

HIGHLIGHT

Bromley Reform Synagogue newsletter

July-August 2017 – Tammuz-Av-Elul 5777



The pupils of Kittah Bet made animal masks for Shavuot to commemorate the fact that the animals fell silent when Moses brought down the Torah from Sinai.

Stroke Awareness

Sunday, 30 July at 4.00 p.m.

in the Garden Room

Refreshments from 3.30 p.m.

In the UK someone has a stroke every 5 minutes.

We welcome a speaker from the **Stroke Association**, who will talk to us about all aspects of stroke, including how to reduce your risk of stroke and the wonderful work the Stroke Association is doing.

All are welcome to come; in the future you may be pleased you did!

Further information from **Janet Burlem** in the synagogue office (020 8460 5460).



Find us on Facebook!

www.facebook.com/BromleyReformSynagogue



or Tweet us @BromleyShul) ...

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Bromley Friends

A social group for older adults. Join us for tea, chat and laughter, organised by **Jewish Care**. We meet at a private home in Bromley, **on the last Thursday of the month. 2.30 – 4.30 pm**. Old friends or new, we look forward to seeing you.

For more information, please contact **Liane Segal** on 020 8290 5984 or **Stephen Ison** on 07881 863237 or email ision@jcare.org

Forthcoming meetings:

Thursdays, 27 July, 31 August

A Week of Contrast - View from the Chair

It was a week of contrast. Janet and I made our way northwards for a week of bird-watching. Now, I've studied enough zoology in my time to know that nature is tough, hazardous and unromantic for those struggling to survive but the life of birds, particularly those on the coastal cliffs of this beautiful island, seems wondrous – caring and loyal, in harmony with the environment.

In the same week as our birding trip, the news from London demonstrated the worst of human behaviour. A catastrophe occurs - not a natural disaster like an earthquake or a tsunami but one that is totally man-made. The fire at the tower block in North Kensington was attributable, both directly and indirectly, to a lack of caring, dangerous cost-cutting, callous bureaucracy and a failure of those who are paid to take responsibility to do so, both before and after the event. I recognise that humans, like other creatures, care for their young, nurture, teach and educate but we're supposed to be cleverer than them. We are capable of establishing a modern urban society that makes a vast city like London work but its complexity also requires thoughtful government and decisive leadership; sadly, this country seems to lack both.

I'm no expert but it's clear to me that Judaism understands human behaviour. Our Torah tells us repeatedly to support and take care of the disadvantaged including the immigrant. Why us? Because we knew what it was like to suffer at the hands of others, to be exploited. I'm not saying the occupants of Grenfell Tower were slaves but many paid with their lives or the lives of their loved-ones as the result of the negligence of others.

It is not uncommon to hear cynical remarks about 'Health and Safety' but the cost of not taking appropriate care is there for all of us to see. Perhaps, it is an appropriate moment to point out that in our shul we are very aware of our responsibilities for safety especially as there are often large numbers of adults and children in the building. We have regular checks and maintenance of our emergency equipment and inspections by the emergency services; records are kept of all findings. There are clear

instructions for evacuation of the building through our several emergency exits and we have direct contact with the fire service. Next time you are in the shul, please do familiarise yourself with the emergency exits and take the trouble to read the notice instructions. That said, there is no room for complacency and if you see something that needs attention or a way in which safety could be improved, please do let us know.

Well, after our week of wonder and horror, it was heartening to be in shul on Shabbat. The place was full of families; some of the children participated in leading the service, an invitation to accommodate refugees was made and the atmosphere was one of caring and community. Long may it continue. Have a good summer and for those off on holidays, have a great time and take care.

John Posner, Chairman

continued from column 3



Skeet Hill House

social action and social justice projects, such as assisting refugees. Keep an eye out in Highlight, e-light and our website for various multi-faith activities that you can take part in.

The great rabbinic sage **Hillel the Elder** taught us that we should be a part of our community. Well, in Bromley we have a great community with wonderful neighbours and I look forward to our having meaningful, nourishing and positive relationships with them.

Shalom,
Rabbi Jason Holtz

Getting to know our neighbours

In June, I had the opportunity to visit two great places in Bromley borough. The first was Skeet Hill House, located in Orpington, which is a Jewish activity and retreat centre, primarily, though not exclusively, aimed at youth programming.

Skeet Hill House is situated on seven acres of land, has a house that sleeps over seventy people, kosher dining facilities, a tennis court, an open field ideal for sports, indoor swimming pool, arts and crafts centre, space for a campfire, and a very impressive and unique farm, Sadeh (Hebrew for "field").

Sadeh is the only Jewish farm in the United Kingdom. Our Head Teacher Vicki and I were given a great tour by the founder of Sadeh, **Talia Chain**. We were both incredibly impressed by the beautiful setting and the wonderful work that goes on there. Talia is equal parts horticulturist and Jewish educator. One minute she explained to us how the slope of the land affected irrigation and the next moment she was emphasizing how Judaism had a heavy focus on agriculture in Biblical times. She talked about bringing people in to get them working the land, planting all sorts of things and really connecting with Judaism's agricultural heritage. Vicki, Talia and I are eager to share Jewish farming and other activities that Skeet Hill House and Sadeh have to offer to both youth and adults in our synagogue. Look for great opportunities in the Jewish year 5778.

My second visit this past month was to the Keston Mosque, Al-Emaan Centre, for iftar, the break-fast meal at the end of the day during the month of Ramadan. The mosque was filled with many of their members, but also a diverse group of Jews, Christians and representatives of various civic groups, as well as the Mayor and Deputy Mayor of Bromley. While it was my second time to the mosque, it was my first time ever to attend an iftar, and it was a great experience. I was particularly moved by the hospitality at the mosque and their desire to build bridges of understanding between the various communities. I'm also very excited about a joint initiative between our synagogue, the mosque, and Churches Together in Bromley to do various things together, including panel discussions, a multi-faith Baby and Toddler group, and

continued at foot of column 2

Cheder News

Can you believe it? Summer is nearly upon us, and this is probably the last you'll hear from me until our next academic year! And so here is our last Cheder News for this school year:

- 1) Our final **Children's Service** took place on **Saturday, 17 June** and was a terrific success. Special thanks to **Michelle Brooks Evans**, who coordinated Kiddush for us. To all of you who came to the service, thank you for helping us create a great (Shabbat) day at Cheder!
- 2) Will your child start **Year 1** this September? That means your child is ready for Kittah Aleph! You **must register for Kittah Aleph** if you want your child to join the Cheder (remember, those forms won't fill complete themselves...) so if I haven't emailed you already, please let me know asap if you want to register your child.
- 3) Our latest Tzedakah project is still going strong, raising money for the **Retired Greyhound Trust**. I look forward to counting up your spare pennies and letting you all know how much we managed to raise for this charity that our children chose to support when we come back in the autumn.
- 4) Our last **Youth Club** will be a party at Zizzi in Bromley on **Sunday, 9 July at 1pm!** Anyone over aged 12 and over can come, just let **Hayley Preston** know with a quick RSVP email: hayley.preston8@gmail.com.
- 5) And now, a reminder that Kittah Chet will be hosting its annual **Chet Service** as their final act as Cheder children. The service will take place on **Saturday, 15 July**, so do come along and see what our oldest children can do, and what our younger children are aiming to do!
- 6) Our final day will be on **Sunday, 16 July**, and will conclude with our annual **Prize Giving Assembly**. Parents are invited as always to come join us to watch and *shepp nachas* before wishing our Cheder a fond farewell until the autumn. You will also receive your children's **Cheder School Reports** on our last day, so please don't miss out!

And, finally, I'd like to personally thank

all of the staff and helpers who made sure that Cheder has continued to thrive. I feel privileged to work with such a lovely bunch of people who have committed (and continue to commit) their time and energy to our children's Jewish education. I'd like to thank **Joseph** and **Joshua Parks**, who are both on to pastures new and to thank them for being such great Hebrew teachers and positive role models for the children. And I'd specifically like to thank **Tracy Frankel** who will sadly be leaving us this year. Without her and her lovely "partner-in-crime" Sue, the Gan would not be the success it is today. We are fortunate enough to have **Heidi Small** to fit into Tracy's (metaphorically large) shoes, and **Simon Samuels** will take over from the Parks Brothers to teach our older years. Thank you all so very, very much. See you all on our first day of the autumn term, **Sunday, 10 September at 10.00 a.m.**

With warm wishes for a wonderful summer holiday,

Vicki, Cheder Head Teacher



Cheder Security Rota, Shavuot Term, 2017

Sunday, 2 July	Trip to Jewish Museum
Sunday, 9 July	Len Campling
Sunday, 16 July	Kieron Hyams



On returning from their half term break the children of the Gan made decorations for the synagogue

Social Centre News

Zelda Stone writes:

The Social Centre met on the 24 May on a lovely sunny day and it was nice to discard winter coats and wear summer clothes.

One of the members of the shul introduced his mother, who was over here from Australia visiting her family. It was interesting talking to her and hearing her experiences of leaving Romania when she was a ten year old child.

The usual games and exercises were played before lunch, which was cauliflower cheese with salad. It sounds dull (memories of school dinners come to mind) but in fact it was delicious. It was followed by Eton Mess, a dessert which makes one feel guilty just looking at it but is very enjoyable.

After lunch we were given two quizzes to do. A couple of us opted out (we know our limitations) but it was enjoyable watching the others trying to find the answers.

Dianne Mathews adds:

Last month saw a return visit by **Take the Mike**. This is a small group of Jewish entertainers from Ilford. They sing their own witty words to well known songs, mainly from the musicals and also add actions to some, encouraging everyone to join in. It was a very lively afternoon and thoroughly enjoyed by everybody. It was great to see so many happy faces, so we will ask them to come back another time and we hope you will come along.

This month we are expecting **Mike Brown** to give a talk. He is a very good speaker and his subjects are very interesting. See below for the date. In August we'll be holding our **Summer Party** and we will be having entertainment this time. Many of you will remember our regular attender, **Ruth Young**. In her memory her daughter Eva has organised a professional classical violinist to play for us. He has asked me to let him know if there is anything you would particularly like him to play, so please think about it.

We look forward to seeing you.

Social Centre Diary Dates

12 July	Exercises, socialising and lunch
26 July	Talk by Mike Brown
9 August	Summer Party with violinist Adrian Garrett
23 August	Exercises, socialising and lunch

Catford and Bromley Maccabi

The youth leaders write:

We have exciting plans for **Summer Project: 24-27 July**. Watch e-light for details of the activities, times, cost etc.

Meanwhile, we need to have an idea of who will be attending so we can ensure the right ratio of children to adults, as well as sorting out the catering etc.

Please reply to catfordandbromleymaccabi@hotmail.co.uk if you know your child(ren) will be attending. Please note: they don't need to commit to every day.

We would also appreciate having adult volunteers. If any parents or carers are able to come along to help with covering security, this would be hugely appreciated. Again, please email us if you can spare some time during the week of project.

Joe and Jacob Kat
C&B Maccabi Youth Leaders

Living with Hearing Loss for people over 50

This informal course will run every Thursday from 20 July – 28 September 10.30 am – 12.30 pm

Croydon Hearing Resource Centre, Park House, 22 Park St, Croydon CR0 1YE

Come and join other people who have a hearing loss.

We will provide lip reading activities and equipment demonstrations, show you how to be more assertive and confident.

With a variety of local lecturers to speak on different topics and much more.

If you would like to join our **FREE** course or would like more information please contact **Zoe Fudge**:

Email: zoe.fudge@deafplus.org

Voice: 020 8315 2550

www.deafplus.org

deaf+PLUS

LWHL
Living with Hearing Loss

The CCJ SE London tour of Oxford on Monday, 5 June

A report by Stephen Weil

CCJ SE London was given a combined tour on 5 June of medieval Jewish Oxford, together with Oxford colleges associated with key individuals in the history of the translation of the Bible into English.

We were very fortunate in our outstanding guides: for the first part of the tour - **Victoria Bentata**, a Green Badge Guide based in Oxford, who read German and Russian at Lady Margaret Hall; and for the second part - **Mark Earngey**, clergyman and DPhil student at Wycliffe Hall. Mark is writing a doctorate on the English Reformation. Each brought their own great skill at telling a story based around individuals whom they brought to life, while keeping the stories in broader context.

None of us in the CCJ group had been aware of the importance of Oxford's Jewish community in the period of 200 years following the Norman conquest. Out of a medieval town of 5,000 inhabitants, 200 were Jews. The Jewish community was located on either side of St Aldate's, then called Great Jewry, now occupied principally by the Town Hall, Christ Church and Pembroke College. **Roger Bacon**, the great 13th century scholar and polymath, who taught himself Hebrew (with the help of Oxford Jews?) lived at the southern end of Great Jewry.

One of the reasons for our non-awareness is that the medieval Jewish Community did not meet a bad fate in the town itself (unlike Lincoln or York) prior to expulsion of all Jews in 1290 by Edward 1; there was an interesting explanation why Oxford's Jews were so much better protected than Jews in other English towns. These were "the King's Jews", and the Court often stayed in and near Oxford.

It was interesting too to note the number of plaques marking Jewish medieval sites which were put up in the early 1930s (almost an early version of Germany's "Stolpersteine") and which may in turn have laid the basis of a much more welcoming attitude towards German-speaking Jews and academic exiles later in the thirties.

For the translation part of the tour, we were guided to three colleges:

- the Dining Hall in **Balliol**, with a painting of **John Wycliffe**, the Master who oversaw the first translation. This translation was rather literal, based

on the Latin text used by the Church at the time and expected to be copied and illustrated beautifully by professional scribes;



- the Chapel in **Hertford**, with the stained glass window in honour of **William Tyndale**. Tyndale undertook the first translation of the New Testament into English from Greek, which was intended to be widely appreciated. This was the first translation to be widely distributed, by printing. Tyndale was executed for doing this; and
- the Chapel in **Corpus Christi** with the bust of **John Rainolds** (or Reynolds), who planted the seed in King James I's mind of a new translation, which was based substantially, we were told, ("83%") on Tyndale's work, and which became known as the Authorised Version.

For everyone in our group, there were many insights into the English language, English history, the development of Oxford and the relationship between Christians and Jews.

For this writer somewhat familiar with the *La Convivencia* ("The Coexistence") of different faiths in tenth and eleventh centuries Andalusia, centred on Cordoba, it was a revelation that Oxford itself had its own "mini-Convivencia" in medieval times, which in turn laid the basis for a welcome to German-speaking Jews and exiles in the darkest days of the last century.

Our tour was inspired by the guest speaker at CCJ's 2016 AGM, the Venerable **Martin Gorick**, Archdeacon of Oxford, who had referred to the remains of the medieval synagogue under his garden, the life and after of the earlier Jewish community in Oxford, and the interesting link with Albert Einstein!

For more information on Jewish Oxford: <http://www.oxfordjewishheritage.co.uk/>

For more information on the individuals associated with translation of the Bible into English, in addition to Wikipedia, the following has been recommended: F.F. Bruce, *History of the Bible in English* (1978).

Stephen Weil

KLBD Kosher Road Show coming to South London

A free exhibition of certified kosher food. Over 90 products certified by the London Beth Din will be available for viewing and tasting (although not for sale at the exhibition)

All of the food being exhibited is available in supermarkets throughout the UK.

A guest speaker from the London Beth Din, **Sharon Faz-Feldman**, will talk about the process of kosher certification and will be pleased to answer any questions you may have.

Everybody welcome • A light sandwich buffet lunch will be available.

Monday, 10 July from 12–3 pm in the concert hall, Nightingale House, 105 Nightingale Lane, London SW12 8NB

Please book your place by contacting **Stephen Ison** at sison@jcare.org

There is parking for a few disability badge holders but ample parking at that time in the surrounding roads. If the demand is too high we may need to restrict the attendance to the first 120 who apply.

nightingale hammerson

Be safe these holidays

A **Security Awareness Training** course is being offered by CST in partnership with **Project Griffin** and **NaCTSO** (National Counter Terrorism Security Office) to anyone who works or volunteers within the Jewish Community.

We at Catford & Bromley are hosting this training event at the Synagogue on **Wednesday, 6 September** from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. with snack lunch included.

There will be NO charge for this but we do need full names and contact telephone number and the Synagogue you are representing, to be given no later than 28 July to chairman@catfordsynagogue.org.uk.

Please note that you must be over 18 and under 80. Please book early as only a limited number of places are available

Phyl Tomlinson

Secretary/Administrator

Catford & Bromley Synagogue

Jubilee Lecture 2017 - Our Deputy Joe Millis reports

Board of Deputies president **Jonathan Arkush** painted a positive picture of contemporary British Jewry when he addressed the synagogue's annual Jubilee Lecture on Sunday, 4 June.

Although Mr Arkush noted that there were those who "misunderstood" Jews and in some cases were "downright hostile", the community was, he said, "thriving. We have a growing number of youth groups as well as schools." Mr Arkush said that "very few of us have had to deal with anti-Semitic incidents. I haven't."

"More than ever before we have strong ties with Israel and I am proud of all we have achieved in this country."

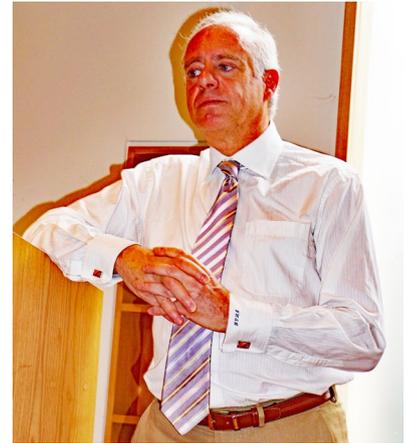
Speaking just days before the 8 June general election – which threw up a surprise loss of majority for the Conservatives and huge gains for Labour – Mr Arkush emphasised, however, that the UK was not "an anti-Semitic country. Yes, there are anti-Semites, but we have ways of tackling them through the courts."

One thing Mr Arkush was adamant about was British Jewish and other diaspora Jewry's criticism of Israel or its government's policies. Mr Arkush, who, as vice-president, was the only Honorary Officer opposed to pro-peace, pro-Israel group Yachad's membership of the Board, was clear. "If you want to criticise Israel," he said. "You need to live there, pay taxes, do national service and be part of its society."

Mr Arkush, speaking only hours after the devastating terrorist attack on London Bridge, said British Jews were right to pray for the welfare of the Royal Family and the state. "In our country's welfare is our welfare," he said.

He also noted that UK Muslim communities were "very significant" to our community. British Jews number around 300,000 – barely one half of one per cent of the entire population – and most Brits have not encountered a Jew. However, UK Jews share common issues with British Muslims, such as *brit mila* and *shechita*, and the Board works with Muslim representatives on these subjects. "We are in conversation with other minorities because legislation that affects all of us is not created in a vacuum," Mr Arkush, a barrister, added.

Joe Millis



Board of Deputies President Jonathan Arkush looked thoughtful as he answered questions after delivering the Jubilee Lecture on Sunday, 4 June

St Christopher's Hospice 50th Anniversary Service at Southwark Cathedral Thursday, 20 July at 7 pm

St Christopher's Hospice celebrates its 50th anniversary this year and part of that celebration is a service at Southwark Cathedral.

We would really like people in our local communities to be part of the congregation for this service, especially as many of them will have had the need to use St Christopher's expertise at some stage in their lives for a family member or a friend. We would ask you please to apply for tickets. There is no charge and either one or two tickets can be issued to each applicant. You simply need to send a SAE, together with a note of whether you would like one or two tickets to: Southwark 50 Service, St Christopher's Hospice, 51-59 Lawrie Park Road, London SE26 6DZ. We are, as usual, most grateful for your co-operation with St Christopher's. Thank you.

Rev Dr Andrew Goodhead
Spiritual Care Lead

High Holyday Greetings

Why not save time and money and benefit the Synagogue by placing your High Holyday greetings in the September issue of Highlight?

Please send your greetings to the Editor c/o the Synagogue **by not later than Monday, 14 August.**

Please enclose a cheque or postal order for £5, made payable to "Bromley Reform Synagogue"

Social and Personal

BIRTH - Sheila and David Zerihan are delighted to announce the birth of their grandchild Raphaël, on 13 May. A son for Magali and Jonathan.

DEATH - We are very sad to report the death of our member **Clarice Sidlin** on 8 June last and we extend sincere condolences to her husband Louis and their family.

B'NEI MITZVAH - A hearty mazal tov to **Seb Farmar** and his family on the occasion of his bar mitzvah, which he will celebrate on Saturday, 8 July - Shabbat Balak, and to **Zachariah Fischer** and his family on the occasion of his bar mitzvah, which he will celebrate on Saturday, 22 July - Shabbat Mattot-Masei.

GET WELL SOON - Pauline Jeffree writes: We are thinking of and wishing well to those of our members who are unwell at this time.

Our shop/Your shop

Your thoughts please!

There's a tired corner of the shul that needs a revamp and some TLC. I would like to ask the community what you feel you would like to buy from our shul shop. Please bear in mind that we can't have a fortune in unsold stock sitting in a glass cupboard! I can't promise to fulfil all your wishes but I would like an idea of what you would like to be able to buy (not just look at!).

Many thanks, **Shane Lask**
(contact Shane through the synagogue: 020 8460 5460)

Shabbat Afternoon Tea

Sandra Clary warmly invites you to her Beckenham home for tea and chat on the afternoon of **Saturday, 29 July** from 3.00 to 5.30 pm.

If you would like to go along please (contact Sandra through the synagogue: 020 8460 5460) **before Thursday, 27 July.**

Bar Mitzvah Boys



Seb Farmar will celebrate his bar mitzvah on Saturday, 8 July, Shabbat Balak



and Zachariah Fischer will celebrate his bar mitzvah on Saturday, 22 July, Shabbat Mattot-Masei.

Three Faiths Babies and Toddlers Play Group

We would love for anyone who cares for young children and has an interest in forming friendships with members of the Muslim, Christian and Jewish communities to come along and join in the fun! This is the first time we will be getting together.

Who: Parents, grandparents and carers and, of course, 0-3 year olds

When: Thursday, 6 July
10:00-11:45 am

Where: at the Synagogue

Contact Jodi Holtz through the synagogue: (020 8460 5460) for more information.

Knit & Natter

The dates for Knit and Natter for July/August:

Thursdays, 20 July and 24 August at Pauline's home, 10 am - 12 noon.



These teddy bears and blankets were all knitted by a lovely lady in Yorkshire.

(contact Pauline through the synagogue: 020 8460 5460)

SE10 and beyond

Michelle Brooks Evans

reports:

We had a lively, but well behaved, night on Monday, 5 June, when **Leah Levane** came to talk to us about her trip to Israel and the Hebron Hills. Leah had been on a trip with 200 other Jews and part of her trip she spent rebuilding a Palestinian home. There were many different opinions voiced but a respectful and informative evening was had by all. This was topped off by the delicious Israeli food and the views from the top floor of our hostess's Thameside apartment.

Our next event will be: **a picnic for everyone**, including family and friends, on **Sunday 23 July** from 1 pm by the Bandstand in Greenwich Park. The Crystal Palace Band are playing from 3 pm, so there will be entertainment too! Bring a blanket, chairs and food to eat and share and let's enjoy the good times and summer.

Also please save **Thursday, 14 September** for our next get-together. Venue and theme to be decided, but it will be nearly Rosh Hashanah so a new year to celebrate.

For any questions or directions just contact me (**Michelle Brooks Evans**) through the synagogue: 020 8460 5460.

Working – America’s workers find their voice in a musical that really works

“All gone to look for America” sang Simon and Garfunkel in 1968. In 1974 oral historian and broadcaster Studs Terkel found America by conducting a series of free-form interviews with ‘ordinary’ people – from labourers to teachers – about their working lives. Uninterrupted by their interviewer, they spoke freely about the meaning they found in their work – and its part in the meaning of their lives. The resulting book is a bestseller still.

In 1975, composer/lyricist Stephen Schwartz, collaborating with Nina Faso and other composers, including Mary Rodgers, daughter of Richard, began work on a verbatim musical that gave a new voice to these inhabitants of the world of work. Working has continued to develop, taking in hi-tech, low-input changes in the working world. The latest version, with new songs from Lin-Manuel Miranda and contributions from writer/director Gordon Greenberg, gets its European premiere in this glowing, compassionate production.

Director Luke Sheppard’s brilliant idea is to recruit, alongside his six seasoned workers (three men, three women), four hugely promising newbies out of drama school (Patrick Coulter, Nicola Espallardo, Izuka Houle and Luke Latchman) to sit at their feet, listening and learning from the stories of the different employees they play – when they’re not joining in chorus numbers and high-energy routines, as choreographed by Fabian Aloise. So designer Jean Chan’s grungy workplace set teems with figures she dresses in 50 shades of iconic denim.

There is so much light and shade in this beautifully calibrated show. The upbeat numbers are balanced by more contemplative vignettes. The six leads cover a useful age range. The most senior, Peter Polycarpou, brings his gravitas to Schwartz’s poignant *Fathers and Sons*, taking us into the emotional hinterland of this working man, his relationship with his son mirroring his own with his father. Schwartz drew on his own experience and it shows.

Equally telling is Miranda’s *A Very Good Day*: two immigrant workers, a carer and a nanny, sing in tender counterpoint about their charges, one at each end of life, perfectly conjured by Liam Tamne and Siubhan Harrison. Gillian Bevan charts stoical Rose Hoffman’s 40 years of

teaching explaining Nobody Tells Me How (Mary Rodgers and Susan Birkenhead): “When my parents came over I didn’t learn Jewish as a first language.” Dean Chisnall touches as a gun-using policeman turned life-saving fireman and Krysten Cummings complete this perfect line up. A stunning finale, Carnelia’s *Something to Point To*, should give everyone pause to look up at a building or around their own workplace and give respect to the workforce who built it. These are the men and women whom Trump claims to represent. *Working* works perfectly to give them a proud and genuine voice.

by Judi Herman

Working runs until Saturday 8 July. 7.30 pm (Mon-Fri), 3 pm (Sat only). £25, £20 concs. Southwark Playhouse, SE1 6BD. www.southwarkplayhouse.co.uk

This review first appeared in the June issue of *Jewish Renaissance*.

Getting a message across

Have you seen Rabbi Holtz’s weekly videos? If not, you are missing a treat. He puts each Torah portion into context in a succinct (4-5 minutes), accessible and often humorous way, a great reminder of why our tradition is still so relevant today. Viewing them is an easy way to keep up if you are unable to get to services, or a useful preview if you are planning to attend. You can find them via our website: <http://www.bromleyshul.org.uk/?cat=39> or on YouTube and, as he says at the end of each video, do “like” or “share” so as to increase our community of learners.

Meanwhile, our new split e-light/e-light extra has been going out for several weeks now. If you have a view about it, pro or con, please let us know at comms@bromleyshul.org.uk

Finally, our fantastic webmaster, Kieron, has created a fool-proof way to submit items for Highlight, e-light and the website so that you, too, can give us succinct and relevant information. There will soon be an online form to fill in to ensure that key parts of any announcement are not forgotten and the relevant editor can contact the right person for fuller information if required.

A note giving details of a direct link will appear in e-light as soon as it is live.

Thank you for all your communications.

Judi Sheffrin

Yachad Study Tour to Israel

Join Yachad for an extended trip to Israel and the West Bank from **Sunday 12 to Wednesday 15 November**. The tour will include meetings with key activists and experts in the field, and is an unparalleled opportunity to learn about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict on the ground. Meet government officials and political activists, Palestinians and settlers, visit Hebron and East Jerusalem, and Ofer military court. More details, including a sample itinerary, are available on the Yachad website (<http://yachad.org.uk/>).

Costs

£700 for a room with single occupancy
£575 p/p for a room with double occupancy

This cost includes a £100 pp subsidy that Yachad contributes to try to keep costs as low as possible. If you feel you are able to pay the £100 subsidy this would, of course, be extremely welcome.

The price of the trip includes accommodation, all ground costs including transport, food and other costs. The price does **not** include flights, transfer to and from the airport in the UK and transfer from Ben Gurion airport to Jerusalem.

Book your place

In order to secure your place on the trip, we will require a £300 non-refundable deposit.

Please get contact info@yachad.org.uk if you have any questions or would like more information.

Young Professionals Trip

This November, we are running our first ever Young Professionals Trip concurrently with the Study Tour, open to ages 22-35. This provides young professionals with the opportunity to learn about the conflict and explore their relationship with Israel on the ground. Places are **£200**, not including flights or personal travel insurance. Email info@yachad.org.uk to register your interest.


יחד
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Shirei Chagigah

Reform Judaism's Biennial Music Conference

Thursday to Sunday

6-9 July

at **Radlett Reform Synagogue**

(Friday night at Finchley Reform)

Join us for the community, the singing or just for an inspirational few days of beautiful music.

Sessions will be led by Cantor Zoe Jacobs, Composer Noah Aronson, Singer-Songwriter Elana Arian, Cantor Rosalie Baxt, Rabbi Ken Chasan from Los Angeles.

Tickets: £185 for RJ shul members, £80 for RJ shul member students and unwaged.

Contact: sarita.robinson@reformjudaism.org.uk

tel. 07415 274362

JMI Summer Schools and Festival of Music 6 -11 August, London

JMI (Jewish Music Institute) welcomes you to an exciting and original summer programme of language, song, music and dance for people of all backgrounds. During the second week in August, central London will be the location for a world class faculty of linguists, singers, musicians and dance experts from the USA, UK and Europe to come together to teach in the four JMI summer schools.

In the JMI booklet you will find information on the following four courses:

- **Ot Azoy!**: One week fully immersive course in Yiddish Language and culture.
- **The Golden Peacock**: Yiddish Song School for singers of all abilities.
- **Klezfest**: the world famous summer school in Klezmer music for all.
- **Tants, Tants, Tants!** JMI's unique East European, Klezmer and Israeli dance course

During the week, each course will hold events open to the public.

Full information about these events and JMI's summer programme can be found in the JMI booklet. To obtain your copy go to one of the following:

Tel : 020 7898 4307

Web: www.jmi.org.uk

Email: jewishmusic@jmi.org.uk

SERVICES

July-August 2017 – Tammuz-Av-Elul 5777

Fridays at 7 pm, unless otherwise stated.

Saturdays at 10.30 am, unless otherwise stated

Friday 30 June

Saturday 1 July

Chukat (7 Tammuz)

Friday 7 July

Saturday 8 July

Balak (14 Tammuz)

Bar Mitzvah of Seb Farmar

Friday 14 July

Saturday 15 July

Pinchas (21 Tammuz)

Friday 21 July

Saturday 22 July

Mattot-Masei (28 Tammuz)

Bar Mitzvah of Zachariah Fischer

Monday 24 July

Rosh Chodesh Av

Friday 28 July

Saturday 29 July

Devarim (6 Av)

Monday 31 July

Erev Tisha B'Av - Short service and readings, 7.30 pm

Tuesday 1 August

TISHA B'AV

Friday 4 August

Saturday 5 August

Nachamu (13 Av)

Friday 11 August

Saturday 12 August

Ekev (20 Av)

Friday 18 August

Saturday 19 August

Re'eh (27 Av)

Wednesday 23 August

Rosh Chodesh Elul

Friday 25 August

Saturday 26 August

Shofetim (4 Elul)

Bromley Three Faiths Forum Panel Discussion

- **What:** A panel discussion and question and answer session on Judaism, Christianity and Islam. Each panel participant will be able to introduce themselves and their faith to those in attendance and then the panel will engage in dialogue with the audience. The moderator of the panel has requested that any questions for either the panel or a specific member of the panel be submitted in advance. **If you would like to submit a question, please send it to Rabbi Jason Holtz (jsholtz@gmail.com), who will then send it on.**
- **Who:** The panel will consist of **Rabbi Jason Holtz**, **Revd Andrew McClellan** of St John's Church in Bromley, and **Dr Omar Taha** of the Al-Emaan Centre (Keston Mosque). The discussion will be moderated by **Christina Parry** of St Mark's Church in Bromley. Everyone from the synagogue is invited to attend.
- **Where:** at the Synagogue
- **When:** **Tuesday, 18 July** from 7:45-9:30 pm
- **For more information,** please contact **Rabbi Jason Holtz** by phoning the office at 020 8460 5460

Dates for Your Diary

July

S	1	Chukkat
S	2	Cheder visit to Jewish Museum
M	3	
T	4	
W	5	
Th	6	3 Faiths Baby and Toddler Play Group, 10-11.45 am at the Shul
F	7	
S	8	Balak - Bar Mitzvah of Seb Farmar
S	9	Youth Club Party - 1 pm at Zizzi, Bromley
M	10	Kosher Road Show, 12-3 pm at Nightingale
T	11	
W	12	Social Centre - 10.30 am - 2.30 pm at the Shul
Th	13	
F	14	
S	15	Pinchas - Service led by Kittah Chet
S	16	Cheder Term ends
M	17	
T	18	3 Faiths Forum Panel Discussion, 7.45-9.30 pm at the Shul
W	19	
Th	20	Knit & Natter from 10 am at Pauline's Living with Hearing Loss, 10.30-12.30 at Croydon St. Christopher's 50th anniversary service, 7 pm at Southwark Cathedral
F	21	
S	22	Mattot-Ma'asei - Bar Mitzvah of Zachariah Fischer
S	23	SE10 and beyond - Picnic from 1 pm in Greenwich Park
M	24	Rosh Chodesh Av Maccabi project begins at Catford
T	25	
W	26	Social Centre - Talk by Mike Brown
Th	27	Living with Hearing Loss, 10.30-12.30 pm Bromley Friends, 2.30-4.30 pm in Bromley
F	28	
S	29	Devarim Shabbat Afternoon Tea 3-5 pm at Sandra Clary's
S	30	Talk by member of the Stroke Association - from 3.30 pm at the shul
M	31	Erev Tisha b'Av - Short service and readings, 7.30 pm

August

T	1	Tisha B'Av
W	2	
Th	3	Living with Hearing Loss, 10.30-12.30 pm
F	4	
S	5	Nachamu (Va'etchanan)
S	6	JMI Summer Schools start in Central London
M	7	
T	8	
W	9	Social Centre - Summer Party with violin recital by Adrian Garrett
Th	10	Living with Hearing Loss, 10.30-12.30 pm
F	11	
S	12	Ekev
S	13	
M	14	
T	15	
W	16	
Th	17	Living with Hearing Loss, 10.30-12.30 pm
F	18	
S	19	Re'eh
S	20	
M	21	
T	22	
W	23	Rosh Chodesh Elul Social Centre - 10.30 am - 2.30 pm at the Shul
Th	24	Knit & Natter from 10 am at Pauline's Living with Hearing Loss, 10.30-12.30 pm
F	25	
S	26	Shofetim
S	27	
M	28	
T	29	
W	30	
Th	31	Bromley Friends, 2.30-4.30 pm in Bromley

Reform Youth 70th Anniversary Celebration

Save the date! Sunday 24 September 2017

Were you part of YASGB or RSY or RSY-Netzer? Would you like to join us to celebrate 70 years since the start of Reform Youth?

To register an interest, please go to:

<https://tinyurl.com/Reform-Youth-70th-Anniversary>

For more information, email **Sonia Leigh** on

sonia.leigh@rjuk.org or call her on 020 8349 5674.

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