

HADASHOT

חדשות

- 05** How to wash a tallit safely
- 13** "Together We Are All Stronger" Kick-off
- 16** Report from the Cantors Convention
- 22** January Events Diary
- 30** Support Services for Members



WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

BAR/ BATMITZVAH

Jane Davey
Cookham

Richard Stoliar
East Green
Blackwater

Noah Codron
13 January

Marcela Roth
Helmsdale
Bracknell

Elise Hine
27 Jan

BEST WISHES ON THEIR NEW HOME

**Kim &
Darlene Paulden**
Brightwalton
Newbury

Geoff Shwalbe
Cecil Rosen Court
Bushey Heath

Susie Stein
Hanbury Drive
Calcot
Reading

CONDOLENCES

Samantha De Goede
on the loss of
her mother

Lynne Gilbert
on the loss of
her mother

**Laurie &
Estelle Phillips**
on the loss of
Ashley

Shirley Fox
on the loss of
her mother

**Jane
Makower Mather**
on the loss of
her father

Marcela Roth
on the loss of
her father

TRAVEL WARNING

Those who come to the Synagogue via Cookham Bridge should note that the bridge is closed from now until March 2024.

MAZEL TOV

Sue Henry
on the engagement of
her daughter Faye
to Fred Gorvin

Share Your News!

Good, bad, big or small - important things are happening to us all. Please share your news with the Rabbi, who will share it with the community or keep it in confidence. Please contact Rabbi Romain at rabromain@aol.com or on 01628 671058.

THANK YOU FOR HOSTING KIDDUSH

*If you would like to host kiddush, please get in touch with
Pauline Keyne at pauline.keyne@maidshul.org*

**Ossie Anderson-Peled
& Class Vav**

**Tim &
Sophie Dinsdale**
for Theo's Barmitzvah

**Michal Freeman-Shor
Tammy Leeper
Varda Parash**

**Eyal Geva &
Izik Goldfarb**
for Orion's
Barmitzvah

**Graham &
Sue Knight**
for their ruby
wedding anniversary

**Josh Levy &
Natalie Saxton**
for the Yahrzeit of
Josh's father and
grandfather

Barbara Rosenberg
for her birthday

Esther Wasser
for Gaby's wedding
to Rory

**The Friday Night
Diners**



I periodically hear the verse in Leviticus quoted – “An eye for an eye” – and the assertion that the Bible is a book of vengeance (and the assumption that Judaism is too). I have heard it said even more frequently during the current Israel/Gaza war. Do we still adhere to it?



Unfortunately, this verse (from Exodus 21:24) is the one that those not at all familiar with the Bible seem to know the most, while if they also know “Love your neighbour as yourself,” they see it as being said by Jesus and do not realise he was quoting it from the book of Leviticus, which is where it first appears (19:18).

To be very honest, originally, it may have

meant a literal reciprocal punishment, though we have no record of it being carried out, and it is also possible it was used as a dire warning in a society where there was no police force or prison.

However, by the time of the Mishnah (the rabbinic commentary on the Bible in the 2nd century and the next surviving Jewish text after the Bible), it had already been legislated away and may have been discarded much earlier than that.

The rabbis realised that if it was carried out – and the penalty for damaging someone’s eye was that the perpetrator lost his eye too – then the result would be a lot of one-eyed people. But they felt they could not simply abolish a biblical command, so they interpreted it away and read it as “an eye’s *worth* for an eye,” and they ruled that instead of physical retribution, it meant financial compensation.

Thus, the perpetrator had to pay the

ASK THE RABBI

If you wish to ask a question, please send it to Rabbi Romain at rabromain@aol.com



victim compensation for the pain he endured, the medical cost, the time off work, and the public embarrassment.

That may sound

very modern, but it dates to some 2,000 years ago.

However, those who read the bare biblical text, or who just hear the phrase

“an eye for an eye,” never realise this is a long-standing re-evaluation / revision and still assume we take the verse literally.

Q:

How does one safely wash a tallit so as to ensure it is not damaged? The internet tells me not to put it in the washing machine and suggests dry cleaning might be too risky unless using a Jewish dry cleaner. What do you do?

A:

If it is a silk tallit (the Sephardi type), then an ordinary dry clean-

er should be fine and they do not have to be Jewish. They just need to know how to treat different materials. If it is a woollen one (the Ashkenazi type), a washing machine will do fine

(which is what I do); then just air it well in the garden or on the balcony, depending on what you have.

As you might expect me to say, the best type of tallit is one worn often!

SHEMOT

By Shel Musiker

The Torah Breakfast for 6 January 2024 is Shemot. This is the first weekly portion from the book of Exodus, and its name in English is ‘names.’

Our portion opens by naming the sons of Israel who came to Egypt with Jacob. In Hebrew, the book of Exodus opens, “And these are the names.” Or HaChaim (1696–1743) notes that the book of Exodus commences with ‘and’ to teach us that all these people were righteous just like their parents.

The connection to names as a subject occurs later in Chapter 3. The scene is on Mount Sinai with Moses and the burning bush. G-d spoke from the bush, informing

Moses of his mission as told in (Exod. 3:9-10) “Now the cry of the Israelites has reached me. Come, I will send you to Egypt, and you shall free my people.” There then follows Moses seeking clarification and The Lord providing additional details.

Moses asks, who shall I say sent me and for the response, we arrive at (Exod. 3:14), “*Ehyeh Asher Ehyeh* sent me to you.” This roughly translates to, ‘I Am that I Am.’ What are we to make of this?

Ehyeh has a numerical value of 21, so *Ehyeh Asher Ehyeh* is 21 times 21 or 441, which has the same value as ‘truth.’ In essence, go to the people for the ‘truth’ is with them.

Parashah Shemot – Exodus 1:1–6:1. The parashah tells of the Israelites' affliction in Egypt, the hiding and rescuing of the infant Moses, Moses in Midian, the calling of Moses, circumcision on the way, meeting the elders, and Moses before Pharaoh.

G-d further states to Moses, (Exod. 3:15) “Thus you shall speak to the children of Israel, ‘YHVH,’ the G-d of your fathers’ – the G-d of Abraham, the G-d of Isaac and the G-d of Jacob has sent me to you. This is my name forever, and this is my appellation for all eternity.”

The phrase ‘G-d of Abraham, G-d of Isaac, and G-d of Jacob’ is included in the opening sequence of the Amidah which was written by the Great Assembly some 2,500 years ago.

Most Jewish readers would not utter the name YHVH but rather pronounce it *Adonai* or *Hashem*. The reason for this is encoded within Verse 15 itself, where it

states this is my name forever.

In Hebrew, forever is *l'olam*. The Torah is written without the symbols that specify pronunciation, so it can also be pronounced *l'alem*, which translates as ‘to conceal.’, rendering the phrase, ‘This is My Name, which is concealed.’

Please join us for the Torah Breakfast at 9:15 am on 6 January 2024. Coffee and tea are available. No RSVP is necessary.

THE JUBILEE LECTURE 2023

Stan Labovitch

Arriving at the shul on a dismal November evening, I knew immediately that someone special was about to deliver the Jubilee Lecture. The car park was full.

A packed audience had gathered to see Jake Wallis Simons – editor of the Jewish Chronicle and one of today’s most prolific and influential journalists – introduce

his new book *Israelophobia: The Newest Version of the Oldest Hatred and What To Do About It*.

He is an intellectual force of nature, a super-confident polemicist embellishing every utterance with meticulously researched evidence and dense detail. After the events of 7 October, his book has turned out to be prescient.

Jake began the evening with a potted history of antisemitism, showing how it had morphed from the religious hatred of medieval times, through the racial hatred of Nazi Germany, to its present incarnation as Israelophobia. The insidious influence of Russia and radical Islam in propagating antisemitic tropes was also highlighted.

He methodically debunked eve-



ry criticism of the Jewish state. Israel is not a white colonial state because it is mostly brown and the result of decolonisation. It is not an apartheid country because Israeli Arabs have full civic rights and are represented in the Knesset.

Jake has a wry sense of humour, describing Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas as being in the eighteenth year of his four-year term. He fielded questions on an array of topics ranging from Trump versus Biden, a two-state solution (highly unlikely), and the Finkler question: how loyal should diaspora Jews be to the state of Israel?

Jake Wallis Simons was presented with a bottle of fine wine (Palwin Number 10?) and rightly

thanked for a hugely stimulating presentation.

And on a day when many in the room had marched against antisemitism in London, I wondered: Could the sight of so many Jewish people marching peacefully down Whitehall have helped dispel Israelophobia, the newest version of the oldest hatred?



REPAIR THE WORLD

MITZVAH DAY 2023

Our Mitzvah Day was extra special this year for a number of reasons. First, the theme was “Repair the World,” and with the backdrop of the Israel-Gaza war, it was more poignant than ever.

I think many of us also reflected on how much our interfaith friendships mean to us, and so it was extra-joyful to have Julie Siddiqi and her friends join us, as well as Theresa from Knit Your Socks Off and Reverend Sally Lynch and members from St Luke’s Church.

It was also special because The Worshipful the Mayor of the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead, Councillor Neil Knowles,

joined us and thoroughly enjoyed meeting everyone and learning about what our community does. He was very impressed with the vibrancy of our community and all the things we do on Mitzvah Day.

We have received great local and national coverage of our Mitzvah Day activities this year in the *Jewish Chronicle*, the *Maidenhead Advertiser*, and on Mitzvah Day’s website and social media. The Mayor also shared photos on his X (formerly *Twitter*) account. I share this because I firmly believe we deserve and should celebrate the recognition we’re receiving for all the hard work we do as a community!



My warmest thanks go out to our activity leaders: our teachers, parents who kindly volunteered in this capacity, Sue Henry, and Rabbi Romain. I am also indebted to Barbara Grossman and Aaron Kader, who work tirelessly behind the scenes to help make the day run.

Mitzvah Day doesn't happen without the support of you – the volunteers! So, thank you to all of you who took time out of your day to give your time to any of our activities. Your support truly makes a difference, and as one adult volunteer told me this year – it's also a lot of fun!

And if you couldn't make it this year, don't worry – throughout 2024, we will be running smaller Mitzvah Day activities in preparation for the BIG day – 24 November 2024.



This is What We Did on Mitzvah Day:

- Made cards for Save a Child's Heart in Israel
- Made bird feeders for the synagogue's garden
- Cleaned the Jewish graves at Braywick cemetery
- Visited the residents of Herewards House
- Made "thinking of you" cards for a kibbutz in Israel
- Did two litter picks – a "reverse tashlich", removing litter from our local waterways, and a litter pick on the roads surrounding the Synagogue area.
- Cooked 80 meals for the Brett Foundation
- Reviewed over 2,250 satellite images to identify walrus for the World Wildlife Federation
- Knitted teddies for O's Refugee Aid team with Knit Your Socks Off
- Collected two-and-a-half car loads of second-hand children's books, toys and clothing for The Cow Shed
- Collected a whopping two large boxes of new toys for First Days

MITZVAH DAY 2023 cont.

‘Reverse Tashlich’

This year we joined forces with Sally Lynch, the Vicar from St Luke’s Church Maidenhead, and a few of her congregants to do a ‘Reverse Tashlich’ whereby instead of putting breadcrumbs into the river (as on Rosh Hashanah), we took rubbish out.

Our route took us along The Cut, a small river that arises in Ascot and runs through Maidenhead, not far from the synagogue. The response from the general public was fantastic, and we were thanked many times. We were also approached by a couple from their back garden, which backs onto The Cut, giving us their contact details so they can provide us with tea and scones the next time we litter pick in that direction....something we may well do again as a joint initiative with members from St Luke’s Church in the Spring. Who can resist a Reverse Tashlich when there is a cup of tea and a scone involved!



If you would like to join us next time (after all, there might be a scone in it for you) please contact Alex at alexandra.domingue@yahoo.com (underscore between first and last name)

Written by Sue Henry on behalf of the Eco Team

Cooking for Brett Foundation

Last October, during our cooking activity for the Brett Foundation, we made between 150 and 170 meals for local people who can’t afford to feed themselves and their families. It was our best-ever one-day result, and it means that within the last 12-month period, we have made 500 meals for the Brett Foundation.



TOGETHER WE ARE ALL STRONGER

Shel Musiker

I am really excited to invite you to a new initiative at Maidenhead Synagogue called “Together We Are All Stronger.”

In 2020, COVID-19 completely disconnected us. Unable to meet in person, we did what we had to and created virtual links to support us through that uncertain time.



But now, years have passed. Here we are in 2024. The lockdowns that had us sheltering at home are long gone. Grenfell Lodge is again full of children at Cheder on a Sunday, adult education classes on Monday evenings and mid-week social events.

And yet, some of you are still self-isolating from shul. Sure, there are occasional network meet-ups and seeing your friends at High Holy Days, but it's not quite the same as enjoying the warm and welcoming fellowship of our community each week.

It's time to come back to shul, especially with what is going on in the world, because Together We Are All Stronger.

This new initiative is not dependent upon religious beliefs or knowledge of Hebrew. It is about opening up new possibilities for our members and our community as a whole; creating a stronger community and stronger individuals.

On the third Saturday of each month, during the Shabbat Service, there will be a themed discussion for about 15 minutes instead of the usual sermon. Our first topic is Mental Health, which coincides with Jami Mental Health Shabbat being held in shuls across the country.

Nervous about coming? Don't be, I think you will find that the regular attendees will welcome you with open arms and much support. Who knows - you might even make a new friend or two! This is one of those situations where there is not a lot to lose and quite a lot to gain.

If you have any questions drop me a line at shel.musiker@maidshul.org I'm looking forward to seeing you on 20 January at 10:30 am.

HANUKKAH 2023 – M'HEAD STYLE

During last month's Festival of Light we had: candle making in Cheder by Class Vav, virtual candle lighting sessions via Zoom, kids at uni posting their first latke efforts on Insta, a cracking good Hanukkah party at Grenfell Lodge, singing in Wednesday Social, and a full-house at the Rabbi's annual Latke party.





CANTORS CONVENTION 2023

HANNOVER, GERMANY

Barbara Rosenberg

Imagine spending a week with 40 people who all lead the singing in their synagogues. I just did, and it was an exhilarating experience.

For the past 15 years, I have been part of a small team organising annual Cantors Conventions held in various European countries for cantors across all affiliations of Judaism and for people who love the music of the synagogue. Three years ago, it was held at the Centre for Jewish Music in Hannover, and we were invited back to commemorate the 85th anniversary of Kristallnacht on 9 November 2023. So back we went, but with reduced numbers. Some of the American contingent decided to stay at home to be with their own communities at this difficult time.

Sadly, some of the Israeli delegates and teachers were unable to

join us, too, apart from Aviya, who'd been given special permission from the IDF to leave his post for a week to represent Israel. And represent his country he did.

At the civic commemoration service, which was held outside the original synagogue, he was interviewed by the press and appeared as front page news in two newspapers, as well as appearing on the local TV station that night. What a heartfelt 'Prayer for Israel' he sang at the Shabbat morning service.

The Convention was invited to sing at the Parliament's session on 9 November. The President of the Parliament of Lower Saxony gave a warm welcome, pledging Germany's full support for Israel. So moved was she by the singing that she attended our Gala Concert on the final night. Her sentiments were re-iterated by the President

of Leuphana, the University in Luneburg, at the event to Commemorate the Victims of the Night of Broken Glass. (This was held in the Libeskind Auditorium in the presence of Daniel Libeskind, who was in conversation with one of the professors). The President expressed total support for Israel and the need to eliminate Hamas.

Present were local dignitaries, some having come from Hamburg for the occasion. No Jews have lived in Luneburg since 1938, so it was a very special event for them (and us).

At our own final Gala Concert,

the Mayor and also the State Prosecutor once again uttered their support for Israel. It was a refreshing change to hear this from so many people, and we felt that holding the convention in Hannover had a significant impact on all the attendees.

For the delegates, there were teaching sessions on various aspects of Jewish music, as well as the opportunity to socialise and exchange ideas with others who lead their services .

I feel I have come home after an annual injection of being steeped in Jewish music and Jewish sentiments.



European Cantors Association
the future of synagogue music

STOLPERSTEINE LAYING

Paul Wolff and Margaret Smith

On 22 November the two of us, with Paul's son, Nicholas, and our cousin Eva Weyl, attended a ceremony in the German city of Freiburg im Breisgau for the laying of Stolpersteine or "stumbling stones" in the pavement outside the house which had been the family home of our grandfather Willy Wolff, our aunt Margot Weyl, and our father, Hans

Wolff, before they fled Germany to escape Nazi persecution.

Hans had an extraordinary journey seeking refuge in country after country, each time being moved on by unsympathetic immigration officials and even seeking sanctuary by skiing across the border from Italy to Switzerland by an

unmarked route across the Alps. Arriving in England just before the outbreak of war in 1939, he joined the army and took part in the Dunkirk evacuation. After the war, he settled in Maidenhead, married our mother, Nancy, and became a member of Maidenhead Synagogue. Willy fled to Holland but was interned first in Westerbork and then

Theresienstadt, being liberated in 1945. Margot had also fled to Holland with her husband and daughter Eva. They, too, were interned in Westerbork.

The laying of Stolpersteine to commemorate the victims of National Socialism was initiated by the German artist Gunter Demnig



in 1992 to provide a memorial to individuals at the last place where they lived or worked before they fell victim to Nazi terror. More than 100,000 have now been placed, mostly in Germany but in other countries too. The stones are 10cm concrete cubes bearing a brass plate with the name and fate of the person commemorated.

The idea is based on the Talmud saying that a person is forgotten only when his or her name is forgotten.

About fifty people braved the cold to attend the ceremony

of the laying of the stones. The Deputy Mayor made a moving speech about the purpose of the stumbling stones: when you stumble, you look down, see the glint of light and remember the neighbours who suddenly one day were no longer there. After words from representatives of the Stolperstein Foundation, along



with Eva, we had the opportunity to speak for a few minutes about our father, grandfather, and aunt.

The ceremony was followed by an evening event attended by some 250 people where Eva, who regularly gives talks to schools in Germany, spoke about her experiences as a child interned for three years in Westerbork concentration

camp, and we spoke about the experiences of Willy and Hans.

Throughout the day, we could not fail to be impressed by the warmth and the interest shown by so many people.

One young woman, a stranger, came up to us after the stones were laid, in tears, about the events that had happened years before she was born.

Our father made his home happily in Maidenhead after the war, but we are sure that he would have been deeply moved by this commemoration in his hometown.

ADULT ED TOPICS FOR JANUARY

WHAT THE JEREMIAH HAVE YOU DONE?

If you are not sure who he is, then come along on Monday 8 January at 8.30 pm, when we will be discussing him.

We will examine a different book of the Bible each Monday evening, so you are welcome to come regularly or occasionally. The schedule for January is: Ezekiel-15 January, Psalms-22 January, Proverbs/Ecclesiastes-29 January. More books of the Bible will be discussed in February.

For further, details contact Rabbi Romain at rabromain@aol.com



KOSHER SHOP IS OPEN

SUNDAY 10 AM TO NOON and WEDNESDAY AFTERNOONS

MOTHERS & BUMPS/BABIES/TODDLERS

If you have a “bump”, baby or toddler and would like to get together with other mums at the shul then come along to the weekly group that meets informally for a chat and tea/coffee every Thursday from 10 am-noon (the same time as Ganon for those with older children).

Feel free to come regularly or periodically. It re-starts on Thursday 11 January. Bring along any special toys, snacks or other essentials.

For any further details, contact Julia at juliashumway@gmail.com



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Festivals 2024

March	23	Erev Purim
April	22	Erev Pesach
	21	Young Family Seder
	23	Communal Seder
June	11	Erev Shavuot
August	12	Erev Tisha B'Av & Holocaust Memorial Service
October	2	Erev Rosh Hashanna
	3	Rosh Hashanna
	11	Kol Nidre
	12	Yom Kippur
	16	Erev Sukkot
	23	Erev Simchat Torah
December	25	Erev Hanukkah

Religion School 2024

Pesach Term

January	14	Begins
February	11	Half-term
	18	
March	24	Last day of term

Shavuot Term

May	5	Begins
May	26	Half-term
June	2	
July	14	Last day of term

JANUARY EVENTS DIARY

WEDNESDAY SOCIAL

Wednesdays from 11:30 am

Midweek social for our Senior Members

For further information, please contact

Agnes Fixler at admin@maidshul.org or on 01628 673012.



KNITTING/CROCHETING GROUP

Sundays during Cheder from 10:30 am

All levels welcome!

Join us in the Kiddush Hall during term time to knit (or crochet) and natter.



MUTUAL SUPPORT GROUP FOR THOSE

BEREAVED OR DIVORCED

Monday 1 January at 3 pm

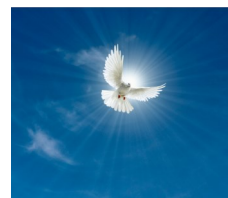
Support Group

If you have been through a bereavement, or a divorce, do join us. For more information, contact Michael

Leighton on 07831 851761 or email

mleight0n@btinternet.com

New attendees should arrive no later than 2:45 pm.



ISRAELI DANCING

Thursday 4 and 18 January at 7 pm

Dance and Fun!

Whether you are experienced or a complete novice, come and join in the fun! For more information, please contact **Varda Parash** on 07970 869591 or email varda.parash@btinternet.com



TORAH BREAKFAST

Saturday 6 January at 9:15 am

Discussion Group

Join us before the Shabbat service on 6 January for an in-depth discussion of the portion Shemot - Exodus 1:1-6:1. Coffee and tea are available. No RSVP is necessary. See page 6 for details.



NICHOLAS WINTON FILM

Thursday 11 January at 7:30 pm

Norden Farm

A new film about Winton's remarkable life and how he saved 669 Jewish children just before the war has just been made by Warner Brothers with Anthony Hopkins, Helena Bonham Carter and Jonathan Pryce. We are linking up with Norden Farm Arts Centre in Maidenhead for a special showing at its cinema for synagogue members. It will be on Thursday 11 January at 7.30 pm and will be followed by a discussion about the film for those who wish to stay on for it. You can also obtain snacks or a meal before the performance.



For bookings: <https://norden.farm/events/one-life-cert-tbc>

BARMITZVAH

Saturday 13 January at 10:30 am

Noah Codron

Hi, my name is Noah Codron, and I am having my Barmitzva on 13th January 2024. I adore Drama and have recently been cast as Mr Wormwood in my school's production of *Matilda the Musical*, which I am beyond excited about! When I'm not on stage, you can often find me at home playing the piano, another one of my passions.

Apart from my love for the performing arts, I also enjoy go-karting and playing various sports, such as cricket and rowing. I am also a keen Scout and an Army Cadet, both of which involve lots of fun activities and weekends away!

I am the proud owner of a lovely Labrador Retriever named Rocky, who is my best buddy.

When I'm older, I would love to be an oceanographer, as I want to prove that the megalodon exists!

I would like to give a huge shoutout and thank you to Tony, who has been instrumental in helping me prepare for my upcoming Barmitzva. Thank you also to my family for their unwavering support throughout this journey.



THE FORUM

Sunday 14 and 28 January at 10:15 am

Discussion Group

The Forum is a lively discussion group at Grenfell Lodge focusing on a Jewish topic and is led by **John Dunston**. There will be a 30-minute break during the discussion at 11:15 am. **If you have any questions, please email John at johnhdunston@gmail.com**



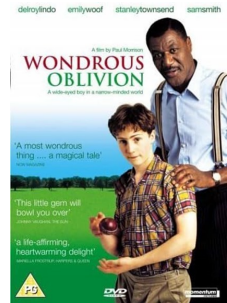
FILM NIGHT

Sunday 14 January at 7:30 pm

Wondrous Oblivion

This film is a bittersweet coming-of-age drama set in 1960s England. David Wiseman (Sam Smith) is the 11-year-old son of Jewish immigrants, now settled in a working-class London suburb.

His passion is cricket, a game for which he has all the kit but no skill, making him a laughing-stock at school. When a new family moves in next door and sets up a cricket net in the back garden, David's dreams of learning how to play start to become a reality. He spends more and more time with the new neighbours, joining in as the father, Dennis (Delroy Lindo), coaches his daughter Judy (Leonie Elliott). But his new friends are West Indian, and David's initial delight soon turns to bemusement and consternation as he watches them become the victims of bigotry and racial hatred. To complicate matters further, David's mother, Ruth (Emily Woof), finds herself becoming attracted to Dennis, leading to a strained relationship with her husband, Victor (Stanley Townsend). **The film will be followed by a short discussion and some refreshments. There is a voluntary donation of £5 per person to cover film costs, refreshments, etc. For further information, please contact Brian Kriefman at bkriefman@aol.com**



BACKGAMMON

Wednesday 17 January at 2 pm

Grenfell Lodge - Elvira's Room

Whether you're a complete beginner, novice or experienced player come along and either learn how to play this fascinating board game or play in a mini tournament with other players at your level. **Anyone interested, please email Irving Lomon at irving.lomon@gmail.com**



T GROUP – THIRD THURSDAY TEA AND TALK AT TWO **Thursday 18 January at 2 pm**

Ask the Rabbi: Rabbi Dr Jonathan Romain

Come along to ask the Rabbi all those questions that you've been meaning to ask him.

If you would like to come for lunch beforehand at 1 pm for heart-warming soup and bread, please contact Barbara Grossman before Thursday 18 January by emailing her at projects@maidshul.org

The T Group will also be available through Zoom but then we can't feed you. Shame!



FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER **Friday 19 January at 6:30 pm**

Communal Meal

Why celebrate Shabbat on your own when you can be with other members of the community – great company awaits you!

Please bring a starter, main course or dessert to share after letting Sue Kayne know that you're joining us. Call her on 07788 882929 or email susankayne3@gmail.com



TOGETHER WE ARE ALL STRONGER SHABBAT **Saturday 20 January at 10:30 am**

Topic: Mental Health

Join us for our first Together We Are Stronger session during the Shabbat Service. **Details page 13.**

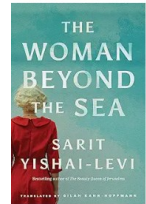


BOOK CIRCLE

Thursday 25 January at 8 pm

The Woman Beyond the Sea by Sarit Yishai-Levi

The book to be discussed in January is *The Woman Beyond the Sea* by Sarit Yishai-Levi. You are very welcome to join us. For further information, please contact Barbara Rosenberg at barb.rose87@gmail.com



TIDDLERS' SERVICE

Friday 26 January at 4:30 pm

3 to 7 year olds

Please contact Sheila Veniar at sheilaveniar@gmail.com for more information.



BATMITZVAH

Saturday 27 January at 10:30 am

Elise Hine

My name is Elise. I like watching TV and going camping. I go to Guides and my favourite activity is the parachute game. I have two pet rats called Shadow and Pebble. My favourite subjects at school are PE and DT.

Tony, thank you for being patient with me.



WOMEN'S INTERFAITH GROUP (WAMCF)

Monday 29 January at 7:30 pm

Alexander Devine Children's Hospice Service,
Snowball Hill, Maidenhead SL6 3LU



Ladies of all faiths or none are welcome to come along and share refreshments. Our next meeting has a speaker from The Alexander Devine Children's Hospice. Join us on Monday 29 January at 7:30–9:30 pm.

UPCOMING EVENTS

READING WIZO

Saturday 3 February at 7:30 pm

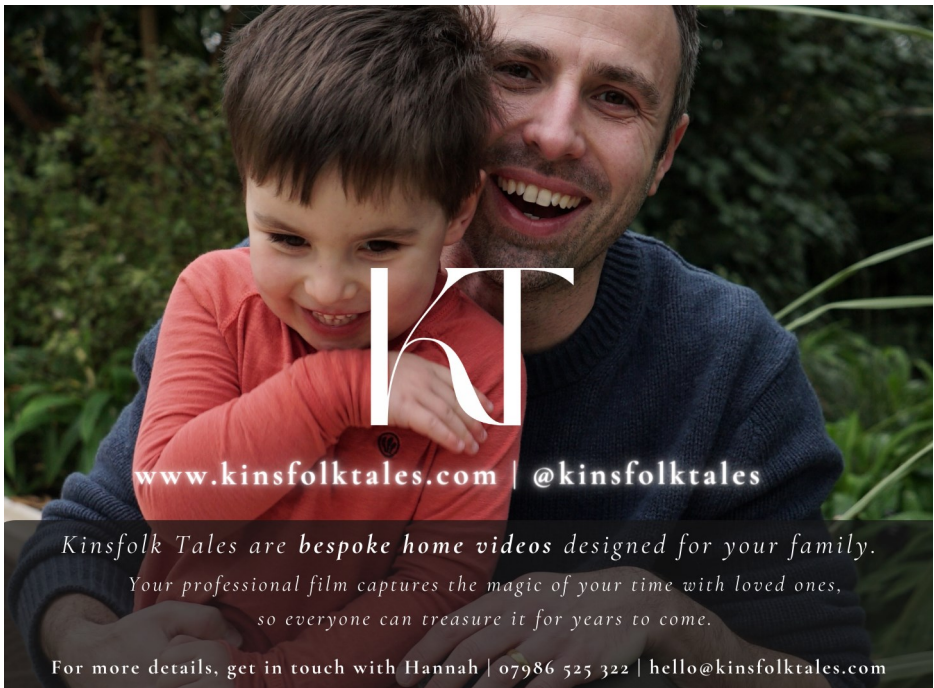
Quiz Night



This is an invite to join us at Reading WIZO on Saturday 3 February to compete as one team against 150 other teams across the UK. It's great fun and all for an excellent cause, particularly in these horrifying and so troubling times.

It's held in a home near Sonning and Woodley, and supper is provided. We begin eating at 6:30 pm and then go straight into the quiz at 7:30 pm. We are asking for a donation between £15 to £20 to reflect the situation at present. It is for all genders!

The questions tend to be more puzzles than straight general knowledge, so we need all the brains we can muster together. **If you would like to join us, then please contact Janet on 07787 558155.**



AN EVENING OF 'LETTERATURE' **Sunday 4 February at 7:30 pm** Curated by Nahum and Poulos

Do you love receiving handwritten letters and postcards? When did you last write or receive a letter on an actual piece of paper, slipped into an unsuspecting envelope and dropped expectantly into the postbox on the corner? Better still when did you last, with raised pulse rate, open a handwritten envelope bearing news and views; welcome or devastating?



True, we all write most days, often many times a day, but only electronically ... and will those thoughts and words have the same impact and longevity as that dog-eared letter, read and read again, pored over perhaps with a loved one, then stowed away for posterity?

On 4 February we will read aloud some epistolary efforts that are significant, amusing, informative, and moving and we invite you, dear reader, to come and judge their impact for yourself. In the meantime, if you have a gem lying in a box at home that you would be prepared to share, please send a copy by email to gillan@gilliannahum.com

Light refreshments will be served. The cost is free, but donations are welcome on the night.

Do you know someone Jewish in your area?

The Rabbi would like to know!

Perhaps they are new to the area, in a mixed faith marriage or firmly claim to be lapsed. They will receive a copy of *Hadashot* and a letter of introduction from Rabbi Romain. He will not reveal his source; you will remain anonymous.



SUPPORT FOR MEMBERS

*One of the most positive aspects of belonging to our community is the wide range of support options available to members. If you feel in need of support, of any kind, not just those listed below, please get in contact with Rabbi Romain who will be able to advise on options for help. **Rabbi Romain can be reached on 01628 671058.***

SHALOM COUNSELLING SERVICE

This confidential service, staffed by trained Counsellors who are members of the Synagogue, can offer support in understanding your situation and help you explore ways to cope with life's difficulties.

Please contact Rebecca Senel on 01491 579446 or Rabbi Romain on 01628 671058 who will discuss the next steps with you.

MAIDENHEAD SYNAGOGUE CARE SCHEME

Do you need any help getting to a doctor's appointment or help with the shopping? Feel lonely and need a visitor? The Synagogue runs its own Care Scheme to help members of the community in whatever way. **Contact Lucy Henning on 01753 624977.**

TELEPHONE CHATLINE

To talk to a member of the community, no matter what the reason, call **Pauline Glendinning on 01869 345845.**

MUTUAL SUPPORT GROUP FOR THOSE BEREAVED OR DIVORCED

If you have been through a bereavement, or a divorce, which can have similar consequences in many respects, do join us for an informal chat at the Synagogue on the first Monday of the month at 3 pm. Often mixing with people in a similar situation can be a great tonic.

Please contact Michael Leighton on 07831 851761 or email mleight0n@btinternet.com for more information.

Rabbi Dr Jonathan Romain:
01628 671058
rabromain@aol.com

Maidenhead Synagogue:
Grenfell Lodge
Ray Park Road
Maidenhead
SL6 8QX
01628 673012
admin@maidshul.org
The office is staffed
Monday to Thursday.

Synagogue Website:
www.maidshul.org
Forgotten your password?
Click on *Members Area* and
press *Reset Password* and enter
your email address.
For any problems email:
admin@maidshul.org

Kosher Shop:
Tamar Leeper
tamarleeper@hotmail.com

Community Projects:
Barbara Grossman
07855 801937
01628 541017
projects@maidshul.org

HADASHOT

is the monthly community magazine of
MAIDENHEAD SYNAGOGUE

A Charity Limited by Guarantee
5512194

Registered Charity Number
1110795

Editor: Elizabeth Prais

Email: hadashot@maidshul.org

Submissions are welcomed from all
sections of the community, but **we
reserve the right to edit all
contributions.**

- Material should be provided as
a Word Document and photo-
graphs as jpg files.
- Articles for publication in
Hadashot should normally be
between **150 and 200 words in
length.**
- Copy deadline is the 8th of the
month preceding the issue date.

*The views herein are of individual contributors and
not necessarily of Maidenhead Synagogue. Copyright
©2024 Maidenhead Synagogue, Limited by Guarant-
tee, and individual contributors.*

Maidenhead
Synagogue is a
member of the
Movement
for Reform
Judaism.



JANUARY 2024 DIARY

Monday	1st	3 pm	Bereavement Support Group
Thursday	4th	7 pm	Israeli Folk Dancing
Friday	5th	7:30 pm	Family Service
Saturday	6th	9:15 am	Torah Breakfast
		10:30 am	Shabbat Service
Monday	8th	7:30 pm	Adult Education resumes
Friday	12th	8:30 pm	Erev Shabbat Service
Saturday	13th	10:30 am	Shabbat Service & Barmitzvah of Noah Codron
Sunday	14th	10 am	Religion School resumes
		7:30 pm	Film Evening
Wednesday	17th	2 pm	Backgammon Session
Thursday	18th	2 pm	T Group
		7 pm	Israeli Folk Dancing
Friday	19th	6:30 pm	Friday Night Communal Meal
		8:30 pm	Erev Shabbat Service
Saturday	20th	10:30 am	Shabbat Service
			Topic: Mental Health
Friday	26th	4:30 pm	Tiddlers' Service (under 7s)
		8:30 pm	Erev Shabbat Service
Saturday	27th	10:30 am	Shabbat Service & Batmitzvah of Elise Hine

Mondays	7:30 pm	Hebrew – Adult Education
	8:30 pm	Bible – Adult Education
Wednesdays	11:30 am	Wednesday Social
Thursdays	10 am	Mothers & Bumps/Babies/Toddlers Ganon: 2 ½–5 Years old

All services at Grenfell Lodge are now in-person and livestreamed.
Visit www.maidshul.org – the link is in the upper-right corner of the homepage.

To access Zoom Kiddush
for both Erev Shabbat and Shabbat mornings immediately after each service

Meeting ID: 963 7834 1361 & Password: 891244