, prayer, Torah tales and interaction.



New Spring Break and New Spring Break Plus Schemes Tuesday 1 - Friday 4 June 2021, 9:15-16:00



Four fun packed days! Join us for socially distanced fun, arts. games, competitions & getting creative!

Don't stay at home, bring your friends and make new ones!

Book via the EHRS website now! Please go to www.ehrs.uk/youthcentre where you can book for either scheme.

For further enquiries please email youth@ehrs.uk



Kaytana and Kadima is back for 2021!

Kaytana for 5-7 and 8-10 year olds, Kadima for 11-14 year olds Join us for sports, drama, music, getting creative, cooking, games, friendship and fun.

Week 1: Monday 2 - Friday 6 August Week 2: Monday 9 - Friday 13 August

Week 3: Monday 16 - Friday 20 August

More information coming soon!



YOUNG ADULTS

Our Young Adults Programme includes our monthly learning opportunity 'Beer and Shiur' currently held on Zoom, and we will continue to consult about when it is sensible to begin to meet in person. Led by Rabbi Debbie, please email rabbi.debbie@ehrs.uk if you have any questions.

Beer and Shiur, 20:00

Zoom details are: Meeting ID: 839 2128 5866 Password: 978112

Wednesday 12 May: Preparing for Rosh Hashanah in May? The coming New Year is a 'Shmitta' year – when the farmers of ancient Israel let the land lie fallow, and social justice was prioritised over economic growth. What on earth is it? Did it ever really work? And what can it mean to us today?

Wednesday 9 June: Lilith – Demoness or Jewish heroine?



ALL ADULTS



Monthly Cook-a-Longs

Our Cook-a-Long's led by Rabbi Debbie are open to all adults who would like to join us. To join our Cook-a-Longs, please email rabbi.debbie@ehrs.uk for Zoom details and ingredients lists.

In the last few months we have enjoyed making a Chinese Fakeaway, celebrated Tu B'Shevat with a seder, experimented with hamantaschen for Purim, and made easy Pesach florentines.

Wednesday 26 May: Foraging and Freebies - What can we cook with left over onion skins? Can my vegetable scraps be useful or are they only good for compost? What free food can I forage in the local wood? We will also learn how to make cured salmon, a cut price alternative to shop bought!



Wednesday 23 June: Time For Tea -

A cup of tea always tastes better with something sweet! At this cook-a-long you can choose between a Brazilian Teabread packed full of dried fruit, or a light and tasty Marmalade Loaf. We will also make the easiest and most versatile cookie there is. Featuring the fabulous Bonnie Bakes (our very own Bonnie Lemer) who will be teaching us.

SOCIAL ACTION

SUPPORT THE HOMELESS IN BARNET – HOTEL PROJECT

Together in Barnet, who organise the rolling night shelter, have won government funding to support 16 homeless people in a hotel in Golders Green. Funding is now in place until the end of May. We are seeking volunteers to provide dinners that can be reheated in a microwave, provide breakfasts and deliver the food to the hotel in Golders Green.

If you would like to volunteer to cook or deliver food, please email Lisa & Audrey at nightshelter@ehrs.uk for more information.

If you prefer to support this worthwhile project by making a cash donation please note that £39 buys a night at the hotel for one guest, and £10 buys a month of mobile credit so that a guest can stay in touch.

Please go to www.togetherinbarnet.org/donate to make your donation online.

Homeless Action in Barnet (HAB)

continue to need regular donations of the following items to go in their weekly food parcels to people in temporary accommodation: small washing up liquid, Toilet Rolls, UHT Milk, tinned meat, small jars of coffee, sugar, butter, pot/packet flavoured noodles, stir in sauces, tinned soup, tinned fish, tinned sweetcorn, carrots, potatoes or peas, stock cubes, cooking oils, sachets of salt and pepper, ketchup, fruit pots (long life), rice pudding, chocolate, sweets & biscuits. Donations can be dropped off at HAB, 36b Woodhouse Road, N12 oRG on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Fridays between 9:00-15:00.

Many Thanks for your support Lisa Bard & Audrey Zarach nightshelter@ehrs.uk

INTERNSHIPS NEEDED FOR LOCAL A LEVEL STUDENTS

Career Ready is a social mobility charity operating nationwide that prepares young people for the world of work (www.careerready.org). As Chair of the Local Advisory Board of Career Ready at The London Academy and member of EHRS, one of my responsibilities is to seek out internships for the A level students on the programme. Several EHRS members also volunteer on this programme to mentor students at The London Academy, which is just up the road from EHRS. We are seeking internships for our A level students in 2021 and urge any local businesses that can make use of this valuable resource to check out our website at www. careerready.org.uk/employers or email Lisa Bard at lisa.bard@ehrs.uk for more information on how you can get involved.



After a year of staying at home and meeting on Zoom, 3rd Edgware Scout Group is pleased to announce the return of outdoor fun, adventure and activities for children aged 6-14.

to our group next term, so for more details please email info@third.org.uk



Rabbi Kraft Memorial Book Club

The Rabbi Kraft Memorial Book Club was set up in memory of our dearly missed Rabbi Neil Kraft z'l. Rabbi Kraft was a keen reader and we're sure that he would have been pleased with this venture. As a tribute to Rabbi Kraft we will include books which touch on the values he was most passionate about, such as understanding and caring.

Tuesday 4 May, 19:30

Join us for a lively discussion about books and other stuff! For May we will be discussing The Girl with the Louding Voice by Abi Daré. This book is a New York Times and Times Top 10 best seller. It has been shortlisted for the Desmond Elliott Prize for Fiction, and recommended by Malala Yousafzai, Dolly Parton and members of the EHRS Book Club!

I don't just want to be having any kind voice . . . I want a louding voice.

At fourteen, Adunni dreams of getting an education and giving her family a more comfortable home in her small Nigerian village. Instead, Adunni's father sells her off to become the third wife of an old man. When tragedy strikes in her new home, Adunni flees to the wealthy enclaves of Lagos, where she becomes a house-girl to the cruel Big Madam, and prey to Big Madam's husband. But despite her situation continuously going from bad to worse, Adunni refuses to let herself be silenced. And one day, someone hears her.

> The book club in June will take place on Tuesday 1 June, 19:30. More details coming soon in OWA and the EHRS website.

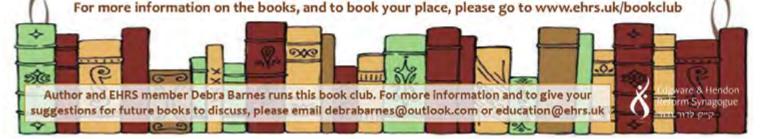
THE

GIRL

WITH THE

LOUDING

VOICE



As Young Families Lead, I am feeling really positive about the slow ease of restrictions, which will enable us to start to meet again in person. Of course this has to be done safely and within government guidelines, and with respect to everyone's own pace and comfort. It has been wonderful to be working on the programming of more activities and events and I am looking forward to connecting with all our young families members over the

We have enjoyed some wonderful online Kuddle Up Shabbats, including the Kuddle up Seder, where many families joined us with their seder plates for Passover signing, some top performance acting from our hosts and a virtual find the Afikomen game! Kuddle Up Shabbat with the EHRS dinosaur will continue online via the EHRS Livestream, however we are excited to announce the introduction of a Kuddle Up in Person monthly from May.

Saturdays 15 May & 19 June - Torah & Tots, 11:00-12:00

Our new Saturday morning service, every 3rd Saturday of the month. This is a special service for pre-schoolers to introduce your little ones to synagogue with songs, stories and activities. Also the perfect way to collect your CRP points!

Fridays 21 May & 25 June - Kuddle Up In Person, 16:15-17:00
Will occur monthly in a safe and socially distanced setting.

Friday 30 April - Shabbat Stay & Play, 10:30-11:45

A morning of fun and creativity for babies and toddlers. Will occur weekly.

SAVE THE DATE: Sunday 4 July - Family Fun Morning! 10:00-13:00

A big welcome back to the shul after lifting of restrictions - more details to come.....

Please note, most activities will currently be restricted to 15 adults, booking will be required.

Please check the **'EHRS Young Families' Facebook page** and the EHRS website, **www.ehrs.uk/youngfamilies** for more information.

Do not hesitate to be in touch for any ideas, or support I can help you with. Sarah Koster, Young Families Lead, youngfamilies@ehrs.uk



NEW OPTIONS

For the active retired and semi-retired (60 plus)

Schmoozing with the Rabbis - A light hearted topical discussion, in an informal setting, currently on Zoom. Join Rabbi Debbie on Wednesday 9 June 11:00-12:00. Zoom details will be provided in the Our Week Ahead email.

Bridge – Our popular and friendly Wednesday afternoon sessions are currently suspended, but we hope to re-start sometime in 2021.

For any other enquiries about 'NEW OPTIONS', contact Jeffrey Fisher on 020 8958-0424 or email newoptions@ehrs.uk

Our other EHRS groups, Not The Women's Guild, Yoga and Israeli Dancing, all hope to return in person later in the year when it is safe to do so. Please check the weekly Our Week Ahead email for updates. We look forward to seeing you all at EHRS soon.



Mondays & Thursdays 10:00-11:15

Neurobics specialise in cognitive health for adults over 60, energising the body, stimulating the brain & enriching the soul.

Join us on Zoom. Workshops £5. Contact Steve on 07966 000660 or steve@neurobics.org.uk

Cornerstone, our introduction to Judaism course is open to everyone in the community, and those exploring conversion.

Join us on Tuesday evenings to explore a wide breadth of Jewish knowledge including making Shabbat meaningful, Jewish History, how does Talmud work, what does keeping kosher mean to us as Progressive Jews, and understanding the festivals and lifecycle celebrations. As a part of Cornerstone we are also offering introductory and next steps Hebrew classes.



Please contact rabbi.debbie@ehrs.uk for more details.



The Rabbi Michael Leigh z'l Memorial Lecture 2021/5781

Edgware & Hendon Reform Synagogue and Yitzchak Rabin Lodge - B'nai B'rith UK

Thursday 29 April, 20:00 - 21:30 With guest speaker Jeremy Rosen

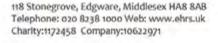
Every year EHRS jointly hosts a lecture together with the Yitzchak Rabin B'nai Brith Lodge on the Yarzheit of our former Rabbi from 1963-1993, Michael Leigh z'l.

This year our lecturer is Rabbi Jeremy Rosen. Jeremy Rosen is an Orthodox rabbi, author, and lecturer. He is best known for advocating an approach to Jewish life that is open to the benefits of modernity and tolerant of individual variations while remaining committed to Orthodox halachah. His articles and weekly column appear in publications in several countries, including the Jewish Telegraph and the London Jewish News, and often comments on religious issues on the BBC. He is director of Yakar Educational Foundation in London, and chairman of the Faculty for Comparative Religion in Antwerp.

The lecture will take place on Zoom and also on the EHRS Livestream. If you join us on Zoom you will also be able to ask questions at the end of the lecture. For the Zoom details please email admin@ehrs.uk

The host for the event is Yitzchak Rabin Lodge and it will take the form of a Zoom interview with Rabbi Jeremy Rosen by Rabbi Mark Goldsmith, Senior Rabbi of Edgware and Hendon Reform Synagogue.













The children at Nagila enjoyed learning about Pesach this term. They took part in a range of activities, which included treading grapes to make their own wine; took all day making bread and then the next day made matzah as quickly as we possibly could. We finished the term with our own seder led by Rabbi Debbie, which the parents were able to watch through the wonder of Zoom!

Over the next few months, we will be carrying out some much-needed major renovations and expanding our provision, creating an exciting new space to play and learn. In addition, we will be revamping our outside play areas and with the creation of a brand-new kitchen, we intend to be able to offer a hot lunch alongside breakfast and snacks. We have also reviewed our hours and from September we are pleased to provide the following sessions (which also brings us into line with other nurseries in the area):

Breakfast – 07:45-09:00
(Breakfast included)
Morning session – 09:00-12:00
Lunch session – 12:00-13:00
(Lunch included)
Afternoon session – 13:00-16:00
(Afternoon snack included)
Late club – 16:00-17:30
(Light dinner provided)

We are very much looking forward to welcoming more of the youngest members of our community to a new and improved Nagila in September.





COMMISSIONING THE WRITING OF A TORAH SCROLL IN MEMORY OF OUR DEAR RABBI NEIL KRAFT Z'L

When we formally announced at the beginning of February that we were hoping to commission the writing of a Torah Scroll in the name of Rabbi Neil Kraft z'l, the response from our membership was astonishing. As articles regarding this initiative appeared in the weekly 'Our Week Ahead' email as well as in Ledor Vador, we were overwhelmed and obviously extremely gratified that our members were so keen to help us financially to ensure that we could reach a target that would allow this scroll to be commissioned.

As the festival of Shavout approaches, I can inform you that we are within touching distance of letting our sofer know that he can start writing this Torah Scroll. However, one more little push is still needed.... Traditionally, Shavout is the Festival which celebrates the giving of the Torah on Mount Sinai. How appropriate it would be if we could reach our target during or close to this special Chag. Surely, that would add extra significance to this new 'Community Scroll'.

Over the past few months, I have been so touched at stories I've heard from donors, stories which have highlighted the warmth and generosity of Neil, a wonderful man and Rabbi, and I'm sure there are many more stories I've yet to hear.

Please do email me at **scroll@ehrs.uk**, detailing how much you'd like to donate or pledge, and do include your telephone number so that I can call you. Any amount is naturally greatly appreciated, but if you need a guideline, a verse costs £30, a chosen/specific verse costs £50, a chapter costs £100, a sedrah costs £600 and one of the five books of Moses contained within the Torah costs £6000.

I do hope that by Rosh Hashanah we can announce that the writing of this Torah Scroll has begun.

Thank you so much.

Laurence Stein



ALL THINGS JEWISH

Rosh Hodesh: All About Eve with Eleanor Davis

Torah Study via Zoom (For Zoom details please email ati@ehrs.uk) Mondays 10 May & 7 June, 20:00-21:00, running monthly until July 2021

All About Eve: The New Moon is a traditional women's holiday, but this monthly study group is open to all. This year we're exploring Eve's story in Torah and Rabbinic literature, to investigate the first woman as an

atj@ehrs.uk

individual and as an archetype. Join us to discover how Eve is far more than just a spare rib. Please see website for future dates.

First Shabbat Shiur, 9:15-10:00

Our Shabbat Shiurim are on all kinds of areas of Jewish life.

Saturday 1 May - How Kabbalah makes Torah come alive in a whole different way - Using texts from the Zohar, one of the foundational texts of Kabbalah, Jewish mysticism, Rabbi Mark will lead a session which shows how Kabbalistic thinking gives us an extraordinary insight into Torah and opens up spiritual possibilities.

Saturday 5 June - Tallit and TzitTzit - In this week's torah portion we will hear the command to put tassels on the four corners of our clothes. How has the understanding of this law shifted over time, what does it mean to each of us to wear (or not to wear) tallit or tzittzit, and when did women begin taking on this mitzvah? Led by Rabbi Debbie.

Zoom details in Our Week Ahead or email admin@ehrs.uk

Bite of Torah for everyone interested in Torah

For Zoom details please see Our Week Ahead emails,

or email atj@ehrs.uk

Learn Torah with our Rabbis at home using Zoom. These sessions are full of new insights which bring Torah to life.

Saturday 15 May, 09:15-10:00

Wilderness Torah - The Torah portion BaMidbar is nearly always read just before Shavuot. And Shavuot is when Israel receives the Torah as related to Moses by God. Join Rabbi Roberta to explore the relationship between being in the desert (midbar) and receiving the Law that has kept Jews together for close on three thousand years.

Saturday 19 June, 09:15-10:00

Personnel Policy - Chukkat is the Torah portion in which Moses loses his role as the leader of the Israelites into the Promised Land, Rabbi Mark asks what did Moses do to deserve this and was it good personnel policy on the part of his Divine employer?

How to create you own Mezuzah

Sunday 9 May, 11:00

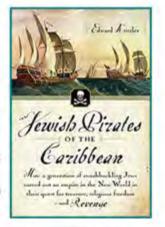
Much respected and admired sofer, Bernard Benarroch, who entertained us in mid March when he showed us around his workshop on Zoom during the Rabbi Neil Kraft z'l Memorial Scroll Event will be teaching us on Zoom how to create and design a mezuzah. This event gives members who still want to donate towards the commissioning of the Torah Scroll in Neil's name, the opportunity to do so.

More details to follow in Our Week Ahead

We've Travelled So-Far-Day

Sunday 30 May, 10:00-13:00

This is a morning dedicated to a whole Jewish world telling three parts of the Sephardi and Mizrachi Jewish story. In this year where we cannot travel, EHRS offers you a morning to visit Jewish communities in time and places where we thrived in the past, moved on from or transformed today. At EHRS we frequently tell the Ashkenazi (German and Eastern European) Jewish story. Today is about the many other parts of the world where Judaism has



set down roots. We will hear about the Jewish Pirates of the

Baghdadi Jews at a Wedding



The Abuhay Synagogue in Safed

Caribbean, the flourishing of Jewish mysticims and Kabbalah bringing a bit of heaven down to earth, and how Baghdad hosted 1500 years of extraordinary Jewish culture, until the Farhud Day massacre, 80 years ago on June 1-2 1941, began to bring it to an end. This is going to be a 'hybrid' event meaning that you can either join us in person at the Synagogue or learn from home using Zoom. We are going to be telling the story of three extraordinary communities: The Jews of the Caribbean, the Jews of Safed in Israel and the Jews of Baghdad in Iraq. The stories will be told by descendants of the Jews of the places we are hearing about together with our Rabbis and educators.

You will be able to book to come into to the Synagogue at either 10:00,11:00 or 12:00 for an hour to experience one of these stories in person and then return home to experience the other two on Zoom, or you can experience them all on Zoom at home.

Full details will be available closer to the time in the Our Week Ahead email so that you can choose how to be part of this memorable morning. Our programme will be suitable for all ages, adults and children together.

Talmud Class Sundays 2 May, 16 May, 20 June & 4 July, 10:00-11:00

EHRS's stimulating and friendly Talmud class is open to all levels of Jewish knowledge. Join Rabbi Mark to grapple with the ideas of our classical Rabbis. Join the discussion of 2000 years ago and its remarkable relevance to issues today. No previous Talmud study experience necessary, just a thirst to get deep into the foundational texts of Judaism. This class is conducted online through Zoom as discussion and argument is what it is all about! Please email rabbi.mark@ehrs.uk to get the Zoom details and the Talmud texts we are studying.

ADVERTISE WITH US!

If you would like to place a classified ad in the magazine, please contact us for a rate card of sizes and costs.

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EHRS has a YouTube channel where you will find videos showcasing some of the lovely events we have held. You will see videos including Young Families Storytime, our Purim celebrations, and most recently our Pesach talk on Freedom on the 21st Century - Will we hear the oppression of the Uyghurs?

We regularly upload new videos, so please search Edgware and Hendon Reform Synagogue on YouTube and subscribe to our ever growing channel.



EHRS also have Facebook pages for you to follow. You will find our main page as Edgware & Hendon Reform Synagogue. We also have EHRS Young Families, EHRS Youth & Education, and EHRS Young Adults. Please follow to keep up date with news from EHRS.

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Have your Simcha at EHRS

We have two halls available for hire at EHRS, the perfect place to have your celebration.





The modern, light and airy Function Hall gives plenty of space to seat 180 guests and leave room for dancing the night away!

A room extension is available to accommodate up to 220 guests.





We also have a lovely spacious hall on the first floor of our Community Centre building. This hall is perfect for parties and events, and offers capacity for 180 guests.

Discount given to EHRS members.

For further information and to book one of our spaces, please call 020 8238 1011 or email banqueting@ehrs.uk

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