

HADASHOT

חדשות

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WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

**Danit & Alexander
Brooke**
London

Sharon Franks
Maidenhead

**Simon & Hila
Cohen-James**
Windsor

BEST WISHES ON THEIR NEW HOME

**Jorge Gotlib
Gutierrez**
Bracknell

Lee Parker
Henley-on-Thames

David Kremer
Devon

CONDOLENCES

Anthony Linden on
the loss of his mother

Frank Weisinger on
the loss of Gillian

The family
of **Hanna Peyman**

Adam Urch on the
loss of his mother

GET WELL SOON

Nathan Leppinen

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.

NEW EDITORIAL TEAM

After several years at the helm of Hadashot, Elizabeth Prais is handing over responsibility to a new editorial team, Katharine Rooney and Sapir Tal. Katharine has been a professional writer and editor for many years, including overseeing the award-winning *Jewish Independent*, western Canada's oldest Jewish newspaper. She will be working closely with Sapir, who will be responsible for the design, layout and visuals of Hadashot. Thank you to Elizabeth for all of your work - we hope to build on your success! Please do get in touch with any story ideas:

hadashot@maidshul.org.



Elizabeth Prais



Katharine Rooney



Sapir Tal

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.

**Iain Clay & Hannah
Faust** for Rafi's
bat mitzvah

Tom & Gill Lake
with Helen Godson

**Gerry & Katharine
Rooney** for Isabel's
bat mitzvah

Kobi Grossman

Avi & Oksana Lavon
for Lior's bar mitzvah

**The Friday Night
Diners**

Lucy Henning for the
Wellbeing Shabbat

**Howard & Karen
Rogg**

Monthly Musings

from

Rabbi Rene

Purim - 14 Adar

This year, the first day of the month of March corresponds to the first day of the month of Adar, and the festival of Purim (14 Adar), will be celebrated on the 14th of March. In cities surrounded by walls in the time of Joshua, Purim is celebrated on the 15th of the month of Adar. Today, this is mainly in Jerusalem.

Purim is a springtime festival that commemorates the events narrated in the Book of Esther. With her uncle Mordechai, Esther succeeded in overturning a decree for the annihilation of the Jews in the Persian Empire that was ordered by the wicked Haman, the principal minister of King Ahasuerus. Haman said to the King, “There is a certain people, scat-

tered and dispersed among the other people of all the provinces of your realm, whose laws are different from those of any other people, and who do not obey the king’s law; and it is not in Your Majesty’s interest to tolerate them” (Esther 3:8). That is probably the oldest formulation of an anti-Jewish sentiment (the term antisemitism with a racial connotation was coined by Wilhelm Marr in 1879 in Germany). But in truth, this verse could apply to any group targeted by populist politicians who use “the other” to promote their agenda, the common enemy, the scapegoat that is useful to unite a group under a certain banner. There are many modern days “Hamans,” and we



are witnessing a very worrying trend in our democracies of populism that use a population, usually a vulnerable one, to promote their views in order to gain power. They whisper in the people's ears, "There is a people among you that does not abide by your law and needs to be removed." This narrative of division and doom is successful in a time of uncertainties and challenges, when we seem to have lost a sense of purpose.

One Monday evening in January, some of us listened to a TedX talk given by the environmentalist George Monbiot, who was discussing the need for a new restoration story for our world. We did not necessarily agree with all his views, but we concurred on the need to imagine a new story that will give hope and anticipation for the future. Dare I say, the ingredients

are already there, in our community at Maidenhead. We held a very successful Wellbeing Shabbat in early February that led to new initiatives that strengthen the fabric of the community. We have been able to create a space in the middle, where we come for a common purpose without abandoning our particular identities. The diversity of our community is not seen as a threat, but as a source of enrichment of our ethos. It begins with us, but it does not end with us. We can promote this model by exemplarity in the larger world, wherever we go. It is true, there are tensions, disagreements, strife even, but if together, we are able to keep this middle point safe and sacred, we may be able to imagine a new restoration story.

Rabbi Rene

Homecoming Sermon

Rachel Kader

Parashat Vayechi, the last in the book of Genesis, focuses, among other things, on Jacob's desire and request to his son, Joseph, to be buried and return to the land of Israel after being exiled in Egypt. After Jacob's death, a large funeral procession consisting of his descendants and Pharaoh's ministers accompanied Jacob on his final journey to the Holy Land, where he is buried in the Machpelah Cave in Hebron.

Our connection to this today is as Jews also living in the diaspora. Diaspora refers to Israelites or Jews living out of their ancient ancestral homeland. In 63 BCE, Judaea became a protectorate of Rome. Coming under the administration of a governor, Judaea was allowed a king; the governor's business was to regulate trade and

maximize tax revenue.

Even with a Jewish king, however, the Judaeans revolted in 70 CE, a desperate revolt that ended tragically. In 73 CE, the last of the revolutionaries were holed up in a mountain fort called Masada; the Romans had besieged the fort for two years, and the 1,000 men, women, and children inside were beginning to starve. In desperation, the Jewish revolutionaries killed themselves rather than surrender to the Romans.

The Romans then went on to destroy Jerusalem, annex Judaea as a Roman province, and systematically drive the Jews from Palestine, which was the Greek name given to Roman-colonised Israel. After 73 CE, Jewish history additionally became a diasporic one, history as the Jews and their world view

spread over Africa, Asia, and Europe.

That has clearly persisted to today, even following the decolonisation of Israel from the British Mandate in 1948; there is still a huge Jewish diaspora, with varying degrees of connection and association to the Land of Israel. Diaspora Jewish identity can be complex, and has involved a level of assimilation and adaptation to the countries we call home: for example, having to get time off work or school for Jewish holidays, the evolution of fusion cuisines, and the amendment of certain prayers and sayings. Having recently celebrated Hanukkah here, we are familiar with the phrase Nes Gadol Haya Sham ‘a great miracle happened there,’ and those living in Israel adjacently say Nes Gadol Haya Po, a great miracle happened here.

Homecoming in all forms is a central theme within Judaism,

whether that be returning to the homeland, or gathering with family for a Shabbat meal. For the last year, we have been hoping for a different type of homecoming, that of hostages in Gaza. There are currently still 96 hostages* remaining, with the rallying cry from Jews around the world being ‘Bring Them Home.’ I know I personally have felt a certain level of closeness and connection to all Jews everywhere, to a greater extent than ever before. I think of experiences at work where I have had Israeli or Jewish visitors approach me and thank me for wearing the yellow ribbon pin, and we have a quiet moment of discussion of understanding.

To end, it feels poignant to share the Acheinu, a prayer for those captive:

אֲחֵינוּ כָּל בֵּית יִשְׂרָאֵל, הַנִּתְּוֹנִים בַּצָּרָה
וּבִשְׁבִּיחַ, הָעוֹמְדִים בֵּין בָּיִם וּבֵין
בִּנְפֻשָּׁה, הַמִּקּוּם יָרֵחַם עֲלֵיהֶם, וְיוֹצִיאֵם
מִצָּרָה לְרוּחָהּ, וּמֵאֲפֵלָה לְאוֹרָהּ,
וּמִשְׁעָבוֹד לְגֵאֻלָּהּ, הַשֵּׁתָּה בַּעֲגָלָה וּבְזִמְן
קָרִיב. וְנֹאמַר אָמֵן

*This sermon was given on 10 January.

WELLBEING SHABBAT – 8 FEBRUARY

Lucy Henning

Just like the braids of our challah, our Wellbeing Shabbat intertwined many themes.

Themes such as community, love, friendship, strength, harmony and support.

In place of Rabbi Rene's sermon, we were privileged to hear from Stephen Sommer and Beth Kremmer-Collins. Stephen spoke about our volunteer callers, and the tea + chat initiative. Beth updated us regarding the Shalom Counselling Service and the plans going forward.

We are looking to build on the support that we are able to offer our members. There were some interesting discussions on a variety of topics, including caring for carers, and using our local networks to their full potential.

The goal of our Wellbeing Shabbat was to make the day seem a bit brighter for all those



involved. Given the amount of positive energy that was radiating, I am very happy to say that we definitely succeeded on that front.

The positive vibes were extended into the Kiddush Hall. The specially curated Kiddush featured vibrant food, and cute signs extolling the wellbeing benefits of such things as eating food that is either colourful, contains antioxidants or is nostalgic.

From the heartwarming feedback that we have received, we are now looking to make our Wellbeing Shabbat an annual event.

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.

What's happening in the West Bank?

Yachad brings settlement expert Dror Etkes to Maidenhead Synagogue on Wednesday 26 March, 7:30 pm

Elinor Milne

Since the Hamas attacks of 7 October and the Israel-Hamas war, there have been huge increases in settler violence across the West Bank, with entire villages displaced. At the same time, the Israeli government has approved the construction of many new settlements. Dror Etkes, a well-known observer of Israel's settlements will share his perspective on the situation in the West Bank and how it relates to current developments in Israeli politics.

Dror Etkes is the founder and director of Israeli NGO Kerem Navot, which researches Israeli land and settlement policy in the West Bank. He is frequently cited



in the Israeli and international media, has published dozens of reports and op-eds in the Hebrew and English-language press and meets regularly with policymakers, diplomats and journalists. He previously founded and directed the "Settlement Policy Judicial Advocacy Project" of the Israeli human rights NGO Yesh Din,

and directed Peace Now's Settlement Watch programme. He was raised in a religious household and attended the prestigious Himmelfarb High School. Following his army service, he travelled extensively in the United States, Europe, and Central America, before returning to Israel in 1996.

Yachad is a British Jewish organisation which promotes a political resolution to the Israeli-

Palestinian conflict.

It works closely with a variety of communal bodies, including civil society and political partners in Israel and with MPs across the political spectrum in the UK. Yachad offers a range of education events to synagogues and other Jewish communal spaces, aiming to provide the British Jewish community with in-depth information about the conflict.



To book your place, please send £5 by BACS to:

Account Name: Maidenhead Synagogue

Sort Code: 40-31-05

Account Number: 81765620.

It is vital you put in the reference section: WESTB/your surname AND email us at admin@maidshul.org to let us know you have sent it. Your name will go on the guestlist; a ticket will not be sent to you.

Parliamentary Advocacy Day

Sapir Tal

My name is Sapir Tal and I am the Under-35 Observer for Maidenhead Synagogue on the Board of Deputies of British Jews (BoD). Parliamentary Advocacy Day is an opportunity for Deputies from across the country to engage with their MPs on key themes for the community.

Theresa May served the Maidenhead constituency as the Member of Parliament for 27 years before retiring last year. Joshua Reynolds of the Liberal Democrats won the seat for Maidenhead in the general election last July. This is a new change for us and another relationship to build with a new MP to advocate for Jewish rights.

Joshua has visited the synagogue twice; once during the shul hustings alongside other



candidates and also during Rabbi Rene's induction.

With the day in mind, I visited the House of Commons to meet Joshua about local, national and international issues on behalf of the community. A list of topics presented were:

- Local and national antisemitism issues;
- Social media posting not including the synagogue;
- BoD Jewish Culture Month initiative;

- Early day motion on Maidenhead's multi-faith group;
- More visits to the synagogue for events;
- Supporting the recommendations of Maidenhead Synagogue and BoD for public commentary; and
- Joining the All-Party Parliamentary Group against Antisemitism and for British Jews.

These topics were covered all in a matter of 30 minutes, so therefore not necessarily enough time to expand on further BoD topics, such as highlighting the threat of Iran and urging the government to secure the proscription of various terrorist organisations.

The conversation was very insightful and at times, Joshua was surprised by the issues our community has faced and even how big the Maidenhead community is. We have created action points following the conversation that we are working towards and we are excited to move forward. Whilst the discussion was hopeful and

positive, this an ongoing relationship we must build with our MP to advocate for our synagogue and the Jewish people in the UK.

If you would like to hear more, please send us an email via [**bod@maidshul.org**](mailto:bod@maidshul.org).

What do we need from you?

If you, your friends or your relatives have any concerns, experience or see antisemitic incidents, please don't hesitate to report it to the police and the shul. The more knowledge we have, the more we can signpost you to the best support and make our MP aware of the issues we face to advocate for us.



TERUMA

By Francis Spencer

The name of each Parasha is said to convey its essence and primary focus. This week, then, we are asked to think about ‘Teruma,’ or ‘offering.’

Once, long ago, I met a girl at one of those hyper-embarrassing ‘dances’ that single-sex schools used to offer its inmates. I was young then, in my early teens, and smitten at first sight. We may even have risked a clumsy kiss. Afterwards, my heart soaring, I wrote a tiny piece for piano, a total beginner in this as well. Oh dear. I sent it to her school. When I’d asked her name, I thought she’d said ‘Goddessa,’ just that. Off it went in the post.

To offer something is the first part of an incomplete action or encounter. At this stage, we do not know if the person will like it, refuse it, ridicule or accept it. And with it, us. For an offering contains some part of our own life.

An offering is made in hope.

Teruma begins with these two sentences: ‘God spoke to Moses, saying: “Speak to the Israelites and have them bring Me an offering. Take my offering from everyone whose heart impels him to give.” [Exodus 25:1-2] The first has an element of compulsion – ‘have them bring Me...’ – as if setting out a law and obligation on all the people. The second sentence, however, implies that there will be some discernment about which offerings can be accepted, and presumably, which cannot.

A few verses later we hear the purpose of these offerings: “They shall make Me a sanctuary, and I will dwell among them.” [v.8]. The rest of the passage describes the construction of the tabernacle, in great and precise detail. It will be the model for the Temple in Jerusalem and, in a sense, for the synagogues that will follow, bearing

Parashah Teruma – Exodus 25:1-27:19 – The parashah tells God's instructions to make the Tabernacle and its furnishings.

the portable Ark of the Covenant through the centuries.

But where is this sanctuary, really, this place of ultimate safety, love, our one true home? As the Rabbis point out, God does not say “Make Me a sanctuary, and I will dwell in it,” but ‘I will dwell among *them*,’ among us, wherever the heart is open and ‘*impelled*’ to offer itself, to God, and to each other as we meet, at home, at work and in the street, or here in the synagogue, the ‘*beit Knesset*,’ the house of meeting. It is up to us to make our offerings, to make the space that God will fill.

Fortunately, we don’t need to worry too much about what we

give, how poor, correct, embarrassing or even tasteless it may be. For God, it seems, is not concerned with ‘*taste*,’ and “*sees not as man sees; man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart*” [1 Samuel 16:7], from His heart into ours. For God, inexplicably, is in love with everything and everyone that He has made. Even ‘Goddessa,’ I hope.

**Please join us for the
Torah Breakfast at 9:15 am
on 1 March 2025.**

**Coffee and tea are available.
No RSVP is necessary.**



**Let the office
know!**

admin@maidshul.org



**DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE
JEWISH
IN YOUR AREA?**

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





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)





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**

Pesach 2025

Kosher Shop Order Form

Name: _____

Contact number: _____

Email address: _____

To place your Pesach 2025 order, please complete this form and email a copy to **tamarleeper@hotmail.com**. If you are unable to email your order, please send it to the Maidenhead Synagogue Office, Grenfell Lodge, Ray Park Road, Maidenhead, SL6 8QX.

Orders must be received by 5pm on Wednesday 19 March 2025.

This year, Pesach orders can only be placed for meat, poultry and items that need refrigeration. All other Kosher for Passover items will be available to purchase from the Kosher Shop at the synagogue and will be available on a first come first served basis from Sunday 30 March 2025.

Please note: Any fresh items requested will only be purchased if the use by date is on or after 12 April 2025. All items are subject to availability. If you require items that are not on this list, please request these with your order and, where possible, these will be purchased for you.

*The prices quoted are a guide price only, based on 2024 prices.
They will be adjusted to reflect 2025 prices.*

**Orders can be collected from the Kosher Shop on
Sunday 30 March 2025: 10 am -12pm (midday).**

Please note orders will not be ready for collection prior to this date. Payment must be made in full on collection, using either cash or card (Mastercard and Visa credit or debit only). We **DO NOT** accept cheques.

If you are unable to collect your order on Sunday 30 March 2025, please make alternative arrangements with the Synagogue Office.

Pesach 2025 Order Form

ITEM DESCRIPTION	UNIT SIZE	GUIDE PRICE	QUANTITY	APPROXIMATE TOTAL
Chraine Regular	280ml jar	£4.49		
Chraine Extra strong	280ml jar	£4.89		
Hymans Frozen Chopped Mixed Fish	500g tub	£8.99		
Frozen Uncooked Chicken Supremes 2 in pack		£ based on weight		
Frozen Uncooked Chicken Roster WHOLE	1.6kg approx	£ based on weight		
Frozen Uncooked Chicken Roster HALF	0.75kg approx	£ based on weight		
Frozen Uncooked Chicken Boiler HALF	0.75kg approx	£ based on weight		
Frozen Uncooked Boiled Giblets	500g approx	£ based on weight		
Frozen Uncooked Beef Sausages	500g approx	£ based on weight		
Frozen Uncooked Best Cubed Beef Goulash	500g approx	£ based on weight		

Pesach 2025 Order Form

ITEM DESCRIPTION	UNIT SIZE	GUIDE PRICE	QUANTITY	APPROXIMATE TOTAL
Frozen Uncooked Best Beef Mince	500g approx	£ based on weight		
Frozen Uncooked Lamb Mince	500g approx	£ based on weight		
Frozen Uncooked Lamb Goulash	500g approx	£ based on weight		
Please note below any items you would like that are not on the list:				

Pesach 2025 Order Form – Key Points to Note:

Orders must be received by 5 pm on Wednesday 19 March 2025.

The prices quoted are a guide price only, based on 2024 prices.

They will be adjusted to reflect 2025 prices.

Orders can be collected from the Kosher Shop on
Sunday 30 March 2025 10 am – 12pm.

PESACH SCHEDULE

APRIL 2025

11

APR, 2025

YOUNG FAMILY SEDER

FRIDAY AT 3 PM

GRENFELL LODGE

12

APR, 2025

EREV PESACH

SATURDAY EVENING

13

APR, 2025

COMMUNAL SEDER

SUNDAY AT 7 PM

GRENFELL LODGE

BOOKING FORMS

**BOOKING FORMS FOR KOSHER SHOP
ORDERS AND SEDERS CAN BE FOUND
ON PAGES 19 AND 20**

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

Hannah Lebrecht and the Wednesday Social

By David Levy

Believe it or not, 7 years ago, I was asked by Rabbi Jonathan Romain if I was available to help on a Wednesday by providing a lift to some of our more mature members from Windsor to the shul. This enabled them to join in at the Wednesday Social held in the communal hall, so that they could enjoy the excellent company and superb meals provided by volunteer chefs, including a true professional!

Since that time, I have continued with the volunteer chauffeuring and thoroughly enjoyed the warm and excellent companionship of all attendees and made some good friendships which have lasted over the years.

In addition to the quality lunches and social interaction, the group have enjoyed some extra benefits, including the fortnightly raffle run by Maureen Alnutt, which is a fun event when all participants are guaranteed a prize for every £1 ticket they purchase.



Furthermore, the raffle raises funds for the synagogue and this last month, Maureen presented a cheque for £580 to the shul on behalf of the seniors attending the Wednesday Social.

Agnes Fixler and Barbara Grossman organise some special events and entertainment on Wednesdays to help us digest the superb lunches provided by the wonderful volunteer chefs.

One such really fun show was a second visit on 29th January by the young and vibrant Hannah Lebrecht, who gave a magical song and dance performance of happy and melodic music from such shows as *Hello Dolly*, *Mary Poppins* and a number of hit pop songs from over the last 60 years!

Believe it or not, such lively



music and singing brought several of our mature members to their feet and they enjoyed jiving (and diving) to a wonderful rendition of “Rock Around the Clock”, as well as “Let’s Twist Again” and other dancing hits. A great fun time had by all, even if they did not get up on their feet. Amongst the star performers were Judy de H., Arnold K., as well as Sonia S. and other movers and shakers.

There are other events in the pipeline, but also a fortnightly relaxing seated exercise session, quizzes post lunch, weekly Rummikub and discussion sessions hosted by Roger and Sara W.

We are also often joined by our “new” Rabbi Rene Pfertzel for lunch, who really sets the standard of friendly interaction with all-comers.

New faces are always welcome, so why don’t you contact Agnes Fixler on 01628 673012 or on admin@maidshul.org about joining us?



A MEETING PLACE

By Philip Dandridge

As time rolls on and we grow old
We find the situation fits like a glove
At the local synagogue will unfold
The air is full of hope and of love
Where we can meet once a week
And bring each other up to date
Rabbi Rene will also take a seat
Telling things he wishes to relate
We are family, a family of wisdom
A combination of each other's stories
For a while in our own oldies' kingdom.



MARCH 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

TORAH BREAKFAST

Saturday 1 March at 9:15 am

Discussion Group

Join us before the Shabbat service on 1 March for an in-depth discussion of the portion Teruma – Exodus 25:1-27:19. Coffee and tea are available. No RSVP is necessary. See [page 14](#) for details.



FILM EVENING

Sunday 2 March at 7:30 pm

A Tramway in Jerusalem



The Light Rail Red Line of Jerusalem's tramway connects the city from East to West, from the Palestinian neighbourhoods of Shuafat and Beit Hanina to Mount Herzl – a journey that comprises the culturally complex makeup of the city.



This humorous and touching film, whose cast includes Mathieu Amalric and Hana Laslo, hinges on a series of encounters along the line: simple, mundane interactions that reveal the diverse mosaic of humanity that exists in the spiritual centre of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam.

Beneath the clashes and grievances among its population that the world sees, Jerusalem is a city teeming with everyday life; the small conflicts and reconciliations depicted in *A Tramway in Jerusalem* offer a kernel of hope in a society torn by political strife.

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 and refreshments. For further information, please contact Brian Kriefman at bkriefman@aol.com

WOMEN'S INTERFAITH GROUP

Tuesday 4 March at 7:30 pm



Part of the Windsor and Maidenhead Community Forum (WAMCF) – Come listen to a speaker from the Autism Group.

Please do join us, especially as we are hosting the group this time. You are guaranteed an enjoyable and interesting evening, and a tasty one!

Ladies of all faiths or none are welcome to come along and share refreshments. If you would like details of the meetings planned for 2025, please email Barbara Grossman at projects@maidshul.org

AFTER-WORK DRINKS

Wednesday 5 March at 6 pm

Gathering for our “hidden middle” members

Following the success of our first After-Work Drinks, please join us for a relaxed evening at a local pub and meet other like-minded shul members.



The event is targeted at working professionals who work part-time, full-time, or just some of the time, plus those looking to make connections for their next career move.

Last time, we had a great crowd of people from all walks of working life, from construction to marketing to retail, data analysts, and business consultants.

We provide the nibbles, just grab a drink at the bar!

To book your place, please email jo.berman@maidshul.org. You will then be sent the link to book your spot and find out the location of the event. **Places are limited – last time, we had to turn people away!**

THE FORUM DISCUSSION GROUP
Sunday 9 March 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

PURIM FESTIVITIES - THURSDAY 13 MARCH



HAMENTASCHEN MAKING

Join us making hamantaschen at **4:30pm**.
Just bring yourselves; we'll supply the ingredients.



PURIM SERVICE

Service at **6:30pm** and afterwards you get to eat the hamantaschen! Don't forget your fancy dress at minimum a fancy hat!



ISRAELI DANCING

And then at **7:30pm** there's Israeli Dancing. For details email varda.parash@gmail.com

For more details email projects@maidshul.org

ISRAELI DANCING
Thursday 13 and 27 March at 7:30 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 varda.parash@gmail.com



TIDDLERS' SERVICE

Friday 14 March at 4:30 pm

3 to 7 year olds

The Tiddlers' Service is specially for children in the 3 to 7 age group. Siblings and parents are welcome to join!

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



BACKGAMMON

Wednesday 19 March 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**



FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER

Friday 21 March at 7:30 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 Robbi Hunter know that you're joining us.

Contact her at robbilynnhunter@gmail.com or on 07917 222875.



Regular Co-working Days

Monday 31 March, 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

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



Rabbi Dr Rene Pfertzel
07495 491325
rabbi@maidshul.org

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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:
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HADASHOT

is the monthly community magazine of
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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
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Judaism.



MARCH 2025 DIARY

Saturday	1st	9:15 AM	Torah Breakfast
Sunday	2nd	7:30 PM	Film Evening
Tuesday	4th	7:30 PM	Women's Interfaith Group
Wednesday	5th	6:00 PM	After Work Drinks
Friday	7th	7:30 PM	Family Erev Shabbat Service
Sunday	9th	10:15 AM	The Forum Discussion Group
Thursday	13th	4:30 PM	Hamentaschen Making
		6:30 PM	Purim Service
		7:30 PM	Israeli Dancing
Friday	14th	7:30 PM	Erev Shabbat Service
			Tiddler's Service
Friday	21st	6:30 PM	Erev Shabbat Service
		7:30 PM	Communal Friday Night Meal
Thursday	27th	7:30 PM	Israeli Dancing
Friday	28th	7:30 PM	Erev Shabbat Service
Monday	31st	9:30 PM	Co-Working Day

Wednesdays	11:30 AM	Wednesday Social
Thursdays	10:00 AM	Mothers & Bumps/Babies/Toddlers
		Ganon: 2 ½–5 years old
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