

Kehila is brought to you by:

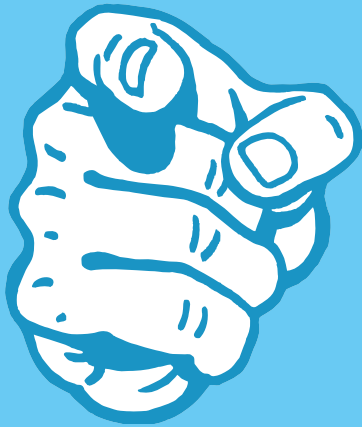


Kehila

The **Mosaic** community magazine | **Monthly**

March 2016

YOUR SYNAGOGUE NEEDS YOU



As we approach our 3rd anniversary
as a three-shul community:

Now is the time to get involved, contribute, make a difference!

Breathe new blood into your synagogue management!

**Put yourself forward to join your shul council at the
forthcoming AGMs!**

See inside front cover for dates and times

About our members

Children's birthdays are listed on page 22

MOSAIC REFORM

MAZAL TOV TO:

Marian & Richard Kingsley on the engagement of their son, Jonathan, to Beth Sutherland

BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:

Michelle Aaronson (50)
Joel Abrahams (50)
Edna Beber (91)
Joan Berg (85)
Betty Brand (96)
Cynthia Green (85)
Anthony Myers (90)
Ruby Nerva (85)
Angela Samuels (75)
Trudie Leibling (96)
Arlette Kaas (50)
Brian Beach (80)
Helene Brooks (85)
Janet Lee (70)

ANNIVERSARY WISHES TO:

Daphne & Anthony Myers on their 55th wedding anniversary
Karen & David Pollak on their 40th wedding anniversary

CONDOLENCES TO:

Sheila Myers on the death of her mother, Valerie Ford
Norman Cripps on the death of his mother, Hannah Cripps

GET WELL WISHES TO:

Rachel Wayne

GOOD LUCK IN THEIR NEW HOME TO

Lilian & Nat Levene
David & Anna Silverman

HEMS

MAZAL TOV TO:

Harold Curry who was blessed with his 8th great grandchild, Leo

BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:

Sasha Brooks (21)

MOSAIC LIBERAL

MAZAL TOV TO:

Joseph Sanderson on his engagement to Eh-den Perlove of New York. Mazal tov also to parents Danielle and Steven and to grandparents Phyllis and Harold Sanderson.

BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:

Linda Benson
Robert Rose
Thelma Rosen
Susan Spencer

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS:

Aubrey Scott
Janine Gurvitz & Ian Spencer
Graham Trafford

GOOD LUCK IN HIS NEW HOME TO:

Anthony Rose

CONDOLENCES TO:

Edith Horton on the death of her son, Peter Bloomberg

GET WELL WISHES TO:

Michelle Latchman
Sylvia Lowe
Bob Lowe

Annual General Meetings

Mosaic Sunday
8th May at 16:00

Mosaic Liberal Thursday
21st April at 20:00

Mosaic Reform Tuesday
10th May at 20:00

Hatch End Masorti Sunday
22nd May at 15:30 (GGHQ)

A Rabbi's Word



By Rabbi Paul Arberman –
Hatch End Masorti

Tu b'shvat

On Sunday January 23rd, I spoke to the four communities of children that make up Hamakom Cheder as they celebrated Tu b'shvat.

As the kids said blessings over fruits, I spoke about how in the winter nature is in retreat. We do not see green leaves, flowers in bloom, or fruit. But we know that within each plant, the potential for growth is there. When the warmth of the sun returns in Spring, and the April showers give the plants what they need – then they will blossom.

Children are not so different. They also have potential buried inside – not always

visible to the eye. But when they get the conditions they need, warmth, love and support – they also blossom.

Although the weather was chilly in London, in Israel the buds on the trees are starting to open. The day in Israel is spent planting new trees – so HEMS donated a tree that, when Mosaic gets a new building, will be planted at the site.

It will represent how special it is that four communities of Jewish children can learn, eat and celebrate together.

See pictures of the Tu b'shvat event at Hamakom on page 14

Next Issue

Note that there will be no edition of Kehila published at the start of April.

The Pesach edition of 'seasonal Kehila' will be published in mid-April. The last date for receipt of presently unplanned articles for inclusion is 21st March, but it is essential that these are advised by 10th March, so that appropriate space can be reserved for them.

There will be no issue at the start of May. The next edition of Kehila Monthly will be at the start of June – copy date 15th May.

Send your articles, pictures, letters etc to newsdesk@choosemosaic.org

Brent Holocaust and Genocide Memorial Day

By Kevin Ziants



I attended Brent Council's event to remember all the victims of genocide with the theme: 'Don't Stand By'. There were three speakers who gave moving personal accounts that illustrated this theme.

Monica Porter spoke about her Catholic mother, Vali Racz, a celebrity entertainer, who did not simply stand by in Budapest. When the Nazis were rounding up Jews as part of their attempts to annihilate the Jewish race, she hid six people in her villa. Over a long period she was able to avoid suspicion until someone inadvertently gave her away. When her property was searched, the Jews were not found, as they were well hidden in secret compartments. The Nazis still felt she was responsible, however, and imprisoned her in the Gestapo jail. She was released just before all the remaining prisoners were executed.

All the Jews that she hid survived the war

and later settled in Germany and Israel. She never sought praise for her actions. In 1992 she was recognised as a 'Righteous Gentile' with a plaque at Yad Vashem for what she had done. Looking back on risking her life to save others, she did not view this as a choice; she was just following her instincts.

Holocaust refugee, Eve Kugler, then described her experiences as a small child. She was not able to use children's playgrounds or to receive a normal education due to Nazi discrimination. Her beloved non-Jewish nanny was forced to leave. The family wanted to emigrate from Germany, but was thwarted by bureaucracy. Her sister was born at home, as they were not allowed hospital maternity facilities. Her Polish grandfather was forced to leave the family home. Their home was ransacked, her father's business was destroyed and their synagogue burnt down. Her father was taken to a concentration camp but, as he had a visa, he was able to leave the concentration camp and the family ultimately escaped to France. However, the Nazis moved to occupy France and the family members were separated when Eve was eight years old. She moved to Portugal and then New York, not knowing whether her parents were still alive.

Miraculously, they all survived and were reunited when she was thirteen. The trauma caused her to block this whole period from her memory, but speaking later to family members, she was able to recall the events.

She closed her talk by saying: "*it is our duty to remember*" in order to overcome all forms of prejudice.

Cambodian genocide survivor, Sokphal Din, recounted his experiences beginning in 1975 as an eighteen year old. He had the normal dreams of a teenager, which were shattered when the Pol Pot Army with pointed guns forced him and his family to leave their house without any belongings. They travelled in a convoy with the elderly and children, passing dead bodies scattered alongside the road. He recalled seeing a woman giving birth and his medically trained uncle helped her. Each person survived on one small tin of rice a day, in searing heat and with the threat of disease.

Those who survived this long journey ended up being treated as slaves at labour camps where many died. Sokphal was beaten, tortured and had many near death experiences. He felt that the souls of his mother and grandmother gave him hope. He appears to have grown in strength having survived this trauma, but he said that he still suffers from frequent nightmares.

During the programme, Mayor Lesley Jones, Chief Executive Carolyn Downs and Leader of Council, Mohammed Butt, all

spoke passionately concerning the theme of challenging hatred and prejudice.

Keynote speaker, Rabbi Frank Dabba Smith, spoke about the critical issues involved with the theme of not standing idly by and how certain individual actions made a positive difference during the Holocaust. He recounted his research on the industrialist Ernst Leitz, who showed great courage in helping persecuted people. In terms of our lives today, Frank mentioned how we can all make a difference to the lives of others by simply helping vulnerable people on the street. He also urged us to make firm friendships with people, regardless of faith or ethnicity.

At the close of the event, I was privileged to meet Eve Kugler and we ended up discussing current global atrocities. She said to me: "*lessons have not been learnt*".

When I arrived home, I re-read the programme of the event containing her inspiring words, which give me strength of purpose: "*I swore never to be silent whenever human beings endure suffering and humiliation. We must always take sides. Neutrality helps the oppressor, never the victim. Silence encourages the tormentor, never the tormented*".

Purim Activities at Mosaic

On Wednesday 23rd March members and friends are welcome to attend either or both of our two Purim activities

18:30: there will be a service downstairs featuring a traditional reading of Megillat Esther, a pantomime with music and a fancy dress parade.



19:45: refreshments will be served downstairs in the Kiddush Hall.

20:15: there will be a special presentation in the Mosaic Liberal sanctuary entitled 'My Spiel with Victor'.

The Board of Deputies Annual Dinner is being held on Monday, April 11th at a central London venue where the guest speaker will be David Milliband who is President and CEO of the International Rescue Committee and therefore coordinating all the refugees coming in from the Middle East. Charge for the evening £250 per person (contact 0207 543 5400)

Report of Defence and Group Relationships Committee Meeting on January 25th



By Michael Reik
– Mosaic Reform
Deputy

Marie Van De Zyl, Chair, asked Mark Gardner of CST to provide a brief report on anti-Semitism.

The number of incidents recorded in 2015 was on a par with 2014, mainly because more attacks are being reported. There have recently been stabbings in Marseilles, Antwerp and in Milan. This has given rise to concern of copycat attacks similar to those seen in Israel at the latter end of 2015. All synagogues have been provided with security vests, as requested.

A newly released IS video is very disturbing; it shows preparations being made for the Paris attacks and promises to carry out further attacks. There was an anti-Semitic demonstration very recently in Newcastle which was held by the far right, claiming that Hitler was right. The most disturbing fact was that the police took no action to stop the demonstration. A request was made at the meeting that National Front marches should not receive police protection on the basis of it being a complete waste of public funds.

Russel Langer, the UJS President, explained the event at Kings College. Ami Ayalon, ex-Shin Bet chief, was speaking at the invitation of Yachad. However, there were 200 people trying to get into a room that only held 56. A lot of the damage and violence was the result of frustration on the part of the demonstrators. It is clear that no Israeli seems to be acceptable to these people. Ami Ayalon had been involved in trying to put together a peace agreement and Yachad is one of the most left wing pro-Israeli organisations in the UK. If a students' union invites an Israeli speaker in the future, then far greater preparation and greater protection will be required.

Following meetings held with Nicola Sturgeon, the SNP now engages directly with the Scottish Jewish Community. This has made it easy to meet up with Scottish Ministers. Ms Sturgeon is attending Holocaust Memorial Day events.

For the upcoming elections, the BOD is producing individual Scottish, Welsh and Northern Ireland Jewish Manifestos.

A discussion then followed on a proposed paper, entitled 'A better way than Boycotts'. There was a general feeling that a continuous, improved relationship with the Church in the UK would reduce the Church's engagement with the BDS and Israel. We should develop greater engagement with organisations that are pro BDS.

Report of a meeting in the House of Commons

By Michael Reik

The rise and fall of the Arab State: effect for Israel and the region

The speaker of this session on 10th February, chaired by Louis Elman,



MP, was Asher Susser (pictured here) – Director for External Affairs at the Moshe Dayan Centre for Middle Eastern and African Studies at the Tel Aviv University. The following is a synopsis of what he said.

Going back hundreds of years, Arabs always defined themselves by their religion, i.e. as Sunni or as Shia Muslims, not by the land they lived in. Arab nationalism is a secular, not a religious institution.

In the past Arabs lived contentedly under the Ottoman Empire. After WW1, Arab States were created artificially, mainly by the British. This has failed. The defeat of the Arabs by Israel in 1948, and even more so in 1967, was a total humiliation for Arab Nationalism. In fact, Zionism is effectively a form of Jewish secular

identity. Middle East society is a 'mosaic' of groups that overrides individuals.

Practical Islam, as advocated by Sunnis, involves the implementation of Sharia Law. However, Shiites are opposed to a rule of jurisprudence where the ruler (Caliph) himself is omnipotent. Political Islam and especially militant Sunni Islam is extremely divisive. The more the Sunnis are concentrated religiously, the more Shiites will be excluded.

Isis is a Sunni response to the Shiite opposition in Iraq. This has caused Iraq and Syria to descend into chaos. The instability caused by Isis is, of course, of great concern to Israel. However, the threat previously emanating from Arab States against Israel no longer exists. The Sunni states bordering Israel (Saudi Arabia, UAE, Bahrain), plus Jordan and Egypt, now seek Israeli friendship, and Greece and Cyprus have recently signed agreements. The Israel/Palestinian conflict

is definitely not the cause of the break-up of the Middle Eastern states.

Israel now must create a two-state dynamic. A one-state solution will result in nothing but continual violence. Israel withdrew from Gaza to avoid having to rule over 2 million people (and in my opinion not simply to protect 11,000 settlers with 9,000 troops). For similar reasons, Israel should unilaterally withdraw from the territories to prevent the emergence of a single state with a majority Arab population.

The West's handling of Iraq and Libya has been, at best, a disaster. It was not clearly understood that democracy in those areas is not viable and can only ever lead to war between Sunnis and Shiites.

Finally – the reason that Jordan stays stable as a Sunni state is because the monarchy stays in place. Without the monarchy, a situation similar to that in Iraq would be the likely result.

Sermon from Mosaic Reform participatory service

At the service on Shabbat Bo – 6th January, the sermon was prepared and delivered by David Leibling



This morning's sedra contains a number of different elements, all of which could be the subject of a talk. There are the possible scientific explanations for the last four plagues

themselves. Then there is the interesting juxta-positioning of the instructions of the Passover meal from God to Moses and Aaron which is followed by details of how we must celebrate the festival of Pesach before the exodus has even occurred, suggesting some poor sub-editing by those who put the Torah together. There are two other sidelines: God told Moses and Aaron that "this month shall mark for you the beginning of months, it shall be the first of the months of the year for you." The purpose of this command was to emphasise the importance of the exodus as a new beginning for the Israelite people and one we remember in so many parts of the liturgy such as the Kiddush for Shabbat – zachor l'tziat mitsraim – a reminder of the exodus from Egypt. But as we know, the Jewish New Year is in Tishri, the seventh month, probably because ancient Semitic peoples considered the year to begin around the autumn harvest. Lastly, at the end of the

sedra is the instruction to tell your children the story of the exodus which is of course the origin of Seder night and the stories in the Haggadah and the instruction for wearing of tephillin.

“ But I really want to talk about the Exodus itself and compare it with the huge movement of people that is occurring in the Middle East at the moment ”

But I really want to talk about the Exodus itself and compare it with the huge movement of people that is occurring in the Middle East at the moment. Firstly there are the numbers. Chapter 12 refers to six hundred thousand fighting men plus women and children and presumably non-fighting men so possibly nearly 2 million Israelites plus a mixed multitude who were probably people from the bottom of the Egyptian social strata taking their opportunity to escape. This is a huge number of people to move in one night especially as they had all their herds and cattle (as an aside I always wondered how slaves had so many animals). Now

there is some argument as to whether the word 'elef' actually means 'thousands' or whether it means 'clans' in which case the number would be much smaller around 6,000 men, perhaps 20,000 in total. However all the other uses of 'elef' in the Torah clearly mean 'thousand' so we have to accept the traditional reading that brings the total to over 2 million.

We can compare this number with the number of refugees moving around the Middle East and Africa and coming to Europe. According to the latest reports, 5 million Syrians out of a total population of 22 million have fled Syria and half a million have reached Europe mainly by sea across the Mediterranean. This still leaves 4 and a half million Syrians seeking refuge elsewhere still in the Middle East, mainly in Turkey. And another half a million refugees from Afghanistan and Iraq and north Africa make the total coming to Europe up to a million. Not all coming in a single night like the Exodus but still enormous numbers to comprehend and to absorb. We can compare this with the exodus from eastern Europe by Jews in the late 19th and early 20th centuries which averaged about 80,000 a year peaking at around 200,000 in 1905-6 prompted by the Kishinev pogroms of 1903 and 1905. The numbers of Jews who escaped and migrated in the Second World War was much smaller, perhaps 250,000 because as we know most countries were unwilling to accept them.

So how would we describe these various exoduses. Were they people escaping persecution or were they economic migrants? The Syrians are escaping the oppressive Assad political regime but they are clearly suffering from economic persecution as has been shown by the starving children in Madaya. Of course, this economic pressure is also created by the political environment.

The Afghan migrants too are under both political and economic pressure although for the north Africans it is probably primarily economic. Our forefathers who came from Eastern Europe and later from Germany, like the Sephardi Jews who were expelled from Spain and Portugal in the 15th century, were motivated by the political pressure, or anti-Semitism as we now call it but I think there was a strong economic pressure on them too, especially from eastern Europe.

So how do we describe the exodus from Egypt? Jacob and his sons who went down to Egypt in the first place were economic migrants from Canaan fleeing the famine. We always think of the Israelites as the slaves building the Pyramids but there were clearly many more quite prosperous ones with their herds and their flocks. They lived in Egypt for 400 years so they must have been quite settled and economically sound. The thought of moving only arose when the new Pharaoh who "did not know Jacob" was oppressive and made the conditions of the Israelites worse but was he ultimately worried that the Israelites would gain ascendancy and displace the Egyptians? Was the promise of a land of milk and honey in Canaan enough motivation for them to make the move? Certainly when the Israelites were in the desert without food and water they asked Moses to take them back to the comfort of Egypt. So I am not sure whether the exodus was political or economic – perhaps like the others a bit of both. Will the modern day refugees want to return to their homelands when the political situation improves – I think not, because of the lure of the prosperous west, as our grandparents found. We have to make room for them in the west as ultimately they strengthen our economy but they have to integrate socially, again as our grandparents found.



Don't let Pesach "pass over" you!

There is a place for you at our Mosaic Sederim. This year we are offering 2 seder options and you are warmly invited to both.

- Enjoy a three course meal and celebrate Pesach with your family and friends at our traditional Second Night Communal Seder. Relive our freedom from slavery through storytelling, songs and of course by asking lots of questions.'

COMMUNAL 2nd NIGHT SEDER - Saturday 23rd April at 7.00 p.m.

Mosaic Members: Adults £22.00 (Prices held from 2012!!!)
 Family ticket (2 adults + up to 2 children under 16) £45.00
 Additional children age 5-16 £12.00 each. Under 5s - free
 Non-members: Adults £35.00

Book your place by completing this form & returning it, with your remittance and stamped addressed envelope, to Communal Seder, 39 Bessborough Road, Harrow HA1 3BS no later than 7th April. Alternatively, pay via our website, www.choosemosaic.org

Please reserve:

..... Adult member places at £22.00 each	= £	fried fish/vegetarian
..... Family Tickets at £45	= £	fried fish/vegetarian (state numbers of adults/children)
..... Child places (5-16) at £12 each	= £	fried fish/vegetarian
..... Child places under 5	= Free	fried fish/vegetarian
..... Adult non-member places at £35 each	= £	fried fish/vegetarian

I enclose cheque/cash (payable to Mosaic Jewish Community Ltd) in the sum of £.....

Please complete the following IN CAPITALS

Name Tel No:

Address.....

.....Post Code.....

פסח
Passover

Why will this Pesach be different from other Pesachs?

Because you're invited to a

COMMUNAL MULTIFAITH THIRD DAY SEDER



on **Sunday 24th April** from 3:00 - 5:30pm

at 39 Bessborough Road, Harrow

This exciting new venture will include members of local Muslim and Christian communities.

Cost is £5 per person and booking is essential.

Please make your cheque payable to Mosaic Jewish Community Ltd, mark the back of it 'Interfaith Seder' and send it to the office together with the names of people attending. Alternatively you can book through our Website www.choosemosaic.org

(If you're attending both events, we're happy to accept one cheque).

- And finally, if you would like to attend a family seder on the first night, **Friday 22nd April**, we will try to find a Mosaic member with space at their table. Please contact the office.
- Do you have space for a Mosaic guest to attend your family seder on **Friday 22nd April**? Please contact the office.

Review of past events

La Boheme to Broadway

By Steve Levinson

The night club scene came to the Mosaic community in Harrow on Sunday January 24th when a sell-out audience of 150 enjoyed the huge musical repertoire and brilliant singing voice of Holly Holyoake.

Music from Puccini to Barbra Streisand's version of *Avinu Malkeinu* and Kate Bush's *Wuthering Heights* plus hit numbers from the West End lit up the evening entitled 'From Boheme to Broadway'. Holly, who is known for the range of her voice and variety of her musical styles, kept the audience enraptured for an hour and half.

The excellence of supporting act 'Harmonica Too', Mosaic member Gary Italiaander and friend Steve Fordington, balanced the evening with their highly entertaining set on keyboards and several different harmonicas interspersed with harmonica anecdotes, jazz and Big Band tunes.

Master of Ceremonies Maryvn Ellison and a buffet dinner provided by many dedicated Mosaic volunteers completed the very successful evening.



Elder Statesmen – Sam Walport

By Viv Levinson



For the most recent in the Mosaic series of 'Elder Statesmen', Steve Levinson was in conversation with Sam Walport.

From the outset, it was clear that Sam had much to talk about, 95 years of it, but that his life's experiences were wide ranging. He described with wit his 'journey' from his earliest memories of childhood and schooling in the deprived area of the Gorbals in Glasgow, to the leafy environs of Pinner, passing through pre-NHS medical college, GP practice, wartime military duty with the medical corps in India on the Burmese border, and finally demob, a job at sea with Cable and Wireless, then marriage to his 'love at first sight' Doreen.

Even with a career in medicine and an expanding family, Sam always found time for his many hobbies which to this day he pursues, namely woodcraft and silverwork, spectacularly demonstrated by the detailed silver and gilt miniature of Florence

Synagogue that he brought along.

To conclude, Sam said that he was in awe and appreciation of the advances made in medicine and technology – the former tinged with a little nostalgia as the personal touch has waned – while the latter he embraces enthusiastically as befits a learned man of 95 years young.

We thank him for his time, and aspire to follow his example.

Tu b'shvat at Hamakom

From Jacky Martin, pictures by FDS

ATu b'shvat seder was held at HaMakom. We also planted a bush, which had been given by HEMS for the children to plant and will be on display at Bessborough Road once the weather warms up.

White grape juice
for winter and fruit
from trees for Tu
b'shvat



Above: Kitah Alef made a tree and told everyone why trees are so important



Above: Kitah Bet explaining that there are 4 New Years

Below: Kitah Dalet – Honi the tree planter



Ritual silver

By Jane Harrison

A highly polished talk by Adrian Cohen, chairman of Mosaic Liberal, gave us a valuable insight into the history behind ritual silver.

Speaking after the Shabbat service on 13th February, he revealed how many so-called Jewish items, were made with a different purpose in mind. These included a German etrog container (circa 1830) which had a lock because it was originally used as a sugar box and the valuable substance had to be locked away from thieving servants.

Or a 19th century Viennese silver Pesach cup, with a stunning frieze depicting the Exodus from Egypt, which was originally a standard beaker, like so many produced, as social drinking vessels.

Adrian, a silver and antique dealer for over 30 years, spoke about the huge loss of European pre-Holocaust Judaica, which was stolen by the Nazis.

Of course we all wanted to know what was marketable now. Adrian told us to hold on to our silver as now is not a good time to sell, unless you happen to have a cocktail shaker hidden away.

Letter to the Editor



THE END OF A 'PILGRIMAGE'

I'm writing to ask you to convey my most sincere appreciation via Kehila to the wardens of Mosaic Reform, to Barbara Grant and the Synagogue membership for honouring me on Shabbat Va'era (January 9th) with the Maftir/Haftarah call-up; I also

thank the synagogue for a very generous gift, accompanied by Rabbi Kathleen's moving tribute, which acknowledged the years of voluntary visiting and befriending I carried out for the community between 2005 and 2015.

I began the travels and house calls (for MNS as it was) after the late Rabbi Simon Franes approached me, when I retired from paid social work, to see whether I might be prepared to visit and befriend 3 members at Hammerson House, Bishops Avenue. Initially Simon, and subsequently Kathleen, provided me with the contacts – their continuing support and encouragement enabled me to fulfil the pleasant task of offering a modicum of company and friendship to these frail elderly and isolated people. Over those 10 years I guess I was in touch with around 30 individuals and some of their families too.

Simon's approach marked the beginning of my continuous 'pilgrimage', my aim being to visit every individual or couple referred to me about once every three weeks..

Finally, last year, I decided, with some regrets, to finish my pilgrimage. I believe that Gay Saunders has since been maintaining contact with some of 'my' group. For my part I can now reflect on the good outcomes of befriending initiatives I pursued.

To conclude, may I reiterate my thanks for the synagogue's recognition of my efforts and the appreciation I always received from the individual people I visited.

Peter Pollak



Mosaic

Choose your Jewish life

BAR MITZVAH

A History



RABBI MICHAEL HILTON

In 13th century France the Jewish coming-of-age ceremony of bar mitzvah was first recorded and took the form of a simple statement by the father that he was no longer responsible for his 13 year old son.

In the 21st century bar mitzvah for boys and bat mitzvah for girls are more popular than at any time in history and are sometimes accompanied by lavish celebrations.

How did bar mitzvah develop in this way?

Come along to 39 Bessborough Road, Harrow, HA1 3BS on

Sunday 13th March at 4.00 pm
to hear
Rabbi Michael Hilton

talk about his new book.

"In an age where Jewish weddings and circumcision are both on the decline, bar and bat mitzvah are surpassed only by Jewish funerals as the most widespread Jewish life cycle event. By chance, the ceremony became one that appealed to everyone, the key to its success being the mixture of the social and the spiritual, the bar and the mitzvah".

Refreshments provided

Events



Wednesday 9th March 8.00 pm Mosaic Whisky Evening



39 Bessborough Road, Harrow, Middlesex, HA1 3BS

Ticket price: £15

- You will have a chance to try a selection of 5 single malt whiskies from a 12 year old through to a 34 year old, not generally found on the high street. (Arran, Bowmore, Benromach, Glasgow, Gordon & MacPhail, Hazelburn, Kilkeran, Laphroaig, Longrow, Macallan, Springbank, Teeling).
- On the night you will receive a voucher for a 10% discount on your first order (That's your ticket price back!)
- Also you will be given a link to web site(s) to retrieve your discount plus Mosaic will receive a donation on your first & subsequent orders.

Book your place by Wednesday 2nd March at the latest.

All cheques payable to Mosaic Jewish Community Ltd or

Pay via our website www.choosemosaic.org

Elder Statesmen

ANOTHER IN OUR ELDER
STATESMEN SERIES



Michael Reik will be
'in conversation' with
Anthony Myers

Saturday 26th March

(after the service, Kiddush and light lunch)

Anthony will be explaining in particular his call-up and National Service spent in Africa and Palestine before the foundation of the State of Israel.

Chocoholics— a great evening for you

Demonstration and tasters with the best quality chocolate masterfully handled by chocolatier Asher Toubkin to make a tempting assortment of delicious dishes. You will see it, handle it, smell it and taste a scrumptious variety of delights.

Sunday 5th June at 19:00

Put the date in your diary and book a place via the Office to attend. £15.00 pp



The Jewish Association of Cultural Societies

Harrow Branch – A new branch of JACS starts on Tuesday 5th April

The branch will meet fortnightly on Tuesday afternoons at 39 Bessborough Road, Harrow, HA1 3BS and our initial programme will include speakers on various subjects.

Do come along, whatever age you are! Help with transport can be provided.

Programme 5th April–14th June

Tuesday 5 th April 14:00–16:00	See you in Court – Richard Conradi
Tuesday 19 th April 14:00–16:00	The History of the Jews in England – Laurence Summers
Tuesday 3 rd May 14:00–16:00	East end Photography – Michael Bennet (son of Boris Bennet)
Tuesday 17 th May 14:00–16:00	The Story of Chocolate – Professor Michael Spiro
Tuesday 31 st May 14:00–16:00	Life as an Amateur Actor – Reg Wheeler
Tuesday 14 th June 14:00–16:00	Boys Town, Jerusalem – Stuart Stanton and Ian Kamiel

Cost (including tea and cake!): JACS members £4.00 per year and £3 per meeting, £5 per meeting for non JACS members

For further information please contact Gay Saunders via the Office or
communitycare@mosaicreform.org.uk

Tea parties on a Sunday

Mosaic Reform, together with Jewish Care, would like to bring people together for a cup of tea once a month on a Sunday. There are many people in the community who live on their own or have relatives who are busy at weekends – Sundays can often feel quite lonely. A cup of tea and a chat can make a big difference.

We would like to be able to hold these tea parties in members' homes and so we are looking for volunteer hosts from all Mosaic Synagogues who are willing to open up their homes for a tea party. We will also need volunteer drivers to transport people to and from the parties where necessary. Training will be provided, which will give all the information needed to become one of our Tea Party Volunteers.

If you would like to get involved in this project, which will make a big difference to a lot of people, or if you know someone who would like a tea party invitation, please get in touch with Gay Saunders tel 020 8864 0133 or by email communitycare@mosaicreform.org.uk



ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH REFUGEES

PINNER AREA

VENUE: PINNER SYNAGOGUE 1 CECIL PARK, PINNER

PROGRAMME – March and April 2016

Thursday March 3rd at 14:00

Sir Bernard Zissman was Lord Mayor of Birmingham and will tell us about his experiences 'From Brick Lane to Bushey via Birmingham and Buckingham Palace.' He is an experienced entrepreneur, has worked in voluntary and public sector organizations has been a successful municipal leader and a published author.

Thursday April 7th at 14:00

Rachel Kolsky is a blue badge guide and is a superb, knowledgeable, entertaining and very engaging speaker. She will talk to us about London's Picture Palaces, now better known as cinemas.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: PHONE VERA on 020 8866 4833

MOSAIC PESACH BAKE-IN



The Mosaic Bake-In sessions have continued with several willing participants making fresh and tempting goodies for Kiddushim. They are a fun few hours of team work, the results of which are enjoyed by many. New friends and techniques are acquired too! New faces are welcome – male and female.

Favourite family Pesach baking recipes will be made on

Wednesday 20th April at 09:30

and will be led by Judy Silverton. The goodies can be enjoyed during Pesach.

Just bring an apron and please let Ann Simon know at the office, if you are coming.

Note: The next Biscuit Bake-In will be on

Wednesday 9th March at 10:00

Harrow Friendship Club

Entertainment for the over-60s

MARCH

Mondays: 11:00 to 14:30

Tel (on the day): 020 8423 2903

7th Linda Styan entertains

14th Singer/guitarist Alex Samos

21st Vocalist Stephen Dunnett

28th CLUB CLOSED – BANK HOLIDAY

**For further information call
Bertha (contact via the Office)**

Shiurs with Rabbi Frank

**Sceptics:
Sat 5th March**

**Hebrew Reading:
Sat 19th March**

MOSAIC WALK IN LITERARY LONDON

**Sunday 20th March 14:00
Holborn to Chancery Lane**

This walk in the legal London of Charles Dickens and Samuel Johnson will take us through its squares, courts and alleys, from noise to quiet and back again within yards.

The walk will conclude with beverages and desserts (optional). Numbers are limited for this walk, so please contact John Ashmele directly or via the office for further information as soon as possible.

There is no fee for this walk, but a suggested donation of £5 to a Synagogue charity would be appreciated.

We hope you will enjoy taking part in Mosaic Walk, but remember that everyone takes part at their own risk and that Mosaic and its representatives are not responsible for any injuries, loss or damage that may occur during the walk.

**Next walk –
Sunday 17th April**

This walk tells the story of the great love affair between Robert Browning and Elizabeth Barrett, and we will see where H. G. Wells played his radio much too loudly.



FILM MOSAIC

20:00 on Tuesday 22nd March

'Europa Europa'

A Jewish boy, separated from his family in the early days of WWII, poses as a German orphan and is thereafter taken into the heart of the Nazi world as a 'war hero' and eventually made a Hitler Youth. Although improbabilities and happenstance are cornerstones of the film, it is based upon a true story, and is all the more unsettling for that.

Released in 1990, this film made by Polish Director Agnieszka Holland, won a 1992 Golden Globe and was nominated in 1993 for top foreign film BAFTA & Academy Awards.

(German with English Subtitles)

Donations for our chosen charity would be appreciated if you care to give.



MOSAIC WEEKLY WALKING

By Henry Altman

I have started a Tuesday walking group around the areas of Pinner /Northwood/ Harrow, with easy/ medium walks of 3 or 4 miles.

If you would like to join us, or if you have any suggestions for future walks, please contact me via the synagogue, and we can go from there.



In partnership with West London Synagogue, The Abraham Fund Initiatives are bringing Mira Awad to perform a one-off on Saturday 12th March at West London Synagogue. Mira is a Palestinian-Israeli highly acclaimed singer, songwriter, actress & peace activist.

The concert promises to provide an 'East meets West' musical fusion in the stunning

setting that is the sanctuary of West London Synagogue, contact West London Synagogue www.wls.org.uk

You may also be interested that on Sunday 13th March, Mira will be 'In Conversation... with Alex Brummer' at JW3. She will be talking about her role in the Israeli sitcom – Arab Labour and how it portrays the challenges of being an Arab citizen of Israel.

For more information or tickets for this event contact www.jw3.org.uk

Mosaic moments

Gideon Fiegel's 89th Birthday,
23rd January



Left to right: Orianna, Sasha, Gideon, Ruth-Eva, Eddi, Georgie and Henry
(picture by FDS)





Chagigah 2016

24-26 June
Celebrating Reform Judaism
Being part of something bigger

A weekend away filled with music prayer spirituality community tikkun olam exciting initiatives friends rest leadership shabbat learning social action schmoozing food arts and crafts discussion innovation judaism rsy-netzer fun workshops torah relaxing celebration networking family activities games leo baeck college...

You can also be part of 3 exciting initiatives, strengthening communities in partnership with Reform Judaism:

- Reimagining Leadership
- Tackling Adult Social Care
- Enhancing Jewish Practice

The only thing that's missing is...

You!

For more information and to register your interest, email: chagigah@reformjudaism.org.uk

Neil's Brain Teaser



What is the shortest word in English that contains the letters a,b,c,d,e,f. ?

Answer to the February Teaser (timepiece with the most moving parts): An egg-timer or hour-glass!!

NPLS Bridge Circle

NPLS Bridge Circle fits halfway between social 'Rubber' and competitive 'Duplicate'. We play at each others' homes and the idea is to have a pleasant social evening (or afternoon) with other couples. Up to now, we have had up to 20 couples participating in each six-monthly 'season'.

Participants join in pairs and are sent a list of six pairs to play against over a period of three months – usually three 'home' matches and three 'away' matches. You play a total of 24 hands per match, scored on a 'Chicago' score card, and the final total score is transferred onto your 'Summary' scorebook. At the end of each 6-month season, the three pairs with the best total scores get a prize.

If you would like more information and are interested in joining the NPLS Bridge Circle, please phone Dennis Leon on 07889 572745 or email to d.leon@sky.com



Kiev Koppers Update

By Rita Asbury

Since the last Kehila, I have been sent a very generous donation for our Kiev Koppers, which means that another £100 has been sent to the Koppers accounts. Our total now since January 2000, is £15,800!!

Thank you everyone who keeps filling up the sanctuary jar and to everyone who send me such generous cheques.

As we all know the situation in Ukraine is not the most stable, but it does help our friends over there to know that we care, and that we try to help in our own small way.

So as always...

KEEP THE KOPPERS KOMING!!!

Children's Birthdays

Emma de Magtige (12)

Samuel Feldman (9)

Jonathan Goldsmith (11)

Alfie Rowson (6)

Finley Vincent (9)

What's on

Unless otherwise stated, all events take place at 39 Bessborough Road, Harrow HA1 3BS.

The times/locations of weekly services are as below, unless otherwise stated:

Mosaic Liberal: Bessborough Road: Friday 19:00 (Chavurah supper last Friday every month after service), Saturday 11:00

HEMS: Girl Guide Headquarters (GGHQ), Hatch End: Saturday 09:30

Mosaic Reform: Bessborough Road: Friday 19:00, Saturday 10:30

Every Week

Mar | Apr

Monday 11:00
Friendship Club

Sunday 09:45
HaMakom

Thursday 14:00
Singalong

March

Wednesday 2nd 20:00 Council meetings
Thursday 3rd 14:00 Singalong for people with memory problems

Friday 4th 19:00 Contemplative service
Saturday 5th 09:30 Shabbat Vayakhel
Skeptics Session with Rabbi Frank Dabba Smith

Sunday 6th 09:45 HaMakom
14:00 Stone setting – Frances Silver, Pound Lane Willesden

Tuesday 8th 20:00 Mosaic Photography Group (contact Pat Zatz)

Wednesday 9th 10:00 Biscuit bake-in
20:00 Whisky tasting evening (see p16)

Saturday 12th Shabbat Pekude
Abraham Fund – Mira Awad at WLS (see p20)

Sunday 13th 09:45 HaMakom
14:00 Stone setting – Ray Sorene, Cheshunt
16:00 Bar Mitzvah – Talk by Rabbi Michael Hilton (see p 15)

Wednesday 16th 12:30 Lunch club

Saturday 19th Shabbat Vayikra
09:30 Hebrew reading with Rabbi Frank Dabba Smith
10:45 Shabbat shira

Sunday 20th 09:45 Kehila copy date
14:00 HaMakom – end of term
Mosaic Literary Walk – Holborn to Chancery Lane (see p19)

Tuesday 22nd 20:00 Film Mosaic 'Europa Europa' (see p19)

Wednesday 23rd 18:30 Erev Purim – celebrate with Mosaic (see p5)

Saturday 26th Shabbat Tsav
13:00 Michael Reik in conversation with Anthony Myers (see p15)

Wednesday 30th 20:00 Mosaic Board meeting
20:00 Book group – 'The Marrying of Chani Kaufman' by Eve Harris

April

Tuesday 5th 14:00 Harrow JACS (see p16)

Wednesday 6th 20:00 Council meetings

Sunday 10th Eco-Peace meeting at Wembley Central Mosque

Monday 11th BoD Annual Dinner (see p6)

Tuesday 12th 20:00 Mosaic Photo group

Wednesday 13th 12:30 Luncheon Club

Thursday 14th Kehila distribution (Pesach edition)

Sunday 17th 09:45 HaMakom – new term
11:00 Mosaic walk

Tuesday 19th 14:00 Harrow JACS

Wednesday 20th 09:30 Pesach Bake-In (see p18)

Thursday 21st 20:00 Mosaic Liberal AGM

Friday 22nd Erev Pesach – 1st seder

Saturday 23rd 1st day Pesach

19:00 Communal seder

Sunday 24th 15:00 Communal multifaith
3rd day seder

Thursday 28th Erev 7th day Pesach

Friday 29th 7th day Pesach

Saturday 30th 8th day Pesach/Shabbat Achare Mot