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# FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION

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#### RABBI NEIL KRAFT z'I TORAH SCROLL

This beautiful scroll is now complete with Rimonim, please take a look and read about its symbolism

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Our ever popular Summer Scheme is back for 3 weeks of activities, outings, workshops and fun, book now! Page 14

#### STONEGROVE SERENADE

Join us for more concerts featuring up and coming classical musicians -August brings us an evening concert Page 6



#### **CONTACT US**

The normal office operating hours are Monday to Thursday 9:30-17:00, Friday 9:30-15:30, and Sundays 10:00-12:30. You are welcome to call or visit during these times. The office is not staffed on Shabbat and festivals. If you wish to see a specific member of staff, please call in advance to ensure that they are available. The telephone is operated during the normal office hours, 020 8238 1000. You can email to admin@ehrs.uk. Emails and messages will be checked during the normal operating hours.

If you need to advise of a death or arrange a funeral, outside of the normal hours, please call the JJBS directly on 020 8989 5252

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**

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

During office hours: in all cases of

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 (On Sabbatical until September) 020 8238 1019, rabbi.debbie@ehrs.uk Rabbi Tanya Sakhnovich. 020 8238 1018, rabbi.tanya@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

#### **BABY BLESSINGS**

8 July - Harry and Oliver Pollack.

#### **BAR/BAT MITZVAH**

22 July - Judith Mailer, daughter of Nicholas and Victoria.

29 July - Joshua Thurlow, son of Stephen and Laura.

5 August - Gabriella Simons, daughter of Darren and Melissa.

26 August - Zane Ricklow, son of Dean and Carla.

#### **ENGAGEMENTS**

Daniel Joseph, son of Stephen and Val Joseph, to Dana Shoukroun, daughter of Ronit and Yossi Shoukroun.

Elliott Allen, son of Steve and Martine Allen, to Justine Saville, daughter of Fraser Saville and Sara Radivan.

#### **AUFRUFS**

8 July - Ashley Hirschberger and Ilana Goldenfield.

22 July - James Lightstone & Daniella Gilbert.

19 August - Daniel Weiner and Lauren

26 August - Jordan Black and Maria Duque Lozano.

#### **BIRTHDAYS**

Mazel Tov to Rosalyn Ginsberg on her 95th birthday.

Mazel Tov to Gerald Kingsley on his 90th birthday.

Mazel Tov to Barbara Klass on her 8oth birthday.

Mazel Tov to Peter Weber on his 8oth birthday.

Mazel Tov to Jo Sigalov on her 60th birthday.

Mazel Tov to Rabbi Mark Goldsmith on his 60th birthday.

#### **ANNIVERSARIES**

Mazel Tov to Joan and Fred Kalb on their Diamond Wedding Anniversary. Mazel Tov to Melanie and Steve Bowman on their Silver Wedding Anniversary.

#### CONDOLENCES

To Sylvia Budd on the loss of her husband, Sidney Budd.

To Janet Sterling on the loss of her husband, Alec Sterling.

To Gabby Kessler on the loss of his wife, Sue Kessler.

To Peter Harris on the loss of his wife, Antoinette (Toni) Harris.

To Stephen Altman on the loss of his mother, Marian Altman.

To Peter Waterman on the loss of his mother, Sheila Freedman.

To Natalie Godfrey on the loss of her mother, Audrey Drucker.

To Sharon and Robert Graham on the loss of their son, Aaron Graham.

To Freda Polak on the loss of her son, Anthony Polak.

To Sheila and Sidney Montague on the loss of their daughter, Sarah Montague.

To the family of Eva Glicksman. To the family of Anita Godfrey. To the family of Rosalind Diamond. To the family of Myra Craig. To the family of Beryl Fisher. To the family of Barbara Goodkind.

#### TOMBSTONE CONSECRATIONS

2 July at Edgwarebury Cemetery -12:30 in memory of Alan Franks.

23 July at Cheshunt Cemetery -14:00 in memory of Alfred Koslover.

6 August at Cheshunt Cemetery -11:15 in memory of Robert Leveson. at Cheshunt Woodlands -12:00 in memory of Callum Roche.

#### **NEW MEMBERS:**

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

Scott Hurst, Trudi Miller and Maximus Hurst.

Helen Turner.

Jessica Sharpe, Ava and Sebastian Hill. Louise Baker and Joel Zietcer.

Val and Sandra Myers.

Zoe Rissen.

Neil, Katie, Raphael and Cecilia Phillips. Laurence and Deborah Bard.

Julian, Katy, Oliver, Joseph, Rudi and Marli Marks.

Max Attias.

Harris Bard.

Marilyn Herman.

Richard, Samantha, Joshua, Jordan and Imogen Fogelman.

Neil, Amber and Isla Robins.

Dale, Carrie, Dillon and Sienna Henry.

Mark & Stacey Saunders.

Erol and Susan Kohen.

Jonathan, Samantha, Jacob and Isla Dean. James Levene.



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

#### **Erev Shabbat Service**

#### Every Friday Evening, 18:30-19:20

Our Erev Shabbat Service takes place every Friday Evening. 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.

# Pride Kabbalat Shabbat and Rainbow Kiddush

#### Friday 30 June

As LBGT+ Pride month draws to a close come and enjoy a Shabbat evening service for our whole community followed by a rainbow Kiddush. Please bake anything to bring with rainbow colours or let us know on our website that you are coming and Rabbi Mark will ask you to bring something to share in one of the rainbow colours. We'll have rainbow Challah as well and a special Pride D'var Torah.

#### Friday 1 September

Come along to our Elul's Shirah Band Friday night service to reflect together on the year, which is about to finish and to celebrate our learnings and achievements together. After a joyful and relaxing service, co-led by our families, we will enjoy a bring & share dinner, making new friends and sharing our achievements.

#### **Kuddle Up Shabbat**

Our special interactive Shabbat service for Primary aged children and their siblings. Songs, stories and activities. You can collect CRP points from attending. Early arrival is optional from 15.45. Come straight from school pick up, or just arrive early to play before the service. Selection of toys for the children and hot drinks available for the adults.

Kuddle Up Summer Picnic

#### Friday 21 July, 16:15-16:45

A special summer outdoors Kuddle Up with a 'picnic' tea and Kiddush!

#### **Kuddle Up with Kaytana**

# Friday 18 August, SPECIAL TIME OF 15:45-16:30

We are delighted to be joining our gorgeous Kaytana Summer Scheme for Kiddush with the Rabbi, followed by our own activity & Storytime.

#### **Shabbat Morning Service**

#### 10:30-12:30

Our Shabbat Morning Service is held in the EHRS Beit Tefillah (sanctuary). The service is also available on the EHRS Livestream Classic Channel.

#### Shabbat B'Ya'ar - Shabbat in the Forest

#### Saturday 1 July, 10:30-11:45

Join Rabbi Mark for a very special Shabbat morning service outside among the trees of Stanmore Common. We will meet at the Warren Lane Car Park near the junction with The Common at 10:30 for a special morning exploring our connection to the world around us and the prayers we say. Siddur provided but do bring a camping chair or something waterproof to sit on if it is looking wet!

#### **Early Risers Service**

#### Saturday 8 July, 9:30-11:00

This especially friendly 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.

#### **Shabbat Shirah**

#### Saturday 8 July, 11:15-12:15

This is EHRS's Shabbat morning experience for o-100's with rhythm in their souls, featuring a live band, an energetic Shabbat service suitable for children of all ages, a Torah reading and the chance for everyone to participate in making the music. Led by our Rabbis. If you play an instrument and would like to be part of the band let Rabbi Mark know at rabbi.mark@ehrs.uk so he can invite you in.

#### **Shabbat Club and Birthday Blessings**

#### Saturday 29 July, 11:15-12:15

Our Shabbat experience for up to 11

year olds to enjoy parasha and Shabbat themed activities, stories and songs. If it is your birthday this month then at the end of the service in the Beit Tefillah (main Synagogue) we would love to celebrate with you with a birthday blessing just before Kiddush at 12:30.

# Bark Mitzvah Service at EHRS in the Courtyard (Car Park)

#### Saturday 12 August, 11:00-12:00

Yes, for the third glorious year running, we really mean it - on the week when we enter the month of Elul, traditionally the Jewish New Year for Animals, Rabbi Mark invites you to bring your pet to the Synagogue for us to celebrate the place of animals in our lives. You will be surprised at how much the dogs get involved in the service! Today we thank them with special prayers and blessings and the Torah portion of Re'eh read from the point of view of the animals. You are of course welcome to come if you don't have a pet or if yours is not transportable – just bring a photo. Wet weather plan - bring an umbrella!

#### HaKol B'Seder for Elul

#### Saturday 2 September, 10:30-12:15

Join Rabbi Tanya and Cantor Dmitry Karpenko from Moscow for a special service, which includes new music from the Reform and Conservative Jewish world, an interpretative Torah reading and plenty of participation. The service uses our regular Reform Judaism Siddur. You can join us in person at EHRS or on Zoom.

#### **Sunday Shacharit**

#### 09:30-10:00

Join our weekly Sunday Shacharit in the EHRS Beit Midrash.

# Erev Tisha B'Av Service and exploring the poetry of loss around the World

#### Wednesday 26 July, 20:00-21:30

On Tisha B'Av we commemorate the destruction of both temples, and many other Jewish disasters. We will share a beautiful, candlelit service, with specially selected readings, moving music and the reading of the book of Eichah. Following the service we will also have the chance to explore the beautiful and moving poetry that Jews and other peoples have created to console themselves after the toughest of national times, with Rabbi Mark.

#### NAGILA

The summer term is always a busy one for us at Nagila, as we wind down to the end of the academic year.

What a fantastic week the children had when we returned after the Pesach break celebrating Yom Ha'atzmaut. Throughout the week, we made celebratory bunting and flags to decorate the nursery. On the day itself we all travelled to Israel on the Nagila magic carpet. All cabin crew (Nagila teachers) and the Captain (Susannah) took the children through safety precautions and risk assessments.

Then we all buckled up and soared through the sky, keeping an eye out for all the different countries we passed on our way. Finally, we landed safely (after a little turbulence.:)) The Israeli flags were waving as we disembarked and we met our tour guides who took us through all the very interesting attractions and historical areas of Israel. The children particularly liked climbing Masada. After our tour of Israel, we danced on the beaches of Tel Aviv, and ate a delicious picnic with homemade pitta bread, carrot, cucumber and humus.

We then went Coronation bonkers! The children helped to create more wonderful bunting in red, white and blue, which we strung up throughout the nursery. We made a magnificent display marking the coronation of King Charles.



Finally, we held our Nagila coronation street party. During the morning, they helped make coronation cupcakes. We set out the tables in a long line, and the children had a fabulous time dressing up with their crowns on their heads (which they made earlier in the week) eating, chatting and laughing. It made a lovely change to our usual afternoon snack routine.

With Shavuot fast approaching we began planning which stories we would read, and after learning about how Moses received the Ten Commandments on Mount Sinai the children devised their own 'Golden Rules'. We decorated the nursery with flowers, made cheesecake, and the children created their own interpretation of Mount Sinai which they were able to climb! This is just a snapshot of the wonderful experiences Nagila Pre-School can offer your child. This is also the time of year when we offer places to new children who want to 'learn the Nagila way'



and join our special family in the next academic year starting in September 2023. If you have a child (or grandchild) who will be 2 years old by then and would like to find out more about the experiences and fun that we offer, we would be delighted to show you round.

We are open Monday to Thursday 7:45-17:30 and Fridays 7:45-12:00. We can be contacted on 020 8238 1022 or nagila@ehrs.uk.

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



#### **COMMUNITY CARE**

Ahead of National Volunteer's Week and to celebrate EHRS volunteers, on Friday 2 June Rabbi Tanya held a special volunteer Friday night service led by EHRS members and accompanied by the Shirah band. This was followed by a bring & share dinner during which members were invited to share their volunteer stories. We then had some lively Israeli dancing led by Tamy Ozarow, a qualified Israeli dancing instructor and an enjoyable evening was had by all.

On Sunday 4 June we welcomed Carrie Grant MBE, Autism, ADHD, invisible disability and inclusion campaigner and Lisa Coffman, Treasurer and Co-Ordinator of the Barnet Carer Forum to our Let's Talk Autism & ADHD event. The audience heard about the speakers' lived experiences and extensive knowledge about all things ASD and ADHD and were able to ask questions with one guest feeding back 'last night was pitched perfectly for those starting out on their journey and for those like me who are well on the road but who need to be reminded that we aren't alone'. Further events are planned, including setting up a support group and if you are interested please contact Val or Sarah Koster.

We have three bereavement social groups at EHRS as detailed below. If you would like to know more about them please either sign up under the Get Together tab on the EHRS website or email/call Community Care for more details.

**Genesis** – social group run by EHRS member Sue Casale for those in their 6os to early 7os which also provides bereavement support.

**Phoenix** – social group for those aged 70 plus, provides social activity and bereavement support.

**Coffee and Chat** – run by EHRS member Shirley Lever, open to all ages and meets every second and fourth Wednesday morning at EHRS.

Our popular **Monthly Lunch Club**, open to all, continues to run on the second Tuesday monthly with our next dates on **11 July and 8 August.** Booking is essential by the end of the previous week and if you have not been before and would like to know more please call us.

The EHRS **Memory Way Café** provides support for people living with dementia and their family carers and is open to all in the local community. We meet on the third Wednesday afternoon monthly and our next cafe will be held on **19 July.** If you are interested for your partner or a relative and would like more information or wish to discuss any concerns, please contact either Val or Marissa. We have a useful guide on tips for supporting carers from a member of another community; please let us know if

you would like to receive a copy.

Val and Marissa provide support to members of all ages and their families. If you would like to speak to us in confidence please see our contact details below.

Val Joseph
020 8238 1013,
Marissa Rosenthal
020 8238 1015
community@ehrs.uk



Val Joseph

#### **Eco Team**

In May, the EHRS Eco Team held a session on How to Grow Your own Produce with Orot.

Julia Weiner, who has an allotment, bought along a selection of vegetables, including borlotti beans, peppers, artichokes, tomatoes and basil together with some pots and compost so that the children to have a go at planting their own. Julie Tucker donated some pepper seeds and Debbie Drapkin gave us some chilli plants for the children to take home.

Angela Lipman showed them how to grow cress the eco friendly way. Forget using cotton wool, just place a piece of recycled kitchen towel in a saucer, sprinkle with some cress seeds, moisten with water, place on a windowsill and, as long as the towel is kept wet, the cress will grow.

She also showed them how to make some wildflower seed bombs. A lovely messy activity which the children seemed to enjoy as it involved mixing a cup of seeds with some peat free compost adding enough water to make it sticky and rolling the mixture into firm balls. Left in a warm place to dry they can then be thrown onto a barren patch of land and hopefully produce some lovely flowers and some very grateful bees.

These and other events held throughout the year have helped EHRS to move from Bronze to a Silver award from EcoJudaism.



www.ecojudaism.org.uk

#### MAKING JUDAISM THRIVE AND A NEW PROGRESSIVE JEWISH MOVEMENT



Making Judaism thrive is always about foresight, vision and ambition. It's the same with the Movement for Reform Judaism and with Liberal Judaism. The two movements have very different origin stories, and also a possibility of those stories converging to create something new which may enable all of their 70 Synagogues to be in the strongest position for the future of Judaism in the UK.

It won't be long before Progressive Judaism in its Reform variety, of which EHRS is a constituent, has been building in the UK for 200 years. Reform and Liberal Judaism has a great diversity of practice but yet a remarkable unity of inclusivity, determination that being Jewish means to be an effective and contributing citizen of the society around us and conviction that we owe a duty to ourselves and our future generations to teach Judaism, do Judaism, think Judaism, as Jews make a difference to the world.

Together Reform and Liberal Jews are members of the World Union for Progressive Judaism with more than 1000 Synagogues in over 50 countries. Our Rabbis have been trained together at Leo Baeck College for nearly 70 years. The pinnacle of both the Reform Synagogue's Youth and the Liberal Judaism Youth movement is the Shnatt Netzer year - a year of living, learning and serving in Israel together at the end of a school career. Reform and Liberal Judaism campaigns and votes together as a caucus in the Board of Deputies and together we help to ensure our voice is heard in the World Zionist Organisation through Arzeinu, the Progressive Jewish voice on Israel, successor to Pro-Zion. Our children, when educated in pluralist and Progressive Jewish Day Schools, do so together, at JCoSS, Clore Shalom, Akiva, Eden and Alma.

We continue currently as two separate movements. Is this the best way to make Progressive Judaism thrive in the years ahead? We will address that question as a congregation, as our Movements and as a Progressive Jewish world in the year or so ahead.

Since the last time this question was considered, forty years ago, there

has been much development, much convergence between the two movements on a number of issues of Jewish life, much acknowledgment that we can celebrate the diversity of our Synagogues. The proposal in front of us this year is to create a New Progressive Jewish Movement that brings the Reform and Liberal Jewish movements together.

This is a journey, the vision of whose destination has been proposed, but which we need as a congregation to consider where and perhaps if we are on it. We will do so in the EHRS way, with discussion, learning, thoughtful consideration and input into the process, with engagement and involvement. In June we held two shiurim - one on the history of the movements and one on their values. Then, as our first community forum on the issue, Rabbi Josh Levy newly appointed CEO of the Movement for Reform Judaism and Rabbi Charley Baginsky CEO of Liberal Judaism are coming to EHRS on Thursday 13 July so that we can all talk through the opportunities and challenges that such a proposal might bring for us. This is only the beginning of a substantial process that will make a great difference to our future as Jews in Britain. I am looking forward to it and hope to see you there.

Rabbi Mark Goldsmith





a series of concerts at EHRS. Every month, please join us for music featuring up and coming classical musicians.

EHRS is delighted to present Stonegrove Serenade,





Tuesday 18 July, 13:00: We welcome Guitarist Nikos Baroutsakis

Nikos is an accomplished musician with an Artist Diploma in Performance from the Royal College of Music, London. Nikos performs on a guitar crafted by Antonio Marin Montero from Granada, Spain. The programme will feature several classical guitar compositions, including two pieces from Francisco Tárrega, who is widely regarded as one of history's most celebrated classical guitar composers.

Tuesday 15 August, 19:30: Felix Mendelssohn: A Jewish Composer? with Haia Livni, supper from Café 118 available from 18:30 Haia is an internationally acclaimed musician who has toured worldwide with the Israel Chamber Orchestra. We will enjoy excerpts from Mendelssohn's violin concertos, the Italian Symphony and spring songs, performed live, together with stories from his life and the artistic milieu in which he lived in early 19th century Hamburg and Leipzig. Hosted by Rabbi Mark.

We invite you to enjoy our pop up cafe before the concert. The café re-opens after the concert for drinks, cakes, and a chat.

All are welcome. Please go to www.ehrs.uk/serenade for more details and to book. Admission free, suggested donation £5

#### YOUNG FAMILIES

We have certainly had some 'Royal' fun recently. Making the most of the celebrating the Kings coronation with a special Kuddle Up Coronation, making Coronation Challah at Shabbat Stay & play, alongside lots of coronation crafting, and not forgetting our adorable Coronation babies who enjoyed a 'King' themed Sing & Sensory class.

As we move into the summer, we look forward to our Family Camping Shabbaton at Wellington Country Park in July. We will be joined by 14 young families, many for whom will be their



first camping experience with kids. We pray for good weather and look forward to updating you in the next issue on how the weekend went!

All our groups continue until the end of term, and then we are delighted to be able to run our Summer Shabbat Stay and play during the first 3 weeks of August.

I have had the joy of sending out several of our EHRS special baby gift bags over the last few weeks to our members who have welcomed a new baby. We can't wait to meet your newest editions!

We are busy planning for High Holy Days, making sure we have lots of creative programming and services for all our families. Watch this space for more information and \*spoiler alert\* a brand new Rosh Hashanah baby service!

#### **Shabbat Stay & Play**

#### Friday mornings 10:30 -11:45 (Term time)

Our baby and toddler group with toys, crafts and song session and Kiddush with our Rabbis. The perfect way to meet other parents, enjoy a hot drink and a catch up. Please book on our website in advance. You can collect CRP points for attending.

#### **Shabbat Summer Stay & Play**

#### Fridays 4, 11 & 18 August 10:30 -12:00

Toddler and baby toys, crafts and Kiddush, with a special Shabbat themed summer activity! Older siblings welcome. Please book on our website in advance. (CRP points can be collected for attendance)



#### Sing & Sensory

#### Tuesday mornings, 11:00-11:45 (Term time)

A music & sensory class for babies - 1-year olds, with a different theme each week, followed by chill out time in our state of the art 'Senitt Sensory Room'. Booking required.

#### **Kuddle Up Shabbat**

#### 16:15-16:45

Our special interactive Shabbat service for Primary aged children and their siblings. Songs, stories and activities. You can collect CRP points from attending. Early arrival is optional from 15.45. Come straight from school pick up, or just arrive early to play before the service. Selection of toys for the children and hot drinks available for the adults.

#### **Kuddle Up Summer Picnic**

#### Friday 21 July

A special summer outdoors Kuddle Up with a 'picnic' tea and Kiddush!

#### **Kuddle Up with Kaytana**

#### Friday 18 August, SPECIAL TIME OF 15:45-16:30

We are delighted to be joining our gorgeous Kaytana Summer Scheme for Kiddush with the Rabbi, followed by our own activity & Storytime.

#### Shabbat Club & Birthday Blessings

# On the last Shabbat of the month - Saturday 29 July, 11:15-12:15

For Primary School aged children and their younger siblings are welcome. Parasha and Shabbat themed activities, stories and songs in a relaxed atmosphere. Finishing in time to join the community for Kiddush around 12.15. We are delighted to invite all children who have a birthday in that month to join us for birthday blessing from the Rabbis 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 birthday cake treat!

#### **Shabbat Shirah**

## On the second Shabbat of the month -

#### Saturday 8 July, 11:15-12:15

This is EHRS's Shabbat morning experience for o-100's with rhythm in their souls, featuring a live band, an energetic Shabbat service suitable for children of all ages. A Torah reading and chance for everyone to participate in making music.

Sarah Koster, Young Families Lead youngfamilies@ehrs.uk 020 8238 1025

For more information on Stonegrove Life events and activities, please visit the website www.ehrs.uk/stonegrovelife Where Zoom participation is required see Our Week Ahead, or email stonegrove.life@ehrs.uk



Previously known as 'All Things Jewish', our new Stonegrove Life committee supports the Together Groups, Stonegrove Serenade, and other adult learning opportunities. An energetic team of Rabbis, staff and volunteers, this committee is at the heart of the community. There really is something for everybody with Stonegrove Life, and if you are interested in helping us, we meet once a month during the daytime. If you are interested, please email debbie.drapkin@ehrs.uk

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

These sessions are full of new insights which bring Torah and Tanakh (The Hebrew Bible) to life. In person or on Zoom.

Saturday 15 July - Parashat Matot-Masei: The journey is a unifying element of the book of Numbers. Professor Freedman thinks that 'it functions both through time (by its chronology of events) and space (by the geographical placement of the events along the route of travel) to organise the episodes into a related story. Why is the plural form of the word 'journey' then used in Parashat Masei, when it tells just a part of one big journey? What makes this Parashah not as dramatic or exciting as some other Parashot? We will talk about our life journeys as well. With Rabbi Tanya.

Saturday 19 August - Parashat Shoftim: We will look at the Judicial System described at the beginning of the Parashat Shoftim and examine its structure. We will compare it to other modern judicial systems and based on the advice in the Parashat Shoftim we will have a discussion on what it means to us "to pursue justice" in a society and how it is possible to achieve it. With Rabbi Tanya.

#### Rosh Chodesh, 20:00

To register to stay updated on our monthly meetings please do so at www.ehrs.uk/togethergroups.

Sun and Moon - Both Give Light. For this year of months, we will be inviting guests who might typically be seen to have opposing view points, and exploring how they hold space together despite their differences. All are welcome to join this group.

#### 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 EHRS or at home using Zoom.

Saturday 1 July - When we want to make a change to one's life, or to influence other people about things that matter, do we first educate them or inspire them to act? We will have this discussion after studying together the sugya from the Babylonian Talmud, Tractate Shabbat 33b-34a. No knowledge of Aramaic or Hebrew is required. With Rabbi Tanya

Saturday 5 August - Reform Judaism and Halachah - The relationship between our Judaism and Jewish law has been one of the most vital aspects of Progressive Judaism in its more than two centuries of organisational existence. Join Rabbi Mark to consider how the process of Jewish law works for Reform Jews and how we make valid and authentic Jewish decisions in the future.

Saturday 1 September- Judah HaLevi - His heart was in the East One of the greatest Hebrew poets whose poetry is part of our services, especially on the High Holydays, and includes some wonderful love poetry. He was born in Spain in 1075 and died in Israel in 1141. In between, his works of poetry and philosophy had a huge influence on Judaism and were some of the earliest texts inspiring spiritual Zionism. Join Rabbi Mark for an hour of culture and thought perfect for the month of Elul.

Thursday 20 July - As the 15th of Av in Israel is the day of love we will talk about love that evening. What does it mean to love looking at some examples from the Tanach, Rabbinic Literature and the Liturgy as well as some modern Israeli poems. Please join Rabbi Tanya on this evening.

#### Talmud Class Sundays 30 July & 13 August, 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.

#### The State of Israel: The Next Generation Thursday 6 July, 20:00-21:30

Rabbi Oshrat Morag is the Rabbi of the Leo Baeck Education Center in Haifa. For 85 years this remarkable school, community centre, centre for social action and Reform Synagogue in Haifa has grown to be a secondary, middle and elementary school for children from the whole of the city, Jewish, Druze and Arab. Rabbi Oshrat is uniquely well placed to talk with us and answer our questions about what the coming generation, graduating school and mostly entering the IDF and then higher education and the Israeli workforce are likely bring to our Jewish State. What changes will they expect and bring about? What will they value in the Israel that we have grown up with and that they will inherit? Will we in the UK be able to be proud of them? A talk, discussion and further opportunity to know 21st Century Israel at EHRS, hosted by Rabbi Mark.

#### Jews and the World Politics Tuesday 18 July, 19:30 at EHRS

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We, the Jews, know a lot about persecution & discrimination. Should it then affect our sense of responsibility towards other persecuted minorities? The Armenian Genocide and the blockade of Nagorno-Karabakh, the war & genocide in Kosovo, persecution of Uygurs and Kurds, the war in Ukraine. We will meet civilian representatives of those minorities as well as members of the Governments of Nagorno-Karabakh and Kosovo. We will talk about their challenges, learn from each other and create a plan of action. Join Phil Dave and Rabbi Tanya for a conversation & discussion at the launch of these new series of talks, discussing our Jewish place in the world and a text study. Nibbles & drinks will be provided (please feel free to bring your own). Please note that the rest of these series will take place on Zoom only as our guests will join us from different corners of the world. (Dates for August, September & October to be confirmed.)





Whether it's cycling, singing, dancing, foraging, cooking, rambling, learning or watching movies, 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. Some groups are in person, whilst others are online.

Go to www.ehrs.uk/togethergroups for more information on our groups and how to book your place.

#### Beginners Bridge Taster sessions - Thursdays 6 & 13 July, 20:00-21:30

We are delighted to be able to offer the opportunity to attend Absolute Beginners Bridge. Led by an experienced Bridge teacher, these 2 sessions will enable you to learn the basics of the game in a friendly & welcoming setting. To get the most benefit, it is recommended that you attend both sessions. Booking essential with limited places. Donation £2 for members, £10 for non members.

#### Coffee & Chat Wednesdays, 10:30-12:00 fortnightly

Our tea & coffee mornings at EHRS are for those on their own who would like to meet others in the same situation. All are welcome.

#### Cycling Sunday 2 July, 9:15-11:30

It's time to dust off or polish your bike as EHRS are excited to run our first cycling together group ride and would love for you to join Andrew Woolstone and Rabbi Mark for our inaugural ride. This is aimed at everyone who is confident at riding on a road in a group for 20 miles at a leisurely pace. Arrive at EHRS by 9:15, leave at 9:30 and back to EHRS at 11:30. All types of bikes are welcome, but please make sure that they are roadworthy. Children are welcome but must be accompanied by an adult. Please register via website.

#### **Foraging**

Join Rabbi Debbie and our EHRS expert Peter Bradley on a foraging trip. Look out for dates & details on the website.

#### Israeli Dancing Mondays, 11:00-12:30 weekly

This class is for all adults. A warm welcome to all who want to join us for this energetic and fun morning.

#### Juke Box Gold (previously known as The Shaking Sixties) Thursdays 20 July & 17 August, 20:00-21:30

Join us as we listen to great singers and memorable groups from the 50s, 60s & 70s. We look forward to welcoming you each month with videos and songs on very informal basis, where we will play many of your favourites! Refreshments available from 19:30. Hosted by Richard Hartman.

#### Monthly Cookalongs Thursday 10 August, 18:30-20:30

**Quick and Dirty Challah Making.** Join Rabbi Mark at EHRS to prepare, shape and bake your own Challah to take home for Shabbat. All ingredients provided in his recipe which anyone can make easily. You need to pre-register so we know how much to provide and prepare. All ages welcome.

#### Opera Appreciation Thursdays 6 July & 3 August, 19:15-21:30

Do you like opera? If so then please join our opera appreciation group at EHRS with other like-minded members. This group will meet at EHRS in the early evenings to see classical opera on DVD which will be introduced and then discussed by the group.

#### Rabbi Kraft Memorial Book Club

This book club was set up in memory of our dearly missed Rabbi Neil Kraft z'l. This is a small, friendly group of who meet once a month on Zoom. A full synopsis of each book can be found in the calendar section of the EHRS website.

Tuesday 4 July, 19:30: 'Orphans of the Storm' by Celia Imrie ~ Tuesday 1 August 19:30: 'An Unorthodox Match' by Naomi Ragen Rambling Sunday 30 July, 10:30-12:30

Rambling is a fantastic way to make new friends and learn about local lore, and you will have your love of great views, fresh air and a love of nature in common. Led by our member Phil Muller, our monthly walks will be approx 1–2 hours, moderately challenging, and super friendly. Open to all ages. More details available on the website.

#### Rummikub Tuesdays, 14:00-16:00 fortnightly

If you love playing Rummikub then this group is for you. Join this social and friendly group. Donation £2 per person.

#### Singing Circle Mondays, 14:00-15:00 weekly

The Singing Circle is an opportunity for anyone who doesn't have perfect pitch to sing a medley of EHRS favourites and learn some new Hebrew songs based on short texts which will be transliterated. We can always throw in some English hits of yesteryear. And you don't have to read music. Join Lawrence Cohen, your song leader, for an hour of joyous harmonies!

#### Spanish Conversation Tuesdays, 14:00-15:30 fortnightly

Hola, hablas español? Want to brush up your Spanish conversation? This group is for those who wish to improve their Spanish.

#### TV Addicts Club

In each series of The TV Addicts Club, we meet fortnightly to enjoy brand new and old classics of TV & Film. Come along and meet people with the same enthusiasm, safe and comfortable, and relax in front of the box with delicious treats to enjoy whilst we watch.

Our theme for this Summer is 'Oscar Winners'. A synopsis of each film can be found in the calendar section of the EHRS website.

13 July, 19:30-22:00: 'Slumdog Millionaire' winner of 8 Oscars including Best Original Score in 2009

27 July, 19:30-22:00: 'Nomadland' winner of 3 Oscars including Best Director in 2021

10 August, 19:30-22:00: 'Darkest Hour' winner of 2 Oscars including Best Actor in 2018

24 August, 18:30-22:00: 'Top Gun: Maverick' winner of the Oscar for Best Sound in 2023 - (For our last film of the Summer series, we will begin at 18:30 with a light buffet supper, film will start 19:30. Booking essential. £5 donation towards food, 20 places available. Please go to www.ehrs.uk/event/topgun to book your place)



# High Holy Days 2023/5784 at EHRS

Selichot - Saturday 9 September Memorial Services - Sunday 10 September

Erev Rosh Hashanah - Friday 15 September 1st Day Rosh Hashanah - Saturday 16 September 2nd Day Rosh Hashanah - Sunday 17 September

Kol Nidre - Sunday 24 September, Fast begins 18:40 Yom Kippur - Monday 25 September, Fast ends 19:39

> Erev Sukkot - Friday 29 September Sukkot - Saturday 30 September

Erev Simchat Torah - Friday 6 October Simchat Torah - Saturday 7 October

#### High Holy Day Tickets 2023 / 5784

We are looking forward to a wonderful and meaningful Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur this year. Every member of the Synagogue is entitled, of course, to a ticket and so this year we will mail you your ticket in mid to late August together with a brochure telling you everything that is happening. There is no need to apply for tickets as in past years. Guest tickets will of course also be available through our website or Synagogue office. We expect to make a substantial saving in staff time in this way together with ensuring that every EHRS member feels fully welcome.



# \*EHRS Community Forum\*

or email info@third.org.uk

The Movement for Reform Judaism (MRJ) and Liberal Judaism (LJ) aim to create a New Progressive Jewish Movement together

#### Thursday 13 July, 20:00-21:30

On this evening the new Chief Executive of MRJ, Rabbi Josh Levy, and the Chief Executive of LJ, Rabbi Charley Baginsky, are coming to EHRS to meet with us.

We will talk together about this proposal, the opportunities it could bring us and the challenges it could pose.

This will be an open conversation to hear all of the ideas and concerns we have and for Rabbis Josh and Charley to share with us the rationale for the proposal and how EHRS will retain its unique character within it, whilst benefitting from the strength of the Movement.

This forum follows Rabbi Mark's sermon and two shiurim at EHRS in May and June, which gave the historical and values background.

Please go to www.ehrs.uk/event/forum2023 to book





#### **EDUCATION**

Our children in Orot fully threw themselves into the Coronation celebrations when we had a special arts and crafts session to celebrate! With the same enthusiasm they celebrated Israel's birthday. One of the activities was a run around quiz on what you know about Israel, with one of our young teachers admitting that she had learnt more from that quiz than she ever had learnt at her Jewish Day schools.

OKING DI

Shavuot was celebrated in Orot and in the wider EHRS community when we had a packed session of children and their families enjoying the Mount Sinai climbing challenge along with many other fun activities. Our Sababa (Years 5 & 6) children put on, to much acclaim from the audience, 'Three Sisters' a play written by our very own Laurence Stein based on the book by Heather Morris.

We have an equally packed next half term when our children will join the Oud and Food celebrating Mizrachi Jewry and celebrate our end of year which is on 2 July.

if you want your child to learn more about their Jewish heritage and culture in their community of EHRS, then Orot 'the happy cheder' is the place for you! Orot is more than just a cheder. It's a community of learners who share a common bond and identity. whether your child attends a local state school, private school or Jewish day school, Orot is a place where your child can be proud of who they are and where they come from. If you are interested in enrolling your child at Orot, please

contact marian@ehrs.uk for more information. We would love to welcome you and your child to our Orot family!

B'nei Mitzvah - Our BBM student got a lovely surprise last term when we threw a social evening for them at the a specially created 'Rabbinical Arms' with mocktails served by our very own Rabbis and a pub quiz led by our youth workers!



Stonegrove Life held a cross generational cookery event with Denise Phillips and we had a lovely Coronation Shabbat with many people staying to watch the Coronation and enjoy a wonderful lunch together.

All these events and more - too many to report here demonstrate the amazing variety of activities and events that EHRS offers our members of all ages.

Look through this magazine for details of all the events happening over the next few weeks for all ages. We hope to see you soon at some of them.

\*WE ARE HIRING\* Would you be excited to work with 100's of Jewish children and their families every week making a difference to the future of the Jewish community? Would you like to do this fulfilling and satisfying work supporting and being part of a highly dedicated team of Jewish education and youth professionals? We are looking for someone to provide excellent administrative and communications support to the

Education, Young Families & Youth activities of the Synagogue.

Visit www.ehrs.uk/job-vacancies for more information or please contact Marian.

Marian Cohen,
Head of Education and Youth
education@ehrs.uk/
020 8238 1014



#### **EHRS GROUPS**

#### **NEW OPTIONS**

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

Please email newoptions@ehrs.uk if you have any queries.

#### Schmoozing with the Rabbis -

A light hearted topical discussion, in an informal setting. In person at the Synagogue. Please join us on Wednesday 26 July, 10:30-11:30 with Rabbi Mark.

**Bridge** - 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.

#### NOT THE WOMENS GUILD

Meetings begin at 14:00 in the Synagogue unless otherwise stated, and a warm welcome is extended to all. For further details and to book your place, please contact Evie 020 8954 5393 ewoolstone@yahoo.com or Sandra 020 8958 7140 sandra@harrisresidence.co.uk. We look forward to seeing you.

#### Thursday 20 July

We will be holding a merry berry tea following our usual summer tradition. This will be a friendly social afternoon and include a light hearted quiz.

#### August and beyond

We can discuss the forthcoming programme at the July get together. Please bring your ideas on what you would like to do.



#### OTHER ACTIVITIES AT EHRS

#### JACS (JEWISH ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL SOCIETIES)

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

6 July: Myrna Glass - The History of a School

13 July: Colin Oakes - London at War, 1914-18 & 1939-45

20 July: Jef Page - Famous Women

27 July: Paul Coleman - Music to suit all tastes

Gayathrie and Bill - Opera, Operetta & Popular Songs 3 Aug:

Rabbi Tanya - Jewish Life in Ukraine & Belarus 10 Aug: 17 Aug: Brad Ashton - Comedy: He talks about all the stars

24 Aug: Devorah Stoll - Stand With Us 31 Aug: Ron Shelley - Ajex & Jewish Heroes

For more information please contact **Stuart Winton** on

020 8954 8350 or Brian Ashton 020 8958 4904.



The League of Jewish Women is a national voluntary organisation and the Stanmore & Edgware Group is the largest in the country. We are now having our monthly meetings at EHRS. We are a local cross-communal group, and half are members of EHRS. We meet monthly on Tuesdays, 14:00-16:00 in the Community Centre. We do voluntary work and also have speakers each month.

4 July: Olivia Marks-Woldman OBE - Chief Executive of

Holocaust Memorial Day Trust (HMDT)

Paula Kitching - Women in the Forces 1 Aug:

For more information please contact **Andrea Fisher** on 020 8958 0424 or email andrealjw@hotmail.com.

#### **ZUMBA GOLD**

#### Thursdays 10:00-11:00

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



#### Cornerstone

Tuesdays, 19:00-19:45 for Hebrew & 20:00-21:30 for Jewish Studies

Our introduction to Judaism course. Our Cornerstone programme is open to any member of the community wanting to deepen their Jewish knowledge, or improve their Hebrew, 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 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.tanya@ehrs.uk for more details.

### **EHRS COMMUNITY WEEKEND AWAY - NORTHAMPTON**

Friday 19 to Monday 22 May 2023

We met the group of 28 people outside EHRS on the Friday morning to travel to Northampton. The coach journey passed quickly, and from our hotel it was a short walk to the Shoe Museum. Two delights were a shoe resembling a dragon and stripey platforms that should have come with their own altitude warning. Also at the museum, we were interested to see a medieval Jewish tombstone from the 13<sup>th</sup> century. It is the only known example of a medieval Jewish tombstone in England.

Dinner that evening at the hotel followed a short Friday night Service. It was a convivial meal with lots of laughter.

Over breakfast Saturday morning, we chatted to a lady with whom we have been on smiling terms for years but had never really spoken to before, and we had our first real conversation and got to know so much about each other. We then trouped into the lounge area for a Shabbat morning Service during which, instead of a sermon, there was an interesting discussion with many views expressed.



After a buffet lunch we met Marcus Roberts, our guide for a walking tour. Marcus explained that at its peak there were one thousand Jews in Northampton, but this number has now dwindled to about 275 who identify as Jewish. He told us about the Jewish blood libel in 1277 where murderous mobs killed eighty Jews who were wrongly accused of the attempted murder of a Christian child. We learnt that Daniel Mendoza, one of the greatest pugilists of the 18th century, lived in Northampton at one time. Mendoza's most famous descendent was the actor, Peter Sellers. Another famous name who grew up in Northampton is Lesley Joseph.

Saturday dinner was followed by a quiz which was very enjoyable.

Sunday morning saw us board the coach to Market Harborough. After exploring the town and enjoying a snack lunch, we drove on to Rockingham Castle. The castle was built on the instructions of William the Conqueror in 1078 with additions to the original building over the years. Some of us had a guided tour of the immaculate formal gardens which are now tended by one part-time gardener. We had the opportunity to admire the Elephant Hedge which is a feature of the grounds. Over the years, several buildings including the Great Hall were added and in 1619 was bought by the Watson family who restored and improved the castle. Members of the Watson family still own and live at the castle. Our visit to Rockingham ended with a delicious cream tea in Walker's House Tearoom.

In the evening after dinner, we had to work. Each table was given twenty 'Say what you see' (dingbats) pictures followed by a puzzle sheet where we had to guess the pairs of words that go together, such as Porgy and Bess or Black and White.

On Monday morning we visited Northampton Hebrew Congregation which is on the Overstone Road site of the original synagogue and was re-built in the 1960's. There are now about 75 members and anywhere between 9 and 20 attend Friday night Services. Being so small, the community is very friendly and close, with the shul providing Friday night dinners every month after the Service. We were made very welcome by their President and five other members of the community, and we had the opportunity to chat and ask questions.

In the afternoon, we wandered through the town and sat

together for a final leisurely lunch. We gathered back at the hotel and before we knew it, our coach arrived to take us safely back to EHRS.

We exchanged phone numbers and can be pretty sure that although it was our first trip with EHRS, it most certainly won't be our last!

**Judy Karbritz** 



#### YOUTH CENTRE

Summer is fast approaching and we have so much in store for our Kaytana **Scheme.** We will be hitting up Riverside up (Tuesday 1 August) where we will be climbing, using go karts, playing laser tag, as well as loads of soft plays and sensory rooms. Then on Tuesday 8 August we will be going to Phasels Wood Activity Centre. This will be so exciting as we enjoy air rifle shooting, climbing, zorbing and so much more. During week 3 of scheme our little ones (4-7yrs) will go to Gravity Bounce Park, while our older ones (8-10yrs) will be going to Ninja Warrior UK. On top of all of this we will be joined by Soul Jump on the 16 August - wow!!! They will show us how to make songs and then give us a full performance (check them out on Facebook and Instagram). On Wednesday 2 August we will be taking part in colour wars, which is something like a colour run but way more fun. If this sounds great (which it is), we are also running more and more different activities, go to www.ehrs.uk/kaytana for more information and to book.

Straight after the Summer we will be rolling into October Half Term Scheme, which will be amazing as ever. We are looking to bring in some interesting and creative programming as well as our usual active and high pace scheme. More details will follow so keep updated with our Facebook and Instagram pages.



Our **Football Club** continues on Wednesday evenings and is enjoyed by our budding footballers. If you are aged 7-11 please join us for skill training and a fun game of footie!

We are also looking for people in school year 9 and up to join our Hadracha course, starting in October. It's a fun course where you learn the art of leadership. It can lead to paid opportunities working across all our schemes, great to put on CV, and build workplace skills - helping you get ahead of others and open doors to more opportunities. We are looking to add a residential to this course for some extra fun, bonding, and learning. Our recent graduates have said this is 'a great course and I made lots of friends', 'I learnt a lot about myself' and 'I'm looking forward to working at Kaytana'.

\*WE ARE HIRING\* We are looking for a new Part Time Youth Worker to join our team from September. Ben Weber will be leaving us to go to Northampton



University to study Sport Science.
We are looking for someone who is energetic, passionate and wants to make a difference for the young people in our community. We would prefer someone to be 18+, able to drive and has skills in social media. The role will involve student work, hadracha, school holiday activities, weekly clubs and working closely with other departments in the synagogue. Visit www.ehrs.uk/job-vacancies for more information or please contact Jack.

Jack Murphy, Head of Youth Development, youth@ehrs.uk/020 8238 1024



#### **YOUNG ADULTS**

#### Beer and Shiur, 20:00.

On the 2nd Wednesday of every month our Young Adults are warmly invited to join us for learning, a drink, and a catch up! Sometimes in person, sometimes on Zoom.

When on Zoom, details are: Meeting ID: 839 2128 5866 Password: 978112

Wednesday 2 August, 20:00-21:30 Jewish Matchmaking Made me Cringe – But why?

The Shadchan, the Jewish matchmaker has been part of Jewish culture for centuries. Is that J-Swipe's job now? On Tu'B'Av, the Jewish festival of love (really!) we examine the state of Jewish

pairing over our customary beer and food, with Rabbi Mark. Also a great follow up to Rabbi Tanya's Rosh Chodesh Av session on classical Jewish love which takes place on Thursday 20 July!

#### INTRODUCING DEBBIE DRAPKIN - EHRS MEMBERSHIP ENGAGEMENT LEAD



Debbie has now been in post for six months and we can already see that her enthusiasm and passion for all things EHRS has started to impact our social calendar, with lots of exciting events and activities currently underway, and plenty more in the pipeline. Debbie is also looking to set up a volunteering group, to help out at, and be present at synagogue social occasions. Being part of the "Stonegrove Events Team" is a fantastic way to meet other members of the community, whilst being part of a small friendly and welcoming group. In fact, if you've attended one of our many events this year, you have probably seen her, and her band of helpers, preparing and serving some wonderful food, as well as making sure that our events run as smoothly as possible. If you are interested in being part of the team, or if you have any ideas and suggestions for ways that we can add even more value to your membership of EHRS, so do send her an email, pick up the phone, or pop in to see her in person.

Debbie can be reached Tuesdays to Thursdays on 0208 238 1027 debbie.drapkin@ehrs.uk

#### **ADVERTISE WITH US!**

Email: communications@ehrs.uk

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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# Rabbi Neil Kraft z'l Torah Scroll

I am honoured to have had the opportunity to work on the design for Rimonim for the Rabbi Neil Kraft z'l Torah scroll. I developed the concept from the idea and shape of a pomegranate, as "rimonim" means pomegranates in Hebrew. Pomegranate seeds are said to number 613 - one for each of the Torah's commandments.

Just as the pomegranate is often seen as a symbol of abundance and righteousness, it also serves as a metaphor for the teachings found within the Torah.

Using 12 different gemstones I tried to incorporate the symbolism of the 12 tribes of Israel from the High Priest's breastplate into the concept. They are all organised in a shape of a cell to emphasize the role of our shared values and traditions in keeping us united as a people, wherever



we are in the world and however different our background and ancestry may be. This cell of jewels is meant to serve as a reminder of our shared heritage, values, and the unifying force that keeps us together.



Finally, I wanted the design to harmonise with the overall appearance of the mantle beautifully and thoughtfully created by Lana Young, from the colours to the design and patterns. The objective was to create a cohesive visual aesthetic that complements the overall look and feel of the scroll, to implement traditional elements in a contemporary design. By carefully selecting colours & types of gemstones that blend with the existing colour palette (from rubies, sapphires, emeralds, moonstone, opal and others), the design seamlessly integrates into the overall composition and contributes to the sense of unity.

I am grateful for enormous support I have had through the process from our rabbis, Laurence Stein, Andrea Lucas, Sharon Price and other members. I hope that the scroll with

all its elements will serve as a meaningful reminder of the wisdom and guidance found within the Torah, and that Rabbi Kraft's memory will be a source of inspiration and direction for many future generations. It certainly is for me.

I thank you again for this unique creative opportunity.

Natasha Davidov

We can also reflect on how Natasha's beautiful design reflects Rabbi Kraft's own teaching. Neil was a fount of Jewish values, which the Rimonim represent, and which suffused our community because he was our Rabbi along with his colleagues. He cared for and loved every member of the Jewish people, represented by the 12 different jewels for the 12 tribes, which as Natasha pointed out, were held by the Cohen HaGadol to represent all of the people whom he cared for.