

HIGHLight

Bromley Reform Synagogue newsletter



Hetty has a go: Last month, all the cheder children had the chance to blow the shofar. If there is a mitzvah that you would like to try, come to our workshop on 18 November (see page 11)

ISRAEL SEMINARS

Tuesdays 9, 16 and
23 October, 8 – 9.30pm

This series of three seminar-discussions is designed to provide an opportunity for us, in a structured and focussed way, to explore and develop our feelings and attitudes about Israel.

Too often discussions about Israel become polarised and mired in confrontational disagreement. Often the legitimacy or the appropriateness of criticism of the State is challenged in terms of disloyalty and worse.

Such difficulties have led to Israel becoming a neglected topic: these seminars, it is hoped, will provide a context in which we can talk frankly about Israel and our relationship with Israel in an atmosphere of trust and good-will.

LAST CHANCE TO SIGN UP!!

2007 Adult Study Weekend

supported by the Movement for Reform Judaism

Friday 26 – Sunday 28 October at
The Rose and Crown Hotel, Tonbridge.

We shall be studying 'King David – David Melech Yisrael'
and Rabbi Tony Hammond will be our facilitator

Details from the Synagogue office or
from Sally Rosebery – 020 8654 6713.

Cost: £175 per person.

Au Revoir Les Enfants A Jewish Film Night

Sunday 7 October at 7 pm

A new venture from the Education
Committee – an occasional series of
Jewish films.

For the first showing we propose "Au Revoir
Les Enfants", Louis Malle's memoir of his
childhood growing up in France during Nazi
occupation. The film was given a PG certificate
but contains some disturbing material. Please
decide for yourself if your children should
attend. The film is in French with English subtitles.

Tickets are £2 to include light refreshments and
to start a fund to purchase further films.

For more details contact: Ann Fried (020 8778
5938) or Judy Woolfe (020 8464 8909).

IN THIS MONTH'S HIGHLIGHT

View from the Chair	3	BR10 News	6
Social Centre News	3	Social Page	7
Cheder News	4	External Events	8
New Youth Club	4	Diary Dates	9
Further Attractions	5	Services	10
A Golden Boy	6	Small Ads	10
BR5&6 News	6	Israel trip	11
		Mitzvah workshop	11

Race night... October 14... Nightingale... Race night... October 14... see page 3

BROMLEY REFORM SYNAGOGUE

A constituent synagogue of the Movement for Reform Judaism

28, Highland Road, BROMLEY, Kent, BR1 4AD

Telephone/Fax: 020 8460 5460 **E-mail:** bromleyshul@fsmail.net; **Web:** www.bromleyshul.org.uk

(**Office** - 9.30 am to 12.30 pm on Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays)

Minister: Rabbi Tony Hammond

To contact the Rabbi, call the Synagogue or telephone 07808 172910

Synagogue Administrator: Mrs Janet Burlem

HONORARY OFFICERS – Vice-Presidents:

David Barnett	020 8462 4504	Dianne Mathews	01689 826096
Rae Michaelis	01689 831897	Bob Symonds	020 8464 2312
Zena Goodman	020 8249 3240	Norman Goldberg	020 8650 8892
Gertrud Roberts	020 8464 8183	Ronnie Goldberg	020 8650 1024
Ivor Lask, MBE	020 8650 2359	David Zerihan	01689 821713

Executive Officers

Chairman:	John Posner	020 8650 7521	john.posner@talk21.com
Vice-Chairman:	Marilyn Freeman	020 8650 7178	marilynfreeman@flashbacktv.co.uk
Secretary:	Laura Mittelman	020 8299 6634	lauramittelman@aol.com
Treasurer:	Ian Barnett	020 8467 8868	IDB001@ntlworld.com
Senior Warden:	Larry Shall	01732 873361	offhamshalls@btinternet.com

Chairmen of Subcommittees and other contact numbers

BR5 and 6 and Friends: Jean Garelick	01689 850668 genie.jeannie@bopenworld.com	Gan Yeladim: Vicki Ashmore	020 8290 4220
BR10: Judi Sheffrin	07968 324981 judishef@aol.com	Press and Publicity: Judi Sheffrin	07968 324981 judishef@aol.com
Caring Community: Pauline Jeffree	020 8460 2336 pauline.jeffree@btinternet.com	Reading and Discussion Group: Desirée Barnett	020 8462 4504 davdes@talktalk.net
Head Teacher: Elka Carr	020 8699 2138 carr@elka1.freeserve.co.uk	Movement for Reform Judaism: Marilyn Freeman	020 8650 7178 marilynfreeman@flashbacktv.co.uk
Cheder Security: Brian Freeman	01689 818731 brianandlesley@ntlworld.com	Religion and Ritual: Larry Shall	01732 873361 offhamshalls@btinternet.com
Choir: Dianne Mathews	01689 826096 diannem3@googlemail.com	SACRE: Rae Michaelis	01689 831897 raemichaelis@care4free.net
Education: Ann Fried	020 8778 5938 asf@joram.demon.co.uk	Shabbat Hospitality: Dianne Mathews	01689 826096 diannem3@googlemail.com
Health and Safety: Tina Wood	020 8464 2457 tande.wood@ntlworld.com	Social Centre: Dianne Mathews	01689 826096 diannem3@googlemail.com
Housekeeping: Julie Binysh	020 8464 0659 julie.binysh@ntlworld.com	South London Rosh Chodesh Group Ann Fried	020 8778 5938 asf@joram.demon.co.uk
J.J.B.S.: Philip Michaelis	01689 831897 michaelis@lineone.net	Subscriptions: David Schwarz,	020 8464 1748
Kiddush Rota: Sonia Hyams	020 8311 4553 soniahyams@yahoo.co.uk	Shul Security: Eric Lewis	020 8460 4353 e.lewis@btinternet.com
Membership Inquiries: Janet Burlem Rabbi Tony Hammond	020 8460 5460 07808 172910	Website: Kieron Hyams	020 8311 4553 mail@kieronhyams.co.uk
Newsletter Advertising:	Position Vacant	e-light – a reminder – Judi Sheffrin (judishef@aol.com) If you have stopped getting e-light, or have never had it, please (re)confirm your email address with me. Many thanks.	
Newsletter Editor: Bob Symonds	020 8402 2197 bobsymonds@mac.com		

Looking into the New Year – View from the Chair

The High Holydays have been and gone and once again the services at Crofton Hall succeeded in creating an atmosphere which facilitated meaningful worship and teshuva. This doesn't happen by chance; there are many involved. We are indebted to our members who provide security, the wardens, those who schlep furniture and set it up, the lay readers, the Rabbi and, of course, Peter Lurié and the choir. Peter has been with us on High Holydays for ten years now and I'm sure we all agree that his voice and his leadership of the choir, who put in many hours of rehearsal before each service, contribute so much to the quality of our services. We thank them all for their commitment and dedication.

We are at the beginning of a new year and once again we start our cycle of Torah readings from the beginning. Our people have been doing this for over two thousand years and the text we read is much older than that. I mention this because, if we sometimes feel pessimistic about the future of our people, it is useful to remind ourselves how long Judaism and its followers have endured. It is true that assimilation proceeds apace, something which touches all our lives personally in the diaspora. It is also true that the enemies of the State of Israel, in particular Syria and Iran and its proxies, threaten no less than in the past. Yet, with all the calamities that have befallen our people, from the destruction of the first temple and exile to Babylon more than two and a half millennia ago to the Holocaust less than sixty years ago, Jews and Judaism continue, not just to survive but to thrive. I believe this is because the teachings which lie at the heart of Judaism are always relevant to the human condition and as long as there are people who are prepared to commit to its values and teach its traditions, whether Jewish from birth or by adoption, Judaism and the Jewish people will endure. Jews must be optimists; there is no other way.

In our own small community, we find our numbers are steady and have been so for many years. Each year a few people move away from the area and inevitably some pass away but we are attracting new members and they

are often young with children. We currently have more than 500 people in our community including almost 120 children. This bodes well for the future of the community as a whole and for the cheder in particular. However, there is no room for complacency; we know from the census that there a large number of non-affiliated Jews living in the region. If you know any of these, please invite them to come along to the synagogue, putting them in touch with the Rabbi through Janet in the synagogue office. It doesn't matter if they don't 'do religion' or even whether they know nothing about being a member of a synagogue; some will be interested in what our synagogue has to offer. Of course, numbers aren't everything; we need members of all ages, particularly younger adults, to get involved and commit themselves to participating in synagogue life. So, if you are a member but not really involved, please think about what would interest you and come to play a more active role in this community in whatever way suits you.

After Sukkot and Simchat Torah, our adult education kicks off the year with a series of workshops on Israel, led by the Rabbi in which we will have an opportunity to learn and also to express our feelings freely. The first session is at 8 pm on Tuesday 9 October. Do come along.

Finally, on behalf of all of you, let me express our best wishes to Bob Symonds, Editor of Highlight, for a speedy and complete recovery from his current illness.

John Posner, Chairman
john.posner@talk21.com

AN EVENING AT THE RACES



AT NIGHTINGALE!

Sunday 14 October, from 7pm

Brought to you by the same stable that produced the extremely enjoyable race night at Bromley last year. Come on your own or, ideally, make up a table; buy and name a horse for just £10.

Tickets, £20, include dinner and wine, so why not make up a table? See flyer that came with September Highlight, or get details from the Lask stud on 020 8650 2359 or contact

Laura – 020 8299 6634;

Elisa – 020 8673 3495 or elisacook@nightingale.org.uk; or ivor.lask@free.fr

Social Centre News

We had a most interesting and enjoyable day at Nightingale House with a delicious buffet lunch followed by an entertainment given by a delightful young man who we'd all love to have come to sing for us at our own Shul. We'll try!!!

At the following meeting the Rabbi gave a talk appropriate to the time of year, which roused much interest and discussion.

Thank you Rabbi.

Diary Dates

Wednesday 10 October David Coronel and Bob Shiels will entertain us again, by special request.

Wednesday 24 October

Wednesday 14 November

Wednesday 28 November

Wednesday 12 December – Chanukah party, with a return visit by musical entertainer David Buchtyar

A COURSE IN IVRIT

Interested in learning Ivrit? Our member Esti Hargittai would like to meet you.

Classes will run on Tuesday evenings from 7.30 to 9.00 pm at the Synagogue.

The first class will be an Introductory Evening on Tuesday October 30 – 7.30 to 9.00 pm

The class is free to synagogue members - non-members will pay £5 per session and all participants will need to purchase the course materials, the cost of which is approximately £27.50.

Synagogue policy is that no-one should be excluded from attending, and help towards course materials is available.

Find out what it's all about by coming to the Introductory Evening.

Enquiries: Ann Fried 020 8778 5938 evenings and weekends

We are already well into the new term and everyone is settling down very nicely.

By the time you read this I hope that you will have received introductory letters from your child's teacher. I you want to speak to me or to any of the teachers about any cheder matter, please do not hesitate. We are delighted to oblige.

Margaret Goldman will be a most welcome guest on 23 September when she will present siddurim to Kittah Zayin. Each year the Goldman Trust generously gives siddurim to the new children in Zayin and we are grateful. Thank you, Margaret.

Linda de Lange has temporarily taken over the Gan Yeladim and she has asked me to remind everyone who uses the Garden Room last before Sunday morning to make sure that the room is left in a fit state for toddlers. Please stack chairs and tables, clear dishes etc away and, if necessary, vacuum the carpet. Thank you.

The Gan Yeladim continues in parallel to the cheder and all children of pre-cheder age are very, very welcome. You don't need to contact anyone in advance – just

come. All that Linda asks is that you or a responsible adult remain with your child. As far as I know this is the only Jewish kindergarten in the area. Do pay us a visit.

And we have started a Reception class for the children in the Gan who will be starting cheder next September. Rachel Hodgson is running the class which aims to give a very gentle and pleasurable introduction to the aleph-bet.

We are continuing the practice of donating food to give to those less fortunate than ourselves. It would be good if your child could bring in a can or packet of food on a regular basis. The collection box will live on the cheder library trolley and all the food will be taken by Nicci Shall to be distributed by Manna. Many thanks.

And speaking of the library trolley, please don't forget to take books home with you. We are always adding to them. But do remember to sign them out – and return them when you have finished with them! The list below shows the missing books. Would you check your shelves for them? Thanks

As always, Kittah Chet will choose the charities which the cheder will be supporting this year and I hope to be able

Dates for your Diary

4/5 Oct Simchat Torah
21/28 Oct Cheder half term

to tell you which they are in the next Cheder News.

And last but by no means least we wish Bob Symonds, our intrepid Editor, a very speedy recovery.

Leaves are beginning to fall and the autumn holidays are falling in autumn. I wish you and your families chag same'ach and good yontif.

B'shalom, Elka, Cheder Head Teacher

BROMLEY YOUTH CLUB

The new club met for the first time after cheder on 9 September. Maia and Orlando ran a brilliant programme for 7 club members and 3 other helpers. They decided that it will run every 2 weeks after cheder, and that they would like to chat and relax, listen to music, perhaps learn more about social action, and sometimes walk into Bromley, go to the cinema or go bowling.

They discussed the idea of the shul purchasing a table tennis table, and some equipment on which to play music [in fact, they have subsequently had an invitation to hold a games afternoon in Blackheath. Ed].

Proposed timing for meetings was 1.5 to 2 hours, say 12.30 to 2pm, and members will bring a vegetarian packed lunch.

Future dates:

Sunday 7 October: Nicci Shall will lead some fun activities with them, and after the break for cheder half term, the next meetings will be on **Sundays 4 and 18 November, 2 and 16 December.** Plans for a possible Chanukah event in conjunction with musical Shul members will be discussed. More information from Andrea Shall: 01732 873361, offhamshalls@btinternet.com

1.	Big book of great teaching ideas	Barish	ref
2.	Let's explore – the life cycle		ref
3.	Building Jewish life Hanukkah	Grishaver	ref
4.	Celebrating Jewry	Lawson	ref
5.	The Jewish Festivals	Hayim & Schluss	ref
6.	My very own Sukkot and Simchat Torah	Saypol & Winkler	ref
7.	Jewish Kid's Activity Book	Craft	ref
8.	Miriam Schlein Series - Hannukah		ref
9.	Tal Niv's kibbutz	Taylor	Yr 4
10.	Reader's digest : atlas of the world		ref
11.	Learn Talmud	Neusner	Yr 8
12.	The book of miracles	Kushner	ref
13.	Talmud – law and commentary teacher's edition		Yr 8
14.	Teaching torah		ref
15.	Jonah and the whale	Amery	Yr 1
CHEDER LENDING LIBRARY			
1.	Are you there, God? It's me, Margaret	Blume, j	Youth
2.	I am David	Holm, a	Youth
3.	The silver sword	Serraillier Ian	Youth
4.	Joseph and his amazing coat	Amery	Child

Limmud – www.limmud.org
Conference 23 to 27 December 07
The University of Warwick
£325 for each adult or
£140 per child (Pre-Conference
Shabbat 21 to 22 December)

Recycling the Siddur

You will find in this issue a notice about the new Reform Siddur. I was struck by the comments of Larry Ross, an old friend of this community, in Hendon Reform Synagogue's newsletter and reproduce edited highlights below..

Within the next year or so... the Movement will have to abandon hundreds, if not thousands, of much loved prayer books. The copies we own individually will remain on our bookshelves, [but] synagogues have hundreds of these books, and need the space that they take up. I would be far happier to know that our communal siddurim were going to be recycled, used again in a new life, than buried and lost forever.

In his article, "Stop Burying Books", Rabbi Neil Amswych of Bournemouth Reform Synagogue says, "What we know today is that the waters are rising as a result of our negligence. We also know that as the waters rise, peace between human beings is threatened. Lives are already being lost ... as a result of our environmental negligence." Perhaps the most telling argument in the article is in the final paragraph: "Pikuach nefesh – the injunction of saving lives which overrides every other Halachic principle, is also emotionally intuitive and basic common sense. If we hold that the long-term benefits of

recycling equate to pikuach nefesh in that it would help, even in small part, to reduce the risks of climatically-induced famine, flood and similar causes of death and destruction, then we have one powerful argument for recycling texts (if they can serve no other purpose) which unites logic and emotion and which does not deny the long-standing prohibition against erasing the Divine Name. ... It would seem appropriate to view this act as a mitzvah, and therefore accompany it with a blessing, for which we recommend: Baruch atah adonai, eloheinu melech ha'olam, asher mechadeish b'chol yom tamid ma'asei vereishit . Blessed are You, our Eternal God, Guardian of the world, Who renews the work of creation day by day."

Rabbi Amswych's article was in a recent edition of Manna, the Journal of the Sternberg Centre for Judaism. Would anybody care to comment on the topic? Please write to Bob, who will, I am sure, be back in the editorial chair by next month.

Judi Sheffrin

THE READING AND DISCUSSION GROUP

10.30 – 12.30, **Tuesday 16 October** at the home of Valerie and Lionel Cohen.
All enquiries to Desirée Barnett
020 8462 4504

SYNAGOGUE CRAWL

On the Kentish trail again – A Synagogue 'crawl' on **14 October**. Jewish Kent invites us to visit Thanet & District Reform Synagogue. in Ramsgate - meet for morning coffee at 10.45 am; on display will be a Sefer Torah Scroll that originates from Kalotvy in the Czech Republic.

12:00 The Montefiore Synagogue. Honeysuckle Road, Ramsgate, (Grade II listed Regency synagogue by first Anglo-Jewish architect David Mocatta with curious last resting place of Sir Moses Montefiore next door).

1.30 pm - lunch at the Margate Hebrew Congregation. Albion Road, Cliftonville, a famous synagogue well known to many a past holiday maker when Cliftonville was the place to holiday. It is anticipated that the day will finish at about 3 pm.

There will be a modest charge of £5 per person to cover catering. (£3.75 for children under bar/bat mizvah age). All foods will be dairy; please do not bring your own lunch. To assist with catering and for reasons of security please reserve your place in advance.

For further information contact our BRS Jewish Kent co-ordinator, Toby Allin, on 01892 528053 or Ian Smiler on 07989 447453, email ian.smiler@lineone.net or visit www.jewishkent.org.uk

ETHICS AND EMBRYOS

Wednesday 10 October at 8pm at Kingston Synagogue

Baroness Ruth Deech, former Chairman of the Human Fertility and Embryology Authority and former Principal of St. Anne's College, Oxford, will be the guest speaker. All welcome – Coffee and cakes £5. Visit www.kingston-synagogue.org.uk

Living in Harmony

Sunday 21 October, 3- 6pm

Carlo Rizzi, former music director of Welsh National Opera, will lead a masterclass with selected students of the opera course in the concert hall of the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, in aid of Neve Shalom-Waha al-Salam. After the performance, there will be a buffet dinner for those who would like to have the opportunity to meet Carlo Rizzi and the soloists. Proceeds to fund refurbishment of the Neve Shalom- Wahat al-Salam primary school's science room. Members who attended the inspiring talk about NSWaS will know what a worthwhile venture it is.

SUKKAH SUPPER AND QUIZ

South London Jewish Singles is holding a **SUKKAH SUPPER AND QUIZ** in the Croydon Sukkah from **8pm on Tuesday 2 October** (or in the Shul hall if the weather is too wet / cold). £5 to include a hot meal.

The Sukkah is behind the first building on the left-hand side of Shirley Oaks Road when you turn on to it from the Wickham Road.

Details from David Irvine: David@sljs.org.uk, or at www.sljs.org.uk

A GOLD AWARD WINNER!

You might have been impressed with Carol Brauner's article, which we reproduced in last month's Highlight. She has now contacted us direct with further news of the Sir Charles Clore Jewish - Arab Community Center in Acre: She writes

"I couldn't resist writing to you to tell you that our Alla Korabi, Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Gold Medallist, surpassed our expectations and was a tremendous source of pride to us all, at the Awards 50 Year Celebration Ceremony in Tel Aviv last Thursday evening. He was also the Arab sector's only representative!

He delivered his speech like a dream, made the Prince chuckle, and was such a pure example of hope and "the possible" that we all - Faheli, Maher, Rehab and of course, Alla's mum - had tears in our eyes and massive smiles on our faces!

I am attaching his speech - short but so very sweet - which I hope you will enjoy reading!

Shanah Tovah and Ramadan Mubarak!

Carol Brauner

Director of Development, Sir Charles Clore Jewish - Arab Community Center"

This was the speech that Alla delivered:

I am so proud and excited to have been chosen to welcome you, Your Royal Highness, Prince Edward, distinguished guests, Israel Youth Award managers, participants and families, to the 50th Birthday Celebration of the Duke of Edinburgh's International Award.

Six million young people from 120 countries have taken part in the Awards since it began 50 years ago in Gordonstoun School in England. And here I am this evening, standing here before you - Alla Korabi from The Sir Charles Clore Jewish-Arab Community Center, Acco - a Gold Award Winner!

The Israel Youth Award brings us together as equals - Arabs and Jews! It doesn't matter where we come from, or how much money our parents have, we share the same goals, the same motivation, and it is up to each of us to achieve those goals.

Over the past three years I have undertaken challenges beyond my wildest dreams, learnt new hobbies and skills, and spent a lot of my free time working with the poorest of children in Acco. I have been on exciting and difficult expeditions with participants from Israel and from all over the world... so different from me and my world - now new friends for life. I have been on a 3-year journey of self-discovery, personal development, and I have learnt that if we the young people don't get really involved with our communities, then they will disintegrate and rot.

The Israel Youth Award, together with the Jewish-Arab Community Center, Acco, has given me a philosophy and a

set of values that will remain with me for all of my life. It has taught me to know and love my country, to welcome challenges, to take the initiative, to persevere, to volunteer and to become a leader of my community. It changes lives. It has changed my life.

Your Royal Highness and honoured guests, on behalf of my fellow Gold Award recipients, I thank you for your commitment to us, the younger generation, and for giving us the tools and the opportunity to make ourselves and this world a better place. It is my dream that Princess Louise will present my grandchildren with their Gold Award at the One Hundred Birthday Celebrations in fifty years from now!

Shalom, Salem.

The Sir Charles Clore Jewish-Arab Community Center, Acre began life as a small kindergarten in two bomb shelters in 1989, providing much-needed early childhood programming for the poor Arab and Jewish children of the rundown Wolfson neighbourhood. Today, a beautifully maintained three-storey centre and focal meeting point for Jews and Arabs from all over Acre, the centre is an inspiring example of co-existence on a day-to-day basis, providing an enormous range of vital, high-quality, low-cost services to the entire population of the area, for whom there are few, if any, alternative informal education, leisure or community facilities. Based on real people facing everyday concerns the centre attracts more than 1,500 children, youth, women and FSU seniors every week and places special emphasis on helping youth and women at risk.

BR5&6 NEWS

Sunday 7 October - Coolings for Afternoon Tea and Planning Meeting.

A new year, a new programme; and the best way to get that is over a nice cup of tea or coffee and maybe a piece of cake. So please come and join us with all those suggestions for our winter programme. Our future is in your hands, so all ideas are welcome no matter how big or small. We will meet in Arthur's (the tea shop) at 2pm. If you are able to come or should you need any transport please contact me on the following. Tel. 01689 861493 or e-mail gloria.norman@ntlworld.com All Synagogue members are welcome at all our events

BR10 NEWS

Thank you to all who have offered hospitality in the past, and to those who have recently joined our list of hosts and hostesses.

Gertrud and Edward Roberts invite us to tea on **Sunday 7 October** from 3.30 pm. Please ring them on 020 8464 8183 to say you are coming and to ask directions.

We return to the popular "bring and share lunch" format on **Sunday 14 October** from 1 pm. Please ring your hostess, Judi Sheffrin, during the preceding two weeks on 07968 324981 to let her know what you will be bringing, so that she can ensure that there is a range of food.

On **Wednesday 31 October**, Barbara Kurtz invites us to coffee in Beckenham. Please see page 7 for details and ring 020 8650 1284 for directions.

We are again invited to coffee with Desirée and David Barnett on **20 November**, and Stella Sebel will be hosting a lunch in December.

For all other details, to seek and offer lifts, to suggest dates, topics and venues for future meetings, to offer your home as a venue or to ask to be removed from our 'phone, e-mail or ordinary mail list, please call Judi Sheffrin on 07968 324981. If you would like an email or phone call to remind you of events a week or so in advance, please tell Judi that, too.

Social and Personal

Thanks to the community...

...from the Carp family

We would like to say a very big thank you to the community for their help in the run up to, and especially on the day of, Sam's Barmitzvah. We would particularly like to thank Judi Sheffrin, Rabbi Tony Hammond and all the teachers at cheder for their dedicated teaching and support.

Thanks also go to the choir, Janet Burlem, Elka Carr and all the volunteers involved in arranging the wonderful kiddush, and Ronnie Goldberg for his guidance as warden. Everyone's help and support made it a truly memorable day.

With very best wishes,

Fiona, Jonathan, Sam and Jordan Carp

...from the Dallimore-Levinson family

We would like to thank everyone in the Bromley shul community for their help and support during Adam's Barmitzvah. We would especially like to thank Judi for not only being a wonderful tutor but also providing Adam with guidance and support and showing such good humour while doing so; Rabbi Tony Hammond for his advice and spiritual guidance throughout the year; Larry Becker for his support with Hebrew Studies; Marie for coaching Adam; Pauline for encouraging Adam.

In addition, we are extremely grateful to Elka and her team for organizing an excellent Kiddush; Debbie for her invaluable advice on bagels; Bob for some amazing photos; Janet for handling the admin; the choir for being in such good voice on the day; and David for Hagba'ah. Our family and friends, many of whom have never been in a synagogue before, all commented on the friendliness of the congregation, how welcome they felt and how moving they found the whole experience. Finally, we would like to express our thanks to the whole community for making us feel so welcome over the last two years.

Yours sincerely,

Louise, John, Adam and Rebecca

... from the Smith family

Can we take this opportunity to thank everyone at Bromley who helped make 2 June a special day for Josh, his family and friends? Thank you to the Rabbi for his support and to Marie and Rosemarie for their guidance and friendship to Josh and us over many months, in fact years! Thank you to all those who helped on the day, the choir, Bob for great photos to add to our collection that he has done for us over the years and those too many to mention who made the day so memorable. Many of our friends and family commented how friendly and engaging the service was and how wonderful the shul looks.

Can we also thank Elka and all over the years at the Cheder who have been wonderful in supporting our children Yoni, Talia and Josh and who have contributed so much to them as individuals. It will seem very strange to us not to make the trek on Sundays from Coulsdon to Bromley.

Gordon and Vanessa Smith

Apologies from the editorial team. This letter should have appeared in an earlier Highlight.

Memory Lane

Wednesday 31 October, from 10.30 am

Barbara and Alan Kurtz invite us to share coffee and memories. Barbara is compiling a history of the Shul, so whether you are a longstanding member with memories of the old village hall, ladies guild and steam organ, or a newcomer who can tell her how it feels to walk into Highland Road for the first time nowadays, do come along. Ring 020 8650 1284 for directions.

MAZAL TOV



Sam Carp (left) and Adam Dallimore-Levinson (pictured at Adam's Bar Mitzvah) celebrated their B'nei Mitzvah at the end of the summer.

A very hearty MAZAL TOV to

Mimi and Derek Langley, who celebrated their golden wedding anniversary in September;

Jean and Alan Garelick, who will be our Chatan Torah and Kallat Bereshit;

Nick Lambert on the publication of his book, *Jews and Europe in the Twenty-First Century* (details elsewhere on this page);

Elissa and Richard Campbell on the blessing of Ruby, which will take place on 20 October, and

Rabbi Tony Hammond, who has been elected as a member of the Executive of the Assembly of Rabbis, which links all rabbis who serve Reform synagogues in Great Britain.

SICK BAY: Very warm wishes for quick and complete recoveries from ailments and ops, large and small, to: Jackie Alfred, Valerie Barnett, Sandy Clary, Margot Ellis, Margaret Goldstein, Estella Henning, Judy Koekoek, Alex Oppenheim, Bob Symonds and Michael Zerihan, and anybody else who is unwell or undergoing surgery.

Celebratory Kiddushim

You are invited...

on **Thursday 4 October**.

to join **Jean and Alan Garelick**, our Chatan Torah and Kallat Bereshit, for a special kiddush after the Simchat Torah morning service Service begins 10.30 am.

and on **Saturday 6 October** after the Shabbat morning service to join **Philip Michaelis** at a celebratory Kiddush to mark not only Shabbat Bereshit, when we begin again our annual cycle of Torah readings, but the anniversary of the B'nei Mitzvah of three generations of Michaelises and, just a little in advance, Phil's 75th Birthday.

AJR WANTS TO HELP

The Association of Jewish Refugees might have an average age of 82, but it is on a recruitment drive. It seeks to reach out to new members and to offer them the extensive services that it already provides to 3,500 members nationwide.

Founded in 1941 by Jewish refugees from Europe, AJR attends to the social, welfare and financial needs of Holocaust refugees and survivors. Today, membership is extended to all Jewish victims of Nazi persecution and their families. AJR's team of dedicated social care workers attend to the day-to-day needs of members, and the regional groups programme offers them the opportunity to meet each other and enjoy entertainment. At such gatherings, many former friends have been reunited after more than 60 years, and AJR will be delighted to facilitate more such reunions.

There are also holidays, and the chance for members in need of company to be visited in their own homes. The AJR also looks after the interests of the Kindertransport, and has received a tremendous response to the survey that it launched at Pesach to gather information about the lives of children who arrived in Britain having fled Nazi-occupied Europe prior to the Second World War. It now has a website – www.ajr.org.uk – and invites you to find out more by visiting it or ringing 020 8385 3070.

London School of Jewish Studies New History Course

begins **Wednesday October 31** from 8.00-9.30 pm.

An analysis of Jewish history through the writers and chroniclers of the time

An appraisal of Jewish history through the later (subjective) historians

Have no preconceptions, be prepared to consider the unacceptable!

Scaller House, 44a Albert Road, NW4 2SJ

You can still sign up : 020 8203 6427

WANTED:

An academic gown. All offers to Dianne Mathews on 01689 826096. Thank you.

“CHICKEN SOUP AND MODERN MEDICINE”

The Association of Jewish Women's Organisations in the UK is pleased to announce its annual seminar, exploring how our health is balanced between conventional and complementary medicine and food.

SPEAKERS: Natalie Marx, registered homeopath and complementary medicine practitioner; Dr Thomas Stuttaford, The Times medical expert; and Vivienne Vald, registered dietician.

It is on **Tuesday 6 November** from 10.30am – 1.30pm at WIZO House, 107 Gloucester Place, London W1U 6BY (100 yards from Baker Street Station).

Entrance £11 in advance (£12.50 at door). Registration forms are available from Mrs Joyce Rose, 020 8340 8836. Coffee 10am, light lunch included. Further details available at: www.ajwo.org

Book Review

Jews and Europe in the Twenty-First Century

Thinking Jewish – by Nick Lambert

This book explores the interplay between minority and mainstream populations, and religious and civic identities in the west, and is based on more than two hundred hours of interviews with prominent Jewish novelists, playwrights, chief rabbis, philosophers, sociologists, historians, psychiatrists, economists and parliamentarians in the Netherlands, Britain and Italy. Rabbi Dr. Charles H. Middleburgh says of it that “Nick Lambert's subtle and persistent questioning peels back the protective layers of European Jewish life to reveal the true picture of a vibrant, passionate and fragmented religious entity, traumatised by its history and fearful for its future.”

Nick is Rothschild Foundation Europe Post-Doctoral Research Fellow, Department of History, Royal Holloway, University of London and Honorary Research Fellow, New York University in London, and son of our members Philip and Susan. The book is published by Vallentine Mitchell, 978 0 85303 760 6 (cloth) and 978 0 85303 761 3 (paper).

21st Century Rabbis

Leo Baeck College has started the new year with a campaign to highlight opportunities for students (or those considering a second career) to find out more about becoming a rabbi. Several free study sessions are available at the College, with top Jewish educators, to provide just a taste of the rabbinate.

ECO-JUDAISM a study day for all - especially those considering the rabbinate - will take place on **Sunday 30 September** from 10am to 4pm.

A SECOND CAREER provides an evening session for those thinking about the rabbinate as a second career on **Thursday 1 November** from 7.30 to 10pm.

JEWISH IDENTITIES is aimed primarily at current students. This will be on Sunday 6 January from 10am to 4pm.

“AND IT HAPPENED AT MIDNIGHT” is something completely different - a sleep-over for post-barmitzvah teenagers (aged 14 to 18). It will start on **Saturday 26 April**, and run from 8pm to 8am.

Finally, **SHADOW-A-RABBI** days can be arranged throughout the year, for individuals to spend time with a rabbi - gaining work experience and an insight into rabbinic life.

For an informal chat, in confidence, about any of the above please call Irit Burkeman, Head of Student Services, on 020 8349 5605; or mail Nathan Alfred, Recruitment Officer, at recruitment@lbc.ac.uk to register for any the sessions. To find out more about Leo Baeck College, visit www.lbc.ac.uk

A JEWISH JOURNEY:

Leo Baeck College is offering a unique opportunity to take part in a Jewish Journey on **Sunday 7 October**. Using the East End of London as its model, it will be looking at how to plan a journey while experiencing one. The tour is open to educators and adult learners.

To find out more and for a registration form and brochure, click on: www.lbc.ac.uk/content/view/696/150/

Dates for Your Diary

October

M	1	JLGB, 6-7.30 at the Shul
T	2	Sukkah Supper Quiz at Croydon Shul from 8pm
W	3	Erev Shemini Atzeret-Simchat Torah Service, 6.30 pm
T	4	Shemini Atzeret-Simchat Torah Service, 10.30 am Celebratory Kiddush for Jean and Alan Garelick
F	5	Service at 6.30 pm
S	6	Bereshit. Celebratory Kiddush for Philip Michaelis
S	7	Youth Club, 12.30 – 2pm at the Shul. BR5&6 meet at Coolings, 2pm. Sunday tea, from 3.30 at the Roberts'. Jewish Film Night, 7 pm at Shul.
M	8	
T	9	6-7.30: JLGB at the Shul. 8-9.30: Talk on Israel with the Rabbi
W	10	Social Centre, 10.30 – 2.30. David Coronel and Bob Shiels entertain
T	11	
F	12	Service at 6.30 pm
S	13	Noach. Rosh Chodesh Cheshvan
S	14	Jewish Kent Shul Crawl. BR10 Bring and Share Lunch, 1pm at Judi Sheffrin's. Race Night at Nightingale from 7pm.
M	15	
T	16	10.30 – 12.30 Reading and Discussion Group at the Cohens'. 6 – 7.30: JLGB at the Shul. 8-9.30: Talk on Israel with the Rabbi
W	17	
T	18	
F	19	Service at 8 pm
S	20	Lech Lecha. Baby Blessing of Ruby Campbell
S	21	Cheder half term
M	22	
T	23	6 – 7.30: JLGB at the Shul. 8 – 9.30: Talk on Israel with the Rabbi
W	24	10.30 – 2.30 Social Centre
T	25	
F	26	Service at 8pm. Study weekend begins
S	27	Vayera
S	28	Cheder half term
M	29	
T	30	JLGB, 6-7.30 at the Shul. Modern Hebrew, 7.30 – 9 pm at the Shul
W	31	BR10 coffee morning at the Kurtzes' from 10.30.

November

T	1	Seminar at Leo Baeck College about joining the Rabbinat
F	2	Service at 6.30 pm
S	3	Chayyeh Sarah
S	4	Youth Club, 12.30 – 2pm at the Shul.
M	5	
T	6	Wizo Seminar, 10.30 – 1.30 at Gloucester Place
W	7	
T	8	
F	9	Service at 6.30 pm
S	10	Toledot. Family Service
S	11	
M	12	
T	13	
W	14	10.30 – 2.30 Social Centre
T	15	
F	16	Service at 8pm
S	17	Vayetze
S	18	Mitzvah Workshop, 10.15 - 12.15 at the Shul Youth Club, 12.30 – 2pm at the Shul.
M	19	
T	20	BR10 coffee morning at the Barnetts'.
W	21	
T	22	
F	23	Service at 8pm
S	24	Vayishlach
S	25	
M	26	
T	27	
W	28	10.30 – 2.30 Social Centre
T	29	
F	30	Service at 8pm

JLGB Bromley – The Jewish Lads and Girls Brigade has a group meeting at Bromley Reform Synagogue every Tuesday from 6 to 7.30 pm, for children from 8 to 12 years old. Early next year we will be attending the London JLGB Sports Competition with over 100 youngsters from all over London and we look forward to the National JLGB Spring Weekend Camp next May.

Come and join our lively group. Just turn up on any Tuesday, or call Martin Rosen on 020 8654 7119, or email MartinRosen@blueyonder.co.uk for more details, or see our website at www.jlgb.org.

SERVICES

October 2007 – Tishri/Cheshvan 5768

Friday: 6.30 pm on the first and second Fridays in the month;
8pm on the remaining Fridays, unless otherwise stated.

Wednesday 3 October	Erev Shemini Atzeret-Simchat Torah Service, 6.30 pm at the Synagogue
Thursday 4 October	Shemini Atzeret-Simchat Torah Service, 10.30 am at the Synagogue
Friday 5 October	Bereshit (24 Tishri) Service at 6.30 pm
Saturday 6 October	Genesis 3: 1-24 Psalm 139: 1-24 Blessing for Cheshvan Service conducted by Philip Michaelis – Celebratory Kiddush
Friday 12 October	Noach (1 Cheshvan) Service at 6.30 pm
Saturday 13 October	Genesis 9: 1-17 Genesis 1: 14-19 Isaiah 66: 1-24 Rosh Chodesh, second day
Friday 19 October	Lech Lecha (8 Cheshvan) Service at 8 pm
Saturday 20 October	Genesis 15: 1-21 Isaiah 40:27 – 41:10 Baby Blessing for Ruby Campbell
Friday 26 October	Vayera (15 Cheshvan) Service at 8 pm
Saturday 27 October	Genesis 19: 1-21 Ezekiel 18: 1-23

Highlight Small Ads

A lady whose sight is failing asks: Can you spare an hour or two during the week to read to me from my favourite books and discuss what you have read?
Please ring 020 8464 8183.

Ciao! Mi chiamo Lori
Hil! My name is Lori
I am a native Italian speaker.
Let me teach you Italian.
Call me: 0793 9700 486
loryitaliantutor@hotmail.co.uk

Situation Vacant

Advertising Manager for Highlight.

Can you use your skills to sell advertising space in this magazine to Synagogue members and others?
Contact Dianne Matthews,
01689 826096,
diannem3@googlemail.com

Whitstable, Kent. Cosy holiday cottage

available for short or long breaks.
Sleeps 6-8. Just 4 minutes walk to beach, shops and excellent restaurants.
Call Julie Binysh on 020 8464 0659,
07790 572160, or e-mail
Julie.binysh@btinternet.com

Perfect holiday pictures into paintings.

June Posner, NDD,
can create
water-colour
paintings for you.
Tel: 020 8688 7978



Memorial Plaques

May the Almighty comfort you among the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem.

If you wish to place a plaque commemorating a loved one on our memorial wall in the synagogue foyer, please contact me so that we can discuss the details.

The cost of each plaque is currently £50.

Janet Posner

020 8650 7521

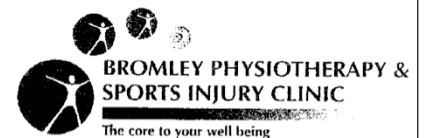
janet.posner@talk21.com

Do you need a lift to Shul?

We are a busy community with many interesting activities throughout the week. If you would like to participate, but are unable to arrange your own transport, we may be able to organise a lift for you. At present, we can usually make arrangements for members who live in the London Borough of Bromley or Blackheath.

Please let me know if you require a lift to a particular activity and I will do my best to arrange it.

Please contact me on 020 8650 7521 or janet.posner@talk21.com. **-Janet Posner**

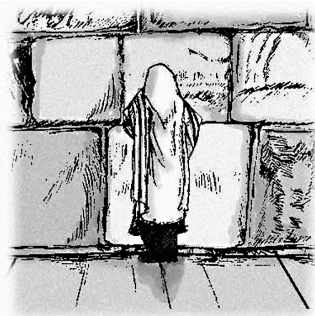


Physiotherapy - Acupuncture Sports Massage Plus a selection of Complementary Therapies

With all our good wishes
for a happy and healthy New Year

Alison Borer MCSP HCP
Adrienne Rosenberg MCSP HCP

1A Sundridge Parade
Plaistow Lane, Bromley BR1 4DT
Tel: 020 8466 6645
E-mail: info@bromleyphysio.co.uk
www.bromleyphysio.co.uk



Bromley's own 60th Anniversary Israel Trip

A different view of Israel for the veterans of Israel trips and a new experience for those who have never been.

We are aiming to tour Israel next year as a community of 20-40 adults from Bromley Reform Synagogue to celebrate the state's

60th anniversary. We will be led by Julian Resnick, Director of Living Judaism, and a founder of the Jewish Journeys Experience.

The proposed dates are either early June or late September before the High Holidays. The trip will last 7-10 days and will cost around £1,000 per person, all inclusive (subsidies may be available).

Following the advert in last month's in highlight, response has been good and many places have been reserved. Will anyone who wants to participate, but has not yet registered an interest, please e-mail Larry Shall at offhamshalls@btinternet.com

Siddur ha'Tefilot

the new Reform prayer book.

The first new Reform Siddur for thirty years is due to be published next summer. It includes a wealth of additional material including commentary on the prayers, footnotes, a revised glossary, an enlarged anthology, transliteration and original reflective readings; but still retains much that is familiar from past editions, so it should provide for your needs whether you are planning a traditional Reform service or something more contemporary, or simply seeking readings for use in the home.

The Synagogue is going to place a bulk order in advance, so that individual members can buy them at an advantageous price when they become available. An order form will be sent out with subscription details in November, so please look out for that and be sure to return it promptly. Thank you.



MITZVAH WORKSHOP

Sunday 18 November 2007

Have you ever wanted to play a more active role in the Shabbat service but not been quite sure what was expected?

Now's your chance to become familiar with blessings, scroll carrying and dressing, candle lighting and many more mitzvot.

Attend the Mitzvah Workshop on **Sunday 18 November** 10.15am to 12.15 pm while the children are at cheder and all will be revealed.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

(in the event of a bereavement)

Contact Mr. David Barnett: 020 8462 4504 or

Mrs Janet Posner: 020 8650 7521 (Mobile: 07841 373 309)

Opinions expressed in "Highlight" are not necessarily the official policy of the Synagogue.



Tell the Community

This cut-out slip is a regular feature in Highlight to enable you to inform the community of any appropriate event - birth, marriage, engagement, illness, bereavement, birthday celebration, examination success etc.

We would like you to know that

.....

.....

Name Tel. No.

SINGING LESSONS

with

PROFESSIONAL SINGING COACH

STUART KALE GGSM Hons. LGSM.

Principal tenor with English National Opera; Welsh National Opera; Opera North and Royal Opera House.

Professor of Singing at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama; Associated Board piano accompanist.

Available in Beckenham, Kent *now* for enthusiastic singers of all ages.

Regular lessons offered or intensive coaching for audition purposes.



020 8325 9050



07889 607001

Professional Made-to-Measure

Pauline Flanagan

With 28 years' experience in the fashion industry, I can offer individually tailored, made-to-measure patterns and garments for special occasions.

Bridal wear – Ball gowns - Evening wear, Ladies' tailored jackets and suits - Copies of favourite garments - Alterations - Personal blocks

Tel: 0208 325 7977;

Mob: 07736 156939

Email: pauline.flanagan@francofinishes.co.uk

תבורה

The South London Young Adult Chavurah will meet again at Wimbledon Synagogue on **Friday, 28 September 2007** and after that on **Friday, 23 November 2007** at 8 pm.

For good company, sparkling service and amazing food - or just for a good time, contact us on 020 8946 4836 or via rabbirothschild@wimshul.org



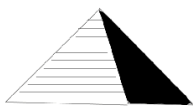
**There really is someone
out there for you !
mazaltov**

helping you find your partner in life
Progressive Jewish
Marriages

Phone Ruth Green on
020 7289 8591

mazaltov@liberaljudaism.org

TOTAL COMPUTERS



for all your computer needs

Don't let a virus have the last word

Call Michael

PC Problems

No job too small

Phone and Fax: 01322 667061

E-mail:

michael81_jenkins@hotmail.com

RAPHAEL JEWISH COUNSELLING SERVICE

Registered Charity No. 278522

Worried? Stressed?

Finding it difficult to cope?

Recently bereaved? Lost your job?

Broken relationship? Marital stress?

Confidential counselling for individuals and couples

0870 787 5056

(24hr answering machine)

Email: info@raphaeljewishcounselling.org



DEBBIE WALTERS CATERING

Beautiful Food For All Occasions!

020 8693 5870