

HADASHOT

חדשות

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www.maidshul.org

April 2025
Nisan/Iyar 5785

Bibas Family
Memorial in Israel

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Carol Alexandru
Formagiu
Wokingham

Gabrielle Anne
Jewell
Cornwall

BEST WISHES ON THEIR NEW HOME

Pearl Harris
Bournemouth

Rosalind Hurst
Watford

Adrienne Ross
Windlesham

BEST WISHES ON THEIR NEW HOME

Ido Cohen on the
loss of his mother

The Lerner Family
on the loss of Leon

The Woodbridge
Family on the loss of
Robert

Marc Issacs on the
loss of his
grandmother

Ivor Malina on the
loss of his sister

GET WELL SOON

Mark Harris

Peter Riches

Kate Saffman

MAZEL TOV



Happy Birthday to
Gill Morris who
celebrated her 90th
birthday at
Wednesday Social!
(Photo on the left)

David & Eunice
Shillings on their
60th wedding
anniversary

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 Rene at rabbi@maidshul.org or 07495 491325.



THANK YOU FOR HOSTING KIDDUSH

*To book the date for your kiddush, please contact,
Pauline Keyne at pauline.keyne@maidshul.org*

Pauline is happy to find you a 'Kiddush buddy' if you would like one.

Diz Adelman
with **Janis Kendal**

Janis Kendal
for her father's
Yahrzeit

Robin & Lorna
Rhodes
for the Yahrzeit of
Lorna's mother & for
Robin's big birthday

**Helen Compton &
Simon Grinberg**
for their mother's
Yahrzeit

Maurice & Janet
Lawson
for Janet celebrating a
birthday milestone

Monthly Musings From Rabbi Rene

Moving beyond conflict

I spent the last week of February in Israel, where I joined a group of UK rabbis led by Yachad UK. We visited the Nova Festival site, where 440 kids were slaughtered after a night of partying, spoke with residents of Kibbutz Nirim, heard one man talk about the harrowing hours he tried to keep his family safe from Hamas, and travelled to the West Bank.

We witnessed a village destroyed by settlers following October 7, part of a larger pattern affecting 15 villages. A settler attempted to run us over with his truck, and later, in Hebron, we faced verbal abuse from settlers' children. We also met with peace activists, Palestinians and Israelis, who, despite the absence of trust, are trying to keep the communication open, and to imagine a better



future together.

The complexity of this conflict is the two narratives that it presents. We saw the Israeli perspective when we visited the Nova Festival site, with all these young lives cut short, and the city of Sderot, where Hamas killed 80 people, leading to the evacuation of a kibbutz for security reasons. In total, over 1,200 individuals were brutally slaughtered by Hamas, and 250 were taken



hostage.

I attended a forum for the families of hostages near the Israeli Prime Minister's residence on the day the Bibas family was buried, where we released orange balloons in their memory. The photos of the smiling babies and their mother will haunt me until my last day. The trauma in the country is profound, and the ongoing captivity of hostages in Gaza complicates the grieving process.

A settler attempted to run us over with his truck, and we faced verbal abuse from settlers' children.

From the Palestinian perspective, we observed the devastation in northern Gaza, where hundreds of thousands are displaced in a confined area. We saw one of many villages destroyed by settlers

without repercussions from the police or the army, who don't defend them. In Hebron, we witnessed two Palestinian girls being physically abused by the children of the settlers. These kids spat at us, insulted us, and threw eggs at us.

Many people seem incapable of thinking through complexity and can only see one perspective. Some perceive Palestinians as terrorists intent on killing all Jews, while others view Israel as a rogue state committing ethnic cleansing against a vulnerable population.

Both perspectives seem irreconcilable, and yet, each contains some elements of truth. Hamas, supported by Iran, seeks to destroy Israel, while some settlers in the West Bank and far-right members of the Israeli Knesset aim to resolve the Palestinian issue

through the expulsion of all non-Jewish inhabitants through terror.

The trauma in Israel is profound, and the ongoing captivity of hostages in Gaza complicates the grieving process.

After my trip, I realised we need a new approach to discussing the situation. We must find fresh language, identify the root causes, and embrace complexity, by considering several key factors, such as:

Historical narratives: Israelis and Palestinians have strong narratives

that shape their views, Shoah versus Nakbah. These narratives often clash, making it hard to find common ground, as they are both rooted in suffering. The region is also very important for Jews, Muslims, and Christians, adding to its complexity.

Land and territory: Disputes over land ownership of this region are at the heart of the conflict.

Competing claims to the same territory, including Jerusalem, worsen tensions and aggravate security concerns. The most vocal members of both Israeli and Palestinian society are the most radical on both sides – those who do not want peace.

Security concerns: Israel's security worries come from Palestinian terrorist attacks and shape its policies toward them. Likewise, Palestinians have security issues linked to Israeli military actions, to settlers' violence in the West Bank and overall movement limits. There are now about 800 checkpoints in the West Bank.



International involvement: The conflict draws international attention. Many countries and organisations often focus on their own interests, rather than true conflict resolution.

To build a constructive narrative, we must move beyond "us versus them" frameworks. We need a more nuanced, empathetic, and future-oriented approach:

Acknowledge shared humanity: Recognise the humanity in every human being and acknowledge the pain felt by both Israelis and Palestinians.

Promote dialogue: Create chances for meaningful conversations, active listening, and building trust. Right now, trust is in tatters, and without that, nothing is possible.

Emphasise interconnectedness: Remind both sides that their futures are linked; peace requires cooperation. As one man told us, either we will learn how to live together, or we will die together. The rights and dignity of both

Israelis and Palestinians need to be upheld.

Move beyond blame: Focus on finding solutions, rather than blaming past actions. Maybe it is time to go beyond historical traumas that hinder any chance of a future free from suffering.

Build a future-oriented vision: Imagine a shared future and use language that goes beyond conflict.

By weaving these ideas into a new narrative, we can break harmful cycles and create a hopeful path forward.

We have seen this method work in Northern Ireland, France, and Germany. There is no other choice – not for them, or for us, as everything that happens in the Middle East impacts our own security here in Europe.

Rabbi Rene

VAYIKRA

וַיִּקְרָא

By Shel Musiker

The Torah portion for 5th April is Vayikra. It is also the first portion of the third book of the Holy Bible, which in English, we call Leviticus. This book deals with the Tabernacle, which the children of Israel built in Sinai and which was later replaced by the Temple that Solomon built in Jerusalem.

The activities in the Tabernacle were conducted by the priests, who were all Levites –hence the name Leviticus. Technically speaking, not all Levites qualify for the priesthood: they all must be descendants of Aaron and his sons. Aaron, Moses’s brother, was the first priest and was chosen by G-d. In Hebrew, the name of the first portion is also the name of

the book, so that word would have deep significance that permeates beyond one weekly portion.

What activities occurred there? Our portion begins (Lev. 1:1) “He (G-d) called out to Moses and G-d spoke to him from the Tent of Meeting.” The literal meaning is that G-d would speak to Moses from here. To be specific, the Tent of Meeting was a rectangular structure that was divided into one section called ‘Holy’ and a second section, ‘Holy of Holies’, which contained the Holy Ark and The Ten Commandments. Moses would hear the voice of G-d emanating from above the Ark cover.

The Tabernacle also included

Parashah Vayikra – Leviticus 1:1-5:26 – The parashah describes how God informs Moses about the sacrifices offered in the Mishkan (Tabernacle) .

two altars: a gold altar for burning incense and a copper altar for sacrifices, which could be an animal, such as a cow or sheep, or a bird such as a dove, or flour, usually mixed with oil. In general, sacrifices included burnt offering, sin offering, guilt offering and peace offering. The sacrifice must be of the highest quality and actioned with focused intent by all involved, contemplating on the sacrifice and the significance of their offering. In Hebrew, a sacrifice is *korban*, and is a procedure that brings one closer to G-d.

Perhaps the most enigmatic

function of the Tabernacle as stated in the Torah (Exodus 25:8) is: “They shall make a sanctuary for me, so that I may dwell amongst them.” This verse, our sages inform us, alludes to the Tabernacle and to us; for the Tabernacle and its successor the Temple are vehicles to house G-d's presence. This then helps us better understand the first paragraph on page 231 of our siddur, “Our eyes look forward to Your return to Zion in mercy! Blessed are you G-d, ever restoring Your presence to Zion.”

New memory café launches for those living with dementia

Nearly a million people in the UK are living with dementia.

One in two of us will be affected by it in our lifetime – either as a patient or a carer.

“It touches us all,” says Suri Poulos. “No one is immune.” Her own brother was in his early 60s when he began to develop dementia, and since then, has been deteriorating rapidly. One of the hardest things for Suri’s sister-in-law has been a limited opportunity to speak with others in a similar situation.

A new support group launching next month aims to provide that opportunity for the Maidenhead Synagogue community.

The memory café, set to run weekly on a Tuesday from 3-5 pm, will allow carers to connect with each other, as well as providing stimulation for those living with dementia, through gentle chair exercises, puzzles, questions about a favourite pastime or just playing and singing music from their youth.

Suri was asked to establish the café by Rabbi Rene, who knew that she had previously set up and run a daycare centre in Henley for those living with dementia. The first session will be on Tuesday 13 May but in order for it to run successfully, volunteers are needed.

Each session will rely on two volunteers, with initial support from Suri. No training is required – just a smile, warmth, and initiative. Please get in touch as soon as possible if you would like to help:

suriepoulos@gmail.com



Pesach with a difference!

YOUNG FAMILY SEDER

Friday 11 April at 3 pm

The Young Family Seder is a special children's event, which uses our own children's Haggadah. We focus on the fun parts of the Seder that youngsters enjoy ... but also have a play area for toddlers who may need 'time out.'

Cost: £5 per person (under ones go free).

This covers the cost of the traditional Seder plate items that we provide, including matza!

We just ask you to bring a dish of food to share (no meat, no nuts). This is geared for children aged 8 and under, but of course, their parents and siblings are welcome, too!



COMMUNAL SEDER

Sunday 13 April at 7 pm

The Communal Seder is fully catered, so you just have to bring yourselves, and be seated by 6:45pm for a prompt 7pm start. Numbers are strictly limited; priority will be given to Maidenhead Synagogue members.

Adults: £35 each

Member children (aged 9 – 12 inclusive): £25 each.

Non-members (adults and children): £50 each.



Bookings are open.

Please contact admin@maidshul.org to receive the link to the booking form.

You will need to register by **Friday 4 April 2025** latest.

Women's Interfaith Group

The group gathered together to share and enjoy pancakes and learn about Lent and Ash Wednesday, exploring the significance of these traditions. We also had the privilege of hearing from a speaker from the Autism Group, who shared valuable insights and raised awareness about autism within our community. It was a wonderful time of learning, connecting, and growing together.



Rabbi's Roadshow



The Ascot Network stop on the Rabbi's Roadshow.

Calling all drama fans

Mike Consden

I have been directing plays in the UK and abroad for the last 65 years.

A major highlight in that time was working with Suri Poulos when she took on the lead role of Helene Hanff in James Roose Evans's 81 Charing Cross Road.

Also during that time, shul members created and staged a memorable production of Fiddler on the Roof under the skilled direction of Gillian Nahum.

But it's not always about staging a production. Wouldn't it be wonderful if our shul had a theatre group that also wants to look at and take part in theatre activities?

There's just as much fun in finding out how to work with silence; adopting an accent; using facial expression; creating trust ... the list is endless. Ultimately, the group members themselves will decide what they want to do.

The only requirements would be to come with ideas and to take part in what's on offer.

If you share my belief that there are enough of us to create a shul theatre group, do come along to the two initial sessions, both to be held at Maidenhead Synagogue, and both on Sunday afternoon, 2-3 pm on 6 April and 11 May.

Please contact me to let me know that you can join us: call me on 07503 228375 or email: mikeconsden@aol.com.

Young Adult Community

Sarah Lewis and Sapir Tal

With a wonderful debut event under our belts and an upcoming calendar of activities, it's time to formally introduce ourselves! We are Sarah Lewis and Sapir Tal, your community organisers for Young Adults at Maidenhead Synagogue.



Having grown up within the synagogue, we reconnected after 7th October and realised we were facing similar struggles finding a place for ourselves to relax as Jews. Deciding to do something about it, the solution was simple: create our own space for us, by us!

At a time when it can feel isolating to be Jewish in non-Jewish spaces, and sometimes overwhelming in religious spaces, the desire for casual Jewish spaces is clear. London and Manchester currently hold the monopoly on Jewish socials, and we believe in making young Jewish life accessible by connecting others in our age group from similar non-London backgrounds.

We want to unite young Jewish adults from across the Thames Valley boroughs and build a thriving community outside of London, and we would love for you to be a part of it.

Are you 20-35 years old, or do you know anyone in this age group? Contact us at maidenheadYA@gmail.com to stay in the know and be the first to hear about all the exciting things happening next!



YOUNG ADULT COMMUNITY

Join the Young Adult Community at Maidenhead Synagogue! The place to connect with Jews in their 20s & 30s in the Thames Valley area.

Contact Sarah and Sapir at
MaidenheadYA@gmail.com
to find out more.

Vivienne Chaikin's Art Club

Thursday 24 April at 2 pm

Do you enjoy sketching and painting? Then come to Vivienne Chaikin's Art Club on Thursday afternoons 2 - 4:30 pm at the synagogue, starting on Thursday 24 April.

Ignite your creativity, hone your skills with guided traditional drawing methods and mark making, and progress to learning how to apply the multi-faceted aspects of water colour application.

Vivienne studied at the Royal College of Art and has taught at several UK universities. She has exhibited at multiple galleries, including the Royal Academy. Her commissioned work is held in private collections in the UK and abroad.

There will be a mix of given topics and group-suggested topics, with a break for tea and discussion. We will also touch on some art appreciation themes.

This course is aimed at both seasoned sketchers and people with basic drawing skills, to develop your observation skills and create stunning artwork, with the aim of exhibiting your work in the synagogue. There's also the potential to visit art exhibitions in the future.

The initial art materials to bring with you are:

- An A4 hard covered sketch pad; if the pad is soft covered, then bring a board to support it.
- A 2B pencil.
- A carbon pencil.
- Coloured pencils (Conté if possible).
- A set of 3 Pilot ink pens.

Interested? Then please email: projects@maidshul.org.



Pesach Message from the President 5785 / 2025

Pesach is the festival of freedom, where we celebrate our departure from Egypt. None of us needs to be reminded of the bitter parallels we have been experiencing since October 7th 2023, with hundreds of hostages taken on that awful day and held in captivity in awful conditions.

Since the signing of phase one of the ceasefire agreement we have experienced some joy and much heartbreak. There has been celebration as hostages have emerged from their ordeal to be reunited with their families – among them fellow Brit Emily Damari. There has been concern at the condition of hostages who were released in ugly Hamas ceremonies emaciated and unwell. And of course, we all mourned as the coffins of hostages murdered by their captors were received by their distraught loved ones, including the precious Bibas family and Tsachi Idan, cousin of Board of Deputies' staff member Adam Maanit. It has been our absolute determination to campaign until the last hostage is out; with our Adopt a Hostage campaign and vigils outside Downing Street and the Scottish Parliament.

Since October 7th we have all suffered a surge of antisemitism. The UK community needs to feel safe, secure and protected. This is why we have set up a Commission on Antisemitism, led by the Government's Independent Adviser on Antisemitism Lord Mann and former Defence Secretary Penny Mordaunt. The Commission will investigate the rise of antisemitism in the UK and make far-reaching recommendations for how to fight antisemitism on our streets, in university campuses, in the media, online and in our workplaces.

Another key pledge I made in my election campaign was to tackle extremism and enhance interfaith relations with the Muslim community. Last year we launched the Optimistic Alliance between Jewish and Muslim communities in which we are tackling anti-Jewish and anti-Muslim hatred; challenging extremism and supporting mainstream voices; defending shared religious freedoms; confronting societal challenges like poverty and climate change; and finding ways to engage better over the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. I was proud to join rabbis from across the UK Jewish community as we presented the far-reaching Drumlanrig Muslim-Jewish Accords to King Charles III in February. There is a long way to go but we have made a determined start.

I have spoken about the problems we face. However, we should also be celebrating our community and its achievements. I am pushing forward plans for a British Jewish Culture Month, with a proposed launch in 2026. In order to inoculate the public against the virus of antisemitism, we need to celebrate and educate about the contribution of our community to our country's society, economy and culture. I hope there will be much more to celebrate in the coming year.

We have gone through one of the toughest periods for the Jewish people in our living memory, but we have resilience in our DNA and we will come back stronger.

It just remains for me to wish Pesach Sameach to you and your families from everyone at the Board of Deputies.

Am Yisrael Chai

Phil Rosenberg
President





After everything we have been through lately, our Pesach will feel very special this year. The Haggadah tells us of persecution, redemption and hope for a better future. The story impacts us, because these things have continued throughout Jewish life: but here we are, facing the challenges together with courage.

At CST, our only mission is to give strength and comfort to British Jews. We do this so that you and your family can lead the life you choose.

Since that dreadful day of 7 October, CST has faced unprecedented demands and challenges, but despite it all, Jewish life has intensified and grown stronger than ever before. CST has been very proud of its part in making this happen, but we need you to continue supporting us too.

Over the last 18 months, many hundreds of men and women have joined CST following intensive security training. This means we can better protect our community, making it stronger and more confident.

Our commitment to you is constant. Thank you for placing your trust in us. The future remains uncertain, but together, we will keep on facing whatever lies ahead.

There are many ways you can support CST. You can contribute by becoming a volunteer, reporting antisemitism and donating to us.

From all of us here at CST, we wish you a

Chag Pesach Sameach

Report suspicious activity and antisemitism to CST at cst.org.uk/report

EMERGENCY National Emergency Number (24-hr) 0800 032 3263

NON-EMERGENCY London 020 8457 9999 | Manchester 0161 792 6666 | Leeds 0113 237 1980

Community Security Trust is a registered charity in England and Wales (1042391) and Scotland (SC043612)



APRIL EVENTS DIARY

SUNDAYS

Children's Choir at 9:30 am

Group meets before cheder. For any further details, contact Julia at juliashumway@gmail.com or on 07707 223946.

MONDAYS

Exploring Judaism at 6:30 pm (Adults)

Contact Rabbi Rene at rabbi@maidshul.org for more details.

Hebrew at 7:30 pm (Adults)

"Because Jews Love Stories" at 8:30 pm (Adults)

WEDNESDAYS

Wednesday Social from 11:30 am

This mid-week social is for our senior members. Come along each week and enjoy a three-course lunch, games, gentle exercises, or relax and have a chat over a cup of tea with friends. And, if you have something to celebrate, this is a special invitation for you – we love to celebrate all birthdays and other things, too!

For further information, please contact Agnes Fixler at admin@maidshul.org or on 01628 673012.

THURSDAYS

Ganon Nursery – 2½ to 5 years old from 10 am

For further details, contact Sheila Veniar at sheilaveniar@gmail.com

Mothers & Bumps/Babies/Toddlers from 10 am

Feel free to come regularly or periodically. Bring along any special toys, snacks or other essentials. For any further details, contact Julia at juliashumway@gmail.com

PESACH SCHEDULE

APRIL 2025

11

APR, 2025

YOUNG FAMILY SEDER

FRIDAY AT 3 PM

GRENFELL LODGE

FRIDAY NIGHT SERVICE AT 7:30 PM

12

APR, 2025

EREV PESACH

SATURDAY MORNING:
SERVICE AS USUAL AT 10:30 AM

13

APR, 2025

COMMUNAL SEDER

SUNDAY AT 7 PM

GRENFELL LODGE

FOR MORE INFO: **ADMIN@MAIDSHUL.ORG**



Let the office
know!

admin@maidshul.org



DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE
JEWISH
IN YOUR AREA?

*All information shared will be held
in strict confidence.*



POETRY CIRCLE

Wednesday 2 April at 7:30 pm

The next meeting of the Poetry Circle is on Wednesday 2 April at 7.30 p.m. Bring along a favourite poem for us all to enjoy. If you like poetry, do come along. Everyone welcome. For further information, please contact Barbara Rosenberg at barb.rose87@gmail.com



MUSICAL SERVICE

Friday 4 April at 7:30 pm

First edition of Shabbat Ruchani (a spiritual Shabbat), with Tom Smith on the guitar. We will use melodies that were written by the Jerusalemite community of Nava Tehila, a community that belongs to the Jewish Renewal Movement. This service will be musical, with new melodies, meditation, prayers – a gentle way to enter Shabbat.



TORAH BREAKFAST

Saturday 5 April at 9:15 am

Discussion Group

Join us before the Shabbat service on 5 April for an in-depth discussion of the portion Vayikra – Leviticus 1:1 - 5:26 . Coffee and tea are available. No RSVP is necessary.

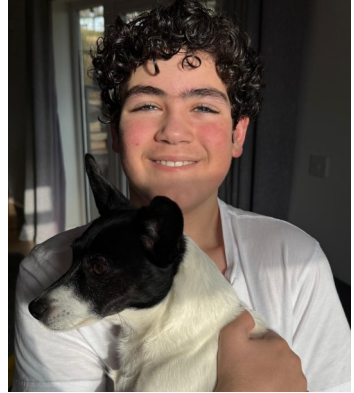


BE'ERI AYASH

Saturday 5 April at 10:30 am

Bar Mitzvah

Hello, my name is Be'eri Ayash. I was born in Israel, but I moved to the UK when I was just 3 years old. I live in Maidens Green village with my mum, dad, two brothers, sister, and our pet dog, Layla.



I go to Cox Green School in Maidenhead, where my favourite subjects are Science, Art, and Geography. In my free time, I enjoy swimming, playing online games with my friends, and listening to music.

I've been attending cheder since I was 4 years old, and I truly enjoy it because it gives me the chance to spend time with my friends.

I would like to thank Tony and my parents for their support and for helping me learn for my Bar Mitzvah.

MATZA-MAKING SESSION

Sunday 6 April at 11am

Have you ever made matza?

No? Come join me on Sunday 6 April, from 11 am to around 12:30 pm. We made matza last year and it was great fun!

You don't need any equipment or ingredients; we'll supply everything. Just bring yourselves! Let me know by the end of Thursday 3 April, if you're joining us.

Email Barbara Grossman at projects@maidshul.org or call, WhatsApp, or text me on 07855 801937.



SHUL THEATRE GROUP

Sunday 6 April at 2 pm

Do you believe the shul needs a theatre group?
Not just to put on plays, but to work on accents,
facial expressions, and trust.

Come along to find out more: Sunday, 6
April and Sunday 11 May, 2 – 3 pm at the
synagogue. For more information, see page 13.



ISRAELI DANCING

Thursday 10 and 24 April

Dance and Fun!

19:00 - 19:30 – Beginners

19:45 - 21:00 – Advanced

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 varda.parash@gmail.com



BACKGAMMON

Wednesday 16 April 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



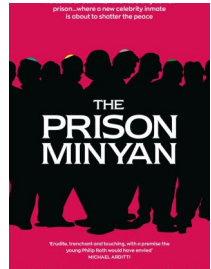
BOOK CIRCLE

Thursday 17 April at 8 pm

The Prison Minyan by Jonathan Stone

The book to be discussed in April is *The Prison Minyan* by Jonathan Stone. You are very welcome to join us.

For further information, please contact Barbara Rosenberg at barb.rose87@gmail.com



VIVIENNE CHAIKIN'S ART CLUB

Thursday 24 April at 2 pm

Ignite your creativity and hone your skills with a labyrinth of guided traditional drawing methods.

For see more information on page 15.



YOM HASHOAH

Wednesday 23 April at 7:30 pm

Commemoration of Yom HaShoah at the synagogue. An evening of reflection, music, and a speaker from Generation to Generation, who will talk about their family's experience.

For further information, contact Agnes Fixler at admin@maidshul.org or on 01628 673012.





*A Once in a
Generation
Commemoration*

ONE MOMENT.
ONE COMMUNITY.
ONE LEGACY.

**YOM
HASHOAH
2025** **80
YEARS**
1945-2025

MARKING THE
LIBERATION
OF BERGEN
BELSEN BY THE
BRITISH ARMED
FORCES

THE UK JEWISH COMMUNITY'S HOLOCAUST CEREMONY
WEDNESDAY 23RD APRIL 2025 • 7PM
VICTORIA TOWER GARDENS, WESTMINSTER

ENTRANCE BY TICKET ONLY • BOOK NOW AT
YOMHASHOAH.ORG.UK



@yomhashoahuk

Operating under the auspices of The Board of Deputies Charitable Foundation Charity No. 1058107

RUBY URCH

Saturday 26 April at 10:30 am

Bat Mitzvah



Hello, my name is Ruby Urch. I live in Binfield Heath with my mum, dad, brother Isaac and cat Skippy. I go to Gillotts School in Henley-on-Thames.

My favourite subjects are history, food tech and music.

To relax, I enjoy baking and crafts. I have been playing the violin since I was five and am in the school orchestra. One of my favourite hobbies is climbing with my friends, where I am on NICAS level four out of five.

I would like to thank Tony, the Rabbi and my mum for helping me keep going with my Torah portion.

FILM EVENING

Sunday 27 April at 7:30 pm

The Windermere Children



Based on an extraordinary true story of hope, this moving and ultimately redemptive film follows child survivors of the Holocaust and the remarkable team who were responsible for helping them rebuild their lives, as they forge friendships that will become a lifeline to a better future.

The film will be followed by a short discussion and some refreshments. There is a voluntary donation of £5 per person to cover this. For further information, please contact Brian Kriefman at

bkriefman@aol.com

REGULAR CO-WORKING DAYS

Monday 28 April 9:30 am to 5 pm

Swap your kitchen table for a more sociable working day, as we transform the shul lobby into *the* place to co-work and connect this side of London!

Our shul workspace will be offering fresh coffee, beigel lunches, quiet areas to concentrate or chat with your new work neighbour, Wi-fi, cake, access to hot drinks all day, and a photocopier– what more could you ask for? Come for an hour, for lunch or the day, it's up to you. Details to follow.

If these activities are of interest or if you would like to volunteer to help run them, please contact Kate at katesaffman@yahoo.co.uk or Jo at jo.berman@maidshul.org



UPCOMING EVENTS

RABBI'S ROADSHOW - BEACONSFIELD AND GERRARDS CROSS NETWORK

Friday 16 May at 7:15 pm

Rabbi Rene is making his way around the networks to meet with members and hear what they are interested in.

All enquiries, please email Myriam Silverman via myriam@silvermanhome.co.uk





YOM HA'ZIKARON CEREMONY & YOM HA'ATZMAUT BBQ

**Wednesday 30 April at 6:30 pm for a 6:45 pm
prompt start**

Join our community-led Yom Ha'Zikaron (Memorial Day) ceremony as we remember those who gave their lives for Israel and say a prayer for the swift return of all the hostages. Then immediately afterwards we'll mark the 77th Yom Ha'Atzmaut (Israel's Independence Day) with a traditional BBQ.

Please arrive in time to be seated at 6:30 pm. The ceremony will begin promptly at 6:45 pm and will be followed by a BBQ outside.

The BBQ is free for community members; non-members: £5.00 per person.

We will provide the kosher meat and a vegan option. We ask you to bring a dairy-free & nut-free salad or dessert.

For catering purposes, we need to know if you'll be joining us. Please contact Barbara Grossman by latest Friday 18 April to receive the link to the booking form: call 07855 801937 or email projects@maidshul.org

This event is very popular, so early registration is recommended!



Kaytana 2025

(SUMMER CAMP IN HEBREW)

**MONDAY 28 JULY
TO
FRIDAY 1 AUGUST**

Summer Camp for our
young members
aged 3 and up to Year 8!

Exciting activities!
Make friends!
Have the most amazing time!
Supervised, happy and
relaxed environment!

**REGISTER AT
PROJECTS@MAIDSHUL.ORG**

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 touch with Rabbi Rene, who will be able to advise on options for help.

Rabbi Rene can be reached on 07495 491325.

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 Rene on 07495 491325, 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.**

BIASED AND INACCURATE MEDIA REPORTAGE

If you identify biased and inaccurate media reportage on Israel, please send the examples via email to reportingbias@bod.org.uk. Include as much information as you can, but in particular, the date/time and media outlet/platform. Please cc bod@maidshul.org. Our BoD representatives are Leigh Dworkin and Sapir Tal.

CALLING ALL WRITERS AND PHOTOGRAPHERS

From journalism students to avid shutterbugs, we know that our community is full of gifted creative people, and we'd love to have you contribute to Hadashot.

What We're Looking For:

- Article ideas
- Interview and storytelling skills
- Photos that capture life within our community
- Personal experiences and insights
- Recipes

Why Get Involved?

- Build your portfolio
- Help bring fresh perspectives to Hadashot readers
- Support the Maidenhead mishpocha

Want to know more? Get in touch with the editors via **hadashot@maidshul.org**.



**WE CAN'T
WAIT TO
HEAR FROM
YOU!**

Rabbi Dr Rene Pfertzel
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rabbi@maidshul.org

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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 Your Password* and
enter your email address.
For any problems email:
admin@maidshul.org

Kosher Shop:
Tamar Leeper
tamarleeper@hotmail.com

Community Projects:
Barbara Grossman
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projects@maidshul.org

HADASHOT

is the monthly community magazine of
MAIDENHEAD SYNAGOGUE

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Editor: Katharine Rooney
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 photographs 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.

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



April 2025 DIARY

Wednesday	2nd	7:30 pm	Poetry Circle
Friday	4th	7:30 pm	Musical Service
Saturday	5th	9:15 am	Torah Breakfast
	5th	10:30 am	Be'eri Ayash's Bar Mitzvah
Sunday	6th	11:00 am	Matza-Making Session
		2:00 pm	Shul Theatre Group
Thursday	10th	7:30 pm	Israeli Dancing
Wednesday	16th	2:00 pm	Backgammon
Thursday	17th	8:00 pm	Book Circle
Wednesday	23rd	7:30 pm	Yom HaShoah Service
Thursday	24th	2:00 pm	Vivienne Chaikin's Art Club
		7:30 pm	Israeli Dancing
Saturday	26th	10:30 am	Ruby Urch's Bat Mitzvah
Sunday	27th	7:30 pm	Film Evening
Monday	28th	9:30 am	Regular Co-working Day
Wednesday	30th	6:30 am	Yom Ha'Zikaron Ceremony & Yom Ha'Atzmaut BBQ

Wednesdays	11:30 am	Wednesday Social
Thursdays	10:00 am	Mothers & Bumps/Babies/Toddlers Ganon: 2 ½–5 years old
Fridays	7:30 pm	Erev Shabbat Service
Saturdays	10:30 am	Shabbat Service
Sundays	9:30 am	Children's Choir
	10:00 am	Cheder

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

Please dispose of *Hadashot* responsibly!

When you have finished with *Hadashot*, please shred or return it to shul for disposal. Do not put it in your paper recycling. There is a lot of great information inside, and some of it is sensitive! Thank you. Shul security