LEDOR O VADOR

FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION

Pesach Edition 2022/5782

PURIM

Join us for our LIVE movie themed music event 'Sunday Night Fever', a 'Shushanwood at the Movies' party, followed by the Megillah reading and cocktails & mocktails, and our Families Purim Party Pages 6 & 7

PESACH

Services, Seders, Play Schemes, and so much more on what we have on offer this year can be found in our 8 page supplement Pages 11-18

TOGETHER GROUPS

Whether it's reading, singing, foraging, cooking, schmoozing or even whiskey tasting, we have many groups where you can join other members with common interests

Page 23

ALL THINGS JEWISH

Enjoy our Women in the Rabbinate for International Women's Day, Hebrew Lessons, Who Jew You Think You Are? with Rabbi Steven Katz, and more with ATJ Page 9

STONEGROVE SERENADE

We present music for the community at a series of lunchtime concerts featuring up and coming classical musicians

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CONTACT US

At the time of publication, life seems to be improving since last year's difficulties. The synagogue departments are operating as normal at this time. The telephone is operated during the normal office hours. So we continue to carefully and warmly welcome you back into services, classes and an increasing number of in person activities have resumed. We want to ensure we are able to welcome as many people as safely as possible. Please note that we are no longer requesting that you book into services, but will keep this under review. We are also reviewing the wearing of face masks. We should continue to use hand sanitiser.

Please call the synagogue first if you would like to visit us.

Please try to make any payments via the synagogue website at www.ehrs.uk/ payment, via bank transfers or otherwise please phone to pay with a credit or debit cards. Please can we ask you not to send cheques and certainly please do not bring in (or send) cash.

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 Mati Kirschenbaum 020 8238 1018, rabbi.mati@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

Margot Rachel, a daughter for Nicole and Daniel Laurie, a granddaughter for Andrew and Hilda Laurie.

Noah Leo, a son for Rachel and Jonatan Skaarbrevik, a grandson for Roy and Beverley Winston, a great grandson for Pearl Winston.

BAR/BAT MITZVAH as currently scheduled

12 March - Charlotte Meyers, daughter of Noushin and Eric.

19 March - Jessica Powell, daughter of Natalee and Mark.

30 April - Bo and Herbie Cotsen, children of Nicola and Jason.

AUFRUFS

Calton.

19 March - Samuel Koch and Talia Levy. 23 April - Danielle Trainis and Daniel

ENGAGEMENTS

Mazel Tov to Paul & Maria Jacobs on the engagement of their son Alexander Jacobs to Lydia Aaronson, daughter of Pamela & Derek Aaronson.

BIRTHDAYS

Mazel Tov to Howard Silver on his 83rd birthday.

Mazel Tov to Bernice Lancer on her 8oth birthday.

Mazel Tov to Pearl Winston on her 8oth birthday.

Mazel Tov to Deidre Lewis on her special birthday.

ANNIVERSARIES

Mazel Tov to Shirley and Ron Rosen on their Platinum Wedding Anniversary. Mazel Tov to Valerie and Geoff Bard on their Diamond Wedding Anniversary.

CONDOLENCES

To Amber Morris on the loss of her husband, and David Morris and Grant Morris on the loss of their father, Norman Morris.

To Jill Brody on the loss of her husband, and Laura Brody on the loss of her father, Martin Brody.

To Jeanette Baker on the loss of her husband, and Tania Levy on the loss of her father, Cyril 'Max' Baker.

To Diane Beck on the loss of her husband. David Beck.

To Freda Polak on the loss of her husband. Jonah Polak.

To Katie and Matti Wrench on the loss of their mother, Georgia Wrench.

To Tamara Goodkind on the loss of her mother, Valerie Eden.

To Joanna Laymond on the loss of her daughter, and Spencer Laymond on the loss of his sister, Justine Laymond.

To Marilyn McAvoy on the loss of her brother, Laurence Rogers.

To the family of David Conway. To the family of Stuart Freedman. To the family of April Olins. To the family of Anne Mattock. To the family of Yvette Fedida.

NEW MEMBERS:

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

Daniel, Claudine, Ella & Louie Avci.

Dexter Baum & Rebecca Wainer.

Howard & Karen Berack.

Carl Breindel.

Jack Brown.

Jonathan Brown.

Micha Eversley & Rebecca Verlander.

Beverley Garland.

Oliver Graham & Abigail French.

Andrew & Victoria Gee.

Leon Hirsh.

Maurice & Rosemary Hoffman.

Georgina Jones.

Jeremy & Hannah Kleinfelt.

Nicole Krikler.

Carole Lament.

Brenda Mansfield.

Jonathan Obstfeld.

Tim Regis.

Annabelle Smith.

Matthew Tiney.

Jessica Tosh

SERVICES

For Service Zoom details please see forthcoming Our Week Ahead emails, or email admin@ehrs.uk. To book for services with in person attendance, please go to the calendar section on the EHRS website, www.ehrs.uk, and select the date and service you wish to attend. If you are not able to use the Synagogue website, then please call the EHRS office on 020 8238 1000.

Erev Shabbat Service

Every Friday Evening, 18:30-19:20

Led by our Rabbis in person at our Synagogue and through the EHRS Livestream Classic Channel. They give a beautiful sense of rest and togetherness to help you to cope with the stresses of the world. There is no need to book to join us.

After our service on Friday 26 March our Rabbis invite you to stay on for Shabbat

Dinner. Bring a non meat dish and let's share a haimische (friendly and warm) dinner in the EHRS lounge. You are of course welcome to come to the service and not stay for dinner! Please let us know you are coming, email junelewis@ehrs.uk or call 020-8238 1000.

Shabbat Morning Service 10:30-12:30

We are able to welcome an in person congregation to the EHRS Beit Tefillah (sanctuary). Please book directly and simply through the EHRS website, www.ehrs.uk or please call the EHRS office by the Friday at 12:00, of week of the service to give us the details we need. Hand sanitising is available in the Beit Tefillah. The service is also available on the EHRS Livestream Classic Channel.

Shabbat Club

Saturday mornings, 11:15

A weekly Shabbat experience for up to 11 year olds to enjoy Parasha and Shabbat themed activities, stories and songs. Finishing in time to join the community for Kiddush around 12:15.

Cornerstone Service

Saturday 5 March, 10:30-12:15

Our Cornerstone class and Rabbi Debbie warmly invite all to join us for an explanatory Shabbat Morning service where we will unpack some of the prayers, go at a slower pace, and learn as we pray. Join us in person, on the Learning and Soul Livestream Channel, or on Zoom.

Kuddle Up Seder in Person

Friday 15 April, 16:15-16:45

On this date, Kuddle Up Shabbat will be a Pesach special (see page 13 for more details), held in person at EHRS in our spacious Community Centre, or weather permitting, outside in the Sukkah. You will need to book via the website or call the office. You are welcome to arrive from 15:45 for a Shul playdate before Kuddle Up begins.

After this date Kuddle Up will continue every Friday online only.

Chumash Babies - A sensory Shabbat experience for your five senses

Saturday 12 March, 10:30-11:30

This is a special Shabbat experience for our very youngest children, their parents, siblings and grandparents. It brings together baby sensory play and Jewish ways of experiencing the wonder of Shabbat for a delightful half hour with Rabbi Mark and Sarah Koster. See, hear, feel, taste and smell Shabbat with your baby! Followed by a Shabbat brunch to help us all get to know each other. Booking essential so that we cater properly!

Early Risers Service — Saturdays 12 March & 9 April, 9:30-11:00

This new experimental service will be mostly in Hebrew, use nusach (traditional modes of chant for the prayers), include the Torah reading and Musaf (which is the repetition of the Amidah special to Shabbat) and other features to create a participative experience, ending with a hospitable Kiddush. Led by members of congregation and Shaliach Tzibbur, Jeremy Harrod. Hosted by our Rabbis.

Artistic Service

Saturday 19 March, 10:30-12:00

Can art aid our attempts to pray and maybe increase our sense of the spiritual? We'll try that route together at the parallel service with Rabbi Jackie Tabick. Come and enjoy beautiful art works of many different kinds as we grapple together with the themes that arise from the service. We will join the main service for Kiddush.

Shabbat Service including commemoration of victims of Covid-19

Saturday 26 March, 10:30

This Shabbat marks two years since the first Covid-19 lockdown. Over that time we lost many beloved members of EHRS to this virus, including our Rabbi Neil Kraft, community leaders Michael Casale and Howard Moss and many members of the community. Their memories remain a blessing z"l. Many have been ill and the virus has had a substantial effect on the way our EHRS community lives. This Shabbat is a memorial and looking forward to a safer future. On Thursday 24 March at 20:00 on Zoom, Rabbi Debbie will be hosting an evening to reflect on

what we have learned, as a nation as a community and as individuals from the experience of the Covid pandemic. Full details in Our Week Ahead closer to the time.

Monthly Birthday Blessings

Saturdays 26 March & 30 April

We are delighted to invite all children who have celebrated their birthday in the past month to join us for a birthday blessing in the classic service on the last Shabbat of the month to mark another year of growth with their community. Families will be sent personal invites, but do let us know if your child has a birthday coming up to make sure we have you on our list. Kiddush will include a special birthday treat!

Grandparents Shabbat

Saturday 2 April, 10:30

Join us for the start and end of the service, and for a very special Shabbat club. Grandparents and grandchildren (surrogates of both also very welcome!) are warmly invited to our special Shabbat morning of activities and blessings.

Friday Night Lights

Friday 8 April, 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.

Shabbat Morning: Wedding blessing and Champagne Kiddush

Saturday 9 April, 10:30

All those who were married in 2021 are warmly invited for a special blessing and a champagne Kiddush to celebrate! Couples not married under our auspices are also very welcome to join – we would love to celebrate with you!

Shabbat B'Bayit

Saturday 23 April, 11:00-12:00

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

Sunday Shacharit 09:30-10:00

Join our weekly Sunday Shacharit in the EHRS Beit Midrash. We can accommodate up to 15 participants socially distanced. If you would like to join the in-person minyan, please ensure you register. For safety and traceability you will need to register that you would like to join us by Friday at noon before the service.

COMMUNITY CARE

Our Let's Talk mental health team held an educational talk on eating disorders on zoom on 2 February. EHRS member Sharon Price, known professionally as Sharon Rother, counsellor and therapist with over 20 years' experience in eating disorders, chaired the event and was joined by two ambassadors from Beat, the UKs leading eating disorder charity. This informative and supportive discussion for anyone living with or affected by an eating disorder was followed by a closed Q&A session. You can watch the talk by going to the Mental Health and Wellbeing page under Community Care on the EHRS website. You will also find the link there for the Let's Talk Social Media event held last

Do you or someone you know need a helping hand with technology? Jewish Care explore can help guide you through using your computer, phone or tablet to help you stay connected with your friends, family and community. To register your interest for a session at EHRS, please contact communitycare@ehrs.uk or call 0208 238 1015.

A third EHRS bereavement group started in January 2022 and will run alongside Genesis and Coffee and Chat. If you would like

to know more about any of these groups please call us.

Our popular Monthly **Lunch Club** continues to run on the second Tuesday monthly with the next lunch on 8 March. Booking is essential and if you have not been before and would like to know



more please call us on 020 8238 1015 or 1013.



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



The **EHRS Memory Way Café** is a social group for people living with dementia and their family carers. Held on the third

Wednesday monthly we offer tea, cake, support and advice in a warm and welcoming environment. If you would like to know more please call us.

Please note the above clubs will not run in April due to Pesach.

The EHRS Communal Seder is back and will be held on Saturday 16 April. We are very excited about it and if you wish to join us and cannot go online to book please call the main EHRS number on 020



8238 1000 where a member of the admin team will be able to assist with your booking. More details about the seder can be found on page 12 of this magazine.

Val and Marissa, communitycare@ehrs.uk Val: 020 8238 1013 Marissa: 020 8238 1015

Cornerstone, our introduction to Judaism course is open to everyone in the community, and those exploring conversion. Our Cornerstone programme is open to any member of the community wanting to deepen their Jewish knowledge, as well as those exploring conversion and non-Jewish partners wanting to learn more about creating a Jewish home.



Join us for prayer-book Hebrew (in 3 streams from beginners to intermediate) 19:00-19:45 and/or for Jewish Studies 20:00-21:30 Tuesday evenings during term time. Contact rabbi.debbie@ehrs.uk for more details.

Each term also features an explanatory Shabbat service which the whole congregation is warmly invited to. This term our service will be on Saturday 5 March - look out for more information in Our Week Ahead email.

With so many couples getting married in the coming year, we were delighted to invite all EHRS couples currently planning a wedding to the EHRS Wedding Course

Whether or not their wedding will be under our auspices, a chuppah, or a mixed faith celebration, 6 lovely couples joined us on a course of learning, laughing and meeting others on the same journey. The sessions included:

Sheva Brachot - seven ways to make your marriage ceremony a blessing Bayit b'Yisrael - exploring ways to create a Jewish home whether both of you or one of you is Jewish.

Ahavah, Achavah, Shalom v'Reut - love (and sex) and Judaism

If you are planning a wedding and would be interested in future courses, please email june.lewis@ehrs.uk



RABBI DEBBIE AT THE PALACE OF WESTMINSTER

On 27 January, I was invited by Reverend Tricia Hillas, the Chaplain to the Speaker of the House of Commons, to participate in the Speakers Holocaust Memorial Day Service for Parliament. It was a very moving afternoon surrounded by civil servants, MP's from across party lines, and representatives from organisations such as the Holocaust Education Trust and Remembering Srebrenica.

As a small number of us processed from the Speakers house through the Palace of Westminster, I was suddenly quite overcome with emotion. I found myself shuddering at memories of hearing the stories of my grandmothers families 80 years ago. On one side of the family, a cousin, uncle and aunt were taken into the woods where, amongst fellow Jews they were instructed to dig a pit. They were then forced to strip at gun point before being shot into the grave they had just dug. My dad's Step-mother, who I grew up with as my grandmother, fled her parents' Polish home in the middle of the night without saying goodbye for fear they would persuade her not to go. She never saw them again.

And here was I, processing through the seat of power in the UK, to commemorate this genocide. The role that power and state sponsorship has played in the genocides of the 21st Century made it so heartbreakingly poignant to be present in Westminster. It is crucial that Holocaust Memorial Day serves as a reminder to all of the dangers of othering, of racism, of treating groups of people as somehow lesser.

Leaving almost immediately after Pesach, I have been invited to join an interfaith delegation on the March of the Living, which will visit Warsaw, Krakow and Auschwitz-Birkenau. I have visited

3 different camps previously, but never one on the scale of Auschwitz, which has become shorthand for the horrors suffered by millions in the Shoah and the murder of so many others by the Nazis.



March of the Living happens over Yom HaShoah, which is our day to grieve all that loss, while Holocaust Memorial Day in January is a National moment to reflect and learn from the horrors of the past. But it feels right to me to be making my first visit to this dark part of our history in an interfaith delegation; with voices from outside the community who can join with us in ensuring power can never again lead to genocide. It also feels like an important way to share with people of other faiths a part of our experience that has undoubtedly shaped who we are today, and how we are built as a community.

This history is core to who we are, but is not what our Judaism is about. Although there can be no meaning found in the tragedies of the Holocaust, we keep returning to it as a stark warning to those in power, and to the societies who will listen, about what happens when we dehumanise, other, and compartmentalise our neighbours, and strangers. I am both terrified of the forthcoming trip and humbled to be going. I suspect I will be processing it for many years to come!

Rabbi Debbie Young-Somers



Warm up those voices & grab your dancing shoes, and join us at EHRS for an evening of LIVE music.

Sunday 13 March 2022, 20:00 at EHRS

We welcome 'Movie Mayhem', a superb four-piece act, bringing to life the sounds of the big screen.

This musical extravaganza will feature some of the best loved soundtracks, sung live, from your favourite movies including Saturday Night Fever, Dirty Dancing, Blues Brothers, Mamma Mia, Grease, to name just a few!

Theatre style row seating or tables for four available to book. Please bring your friends & family to this fantastic musical evening.



ors open for seating at 19:30, show begins at 20:00, show ends 21:45

Feel free to wear your best movie themed get up, or come 'Footloose' and fancy dress free! Refreshments of alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks, will be available to purchase during the interval.

BOOK ONLINE NOW at www.ehrs.uk/event/nightfever or call 020 8238 1000

Please join us because 'Nobody Does It Better', and we guarantee you will have the 'Time of Your Life'!

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



PURIM 2022/5782

There are many homes for the movies starting with Hollywood in California. Now there is of course Bollywood in Bombay (now Mumbai) and Nollywood in Lagos, Nigeria turning out hundreds of films each year.

Recently, though, archaeologists have discovered a long forgotten part of movie history buried in the sands of Persia - Shushanwood! It is thought that the Shushan fortress may really have been a film studio, established by Cecil B De Ahasuerus, that Mordechai may have actually been a talent agent and Esther an aspiring actress looking to star in the movies. Haman of course was a mean and autocratic film director who terrorised the many Jews of Shushanwood.

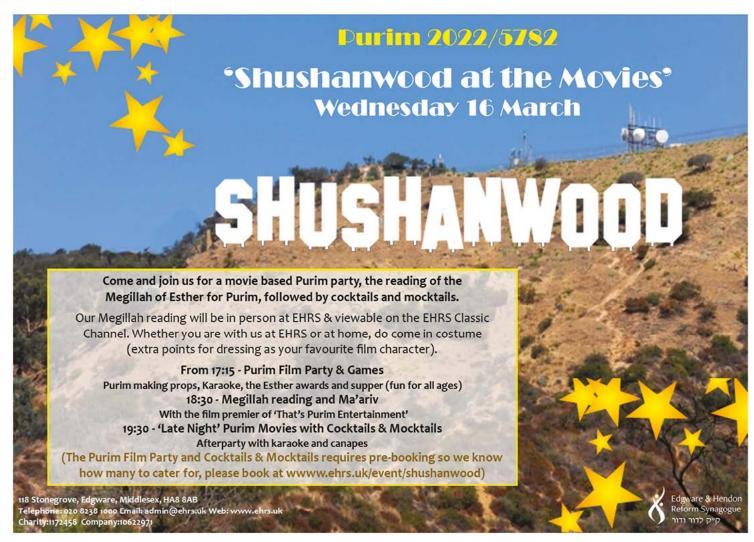
This year at EHRS we bring Shushanwood alive again with 'Shushanwood at the Movies' on Wednesday 16 March!

Come and join us for a movie based Purim party, the reading of the Megillah of Esther for Purim, followed by cocktails and mocktails. Our Megillah reading will be in person and viewable on the EHRS Classic Channel (the home of a great weekly Jewish soap opera Shacharit and Torah Service). Whether you are with us at the Synagogue or at home, do come in costume (extra points for dressing as your favourite film character).

Especially for this year we would love you to make a short (no more than 1 minute) video of your own with you and



your family (if you can persuade them!) playing a scene from any film with yourselves as the actors. Please send the result to rabbi.mark@ehrs.uk by Sunday 13 March at the latest and we will splice them together into a great new movie – 'That's Purim Entertainment', to be premiered at Shushanwood at the Movies.





FAMILIES PURIM PARTY

Sunday 13 March, 11:00 - 13:00

We invite the whole family to our movie themed Purim Party and premiere of..... The Circle of Purim! We will have movie themed activities, crafts & play for children, toddlers & babies, a costume parade and prizes, a Purim Spiel, with a pizza & popcorn lunch!

Please turn to page 19 for more information and how to book.

EHRS gets the Point for Secondary School! Tuesday 26 April, 20:00

An information and Q&A evening for parents on collecting CRP for Year 7 & Year 12 Secondary Jewish School applications. Please go to the website to register for Zoom details.

OROT: Children in Years 5 & 6 ended their Jewish Studies project the 'History of the Jews of England' with a trip to the Jewish East with Rabbi Mark who led the programme and drove them there too. As part of the project we had some lovely visitors sharing their personal family stories with the children. The younger children who learnt about the 'Animals in the Torah' visited Aldenham Park to see up close some of the animals they had learnt about. After half term, the children will start new projects.

Something new that we have introduced into Orot is an organised activity during break time, which is optional but the children enjoy participating in. Recently we painted stones, which will form part of the 10,000 Foundation Stones from people all across the UK in commemoration of the six million Jewish people who were murdered during the Holocaust; these stones will be on display in the soon to be built UK Holocaust Memorial and Learning Centre near Westminster.

Rabbi Mark recently commented on the "joyous atmosphere of Orot." If your child/ren would like to be part of a very special Sunday morning programme, and would like to try us out please contact education@ehrs.uk.

BBM: Our Friday programme goes from strength to strength with a brilliant curriculum based on Torah, Avodah and Gemilut Chasidim. Our mentoring programme is growing with twenty young people either as mentee, trained or in training to be a mentor every Friday during term time. It is lovely to see the young mentors present the book gift to their mentee at their Bar or Bat Mitzvah.



ATJ: continues to offer a plethora of stimulating and interesting programmes and events. The first 'Stonegrove Serenade' concert organised by Anna Flash was a huge success with 50 people attending that and our pop up 'Cafe 118.' We have had amazing, positive feedback. The musicians were outstanding as are all the musicians for our forthcoming

concerts. You can read more about these on the opposite page and to book go to www.ehrs.uk/atj

As always, Education has been working closely with Youth and Young Families to plan and organise activities and events for the children and families of our community. You can read more on page 19 about our not to be missed Purim and Pesach events and our new weekly Shabbat Club for children up to the age of 11 years. Look out for an email invitation to your child in the month of their birthday to come to shul to receive a blessing, a sticker and some birthday cake!

> Marian Cohen, Headof Education education@ehrs.uk/020 8238 1014

Our Intermediate Conversational **Hebrew** class meets on Tuesday mornings on Zoom from 10:00-12:00. You should be able to read basic Hebrew, and in script would also be helpful. This class is free to EHRS members, £40 a term for non members. For further information or to sign up please contact education@ehrs.uk





Wednesday 2 March, 19:30-21:30

How are Jewish status decisions taken in the 21st Century? What is the difference between inherited status and conversion?

How can we welcome all those who wish to be a part of their Jewish heritage? How did Judaism come to follow a matrilineal principle and why didn't they in Torah?

Join us for an evening of learning with our rabbis, as we decide as a community how and whether to take the next steps on our journey of inclusion and welcome.

Please book via the website www.ehrs.uk/event/inclusion

ALL THINGS JEWISH

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

Rosh Chodesh, 20:00 Rabbi Debbie welcomes everyone who would like to learn at this monthly group. To register to stay updated on our monthly meetings please do so at www.ehrs.uk/togethergroups. You can join us in person or on Zoom, though there will usually be an interactive element in the second half that will be enhance by being present if you are able. Zoom details in Our Week Ahead.

Things us Jewish

www.ehrs.uk/at atj@ehrs.uk

Thursday 3 March: Adar Sheni - What's in a name? Names in the Purim story have lots of hidden meanings, but our names also carry stories. We will explore different Jewish traditions of naming, when can names be changed, and have a chance to share the tales our names have to tell.

Thursday 31 March: Nisan - Innovating at Seder. Seder is an incredibly rich time to celebrate Jewish ritual. But it is a ritual that has endlessly shifted and changed over the years – and we will explore some of the modern innovations that might add stories, campaigns and depth to your seder.

Thursday 5 May: Iyyar - Moses Isserles, who is regarded as the definitive Halachic authority for Ashkenazi Jews, died during Iyyar in 1573, as did Isaac Alfasi, a leading rabbi from the Maghreb. So this month we will be exploring some of the classic ways Sephardi, Mizrachi and Ashkenzi rituals and customs differ, from blessing our daughters to Kitniot, and the hours between meat and milk!

Rosh Chodesh Sivan falls at the end of May/Start of June – there will be no Rosh Chodesh meeting but please join us for Tikkun Leyl Shavuot, on the evening of Saturday 4 June.

First Shabbat Shiur, 9:15-10:15

Our First Shabbat Shiurim are on all kinds of areas of Jewish life. You can join us in person at the Synagogue or at home using Zoom.

Saturday 5 March - A Jewish knight in Shining Armour: when Rabbis were warriors. When EHRS recruited its Rabbinic team we did not question their military skills. Not so for Rabbi Shmuel HaNagid of Granada in Muslim Spain who was a Rabbi, a Talmudist a war poet and a field marshal. Hear his fascinating story and whet your appetite for a future EHRS trip to Cordoba and Granada with Rabbi Mark.

Saturday 2 April - Eighty Years for Strength – The History of the Movement for Reform Judaism. In January 1942, in the midst of wartime, six Reform Synagogues of the UK came together in the Midland Hotel in Manchester to form, for the first time, an Reform Jewish movement. Why did they do it then? How was a broughus in the Board of Deputies influential in the event? Why was Edgware and District Reform Synagogue not there, even though we had been founded in 1935? Join David Jacobs, historian of UK Reform Judaism to find out. Hosted by Rabbi Mark.

Saturday 7 May - With Jonathan Bergwerk: Audacious Jews, Weizmann and the story of how the Balfour Declaration was finally signed. Hosted by Rabbi Debbie.

For International Women's Day Tuesday 8 March, 19:00



Where are we now? Women in the Rabbinate

We are delighted to welcome a panel of outstanding Rabbis to explore how far we've come, and where we still might want to go: Rabbi Dr Jackie Tabick, the 1st woman to be ordained in the UK and the 1st woman to head the UK & European Reform Batei Din; Rabbi Dr Deborah Kahn Harris, the 1st woman to head a Progressive Rabbinic seminary; Student Rabbi Eleanor Davis, member of EHRS currently on her journey into the Rabbinate; and Rabbi Debbie Young-Somers, our own Rabbi who grew up not knowing men could be Rabbis!

Please go to www.ehrs.uk/atj to book

THE RESERVOIR NAME OF THE PERSON NAME OF THE PERSON

Bite of Torah for everyone interested in Torah, 9:15-10:15

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

Saturday 19 March

Tzav: Fire on altars, sacrifices... lots of different ones!... and dabbing the priest's ear with blood...why do we read such stuff today? What can we hope to gain from it to help us in our lives of computers, smart phones and zoom? Come and explore some possible answers with Rabbi Jackie Tabick.

Saturday 23 April

Acharei Mot: Join Rabbi Mati to study the portion which introduces the concept of the scapegoat and also tell us which of our relatives we may not marry (though the language in the Torah is actually rather more graphic!)

Who Jew You Think You Are?

Tuesday 29 March, 19:30

EHRS Emeritus Rabbi Steven Katz will be in conversation with Laurence Stein about his origins, his ancestry, why he chose to become



a rabbi, his legendary sporting prowess and so much more. Rabbi Katz is renowned for his sense of humour, and this evening guarantees to be both informative and entertaining. Rabbi Katz was ordained by his father, Rabbi Dr. Arthur Katz, at a Leo Baeck College ceremony at the Liberal Jewish Synagogue in 1975, 47 years ago and later that year became Associate Rabbi of Hendon Reform Synagogue where he remained until the merger with Edgware & District Reform Synagogue in 2017. Clearly, Rabbi Katz must have many stories to tell, and this is the chance to hear them in an informal setting at EHRS. This will be an in person event with a livestream option. Please go to www.ehrs.uk/atj to book

Hebrew begins with Shalom Starting Tuesday 26 April, 14:00-15:00



A 10 week course in learning to read Hebrew led by Lawrence Cohen. No pressure, no exams, just a relaxed atmosphere and an opportunity to discuss how English and Hebrew have many similarities when it comes to reading! Suitable for either complete beginners or brusher uppers. There will be a one off charge of £3 for course materials. Please go to www.ehrs.uk/atj to book

Talmud Class Sundays 27 March 09:30-10:30, 3 April & 1 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.



A PESACH MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIRMAN

It is now two years since the world was shut down by a pandemic. Our first Pesach went online, and how strange it was. At that time, I predicted we would see a second year of an online seder, and now I am thrilled to see that this year we can celebrate this special festival together. Not only can families get together in their homes for a traditional seder, but

we will be holding services in person, and our special second night seder (see our Pesach supplement in this magazine for all that we have to offer over this, my favourite festival).

These two years have taken a heavy toll on everyone, but I am delighted to see so much in the shul returning to some kind of 'normal'. Our services, while still being streamed, are attracting more and more congregants. It is so special to be able to worship together again. More activities such as Jacs and Bridge are back

in the building. New activities, such as out Together groups, have started up in the past few months. Everywhere you look, there are activities to suit all age groups, from our very young, to our older members in all parts of the building.

Over the past few months your council has been looking at where we want to be in say, 2030, planning for our future, physically by looking at new building projects, spiritually, looking at the way we conduct our services and Jewish status, and ethically with our Eco synagogue initiatives, and much more. We would be delighted to hear your views on these, or any other subjects, as we look to building our community towards the next

I take this opportunity of wishing you all a wonderful Pesach, full of renewal in the Spring. For the past two years I have commented that I wished we could all be together again for this Yom Toy, and now we can, I look forward to meeting with as many of you as possible over the coming days and weeks.

Janet Brand, Chairman



Pirkei Avot 5:13:

A person who gives charity, and wants others to give, is pious.

High Holy Day Appeal for 2022/5783

We are delighted to inform the community that we raised just under £30,000 in our appeal last September for our chosen charities, Jewish Blind & Disabled, Camp Simcha, Leo Baeck Summer Scheme in Israel, My Israel, Magen David Adom, Noah's Ark Children's Hospice and Goods For Good.

Each year a small group of people choose from among the various charities that approach us during the year for help, and decide which charities will best suit our community. These are put out to you all in the High Holy Day Appeal.

We are now in the process of looking at the coming year's appeal. If you know of any charity, or have a pet charity that you think would resonate with others, please give their details to the synagogue office, admin@ehrs.uk, so we can send them an application form.

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

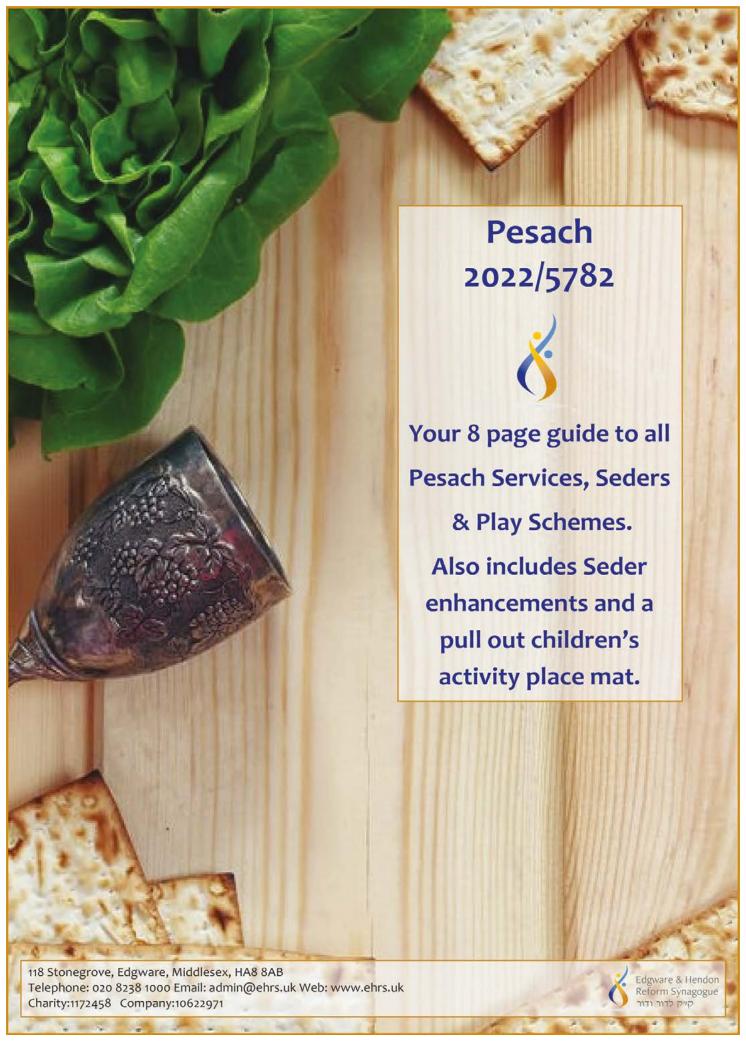


Free, safe and anonymous online counselling and support. qwell.io/jami

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







EHRS Pesach Services



Please book in person attendance for services & activities via the website, www.ehrs.uk/pesach
Zoom details will be in forthcoming Our Week Ahead emails.

Friday 15 April: Erev First Day Pesach

Kuddle Up Seder, 16:15 (see opposite page for full details)

Please note there will be no Erev Pesach & Shabbat Service on this night

The EHRS team is delighted to enable anyone who wants to attend a family Seder on the first night to do so. Please contact June Lewis, our Rabbis' PA at the Synagogue as soon as possible if you would like to find a host family to join for first night Seder.

If you are prepared to do the mitzvah of hosting a guest, please let June know. Your Seder does not need to be perfect, people looking for a host family are simply hoping to be together with others.

Saturday 16 April: First Day Pesach

Pesach & Shabbat Morning Service, 10:30

Our service includes the special liturgy and choral music for this central festival of the Jewish year and our coming together to celebrate our freedom.

Chocolate Seder, 11:00 (see opposite page for full details)

Communal Seder, 18:00 (see bottom of this page for full details)

Thursday 21 April: Erev Seventh Day Pesach

Naming our Jewish journey - what stories do our names tell, 18:30

In our Erev Seventh Day Pesach service we will explore the journeys we have gone on since crossing the Red Sea. Our names are often clues to our history, or links to people who have come before us. Join us for prayer and discussion, in person at EHRS and on Zoom.

Friday 22 April: Seventh Day Pesach

Main Service & Yizkor, 10:30

Our service includes the special liturgy & choral music that ends Pesach, together with a Yizkor to remember those who are no longer with us.

Family Taskmaster Pesach Challenge, 10:30 (see page 16 for full details)

A fun and fabulous family morning, inspired by TV's taskmaster, full of weird and wacky tasks and challenges.



EHRS Communal Seder



Saturday 16 April, 18:00

The EHRS Communal Seder will be held on Saturday 16 April at EHRS at 18:00 for a 18:15 start in the main synagogue hall, ending at approximately 22:00.

Please join us for a lovely and friendly evening of good food and a Seder service led by Rabbi Mark and Rabbi Mati.

This Seder is suitable for all ages, and will include a session for children with our Rabbis, helping them to enjoy being part of the Seder experience.

The Seder will be set up according to government guidelines and will be Covid compliant.

The 3 course catered Pesach meal will include either a chicken or vegetarian meal.

Please note on your booking form your choice of starter and main course.

(Starter: Chicken Soup OR Butternut Squash Soup ~ Main Course: Chicken Thighs OR Stuffed Aubergine)

Should you have a specific dietary requirement, this must be noted on the booking form at the time of booking as we cannot cater for special requests on the day.

EHRS Members: Adult: £30 Children 10-18yrs: £15 (under 10yrs free)
Guests: Adult: £35 Children 10-18yrs: £15 (under 10yrs free)

CLOSING DATE FOR BOOKINGS WILL BE MONDAY 4 APRIL Please book online at www.ehrs.uk/event/communalseder22

If you would like to discuss payment in strict confidence, please do not hesitate to contact Martine Allen, on 020 8238 1011 or email martine.allen@ehrs.uk

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



Join us for 4 days of entertainment for 5-13 year olds! Monday 11 - Thursday 14 April, 9:15-16:00

creativity

Early drop off from 8:30 & late pick up until 17:00 available upon booking Groups will be split in ages 5-7, 8-10 & 11-13

cooking

Please go to www.ehrs.uk/pps for more details and to book a place

music

fun

Pesach Play Scheme 2022

art

friendship

drama

Payment can be made via the website with a debit/credit card.

If you would like to pay by Childcare Vouchers
please email education@ehrs.uk
before booking



Early Bird prices available until Monday 28 March

EHRS Members: £96 all 4 days, £26 per day
Non EHRS Members: £112 full 4 days, £30 per day
Sibling reduction available

tis Stonegrove, Edgware, Middlesex, HAS SAB Telephone: 020 8238 1000 Email: admin@ehrs.uk Web: www.ehrs.uk Charity:1172458 Company:10622971 Edgware & Hendo Reform Synagogur

Kuddle Up Seder In Person

Friday 15 April 16:15-16:45

Join our Rabbis and their Shabbat Dinosaurs for Shabbat stories and songs held in person at EHRS in our spacious Community Centre, this month with a Pesach Seder theme!

Early arrival (optional) from 15.45!

Come straight from school pick up, or just arrive early to play before the service.

Selection of toys for the kids and hot drinks available for the adults!

Can collect CRP points from attending.

Please go to www.ehrs.uk/pesach to book



CHOCOLATE SEDER Saturday 16 April, 11:00 at EHRS

Please join us this Pesach for a delicious Chocolate Seder that will tantalise your taste buds and satisfy your soul!

For all those aged 5 and above, younger siblings are welcome accompanied by an adult, and will take place in the Community Centre. Led by Rabbi Debbie.

For catering purposes we must know numbers in advance, so booking is essential.

Please book at www.ehrs.uk/pesach

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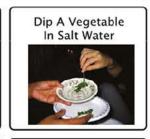
















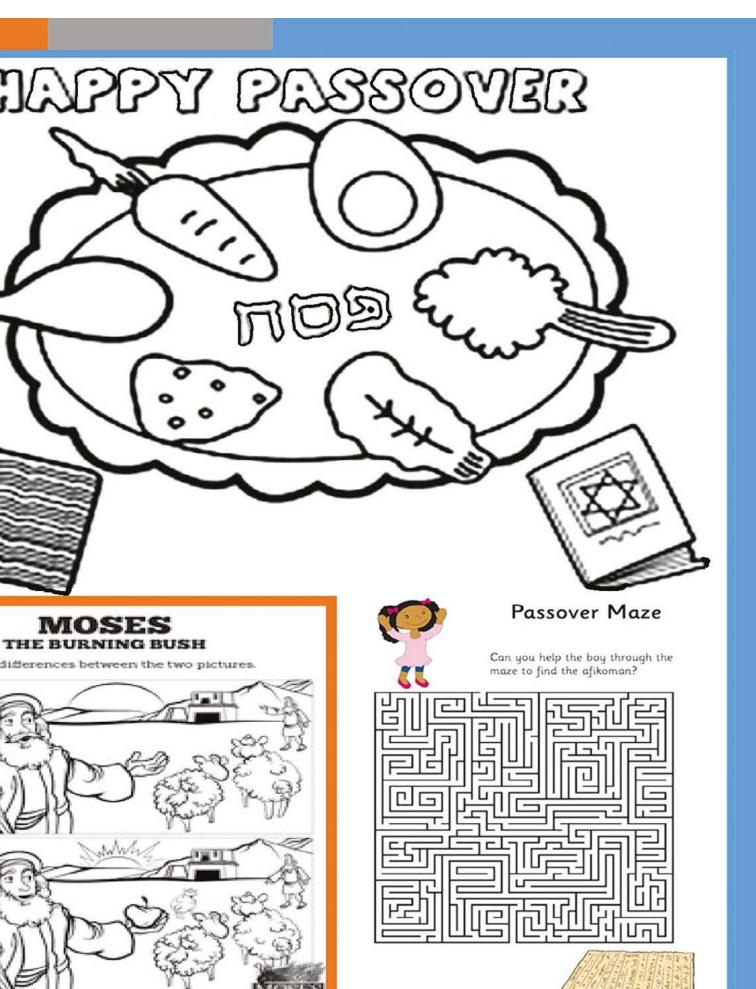












Chag Sameach

Wishing all our members and their families a very happy Pesach.



Cornerstone Mock Seder & From Generation to Generation Seder Ideas

Tuesday 5 April, 19:00 at EHRS

Join our Rabbis as we unpack and delve into the Pesach Seder - ideal for first timers and those wanting to understand a lifetime's practice better. We will take a walk through the steps of the Seder together and have a chance to enjoy a variety of charoset recipes!



All are welcome as we explore and introduce the Seder. We will also be helping you to make your Seder especially engaging for children with great ideas, creative material, ways to lead the seder and magic tricks you can perform! Please go to www.ehrs.uk/pesach to book.

Are there still Jews in Ethiopia? Sunday 10 April, 19:00 at EHRS

As we approach Pesach, when we began our journey to the promised land, we are joined by Meketa, a British charity supporting Ethiopian Jews still waiting for their moment of freedom and a journey to Israel. Founders of Meketa, Rabbi Sybil Sheridan and Hila Bram join EHRS's Kevin Darvill to explore the challenges this fascinating and often forgotten community face, their work and why there are still Jews in Ethiopia, a country currently in the midst of a brutal civil war. You'll also have the chance to buy beautiful Judaica, and try some Ethiopian cuisine... and it's kosher for Passover too! Please book online at www.ehrs.uk/pesach



TASKMASTER

Family Taskmaster Challenge

Seventh Day Pesach Friday 22 April 10:30-12:00

A fun and fabulous family morning, inspired by TV's taskmaster, full of weird and wacky tasks and challenges. Points awarded for creativity, silliness and general mayhem.

All families welcome with children 5 years old and above.

Please book online via the calendar section at www.ehrs.uk

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

Presented by Taskmasters Jack and Marian



15 Steps Through The Seder

We offer here supplemental thoughts, readings, activities, discussion points, and rituals to enhance your seder wherever you are.

1. KADESH - a blessing over wine.

Wine is a symbol of joy in Judaism. What freedom that you enjoy today brings you most joy?

2. URCHATZ - ritual washing of hands without the usual blessing.

In this world, holiness centered on cleanliness and hygiene. After the destruction of Temple-centric Judaism in 70 CE, the early rabbis embedded the tradition of handwashing in the Talmud, where we learn that "anyone who treats the ritual of washing hands with contempt is uprooted from the world" (Sotah 4b). Though perhaps a little crude, the rabbis were onto something: Those who washed their hands lived longer. [...]

Now, when I wash, I offer gratitude for the human mind that discovered washing your hands prevents the spread of illness; I am reminded that our tradition obligates us to protect the vulnerable, now more than ever; and I take a moment to appreciate my good health, knowing it can be whisked away at any moment. As we continue to face the challenges of this pandemic, this ancient ritual provides me with moments of gratitude and grounding during uncertain days.

3. KARPAS - eating some leafy greens or green vegetables

There are lots of additional seder symbols we might add to our seder plate, from a Chili to encourage us to talk about Climate change to a piece of cotton or a date to reflect on the plight of the Uigher community in China. Perhaps look around the room you are in and see what objects might speak to a theme of freedom for your seder tonight.

4. YACHATZ - raising up and breaking the middle Matzah

'Ring the bells that still can ring, forget your perfect offering, there is a crack in everything, that's how the light gets in.' Leonard Cohen, Anthem

What does Cohen's poetry say to you? How has the light crept in through the cracks over the last year?

5. MAGGID - the telling of the Exodus story

What stories of freedom and wandering do you and your family have to bring to the Seder table? If you would like to add the voice of a lesser known Jewish woman to your seder, Serach Bat Asher, you could download this ritual created by Rabbi Debbie and bring it to your seder: https://bit.ly/3KwTE6U

6. RACHTZAH - ritual washing of hands before the meal, with the blessing

'We wash our hands in remembrance of the sacrifices we have made this year, in honour of all the ways we have protected one another, and in hope that next year we shall be free.'

Each hand will be splashed with water three times. As you pour the water over each hand, give yourself a chance to pause and bring to mind.

On the first hand: Something that you are happy to wash away and leave behind; Something or someone that has brought you sustenance this year; Something that helped you feel a sense of freedom despite the restrictions

On the second hand: Think of those in need of healing (either individuals or all those suffering from Covid19) Extract from The Wellspring Project - Rachtzah Ritual; Think of individuals you want to remember at the seder who have been lost since the last; Think of one way you have actively been a source of healing/protecting others this year.

7. MOTZI - the blessing over the Matzah and the meal

"The custom of dividing the *matzah* at the beginning of the *Seder* service was first found in the *Machzor* Vitry in the eleventh century. During the Middle Ages, the *matzot* that were prepared only for Passover were an inch thick and were frequesntly decorated with figures of doves, fish, and animals; one *matzah* in an Italian manuscript from the fourteenth century showed a flowered border in which there was a four-legged animal with a human face with Egyptian characteristics". *Eat and Be Satisfied: A Social History of Jewish Food, John Cooper* 1990, p.114

8. MATZAH - another blessing over the Matzah, this time emphasizing the special nature of eating Matzah as a Passover ritual act

"Matzah is known as *lechem oni*, which can be translated as 'the bread of affliction' because it is a symbol of the Jews' life of oppression in Egypt. [...] Yet, at the same time, matzah is also a symbol of our liberation. [...] The question is obvious: how can the same object symbolise two utterly opposing states of being? The object itself does not inherently contain either freedom or slavery; rather, it is the attitude of the person engaged with that object that determines what the object represents" *Leah Haber On Matzah*, *Question*, and *Becoming a Nation in 'The Women's Passover Companion'* (2003).

After sacrificing many of our freedoms over the last two years in order to look after one another, as we munch our Matzah let us reflect on how we can each choose to find positives or negatives in each situation, and commit to be a force for good, freedom and responsibility.

9. MARROR - eating bitter herbs

Is there bitterness you are clinging onto from the loss or adjustments of our last two sedarim? As you chew on your maror, perhaps remember any bitterness you are harbouring, and try to leave it in your maror to be digested and let go of.

10. KORECH - eating a sandwich of Matzah and bitter herbs (and then adding a sweet, chutney-like Jewish dish called *charoset*)

"Rav Avira taught: In the merit of the righteous women that were in that generation, the Jewish people were redeemed from Egypt." (Talmud Sotah 11b) What was the righteousness the Talmud is talking about? "[...] when these women would become pregnant, they would come back to their homes, and when the time for them to give birth would arrive they would go and give birth in the field under the apple tree "(Sotah 11b). Some say it is to honour the bravery of these women, in labouring alone in the apple orchards, that Ashkenazi communities include apple in their charoset.

11. SHULCHAN ORECH - the festive meal

The greatest debate in Jewish history - should keneidlach (matzah balls) be light and floaty or dense and sink? This is Rabbi Debbie's go-to for decent soft matzah balls; makes 12 large or 24 small: 4 eggs, lightly beaten, 4 tbsp or 60ml oil, 4 tbsp or 60 ml ice-cold water, 1 cup medium matzah meal 1 tsp salt, 1/2 tsp pepper, Salted Water or stock to boil in covered pan - the larger the pan the better Mix eggs, oil and cold water in a large bowl. Add matzah meal, salt and pepper and mix well. Refrigerate for 1 hour. Bring a large pan of water/stock to the boil, lower heat and with wet hands form mix into balls and drop into the water. Cover the pot and cook for 30 minutes. Don't be tempted to lift the lid! Keep the lid on for 10 minutes after cooking. Serve in your favourite chicken soup or vegetable consommé.

12. TZAFUN - Eating the Afikomen

Searching for the Afikomen is one of the most enjoyable aspects of Seder night. One of the origins of hiding the Afikomen was the knowledge that poor and oppressed people have to store food in case of disaster. When the Afikomen is found share stories of the experience of wartime rationing, of helping out with foodbanks, of refugees who could not find food, perhaps even in your own family story.

13. BARECH - Grace after meals

Which food did each person around the table most enjoy during the evening? It may be a ritual food or it may have been part of the meal. In Grace after meals we express appreciation for everything we have eaten and thank God for basic sustenance. Why do you like the food that you liked?

14. HALEL - Singing Psalms of Praise

These songs have been part of our Pesach for nearly 3000 years. Their sound and their words are inspiring from generation to generation. What song means the most to you and why? If you were on 'Desert Island Disks' and you got to the part where you have to pick the one most important song to you what would it be?

15. NIRTZAH - conclusion

"Let freedom ring from every hill and molehill of Mississippi. From every mountainside, let freedom ring. And when this happens, when we allow freedom to ring, when we let it ring from every village and every hamlet, from every state and every city, we will be able to speed up that day when all of God's children, black men and white men, Jews and Gentiles, Protestants and Catholics, will be able to join hands and sing in the words of the old Negro spiritual, "Free at last! free at last! thank God Almighty, we are free at last!" Rev Martin Luther King

YOUNG FAMILIES

The start of 2022 has been ever busy and ever wonderful for our young families programming. January brought the launch of some new activities including our brand new weekly Shabbat Club and monthly birthday blessings. Shabbat mornings at EHRS now offer a special experience for children, enjoying craft activities, Lego bible and stories and singing. This new club allows families to come either just for the club and then join the end of the service and for community Kiddush, or come to Shul and the children are invited to leave the service to join Shabbat Club. Of course, there are always the filled tote bags to keep the little ones entertained in the classic service too. Our pre-schoolers continue to enjoy our Friday morning Stay & Play, and recently enjoyed some messy, sensory play lovingly created for them by our wonderful new Youth Development Lead Jack Murphy.

For Tu B'Shevat families enjoyed a fantastic Seder as part of Kuddle Up Shabbat in person. Children tasted and explored new fruits in a gorgeous service led by Rabbi Debbie.

We have so much fun planned for our youngest members and their whole families for Purim and Pesach. Check out the special families pull out section in the middle of this magazine, which has all information on what is happening during Pesach and some fun activities for the Seder table.

Please see the following for all upcoming activities and book via the website www.ehrs.uk/youngfamilies



Shabbat Stay & Play

Fridays 10:30-11:45 (Term time)

Our baby and toddler group with toys, crafts and song session and Kiddush with the Rabbis. The perfect way to meet

other parents, and enjoy a hot drink and a catch up.

Shabbat Club!

Saturday mornings, 11:15-12:15

A weekly Shabbat experience for up to 11 year olds to enjoy Parasha and Shabbat themed activities, stories and songs. Under 5 year olds must be accompanied by an adult. Finishing in time to join the community for Kiddush around 12:15.

Monthly Birthday Blessings

Last Shabbat of each month

We are delighted to invite all children each month to join us for a birthday blessing in the main service. Families will be sent personal invites, but do let us know if your child has a birthday coming up to make sure we have you on our list! Kiddush will include a special birthday cake treat!

Chumash Babies

Saturday 12 March, 10:15-11:15

A sensory Shabbat experience for babies and their families. Join us for a sensory session exploring the five senses, Followed by a catered breakfast Kiddush.

Purim for the whole family

Sunday 13 March, 11:00-13:00

We invite the whole family

to our movie themed Purim Party and premiere of..... The Circle of Purim!

With movie themed activities, crafts & play for children, toddlers & babies, a pizza & popcorn lunch, and watch our staff perform a Purim spiel full of silliness & surprises! Dress up encouraged, there will be a costume parade and prizes! Book now at www.ehrs.uk/purim

EHRS gets the Point!

Wednesday 6 April, 20:00

Have all your questions answered by our Rabbi, Young Families Lead and Nursery Head teacher and find out how you can collect CRP points in a variety of ways with EHRS.

Please go to the website to register for Zoom details.



SPECIAL Kuddle up Seder

Friday 15 April, 16:15-16:45

Join us for a Seder meets Shabbat experience! Our special interactive Shabbat service. Songs, stories and activities (Can collect CRP points from attending). More details on page 12.

Sarah Koster, Young Families Lead youngfamilies@ehrs.uk, 020 238 1025





NAGILA



On Tu B'Shevat the children at Nagila Pre-School were excited to enjoy a visit from Rabbi Mati. Together we first looked at how much the tree that we had planted last year had grown and then we helped him to plant a new tree for this year. We were able to use our newly renovated outdoor play area for this activity and the two 'trees' are now in pride of place. Later that morning, the children had a choice to plant some daffodil bulbs in their own individual pots, which they were able to take home at the end of the morning. We also got our creative juices flowing and made a very big sign out of natural resources to decorate the bimah as our contribution to the Intergenerational Shabbat service.

It is part of Nagila's mission to help our children learn about life, including their Jewish heritage, by making it fun and real, so that they absorb and retain what we show them. Making the environment at Nagila as friendly, fun and enjoyable as possible ensures that our boys and girls look forward to coming to nursery. We take pride in producing confident, independent self-assured individuals and



we work equally as hard to give them a strong sense of community.

This is the time of year when we start offering places for next September so if you would like your child (or grandchild) to join us on our adventures then please don't hesitate to contact us at nagila@ehrs.uk. We still have a few spaces available for the 2022/2023 year.

Milissa Seiler, Head of Nagila nagila@ehrs.uk/020 8238 1022

YOUNG ADULTS

Beer and Shiur, 20:00

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.

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

Wednesday 9 March: Grappling with Violence: Over the next few months, we will read the story of Esther which ends in a bloodbath, and the 10 plagues at the seder table, with God hardening Pharoah's heart. How do we manage with such violence at 21st Century readers, and do they have a place in our Judaism?

Wednesday 13 April: Pre Pesach Pizza: Join Rabbi Debbie in person at Pizza Garden in Edgware for a last chametz blow out, and a bit of Pesach learning. Please register with Rabbi Debbie, rabbi.debbie@ehrs.uk by Tuesday 12 April so a table can be booked.

Environmental Action Team (EAT)



It started with a thought-provoking meeting back in October 2019 "Climate Change is a Jewish Issue."

A good turnout and a lively discussion produced several proposed actions one of which, joining EcoSynagogue, was prioritised for 2020.

EcoSynagogue (www.ecosynagogue.org) is designed to provide a practical and simple road map towards a net zero carbon future. This unique initiative spans the whole Jewish community with religious leadership from four denominations of Judaism. Rabbi Mark is the Reform Judaism representative on the Steering Group.

EcoSynagogue invites each participating synagogue to an online Environmental Audit which is a comprehensive survey of how we engage with the environment in our places of worship. The audit helps us to assess how we are doing and ways in which we can improve. The score will lead to a Bronze, Silver and ultimately Gold EcoSynagogue Award. At the moment, we have a way to go and EHRS is a few points

The score will lead to a Bronze, Silver and ultimately Gold EcoSynagogue Award. At the moment, we have a way to go and EHRS is a few points short of a Bronze level!

The first requirement is for EHRS to have an environmental policy in place. Environmental Action Team members, Julie Tucker & Daniel Mitchell have been working on a draft policy for our Council to consider adopting. Forming the E.A.T group fulfils the third requirement.

We plan to create a number of activities this year to bring environmental action into EHRS life. Our most recent event was an open business breakfast on Environmental Sustainability at work hosted by EHRS member, David Saul at his city office.

Hopefully, some of the excellent ideas first mooted back in 2019 will also come to fruition.

EHRS Eco Tip

This contribution is from Jeremy Ross, Interior designer & environmental campaigner/environmental advocate.

Light bulbs: Switching to light-emitting diodes (LED) and compact fluorescent lamps (CFL) are both energy-saving bulbs. They are a much more efficient alternative to now defunct incandescent and halogen bulbs. CFLs use 60-80% less energy than an incandescent, halogens use 20-30% and LEDs use an astonishing 90% less.

SOCIAL ACTION

Details of all our volunteering opportunities are on the EHRS website at www.ehrs.uk/ socialaction

SUPPORT THE HOMELESS

Comedy Night Fundraiser for Together in Barnet (TiB)

Watch the Comedy Store's website for details of our fundraiser for TiB on Monday 21 March

www.london.the come dystore.co.uk.

SPONSORED SLEEPOUT FOR BARNET'S HOMELESSNESS CHARITIES HOMELESS ACTION IN BARNET & TOGETHER IN BARNET

Save the date for our sponsored sleepout event on **Saturday 26 March 2022**. There will be options for families to sleepout in their own gardens as well as in the EHRS car park. For more information please follow the link **www.togetherinbarnet. org/blog/the-big-barnet-sleep-out-2022**.

Rabbi Mark will be taking part in the Big Barnet Sleep Out in a sleeping bag alongside others from the 32 communities that support Barnet's two charities that help people experiencing homelessness.

You can donate at www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Mark-Goldsmith5

MENTORING & BEFRIENDING SCHEME

The aim of the Together in Barnet Mentoring and Befriending Project is to tackle isolation and loneliness as well as offering people engaging with Together in Barnet and Homeless Action in Barnet an opportunity to gain from the breadth of experience in the community.

The sessions will be tailored to each person, who will set short, medium and long-term goals, reviewing and developing these during the course of the project. Volunteers and the individuals engaging with the project can either choose to go down the befriending side of the project, or the mentoring side of the project, or a combination of both. Our hope is that this will cater to all individuals. Together in Barnet will then support both the volunteers' and individuals' journey throughout this project via regular communications and feedback sessions.



If you would like to get involved, please contact Together in Barnet's Operations Manager for an initial chat to find out more - amanda@ togetherinbarnet.org

INTERNSHIPS SOUGHT FOR A LEVEL STUDENTS

Around the corner from EHRS, students from The London Academy,

www.londonacademy.org.uk, are being supported by social mobility charity Career Ready www.careerready.org.uk on their journey into the world of work. As part of that journey, Career Ready would like to offer all students internships during the summer between Year 12 & Year 13.

A four-week paid internship allows students to apply their learning in a workplace, make a real contribution to your work, and gain experience and skills that will prove invaluable to them in whatever career they go on to. Many students describe their internship as a turning point and the experience often acts as a real incentive and motivates them to work harder in their academic studies. In return, you get access to a pool of young, talented, ambitious people from the local area who can give a fresh perspective on your business. These students have been through a competitive selection process to gain a place on the programme and are highly motivated - they could be excellent future recruits for you and

80% of employers who work with Career Ready state that they would employ one of their students in the future.

If you are interested in how a student from The London Academy can add value to your business then please email lisa.bard@ehrs.uk

HELP REFUGEE CHILDREN ON SUNDAYS

Do you have a couple of hours to spare on Sundays between the hours of 10:00 and 14:00? Why not use that time to help children who have not been so lucky, who had to flee their homeland and arrived in the UK on their own.

The Separated Child Foundation www. separatedchild.org needs you to compile Arrival Packs and Sleep Packs, which we send out to unaccompanied child refugees up and down the country via charities and social services. We need you to join us in a self-storage unit at Staples Corner for a couple of hours on a Sunday to put new clothing and toiletries into a 'hug in a bag' for the children who arrive here on their own with so, so little.

Email at **lisa.bard@ehrs.uk** for more information.

Many Thanks for your support

Lisa Bard

EDGWARE AND STANMORE ROTARY CLUB

has a number of volunteering opportunities. While the need for help with the vaccination programme is winding down, the need for support for other projects is rising. Our club works with the My Yard charity to support both local charities and individuals from isolated elderly to vulnerable cancer sufferers. We need volunteers to help pack and also to deliver food parcels. As Spring approaches activities at the allotment are accelerating so any volunteers who like getting their hands dirty would be very welcome, and we will be also starting projects such as litter picking at Canons Park.

If anyone is interested in helping, with any of the above, please email peterbradley4450@gmail.com

Peter Bradley, President of Edgware and Stanmore Rotary Club



YOUTH CENTRE



It has been a busy few months in the Youth Centre since I became the Youth Worker in late December, a role I am thoroughly enjoying. We have held two play schemes, and are looking forward to two more coming up very soon!

In December we had our excellent 2 day Funnukah play scheme. Over those two days the children and madrichim really enjoyed laughing, having fun and making friends. On the first day we learnt a whole play in one day. This was so enjoyable because we all became

little actors for the day and produced a masterpiece called Treasure Island. The children loved being pirates and finding all the treasure. On the second day we took part in the Great EHRS Bake Off, creating beautiful tray bake cakes, making fondant flowers, and working as a team. Rabbi Mark joined us to judge the cakes, taste testing, and doing his best Paul Hollywood impression! In the afternoon we raced on our bouncy castle obstacle course, this was so funny to see everyone rushing around and getting very competitive.

Since Funnukah, we have started up our Hadracha Course for our 14+ year olds where they are learning how to be leaders for our schemes and clubs. It has been wonderful to be together, to get to know each other, and build bonds with each other. Furthermore we are starting to build ideas of what makes a great leader and what it means in Judaism. Our Fab Feb Scheme was also a great success (I know we do so much, and you should really get involved!) We had



an excellent time welcoming the Scouts who showed us some archery skills. We also had the opportunity to learn street dance, took part in a boxercise workout, as well as a creating our very own superheroes. The week had so much action and bought us so much joy. If that sounded like fun, we have our

Pesach Play Scheme coming up this April and then our popular Kaytana & Kadima Summer Play Scheme in August. Please see the website for full information, www.ehrs.uk/youthcentre

Jack Murphy, Youth Worker youth@ehrs.uk/020 8238 1024



BOOKINGS NOW OPEN FOR THIS YEARS PESACH PLAY SCHEME AND KAYTANA & KADIMA Please go to www.ehrs.uk/ youthcentre, or contact Jack Murphy, Head of Youth Development at youth@ehrs.uk /020 8238 1024 if you have any queries.



TOGETHER GROUPS

Whether it's reading, singing, dancing, foraging, cooking, rambling, schmoozing, learning or even whiskey tasting, we have many groups where you can join other members with common interests.

EHRS Together Groups are all about making our congregation of over 3000 people a place where we know each other and are can find people who share their interests. It's a great way of making sure that more and more of our members find the people within the Synagogue that we would especially enjoy getting to know. Some groups are in person, whilst others continue online.

Go to www.ehrs.uk/togethergroups for more information on what groups we have and how to book your place. A selection of these groups are listed below.

MONTHLY COOK-A-LONGS, 20:00

Our Cook-a-Long's led by Rabbi Debbie are open to all adults who would like to join us. In the last couple of months we have enjoyed Chinese and Hungarian cook-a-longs.

Wednesday 23 March: Vegan and Parev desserts. Join Rabbi Debbie for a chocolate mousse that almost everyone can enjoy, and the best non-dairy cookies there are!





We will not be holding a cook-a-long on 27 April. Instead please join us on **Wednesday 4 May for an in person Yom Ha'atzmaut Cook-a-Long** with Rabbi Debbie and Bonnie Lemer where we will make home made falafel, hummus, and pitta!

RABBI KRAFT MEMORIAL BOOK CLUB

We will continue to meet via Zoom. The advantage of Zoom is that we have been joined in many meetings by the author of the book we are reading. In January Dhipa Lee (author of Written) was able to give us a fascinating insight into the Bangladeshi community in the UK, and in February we were joined by Rachel Kadish live from the US (author of The Weight of Ink).

On Tuesday 1 March, 19:30 we will be discussing 'Piranesi' by Susanna Clarke. Please note that Susanna will not be joining us on this occasion.

Winner of the 2021 Women's Prize for Fiction, and a Sunday Times & New York Times bestseller. 'Piranesi lives in the House. Perhaps he always has. In his notebooks, day after day, he makes a clear and careful record of its wonders: the labyrinth of halls, the thousands upon thousands of statues, the tides that thunder up staircases, the clouds that move in slow procession through the upper halls. Messages begin to appear, scratched out in chalk on the pavements. There is someone new in the House. But who are they and what do they want? Lost texts must be found; secrets must be uncovered. The world that Piranesi thought he knew is becoming strange and dangerous.'

FORAGING GROUP

Sunday 1 May

Join Peter Bradley and Rabbi Debbie as we discover the springtime abundance of Edgware and the surrounding areas! Register now with more details coming soon.

OTHER TOGETHER GROUP OPPORTUNITIES WE HAVE ARE:

Bereavement, Coffee & Chat, Israeli Dancing, Let's Talk - An EHRS Mental Health Initiative, Rambling, Rosh Chodesh, Schmoozing with the Rabbis, Singing Circle, Talmud Class, and Whiskey Tasting.

Register at www.ehrs.uk/togethergroups

EHRS GROUPS

NEW OPTIONS

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

Schmoozing with the Rabbis -

A light hearted topical discussion, in an informal setting. Join Rabbi Steven Katz on Wednesday 16 March and Rabbi Debbie on Wednesday 13 April, 10.30-11.30. In person at the Synagogue or on Zoom. Zoom details will be provided in the Our Week Ahead email.

Bridge - We're back!!

Our popular and friendly sessions take place every **Wednesday**, 12:30-15:30. Join us for an enjoyable and sociable afternoon. Only £4 including tea.

Community Weekend Away

Following our previous successful

weekends, we invite you to another informal and social 'Weekend Away' to Exeter on Fri 20 – Sun 23 May 2022.

COMMUNITY WEEKEND AWAY EXETER, Friday 20 - Monday 23 May 2022

Following our previous successful weekends, we invite you to another informal and social 'Weekend Away' to Exeter in May 2022.

Accommodation: 3 nights at the 4 star 'Jurys Inn Hotel' (twin, double & single rooms available)

Cost: £350 per person (plus £120 for single room supplement). This will include 3 nights' bed, breakfast & evening meal, plus Saturday lunch and all outings.

We will enjoy a guided walking tour of Exeter, a day coach trip to a Stately Home/Gardens (including a Devon cream tea), a visit to historic Exeter Synagogue, & evening entertainment.

For more details and to reserve your place, please call Jeffrey Fisher on 0208 958 0424 or email newoptions@ehrs.uk NEUROBICS specialises in cognitive health for adults over 60, energising the body, stimulating the brain & enriching the soul. Join us on Zoom Mondays & Thursdays, 10:00-11:15. Workshops £5. Contact Steve on 07966 000660 or steve@neurobics.org.uk

NOT THE WOMENS GUILD

We have not been active since Covid because being a smallish group who met in people's houses, went to theatres, lectures, restaurants etc. we obviously couldn't carry on during the pandemic and decided not to compete with larger organisations on Zoom. When we decide that we are ready to resume our activities we will make an announcement, but we don't feel the time is yet right. We look forward to getting together in the future.

Calling all doers and giveit-a-go-ers.

Ready to try something new?

abseiling, cycling and canoeing. But we also get to hang out with our friends every week - having fun, playing games, working in a team and taking on new challenges.

Yes, we go camping, hiking, swimming,

Who

All young people aged 6 to 14 years old

When

Thursdays 5:45pm-6:45pm (ages 6-8)

Thursdays 6:45pm-8pm (ages 8-101/2)

Tuesdays 7pm-8:30pm (ages 101/2-14)

What

Outdoor adventures and skills for life

Where

Edgware & Hendon Reform Synagogue and the great outdoors

info@third.org.uk

#SkillsForLife





OTHER ACTIVITIES AT EHRS

JACS (JEWISH ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL SOCIETIES)

JACS takes place at EHRS on Thursdays, 13:30.

3 March: Geoff Strum - Songs From The Musicals 10 March: Guyathrie Peiris – Broadway Classics

17 March: Oleg – Classic Hits on the Clarinet and Sax

24 March: Colin Oakes - Jewish London

28 April: Stephen Horne – Life is too serious to be taken

seriously

For more information please contact Stuart Winton on 020 8954 8350 or David Kalms on 07831 220269.

ZUMBA GOLD

Thursdays 10:00-11:30

This class is perfect for the active older adults who are looking for a modified Zumba class that recreates the original moves you love at a lower intensity.

£6 per session.

For more information please contact Laurel Ingram at dancinline@ hotmail.com





The Brownies have enjoyed time with our Rabbis. Rabbi Debbie made chollah with the Brownies which they then baked at home and sent photos to us showing how they turned out. It was a wonderful evening. In December Rabbi Mati lit the Chanukah candles with us. The Brownies all said the blessings together and then sang Mo'az Tsur on this very special night.



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more doors



TORAH SCROLL IN MEMORY OF RABBI NEIL KRAFT Z"L

As the community knows, last year we commissioned the making of a Torah Scroll as a lasting memorial to our much loved rabbi.

We are so hopeful that the Torah Scroll, that has been written specifically in the name of our beloved Emeritus Rabbi Neil Kraft z"l, is now nearly complete, and we thank you for your donations.

Ideally it will be brought back from Israel where it has been written, at Pesach, and then the mantle can be made & designed.

News of a siyum (celebration party) will follow once the scroll has been received.

Stonegrove Serenade - Music for the Community

EHRS's new venture was received with rousing applause from the 50 people who attended the inaugural concert, featuring Royal College of Music Masters alumni Emmanuel

Bach on violin accompanied by Jenny Stern on Piano. The audience enjoyed an hour long concert featuring works from Tchaikovsky, Elgar, Shubert and Paganini in the beautiful setting of EHRS's main synagogue with its fantastic acoustics. Before the concert, attendees were able to have lunch in pop up Café 118, another new EHRS enterprise and many stayed after for tea, homemade cake and chat. Stonegrove Serenade aims to provide high quality concerts for both EHRS members and the wider

community at the same time as offering talented musicians a paid opportunity to perform. The concerts are free to attend with a suggested minimum donation of £5.



Serena

Tuesday 15 March, 13:00

On this date we welcome two fantastic talented young musicians to perform on piano and cello, after a sell out performance at The Royal Albert Hall's Elgar Room: Berniya Hamie on piano and Riya Hamie on cello.

Concert Programme:

Chopin (arr. Feuermann/Navarra) - Introduction and Polonaise Brillante op.3 ~ Vecsey - Valse triste Popper - Elfentanz ~ Dvorak - Cello Concerto in B minor, op.104

Tuesday 19 April, 13:00

Our April concert will feature a flute, cello & piano trio of talented graduates from the Royal College of Music: Sofia Castillo on flute, Idlir Shyti on cello, Simone Alessandro Tavoni on piano.

Concert Programme:

Haydn: Trio in G major Hob XV.15 ~ Hummel: Trio op 78 ~ Debussy: Trio in G major L.5 (Café 118 will be open before the concert, serving a delicious Pesach friendly menu)

More details on all the performers can be found on the website.

Please book at www.ehrs.uk/atj or email stonegrove.serenade@ehrs.uk to be added to the mailing list.

118 Stonegrove, Edgware, Middlesex, HA8 8AB Telephone: 020 8238 1000 Email: admin@ehrs.uk Web: www.ehrs.uk Charity:1172458 Company:10622971 We invite you to enjoy refreshments in our pop up cafe before the concert. 'Cafe 118' will be open 12:00, last orders at 12:45. The café will re-open after the concert for coffee, tea, homemade cake, and a chat. Please note when booking if you will be using the café.





The EHRS EveryJew Cinema

We are hosting a cinema evening at EHRS each month. Popcorn provided and no need to book.

Wednesday 2 March, 19:30-21:30 - The Red Tent

The Red Tent is a sweeping tale that takes place during the times of the Old Testament. Dinah happily grows up inside the red tent where the women of her tribe gather and share the traditions and turmoil of ancient womanhood.

The film tells the story Rachel, Leah, Zilpah and Bilhah, the four wives of Jacob. Dinah matures and experiences an intense love that subsequently leads to a devastating loss, and the fate of her family is forever changed. Marian Cohen will host this film in solidarity with International Women's Day, which is on 8 March.



Rabbi Mark at the Leo Baeck College Lehrhaus How far Should a Jew go to Sell a Used Car?

Thursdays 3,10,17 & 24 March, 19:30-21:30

Each week of this course on-line course we will work with a real scenario about buying and selling, hiring and firing, competing or investing. We will study Jewish texts from the past two millennia which help us to build our ethical standards in business. Whether you are active in business or organizational life, retired or a domestic consumer you are welcome to this course.



The fee for Leo Baeck College courses is £60 but EHRS members have a 50%

discount - so your fee is just £30. To enrol on this course please contact Jarek at lehrhaus@lbc.ac.uk Visit www.lbc.ac.uk/studywithus/lehrhaus for the other courses on offer this semester.

Choral Evening Service for Yom Hashoah

A beautiful service of songs, prayers and reflections

Wednesday 27 April 20:00-21:00

in person at EHRS and on the EHRS Livestream Classic Channel

This year we will be hearing remarkable testimony from EHRS Ruth Abrahams who will be speaking about the experiences of her mother Judy Benton z"l and how she managed to escape Nazi Germany on the eve of the Shoah.

An important part of our memorial service is to commemorate 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 by Tuesday 26 April.





















This Pesach, will you help us to continue to care for the 10,000 lives we touch, every single week?

At Jewish Care, we love to celebrate Shabbat and festivals with our residents, tenants and members across our care homes, retirement living schemes and our newly reopened day and community centres.

Our Meals on Wheels drivers visit vulnerable members of the community with delicious Kosher meals.

Our clients look forward to their calls every week from our dedicated team of telephone befrienders and our Helpline and Social Work and Community Support Teams continue to be there for everyone in the community that needs us.

All of this, and so much more is only made possible thanks to our generous supporters. We hope you can continue to support us and the 10,000 lives we touch every week.

On behalf of everyone who relies on Jewish Care, we wish you and your famillies a happy Pesach.

If you are able to make a donation, please call 020 8922 2600 or visit jewishcare.org/donate

Charity Reg No. 802559



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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 160 guests and leave room for dancing the night away!

A room extension is available to accommodate up to 250 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.











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

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