

LEDOR & VADOR

FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION

REMEMBERING RABBI NEIL KRAFT z"l

Come together as a community to help us commission a Torah Scroll in Rabbi Kraft's name *Page 10*

NEW FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

Assist us to provide help for present and future generations *Page 15*

PESACH FUN FOR EVERYONE

Our ever popular 'Pesach Play Scheme' is back, along with a brand new scheme for older children 'Pesach Pro Scheme' *Page 13*

LOVE TO COOK?

Join our online Cook-a-Longs now open to ALL adults *Page 9*

BOARD OF DEPUTIES

Help the Jewish Community as an EHRS deputy *Back Page*

Pesach 2021/5781

Please see our very special Pesach Booklet enclosed with this copy of LeDor VaDor, giving you all the details of 'Finding Freedom at Home'



Edgware & Hendon
Reform Synagogue
ק"ק לדור ודור

For Service Zoom details please see forthcoming Our Week Ahead emails, or email admin@ehrs.uk.



Shabbat Morning Service in Person

Due to the current high prevalence of Covid-19 infections in the area of the Synagogue we have had to take the decision to cease in-person participation in our Shabbat Morning Services for the time being, until it is safe to do so again. All are welcome to join our service on the EHRS Classic Channel on www.ehrs.uk and our popular virtual Kiddush at the end of the service on Zoom.

Sunday Shacharit in Person Every Sunday in the EHRS Community Centre, 09:30-10:00am

A small number of people are still able to participate in person in the Sunday Shacharit from the spacious EHRS Community Centre upper floor. 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 Classic Channel. Please go to www.ehrs.uk to book.

Every Friday Afternoon from 16:15-16:45

Kuddle Up Shabbat by Livestream

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!

Friday Night Lights Fridays 5 March & 9 April, 20:00-20:45

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

HaKol B'Seder Service Saturday 6 March, 10:30-12:15

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

Shabbat B'Bayit Saturday 13 March, 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.

The EHRS Shabbat Family Service Saturday 20 March, 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 Channel. See our Pesach Booklet for details of our Family Services over Pesach.

Choral Evening Service for Yom HaShoah

Wednesday 7 April, 19:00

On the 75th anniversary of the liberation of the concentration camp, this year we will hear testimony from an EHRS member, and from the daughter of a brave woman recognised as 'Righteous Among the Nations.'

An important part of our memorial service is to read the names of victims of the Holocaust who were relatives of our synagogue members, and then say a communal Kaddish in their memory. If you know of members of your family who

perished in the Holocaust, please let us know their names and their relationship to you. Please email june.lewis@ehrs.uk or call 020 8238 1000.

Israeli Service for Shabbat Atzma'ut

Saturday 10 April, 10:30

Rabbi Mark joins an Israeli Rabbinic colleague for a service sharing the best of Israeli Reform Judaism, its music and prayer on the Shabbat before Israel Independence Day. On Zoom or on the Learning and Soul Channel.

Counting the Omer Service Saturday 17 April, 11:00-12:00

Join Rabbi Debbie for an informal, participatory Shabbat Morning on Zoom or on Facebook live to explore what Counting the Omer can mean to us in the 21st Century, when we don't have a huge number of barley sheaves being harvested within the EHRS community.

Healing Service Saturday 24 April, 10:30-12:00

On this Shabbat, please join Rabbi Mark and Student Rabbi Lev Taylor for a service of healing. Our service will include prayer and inspiring texts that will help us to begin or continue a process of coming to terms with challenges of all kinds.

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.



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, 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 cemetery 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

BIRTHS

Oliver James, a son for Amy and Josh Austin-Poole, a grandson for Ruth Taylor. Eliana Gracie, a daughter for Amanda and Nick Gale, a sister for Olivia, named in memory of her late grandfather Elan Shoffman z"l.

BAR/BAT MITZVAH

as currently scheduled

13 March -

Marc Rothman, son of Jacqueline and Paul.

27 March -

Harry Icklow, son of Katie and Paul.

17 April -

Jadon Lee, son of Julia and Jamie.

Mazel Tov to our member Joe Grenfell on the B'nei Mitzvah of his twin grandsons Saul and Daniel Grenfell

BIRTHDAYS

Mazel Tov to Rosalyn Joelson on her 80th birthday.

Mazel Tov to Alan Butnick on his 80th birthday.

Mazel Tov to Tony Maynard on his 83rd birthday.

Mazel Tov to Michael Lewin on his 83rd birthday.

Mazel Tov to Gill Lewin on her 83rd birthday.

ENGAGEMENTS

Mazel Tov to Darren Falk, son of Andrea Lucas and Anthony (Tony) Falk z"l, on his engagement to Debbi Kelly, daughter of Patricia Anne Kelly z"l.

ANNIVERSARIES

Mazel Tov to Roslyn and Stuart Winton on their Ruby Wedding Anniversary.

SPECIAL CONGRATULATIONS

Mazel Tov to Alan Lazarus on receiving his **MBE**.

The **120 Over 80** list compiled by Jewish News in partnership with Jewish Care, highlights the impact of the Jewish community's oldest and wisest members, and we are pleased to congratulate the following EHRS members who have been included on it: Alan & Marilyn Lazarus, David Duke-Cohan, Jean Gaffin, Ron Shelley and Malcolm Ozin.

Mazel Tov and thank you to Colin Lewis on **50 years of membership** of EDRS/EHRS.

CONDOLENCES

To Marie Harrison on the loss of her husband, Alan Harrison.

To Daisy Steinitz on the loss of her husband, Guenter Steinitz.

To Ann Bensusan on the loss of her husband, David Bensusan.

To Raymond Mendoza on the loss of his wife, Penelope Mendoza.

To Paul Davis on the loss of his father, David Davis.

To Richard Clucas on the loss of his father, Ian Clucas.

To Michelle Goldsmith on the loss of her father, Brian David Stablow.

To Tamara Goodkind on the loss of her father, Peter Eden.

To Ilana Goldenberg on the loss of her mother, Rita Goldenberg.

To Sophie Sharland on the loss of her husband Norbert Sharland.

To Marion Cohen on the loss of her mother, Ursula Gross.

To Lesley Fields on the loss of her mother, Frances Wax.

To Andrew Phillips on the loss of his mother, Jacqueline Phillips.

To Nicholas Brand on the loss of his mother, Patricia Brand.

To Joseph Deutschmann on the loss of his mother, Gerda Deutschmann.

To Estella Fifer on the loss of her son, Daniel Fifer.

To Kitty Cohen on the loss of her daughter, Susan Clayton.

To Cyril Pulver on the loss of his brother, Arnold Pulver.

To the family of Isabella Joseph.

To the family of Sidney Finn.

To the family of Rita Hart.

To the family of Audrey Levy.

To the family of Kurt Dukes.

NEW MEMBERS:

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

Justyn Nathan.

Stephen and Rebecca Flash

Rochelle and Scott Rozasty.

James, Samantha, Max, Zachary and Harry Tillman.

Natasha Davidov.

Dexter Nineberg.

Taylor Richter.

Tyler Smith.

Scott Leveson.

Remi Aitman.

Griffin Nineberg.

Dylan Nineberg.

Max Weisfeld.

Harry Childs.

Jonathan Isaacs.

Alexander Englander.



FORWARD THINKING

Planning for Pesach varies from home to home – I have friends that begin preparing after Purim, and others who get to it all the night before Seder. This is a strange time to think about how we prepare. It has been very difficult to plan or think too far into the future for the last year. It is beginning to feel like maybe we could dip our big toe into making some

plans for the coming year, but many understandably feel rather cautious!

But in Jewish time, this is a crucial period of planning. In both Exodus and Leviticus we learn about the idea of sabbatical years – in Hebrew a ‘shmittah’ year. This was a year that acted as a Shabbat for the land. You weren’t allowed to sow or harvest. You could pick or forage what you needed for your own consumption, but you couldn’t sell what you gathered. This coming Rosh Hashanah marks the start of the next shmittah year, and I think it’s a model we could learn huge amounts from.

In order for the shmittah to really work it took an awful lot of planning. Communities would need to collaborate in the year before to stockpile and prepare for the year to come. During shmittah the land no longer belonged to its inhabitants but to God. So you may own an orange tree, but its produce is not your property in the shmittah year, so anyone could enjoy it. Similarly

if your neighbor had a fig tree, they had to allow you to enjoy its fruit. Sharing and collaborating meant communities could enjoy a varied diet.

This process could also be seen as acting as a corrective to any social injustice; in the shmittah year no one owned what they thought of as theirs, and the focus would switch from what one wants, to what one really needs. Other features of the shmittah year included debt forgiveness and the freeing of slaves.

It is unclear to what extent the shmittah was fully practiced in the land of Israel, though there are communities who zealously observe parts of it today. But for us as a community outside the land of Israel, there are a lot of lessons to be learned about looking after the needs of all, sharing what we have with one another, considering who our slaves are, and reminding ourselves that nothing, the earth included, can endlessly produce on demand without rest and regeneration.

We could easily dismiss shmittah as an ancient nonsense. Yet as we begin to think towards how we might return to being together physically as well as electronically, Jewish time calls on us to reflect. The coming shmittah that begins with Rosh Hashanah in September, is a powerful reminder that we need to be careful in our planning, thoughtful in how we look after one another, and mindful of creating longevity rather than endlessly demanding more and more from our world's resources. It asks us to think communally and not only individually, and I'm so looking forward to doing that with the EHRS family.

Rabbi Debbie Young-Somers

Struggling to cope
is more normal
than you think.

Uncertainty and isolation can cause any of us to experience feelings of distress or anxiety. Whatever you are going through, you don't have to face it alone.



If you need support or are supporting someone who needs help, contact Jami.

jamiuk.org/get-support or call 020 8458 2223



If you're struggling to cope or need immediate help, contact Shout's 24/7 crisis text service.

Text Jami to 85258



Free, safe and anonymous online counselling and support.

Students: student.kooth.com/jami
Adults: qwell.io/jami

Change the life of someone living with mental illness.
Donate today at jamiuk.org/donate



Jami

The Mental Health Service for our Community

Registered charity no. 1102345

None of us could ever imagine this time last year that we would be away from the building for more than a year, but that is the reality but it hasn't stopped us offering our events and programmes for children and adults. We continue teaching Orot and the B'nei Mitzvah classes on Zoom. Being virtual hasn't stopped us having some lovely festival celebrations and events. One of the highlights of Mitzvah Day was the children in Orot and other members of our community made cookies and cakes that were delivered to other EHRS members who we felt needed a lift of spirit. We had three members who were celebrating their 90th birthdays that week and they were delighted to receive beautiful cakes that we made by our member Damini Giri.

For Chanukah we did a cook along and candle making session with Rabbi Debbie and Rabbi Emily making dreidels. It was lovely to see parents joining in and supporting the children to participate. We celebrated Tu B'Shevat with the community and made live visits to Canons



This session is currently on Zoom and is suitable for all children of that age in the community whether they go to Jewish Day School or not. We welcome younger children to come as well if accompanied by an adult. If you are a parent of child/ren in that age group and want to try us out please contact education@ehrs.uk.

We have lots of lovely events planned for the whole community to celebrate the upcoming festivals. Many of which you will find details of in this issue of LDVD.

And here's to the future when we can start to offer live events at EHRS. But a positive to come out of lock downs is that technology has given us new ways to do things to help keep our members stay connected and involved and has made us more accessible to members who may not easily get to events at EHRS. It has led to more people attending, particularly our ATJ events. We cancelled few planned programmes and even added more to our schedule.

Marian Cohen, Director of Education



Park and Israel and video presentations from Australia. We planted a tree and buried the COVID time capsule that the Orot children had created to remember their experiences of COVID, the things they were able to do during this time and their hopes and dreams for the future. We also added a before COVID had started and an after edition of LeDor VaDor, newspaper articles and a bottle of hand sanitiser and a mask!

Looking to the future, we have started a weekly Sunday morning session for 4-6-year which explores Jewish Festivals, Bible Stories, and Jewish Ethics through stories, songs, games, acting, scavenger hunts and other creative media.



EHRS VIRTUAL QUIZ

IN AID OF THE YOUTH CENTRE & Edgware & Hendon Reform Synagogue



Join us for an entertaining
interactive quiz with
prizes to be won

Tickets £12 per household, book at www.ehrs.uk/event/quiz2021

Sunday 21 March at 19:30

COMMUNITY CARE

As the Government's vaccination programme continues to roll out, the employment situation for many remains uncertain. At our 'Let's Talk Employment' event in December 2020 we heard from the two Jewish agencies, Resource and Work Avenue, who are able to provide employment support for any members facing challenging times.

Resource helps people get back into employment. They work with their clients to boost their confidence and build their skills, empowering them to find and secure the right job. Their highly skilled, professional volunteers and small team of staff support over 1,000 people each year in their job search. See their website at www.resource-centre.org or call 020 8346 4000.

Work Avenue is a charity that aims to provide people in the community with essential lifelong skills to support themselves and their families by providing advice and guidance to support people into or back into work. See their website at www.theworkavenue.org.uk or call 020 8371 3280.

Two EHRS members also spoke and shared their expertise on the evening. Laurie Bernard is a Relationship Manager for the Building Better Opportunities (Hertfordshire) programme that assists participants back into employment. He chaired the EHRS Employment Support group for 13 years and has delivered employment workshops to the private, state and charity sectors, email lb@thebsp.co.uk or call 07973 361994. Donna Obstfeld works with businesses looking for help managing their staff and is currently working with employers to help them remain engaged with their staff working from home, email donna@dohr.co.uk or call 01923 504100.

EHRS member Gill Bernard emails inspirational and thought provoking Shabbat messages to friends and other members in the Havdallah group and agreed to share some of her writing which we hope you enjoy.

'It is strange how our perception of time changes. Generally, one thinks that only if we are having a good time, are really busy, trying to beat deadlines etc, does time pass quickly. However, amongst the majority of my group of contemporaries in these 'strange times', the opinion is that time does seem to be doing just that. This seems counter to expectations. Most of us are not rushing here, there or indeed, anywhere. Not trying to fit in a ridiculous number of activities as though time were going out of fashion, yet time is still inexplicably evaporating. Is there a hidden thief lurking around the house? Some days I seem to achieve exactly what I had wanted, others, I am lucky if I have managed



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

10 Stonegrove, Edgware, Middlesex, HA8 8AB
Telephone: 020 8238 1013 Email: admin@ehrs.uk Web: www.ehrs.uk
Charity No: 1054816 Company No: 04581928

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to take a short walk and prepare a meal. I wonder, though, if it is nature's or some supernatural plan to help us cope with the situation of not having any plans for the future. If, when we may anticipate being bored by the thought of endless days, we can perceive them differently. Why though, when I have completed what I needed to, do I still feel guilty at not doing very much at all? Are we conditioned to be continually 'achieving something?'

See the Community Update in the EHRS weekly email and also check out the Community Care section on the EHRS website for more information regarding resources and organisations. Please remember, if you find yourself struggling, please contact us, both Marissa and Val are here to support you.

Thank you as always to our amazing volunteers who continue supporting so many members and finally we wish everyone in our community Chag Sameach.

Val and Marissa
communitycare@ehrs.uk

Val: 020 8238 1013 Marissa: 020 8238 1015



Val Joseph



**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.**

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YOU'VE GOT IT

You've got it in you to find the career that you are searching for. But if you need support and guidance with your job search, Resource is here to help you be successful.

As the community's go-to resource, we provide expert tailored advice, networking and training – empowering people of all ages to win the right job.

Take the first steps in getting back to work. Call Resource now to book a chat with an Advisor or to find out more about our other free services.


Call **020 8346 4000** or visit **www.resource-centre.org**

Resource
Helping the community into employment


f @resourcecharity t @resourcecharity in resource employment advice centre
Charity Number 1106331

How to beat lockdown boredom


Here's just some of the virtual sessions 3rd Edgware Scout Group has delivered since last March to beat lockdown boredom for our young people aged 6-14




Cook Alongs




Arts & Crafts




Science Experiments



Teamwork



Problem Solving



Photography

...and when this is all over, we'll go back to the outdoor fun and adventure Scouting is famous for

Scouts 3rd Edgware

For more information please contact...

ages 6-8:	beavers@third.org.uk
ages 8-10½:	cubs@third.org.uk
ages 10½-14:	scouts@third.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.**



Welcome Rabbi Roberta Harris-Eckstein

We are delighted that Rabbi Roberta Harris-Eckstein has joined the EHRS Rabbinic Team as our Rabbi from now until we make our permanent appointment. Rabbi Roberta gained Semichah from Leo Baeck College in 2018 after her distinguished career as teacher of Bible, Hebrew and history. She is a specialist in pastoral care of the elderly. Although she may not get too much time for hobbies these days, Roberta still teaches Biblical Hebrew, including for the Leo Baeck College Lehrhaus online. Her husband, Jeremy, is immensely supportive and has encouraged her right through the five years of rabbinic study.

Her main rabbinic work with EHRS will be to ensure that our pastoral care is of excellent quality and responsiveness as well as accompanying our families in their life cycle events, especially bereavements. She will bring her teaching to the community in adult education and in our services and shiurim. Her email address is rabbi.roberta@ehrs.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.

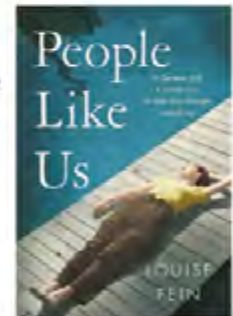


Tuesday 2 March, 19:30

We are going to discuss 'Reparation' by Gaby Koppel and we are delighted that Gaby will be joining us. Gaby is also a TV producer and produced the first broadcast HMD for the BBC. Reparation is published by Honno and was runner-up in the Paul Torday Memorial Prize 2020.

Tuesday 6 April, 19:30

We are going to discuss 'People Like Us' by Louise Fein and we are delighted that Louise will be joining us. People Like Us is Louise's debut novel and will be published in paperback on 4 March (currently available in hardback and kindle).



For more information on the books, and to book your place, please go to www.ehrs.uk/bookclub

Author and EHRS member Debra Barnes runs this book club. For more information and to give your suggestions for future books to discuss, please email debrabarnes@outlook.com or education@ehrs.uk



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Stanley, support group member

JEWISH CARE

*"When I lost my wife,
I was in pieces. They put
me back together"*

Our Helpline can help you find the answers to the most challenging problems. We're here for the whole Jewish community in London and the South East, so if you have a question, please ask Jewish Care.

WHEN YOU NEED HELP, CALL 020 8922 2222 OR VISIT JEWISHCARE.ORG

Charity Reg No. 802509

YOUNG ADULTS

Our Young Adults Programme includes our monthly learning opportunity – Beer and Shiur, and a monthly Cook-a-Long. Currently both are held on zoom and we will continue to consult about when it is sensible to begin to meet in person.

Beer and Shiur, 20:00

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

Wednesday 10 March: Come and use up your chametz beer and enjoy some learning too! Do you think you know the story of the Orange on the seder plate? Chances are you have received a slightly mythic retelling of it! We will be exploring ways to add modern twists to your seder meal, as well as deepening our knowledge of the traditional symbols. There will be no Beer & Shiur in April, we will return with full force in May.

Our Cook-a-Longs are now 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 chicken toasts and steamed buns for our Chinese Fakeaway, celebrated Tu B'Shevat with a seder and chocolate bark, and experimented with hamantaschen for Purim.

Wednesday 24 March: Pesach is only 2 days away! We will be preparing a delicious Sephardi Pesach pie (no rice involved!) and making the easiest Florentines ever!

Wednesday 28 April: What can I make for Shavuot that isn't cheesecake? Kahi (Iraqi pastry with cream and honey), borekas and inside out cheesecake cookies!



YOUNG FAMILIES

Well, being thrown into another lockdown and home-schooling has certainly been a challenge for our young families. I want to remind you all we are here to support you in any way we can. Please do not hesitate to be in touch, at the very least I am always up for a good chat/rant about everything.

At the end of last year, whilst we were still able, we managed to come together and hold a Chanukah Kuddle Up Shabbat at the Shul. This was led by Rabbi Mark, and our new Student Rabbi Lev Taylor. Crafting, stories, kiddush and doughnuts, it was a lot of fun!!

We hope you enjoyed your Chanukah gift bags, it was a delight to meet so many of you on your doorsteps. I really do look forward to seeing everyone in person again, in hopefully the not too far future! In the meantime, we love seeing you attend



our virtual events, and for weekly Kuddle Up Shabbats.

It is my pleasure to announce that EHRS has extended and developed my role supporting young families at EHRS and I will now be working on increasing the programming and support to all our young families as the Young Families Lead for the synagogue. I am so excited to be able to give more time to this vital work, I have been a member of the synagogue for 35 years, growing up involved in Sunday school, the Youth Centre, supporting Young Adults and now other families. I have two boys aged 3 and 5 and I am passionate about providing a welcoming and fun shul experience for them, just like I had. I will be forming a parent committee to advise, support and have a voice within the shul. Please do contact me if you would like to get involved youngfamilies@ehrs.uk

Sending everyone strength and health.

Sarah Koster, Young Families Coordinator

COMMISSIONING A TORAH SCROLL IN THE NAME OF OUR DEAR RABBI NEIL KRAFT Z"l

In just a few weeks, we will be commemorating the yahrzeit of Rabbi Neil Kraft z"l, who as you will all recall, passed away from Covid-19 towards the end of March last year.

The Synagogue Council has agreed that it would like to commission a Torah Scroll in Rabbi Kraft's name, as a lasting memorial to this much loved rabbi.

We very much want contributions for this Scroll to come from our community and from friends of Rabbi Kraft. This would ensure that on any occasion we entered the sanctuary during a Shabbat or a Chag and saw this Scroll especially written to honour Rabbi Kraft's name that we would appreciate that the donations had come directly from the community he served for nearly 20 years. We are able to commission the writing of a new Torah Scroll for £30,000. That cost will increase as it is likely that a mantle for the Scroll will need to be designed, and we will also need to purchase bells (rimmonim), and a yad etc. The total cost would be approximately £35,000. We would love our members to sponsor part of the writing of the Scroll, and suggested amounts are as follows:

A letter would cost £1

A word would cost £5

A verse would cost £30 (if you wish to choose a particular verse the cost would be £50)

A chapter would cost £100

An entire portion/sedrah would cost £600

One of the Five Books of Moses would cost £6000.

Obviously, any other donations would be greatly and very much appreciated.

We are hopeful that those who celebrated their Bar/Bat Mitzvah (or their family) with Rabbi Kraft may wish to donate, as well as those who were married by him. It is possible that those who have lost loved ones, for whom Rabbi Kraft officiated at the funeral would also like to contribute. Rabbi Kraft also helped many of our members through the conversion process and we envisage that some of those members may wish to contribute.



Those who wish to donate have a choice. You can either donate immediately, in which case your money will be held in the EHRS account, or you could make a pledge, and when the required amount has been reached which allows us to commission the writing of the Scroll we would then come to you for the actual donation. With over 3,000 members EHRS has the largest synagogue membership of any reform Shul in Europe. Bearing that in mind, we are confident that your generosity will ensure that we can purchase this 'Community Torah Scroll' which will be a permanent reminder of the affection Rabbi Kraft had and still has in our hearts.

Please do contact me by email at scroll@ehrs.uk, informing me whether you wish to pledge an amount or donate immediately. **Please let me know the amount you wish to donate, include your contact telephone number, and I will call you very soon after your email has been received.**

Thank you so much, Laurence Stein

Rabbi Neil Kraft Memorial Scroll Programme

Sunday 14 March, 11:00-12:15

Please join us on Zoom as we launch our Rabbi Neil Kraft Memorial Scroll Programme on Sunday 14 March at 11:00 for an intergenerational interactive morning of discovery. We will explore how a Torah scroll is written, why we would want to have one written, and what else a sofer or Torah scribe does. This event will take place just a day before Rabbi Kraft's yahrzeit. Zoom Meeting ID: 927 8255 0369 Password: 934940



SUPPORT THE HOMELESS IN BARNET – HOTEL PROJECT

Homelessness is a local issue - even here in leafy Barnet - and the economic effects of the pandemic only make people's circumstances more precarious. Please listen to this interview on Radio 4 to hear one night shelter guest talk about his experiences sleeping in **Edgware Bus Station** until he got help www.togetherinbarnet.org/blog/homelessness-during-the-pandemic

Together in Barnet, who organise the rolling night shelter, have won government funding to support 16 homeless people in a hotel in Golders Green. The 32 communities that normally host the night shelter are supporting the guests at the hotel instead by

- providing dinners that can be reheated in a microwave
- providing breakfasts and
- delivering the food to the hotel in Golders Green

EHRs volunteers have already taken our turn providing meals on Tuesdays in February and will take our turn

again in April. If you would like to volunteer, 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: £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 0RG on

Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Fridays, 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.



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Neil, Jewish Blind & Disabled resident

If you or anyone you know could benefit from living in a JBD apartment or to support us, visit www.jbd.org or call **020 8371 6611**

ENABLED

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 Mark on **Wednesday 3 March** 11:00-12:00, and Rabbi Roberta Harris-Eckstein on **Monday 19 April** 11:00-12:00. Zoom details will be provided in the Our Week Ahead email.

Bridge – Our popular and friendly Wednesday 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

NOT THE WOMENS GUILD

Ladies of the community do join us. We are Not The Women's Guild.

We began with a "Guess who is behind the Mask Competition" followed by a "Best Lockdown Hairstyle Parade". We were overwhelmed by the amount of entries sent in and thank all the Judges for their hard work in choosing the winners. Photographs are available on request.

We also had a fascinating virtual tour of a synagogue in Saudi Arabia which has remained completely untouched since the last Jews left 50 years ago. We were fortunate to learn of the original caretaker's son who managed to maintain the building and preserve various artefacts. It has only survived because it is in Tabuk in the north of the country not far from Jordan, and had escaped the attention of the authorities.

Our latest project is a good food guide of the local kosher takeaway restaurants. Our members have been sampling the deliveries and judging the quality and presentation. The guide will be published shortly.

We look forward to another exciting year.

YOUTH CENTRE UPDATE

Funnukah Scheme

WIn December we moved our 3 day Funnukah Scheme online and we had lots of children come to learn about time travel, take part in home adventures, play games and get creative. So much fun was had by all, one parent said "Thank you so much for providing such an excellent Zoom Funnukah. I know my son really enjoyed it as did his friends."

Even more fun was had during our February half term Scheme, Winter Warmer Online. Four afternoons of fun were had, filled with games, quizzes and new experiences.

Please see the opposite page for details on our Pesach Play Scheme for 5-9 year olds, and our BRAND NEW Pesach Pro Scheme for 10-13 year olds coming in April. Book your place now!

Students

Are you looking for an opportunity to continue to connect to your Judaism while away from home? Progressive Jewish Students (PJS) gives you that chance to connect in multiple ways, whether it is for our led Shabbat Services, lunch & learns, career progressions or social gatherings. PJS is a joint venture of Reform Judaism and Liberal Judaism, with Student Fieldworker Adi and Chaplain Rabbi Anna. The team offers



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

There's a Dinosaur Knocking at the Door

On the first Friday in February all of the young children who are members of EHRS got a special surprise on their doorstep.

Organised by EHRS's Young Families Lead Sarah Koster and our Rabbis, ten volunteers delivered two mini



challahs, a dinosaur (plastic!) and a Shabbat poem and activities to all of our 0-8 year olds.

They were packed at the Synagogue and delivered by the volunteers from Bushey to Borehamwood, Shenley to Mill Hill, Stanmore to Hendon.

Later in the afternoon all the dinosaurs and their new young friends were able to meet at Kuddle Up Shabbat to sing the Shabbat Dinosaur song and enjoy their Challot.

educational and religious support for Progressive Jewish university students, as well as rabbinic and pastoral care and connections by our Student Chaplaincy. PJS supports students in building a vibrant Progressive Jewish life on their university campus, including egalitarian initiatives in order to empower everyone to engage with their Judaism. This includes: student packs posted to you, job opportunities, funding, Shabbat Services & Chagim, post university opportunities, CV workshops, guest speakers, support and resources from PJS and so much more. Contact info@pjsuk.org.

Murray Brown, Youth Worker

Pesach Play Scheme 2021

Tuesday 6 – Thursday 8 April, 9:15-16:00

Calling all 5-9 year olds! Join us for socially distanced, fun, games and getting creative!

£20 per child per day (EHRS Members)

£25 per child per day (Non EHRS Members)

£50 per child for all 3 days (EHRS Members)

£60 per child for all 3 days (Non EHRS Members)

Please bring your own non-meat packed lunch in a disposable plastic bag.

If the government guidance changes and we are not permitted to run scheme, you will receive a full monetary refund

Strict regulations will be adhered to by all staff and volunteers with regards to health and safety.

Please email youth@ehrs.uk or go to www.ehrs.uk/event/playscheme2021 for more details and to book your place.

Looking forward to seeing you soon. From your Youth Worker Murray, Madrachim and volunteers!



118 Stonegrove, Edgware, Middlesex, HA8 8AB Telephone: 020 8238 1000 Web: www.ehrs.uk
Charity: 1172458 Company: 10622971



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NEW FOR 2021!

Pesach Pro Scheme 2021

For all those aged 10-13!

Tuesday 6 – Thursday 8 April, 9:15-16:00

Join us for socially distanced, fun, games and getting creative!

£20 per child per day (EHRS Members)

£25 per child per day (Non EHRS Members)

£50 per child for all 3 days (EHRS Members)

£60 per child for all 3 days (Non EHRS Members)

Please bring your own non-meat packed lunch in a disposable plastic bag.

If the government guidance changes and we are not permitted to run camp, you will receive a full monetary refund

Strict regulations will be adhered to by all staff and volunteers with regards to health and safety.

Please email youth@ehrs.uk or go to www.ehrs.uk/event/proscheme2021 for more details and to book your place.

Looking forward to seeing you soon. From your Youth Worker Murray, our Madrachim and volunteers!



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ALL THINGS JEWISH

Rosh Hodesh: All About Eve with Eleanor Davis

Torah Study via Zoom (For Zoom details please email atj@ehrs.uk)

Mondays 8 March & 12 April, 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 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

Saturday 3 April - Demons on the Last Day of Pesach - What is the difference between superstition and religion? Pesachim, the tractate of the Talmud dealing with the Passover festival, blurs those boundaries. Join Student Rabbi Lev Taylor to read this fascinating text about demons and how to avoid them.

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.

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



How to do a Zoom Seder

Wednesday 17 March, 20:00-21:00

Helping the child that does not know how to unmute. Rabbi Mark will help you with hints and tips gained over this extraordinary year to make your family's virtual Seder work as well as possible.

Freedom in the 21st Century - Will we hear the oppression of the Uyghurs?

Wednesday 31 March, 20:00-21:30

Tonight Rahima Mahmut, will be speaking with us on Zoom, hosted by Rabbi Mark. Rahima is an Uyghur singer, human rights activist, and award-winning translator. Her latest work includes working as a consultant and translator for the ITV documentary 'Undercover: Inside China's Digital Gulag.' Currently, she is the UK representative for the World Uyghur Congress. We will hear her testimony, challengingly reminiscent of 1930's Germany but concerning 21st century China, and she is very willing to answer your questions.

Yom HaShoah

Wednesday 7 April, 2000

We will be marking Yom HaShoah with a special service of remembrance. On the 75th anniversary of the liberation of the concentration camp, this year we will hear testimony from an EHRS member, and from the daughter of a brave woman recognised as 'Righteous Among the Nations.' Please go to Page 2 of LeDor VaDor for extra details.

Lag B'Omer Event - SAVE THE DATE Thursday 29 April

Lag B'Omer is a festival that can seem a little mysterious! It is the 33rd day of the Omer, and one tradition suggests it celebrates the turning point in a terrible plague that beset the students of Rabbi Akiva, killing tens of thousands. We hope we will see such a turning point in our modern day plague well before Lag B'Omer, and will be able to safely celebrate together with traditional bonfires, barbecues and outdoor fun! Look out in Our Week Ahead and on the EHRS website www.ehrs.uk for more details!

Talmud Class Sundays 7 March, 4 April, 18 April & 2 May, 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.

For Zoom details please see
Our Week Ahead emails,
or email atj@ehrs.uk

**All
Things
Jewish**
www.ehrs.uk/atj
atj@ehrs.uk

Bite of Torah for everyone interested in Torah

Learn Torah with our Rabbis at home using Zoom. These sessions are full of new insights which bring Torah to life. Zoom link details will be provided in Our Week Ahead email.

Saturday 6 March, 09:15-10:00

The Tablets of the Covenant: The "Horns" on Moses face - We are delighted welcome our Emeritus Rabbi Danny Smith to teach us in this Bite of Torah. Moses smashed the first set of Tablets on seeing the Golden Calf. He spent another 40 days on Mount Sinai and came down with the second set of Tablets unaware that his face was beaming. What is going on? Can a relationship be the same after unfaithfulness and reconciliation? And does religion depend on God's grace or on our work? Exodus 34:27-35



Saturday 20 March, 09:15-10:00

Vayikra - Making Space: Join Rabbi Debbie to unpack the Jewish philosophy of Tzim Tzum, making space for the other in our relationships with God and one another.

Saturday 17 April, 09:15-10:00

Parashat Tazria-Metzora - The Meaning of Impurity: These Torah portions deal with those whose temporary life situation makes them unable to participate in the ritual of the Mishkan, the desert temple. They are considered tamei, impure. Rabbi Roberta Harris-Eckstein looks into what this term means and what is left over from these ideas in Judaism today.

Yom Hazikaron Commemoration and Yom Ha'Atzmaut Celebrations

Wednesday 14 April, 19:00-21:00

EHRS is joining Reform Jewish communities across the UK to mark the Havdallah - Transition, between Yom Hazikaron, a day we remember Israel's fallen soldiers and terror victims to celebrating Yom Ha'Atzmaut- Israel's 73rd Independence Day.



This painful transition reminds us the sacrifice so many people made to establish the State of Israel and keep it safe and from this memory we move to celebrating the establishment of the state. The evening will celebrate Israel, her creativity and vibrancy and also give us the opportunity to learn more about Israel today. **More details coming soon as the event develops.**

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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NEW FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE: LOOKING FOR THINKERS AND DOERS

To build our community for the future we need to raise additional funds which enable us to invest in our future generations and make the experience of being a member of EHRS compelling and very worthwhile. Our membership subscriptions will never be sufficient for EHRS to be as forward thinking and acting as we need to be. Our Honorary Officers & Council will always aim to keep our subscriptions affordable and the costs of the synagogue carefully managed. To go far further we need to establish a strong fundraising arm of the community looking at gift aid, donations & legacies, as well as establishing community fundraising events for all ages as soon as the climate allows, so that we can provide genuine help for present and future generations.

If you have a background, experience or interest in organising events, or financial planning/legal knowledge to assist members with will writing or just see an area where you could offer your guidance and support to really help the community flourish, we'd love to hear from you. Perhaps you write wills and would be happy to offer a "mates rate" (or better) for any member of EHRS to write a codicil to leave funds for the benefit of our future community, or you have run charity events such as sponsored walks or raising funds to repair a building, or you'd like to be a link in the chain that will make EHRS continue to meet the needs of our future generations.

It's the seeds we plant now that will create the roots to grow so that EHRS children of the future have the wings to fly and continue our community in the future. Please email jo@ehrs.uk, Jo Sigalov, Vice Chair, EHRS



Would you like to be involved and help the UK Jewish community as an EHRS deputy for the Board of Deputies?

The Board of Deputies of British Jews is the democratic, representative voice of British Jews, working on behalf of the community. It is the first port of call for the Government, the media and those seeking to understand the Jewish community's interests and concerns. The Board of Deputies is cross-communal and speaks with unparalleled legitimacy.

EHRS are entitled to send 6 deputies as representatives of our community and will be holding elections for the deputies in early 2021.

What are the Deputies' key roles?

Representation

The Board's democratically elected Deputies span the religious, political & geographical range of British Jewry. Deputies are representative of their constituencies to the Board and representative of the Board to their constituencies, and address issues that affect the community on the local and national stage. EHRS' deputies are responsible for representing and promoting our interests, and keeping the community informed of relevant discussions.

Expertise, Engagement and Education

Deputies share their professional expertise and getting involved in contributing to policy development. Deputies have the opportunity to get involved in local Jewish life, sharing the BoD's position on relevant issues – Deputies help to power the Board's campaigns and projects including Yom HaShoah, the Jewish Living Experience, and the Board's Social Action Forum.

Involvement

As a minimum, you will be expected to attend 9 or 10 plenary meetings each year which are usually held on Sunday in central London (or more recently, online). You are encouraged to get more involved by speaking at meetings, joining committees and working groups, and contributing to Board policy.

Deputies can put themselves forward to be elected to the Board's divisions, spanning key areas of its remit: namely International, Defence, Community, Education and Interfaith, and Finance & Organisation. Deputies also elect and stand to be elected to the Senior Lay Leadership roles that shape the strategic direction of the Board

Please contact Tony Seymour if you are considering standing for election or require further details.

tony.seymour@ehrs.uk 07904 654362