

HIGHLight

Bromley Reform Synagogue newsletter



Tasting the Honey - The children of the Cheder had a chance to taste honey direct from the hive during their visit to Sadeh Jewish Farm on the last day of the Cheder term

Come and welcome Rabbi Chava Koster during the weekend of 15 to 16 September

Rabbi Chava Koster is interested in filling the vacancy left by the departure of Rabbi Jason Holtz.

She will conduct the Shabbat morning service on Shabbat Shuvah, lead an adult study session, meet the parents and spend some time with the Cheder.

Rabbi Koster is coming to discover whether our community is one that she would like to lead and we will get to know whether we think she will be right for us.

So please come along and play your part in deciding the future of our community.

September 2018 - Rosh Hashanah 5779

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Friday, September 28th from 10.00 to 12 noon at the Synagogue.

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- Provide more information about cancer
- Help with the provision of financial support
- Man more Macmillan support lines
- Be with people when they need us most

Entrance £5 for unlimited coffee, tea, soft drinks and cakes

All proceeds go to MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT

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No shortage of rabbis - View from the Chair

I hope you have had a good summer and enjoyable holidays. And, with that slight change of spelling, our Holy Days are almost upon us and we have a number of eminent visitors who will be participating in our services.

The Rosh Hashana evening service will be held in the shul but the following morning we decamp to the Crofton Halls. We do hope to have a rabbi present but, despite advanced planning, I am not quite sure right now who that will be, so you will probably find out when you get there.

We have a particularly important visitor on Shabbat Shuvah on 15 September, the Shabbat between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. Rabbi **Chava Koster** has applied for our vacant position of permanent rabbi to BRS and we have invited her over from New York to lead our service on that day. Rabbi Koster is a Dutch national obtaining her first degrees in the Netherlands and the UK and was ordained as a rabbi in New York in 1997. For the past 17 years she has been the Senior Rabbi of Congregation B'nai Israel, The Village Temple, in Manhattan. She will attend Cheder, meet parents and lead a study session on the Sunday morning. We do hope to see you during the weekend so that you have a chance to meet Rabbi Koster; your feedback will be very important.



Officiating at our services on Kol Nidre and Yom Kippur and leading a study session during the afternoon of Yom Kippur will be **Rabbi Dr Deborah Kahn-Harris**, Principal of the Leo Baeck College (LBC). Rabbi Deborah was born and grew up in the USA but was ordained here in London at the LBC more than 20 years ago and gained her doctorate in biblical studies at the University of Sheffield. Rabbi Deborah delivered an excellent Jubilee lecture to us a couple of years ago. We are honoured to have her with us this Yom Kippur.

On Shabbat Chol Hamoed Sukkot (the Shabbat that falls between the first and seventh days of the festival), 29 September, **Rabbi Laura Janner-Klausner** will be leading the service. Many of you will know her well but just in case you do not, Rabbi Laura is senior rabbi of Reform Judaism in the UK. Whether on the radio, in synagogue or other public places, she speaks with verve and sincerity and is an invaluable asset to all of us as a spokesperson for the Jewish community and the Reform movement of this country.

On Erev Simchat Torah we will be unrolling and rewinding the scroll to complete the readings for the year and immediately start from the beginning again. I am delighted to say we have another guest, student rabbi **Anna Posner** (no relation) to lead that service. Anna is in her fourth year of studies at the LBC and, over the year, will be spending



some of her time with us. I have met Anna and am very much looking forward to her leading a Shabbat service every few weeks, contributing to the Cheder and participating in other shul activities.

With all this talk of visitors, it would be remiss of me not to thank our members who serve as lay readers and have been reliably leading our services from the beginning of July. We are blessed with so many members who can competently lead our worship, give learned and interesting *drashot* (talks on what we can learn from the weekly portion) and read to a very high standard from the Sefer Torah. We certainly want to be able to appoint a new rabbi as soon as possible but the long-standing DIY tradition of BRS is alive and well - long may it continue!

Finally, on behalf of Janet and myself, I would like to wish all our members *L'shanah tova umetukah* - for a good and sweet New Year. Let us hope that the year 5779 will be a more peaceful one in Eretz Yisrael and a more positive one for the Jewish community of this country.

John Posner, Chairman



Portraits of the rabbis and student rabbi who will be leading our services during the High Holydays:

Top left: Rabbi Chava Koster; bottom left: student rabbi Anna Posner; above: Rabbi Deborah Kahn-Harris; top right: Rabbi Laura Janner-Klausner.

Cheder News

Cheder is back!

It's September, and that means it's time for me to welcome you all back to Sunday School. I hope you've had a wonderful summer and are ready to hit the ground running. If you're not sure what's happening on the first day of Cheder, this is what you need to know:

- 1) **Classes will start on Sunday, 9 September at 10 am in the Sanctuary.** This is where the children will meet their new teachers and helpers and go to their new classrooms from there. Please make sure they are in the building at 9.45am so that we can start on time.
- 2) **Helpers will begin at 9.15 am on Sunday, 9 September with a helper training session.** Helpers, you'll be signing your contracts, learning where resources are kept and how to use the photocopy machine, so don't be late on your first day of work!
- 3) All parents are invited to a **Welcome Back Coffee Morning** in the downstairs foyer. This is where parents of Kittah Aleph can sign their children's registration forms and hopefully catch up with the rest of us after the long summer holidays. You can also pick up your new **welcome packs**, which will include the Cheder calendar and your new **collection cards**, which you will need to access the building while Cheder is in session. I'll also be there to answer any questions you may have about Cheder and how it runs. Our coffee and cake is better than M&S, so please do come!
- 4) In case you're new, **Cheder runs from 10 am to 12.15 pm**, with a shul-wide assembly for children and parents from 12.15-12.30 pm. Please come and join the assembly before you pick up the kids. You'll have a chance to hear about all of the events at the shul, see what the kids have been learning about and maybe learn a song or two with us.
- 5) We'd like to use your children's **Hebrew names** in their Hebrew classes, so do make sure your children know their names or write them down on paper ready for their first days at school.
- 6) Please, **NO mobile phones or tablets in Cheder**- they are very disruptive! If your children **MUST** bring them,

please tell them that they are to be switched **OFF** when they arrive and on again when Cheder is over.

- 7) Please remember that it is the Shul's policy that **all food brought into the synagogue must be vegetarian and nut free.** This includes any jelly sweets (Haribos) that may contain gelatine. Neither pork nor beef gelatine is allowed in Cheder, so please do not send these foods in with your children.
- 8) **Break time is usually outside**, so please send your child with a jumper in case it's chilly.

And now some other holiday events for children:

- 1) There will be a **Rosh Hashanah service for the under 12s** on Rosh Hashanah, **Monday, 10 September.** This will take place during the adult service in a separate room at the Crofton Halls, Orpington from 10.30 am-12.30 pm. There will be a short prayer and story followed by crafts and games, all on the theme of the Jewish New Year.
- 2) A **Yom Kippur service for under 12s** will take place on **Wednesday, 19 September** from 10.30 am-12.30 pm, also during the adult services at the same venue. Want to be involved in **Mitzvah Day** this year? The plan is to have an afternoon tea with elderly residents at a local care home or sheltered housing accommodation. It will take place after Cheder on **Sunday, 18 November.** If you'd like to take part, please email me!
- 3) **Save the dates:** the **Chanukah Fair** will take place on the **Sunday, 25 November**, while our **Chanukah Party** will be on **Sunday, 2 December.** More info regarding times TBC.

That's all for now! Enjoy the rest of your summer and I look forward to seeing you all on Sunday, 9 September.

L'Shalom,

Vicki, Cheder Head Teacher

Social Centre News

Zelda Stone writes:

We had an enjoyable time on 11 July, as it was Rebeca's birthday. She did not divulge her age but we assured her she looked much younger. There were exercises as usual with Andreas and then a special lunch for the birthday girl.

After lunch **Linda de Lange** came to give us a talk about her work as a prison visitor. For the last ten years she has been working voluntarily for a charity called Birth Companions, which involves giving support to any woman in prison who gives birth. She said it involves giving support but not being judgemental. If the mother requests it Linda will even be present at the birth. The women are allowed to keep their baby for eighteen months but if their sentence is longer the baby is sent for adoption although, depending on the home circumstances, the mother can have her child back when she is discharged.

There are five women's prisons and Linda told us that, in all her ten years, she has never met a woman in prison who committed a violent crime. They are mostly in for theft or drug offences. She also said it was very rare for the partners of these women to be supportive.

It was an extremely interesting talk and we hope she can find the time to come and talk to us again

On 8 August we had quite a few members come despite the hot weather. We played the usual games and Andreas came to help with our exercises.

We also had another welcome visitor: Barbara brought her grandson, who needed help with his homework. He had to ask questions about the London blitz, specifically from anybody who had lived through it. As some of us had, we were pleased to tell him of our experiences. It was also interesting to get the reaction of a ten year-old boy to the war. He told Barbara afterwards that he enjoyed coming, but the best bit was talking to us about the Blitz.

Dianne Mathews adds:

The dates for our September and October sessions are: Wednesdays 12 and 26 September, and 10 and 24 October.

On **12 September** David and Tom will present one of their musical entertainments.

New Year Message from the President of the Board of Deputies of British Jews, Marie van der Zyl

5778 will be remembered as the year that the Jewish community came together to say 'Enough is Enough' to antisemitism.

Back in March it was unprecedented and heartwarming to see so many people from all parts of the community join like-minded non-Jews and parliamentarians to stand in front of the Palace of Westminster to protest against the antisemitism that, staggeringly, is tolerated in our country's official party of opposition.

Several aspects of this protest were meaningful. I was gratified by the speed with which we, the Jewish Leadership Council and other partners, devised and executed the idea. We were overwhelmed by the response from the 2,000 people who travelled to Westminster at 24 hours' notice, including more than 30 MPs from Labour and other parties, and friends from the Muslim, Christian, Sikh and Hindu communities. Never has our community made a more powerful statement that we will not tolerate antisemitism in the Labour Party. Perhaps most important of all was the near unanimity with which we spoke. And it is this unity which we as a community need as we go forward to face challenges such as this.

Although the overwhelming majority of the community were behind us in our protest against antisemitism, there are issues which do divide us. Of course, we will never agree on everything but there is a right and a wrong way to disagree. For example, when the Kaddish for Gaza event took place following the Hamas-sponsored violent protests at the border with Israel, nobody was more appalled than me. However, the tone and tenor of some of the comments aimed at the protesters has bordered on hateful and abusive. Such ferocity does nothing to advance the argument but rather discredits the point being made and leaves our community in a less civil place.

While we must fight against hate, prejudice and injustice, much of my work as President of the Board of Deputies is in promoting projects which work for a positive outcome. My first action as President after my election in May was to travel to Manchester for discussions with leaders of northern communities and the Mayor of Greater Manchester, Andy Burnham, then on to Glasgow and Edinburgh for talks with Scottish First



Minister Nicola Sturgeon and discussions with my Scottish Jewish colleagues. I intend to be a leader for all Jews of all denominations across the country and none of us is more important than any other.

We also need to reach out beyond our community which is why I have prioritised interfaith work, in particular, creating links with Muslim partners. This summer, for the first time, the Board of Deputies hosted an interfaith Iftar for senior Muslims and Jews, including the Chief Rabbi, and I have travelled the country meeting Muslims from Leeds to Luton and points in between. Jews and Muslims have much in common and my objective is to create relationships which will strengthen us all and fight the prejudice and ignorance which has divided us in the past.

This was also the year that in the United Kingdom we celebrated our crucial role in the creation of the State of Israel, with celebrations to mark the 100th anniversary of the Balfour Declaration, culminating in the Parliamentary Balfour Reception, attended by many ministers, MPs and peers. And in this 70th anniversary of the birth of the State of Israel, we have been promoting a dialogue for peace between Israelis and Palestinians through Invest in Peace. This project, undertaken with Christian communities, is interfaith work at its most meaningful, tackling difficult issues positively and head on. We are determined that, rather than import the Middle East conflict, we should work together to support a constructive conversation towards reconciliation.

Those of us who love Israel were delighted that the Duke of Cambridge undertook the first official Royal visit to the country. It would be hard not to be touched by his moving message in the Yad Vashem guest book. And the goodwill and friendship in his speech at the Ambassador's reception left an impression on all of us who were present. A key message of the visit was about the importance of engagement. In addition to supporting coexistence with the young Israeli and Arab footballers, the fact that President Rivlin and President Abbas felt compelled to offer messages of peace in their meetings with the second in line to the British throne was a real tribute to the enduring 'soft power' of the British monarchy. This was clearly a man with a genuine warmth and friendship for the Jewish people and, going into 5779, amid all the political turmoil we have encountered this year, the image of the Duke, both at the Western Wall and, playing football on the beach, gives me wonderful memories to take into the New Year.

May this Rosh Hashanah bring you, your families and all of Am Yisrael health, strength and peace.

Marie van der Zyl, President

Lord hear my voice

Lord, hear my voice when I call!
Take pity on me, and answer me!
Do not turn away Your servant in anger,
You have been my help.
Never leave me, never desert me,
God of my safety.
Even if my father and mother desert me,
the Lord will care for me still.

Psalm 27:7, 9-10

Remember Your compassion Lord, and
Your mercies,
for they have existed since ages past.
Do not remember the sins of my youth and
my wrongdoing,
but remember me in love,
for the sake of Your righteousness, Lord.
Good and upright is the Lord,
therefore He shows the way to sinners.
He guides the humble in justice,
He teaches the humble His way.

Psalm 25: 6-9

Readings from the High Holyday Machzor

Jweb – A Resource for Our Time

Learning disabilities in the Jewish Community



Recent research tells us that the lives of one in ten people in the UK are touched by learning disabilities. If you ask the people around you, you will hear about a whole community of people living or working with learning disabilities. Jewish services and professionals are there to support them, but up until now it has been time consuming and difficult to find out what's going on and to connect with other parents, carers or professionals.

JWeb was created to be a space where parents and carers could find recommendations for things to do or highly rated services and professionals that could make their families' lives easier. Somewhere to ask questions or share good ideas, or simply to connect with other people who understand.

The website www.jweb.org.uk is a vital resource that connects families and carers with news, event listings, services and information. All of the resources come from peer-to-peer recommendations, making it the only place for the Jewish community to come together to share great ideas and ask for advice.

It is a friendly place where website users respond to requests for help. A recent post from a woman asking for advice and recommendations for dental treatment for her adult learning-disabled sister provoked a deluge of information, with many other carers writing in to say that they too benefited from the advice.

With smart signposting, Jweb brings together all kinds of events and services from across the UK and makes it easy to find interesting and useful activities all year round, from relaxed theatre performances to sporting events and social groups. There is a noticeboard for passing on information or making a request. People can advertise and look for useful equipment, or simply

Peace Walk to a 'Peace' of Cake



Walkers of the three faiths enjoying a well earned piece of cake after their strenuous effort on a very hot day.

On a very, very hot sunny Sunday in July a group of Jews, Muslims and Christians gathered together with a single purpose - in search of cake. Like our forefathers we were walking in search of a promise of a better place - in our case the Mansion House in Beckenham Place Park - where tea and cake (lots of cake) awaited us. As we walked, strolled and meandered along the banks of the Ravensbourne river, crossed the wide open spaces of the parched grasslands and climbed the hill of Beckenham Place Park in search of our promised land, we talked. Our talk was not of deep religious theology but more of "how do you find work placements for your children?", "which are the best schools?" and "why won't my children give me any share good ideas.

Users will find a comprehensive directory of services, fascinating blogs and support targeted at all ages - from the painful first diagnosis of a disability through the months and years ahead. It is a place where people can look for work and employers can offer opportunities that make a huge difference to the self-esteem and personal fulfilment of people with learning disabilities.

To find out more please contact jweb@jweb.org.uk or visit us at www.jweb.org.uk. There is also a JWeb helpline for anyone who prefers to talk - just call 0300 222 5949. We are all about sharing, so please pass us on.



Some of the walkers on their way from Bromley shul to Beckenham Place Park

grandchildren?" We discovered that, as Jews, Muslims and Christians, there is one fundamental truth - that men can't follow simple directions. How hard can it be to walk in a straight line!

We had been joined by a number of the refugee families from Lewisham, whom the 3 Faiths Group have been supporting, and also **Kevin Bonavia**, the Lewisham Council member with the cabinet portfolio for refugees. Like our synagogue, the 3 Faiths group has something for everyone. Whether you are interested in theological discussion, getting involved with the work we are doing with the Lewisham refugee community (collections / language skills / befriending) or just having a cup of tea and a piece of cake, you are welcome to get involved.

Howard Binysh

Social and Personal

BIRTHS - Mazal tov to **Daniel** and **Victoria Weil** on the birth of their son Benjamin on 15 June, a brother for Jessica and a third grandchild for **Monica** and **Stephen Weil**. Daniel and his family have moved to Paris in connection with Daniel's duties for the Royal Navy.

We are delighted to announce the birth of a daughter, Noa Izzie, to **Talya** and **Dov Hellman** on 29 June in Chicago. Mazal tov to the proud grandparents **John** and **Janet Posner** and **Chaim** and **Shoshy Hellman**.

MARRIAGE - Mazal tov to **Rebeca Lewin** on the marriage of her son Danny to Ella at the beginning of this month.

DEATH - We are very sad to announce the death of our member **Jean Escott** and extend sincere condolences to her sons .

Thanks to the Congregation -

Judy and **Dane Koekoek** would like to thank all members of the community for their kind words of sympathy, cards and letters following the recent death of **John**.

BAT MITZVAH - A belated mazal tov to **Taliyah Dahdi** and her family on the occasion of her bat mitzvah, which she celebrated in the synagogue on 28 July, Shabbat Nachamu.



Taliyah Dahdi after her bat mitzvah

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

INVITATION - On **Saturday, 27 October**, **Janet Burlem**, will be marking 20 years as the administrator of our synagogue with a special service and kiddush. She would be delighted if the members of the synagogue would join her in this celebration.

To Bromley, from Atlanta, with Love



Daniel Weil with his wife Victoria, daughter Jessica and new baby Benjamin

Dear Friends,

Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year, always symbolizes change. In fact, the Hebrew word for year, *shannah*, comes from the same root as the word for change, *shinui*. Hebrew speakers, indeed all of us, can't help but notice that with the passage of time, things change.

This is certainly a time of change for us. We are very happy to be in America, close to family and in a wonderful synagogue community. At the same time we often think of Bromley. I remember when I first arrived at Bromley, I would often forget to raise the Torah scroll prior to the reading (I was accustomed to lifting after). Now that I am back in America, I have a gut feeling that I am "forgetting" something when I don't do things the British way! Of course it's not just the local ritual flavours. The best part of our time in Bromley was being a part of the community. Whether it was schmoozing during the Kiddush, enjoying lunch with the Social Centre, or just getting to know people, Jodi and I always felt right at home in Bromley.

With the new year, and the season of change, I'm reminded of all the ways in which Bromley changed me for the better, and how Bromley will always have a special place in my heart.

Shannah Tovah u'Metukah, may the year ahead be good and sweet for all of you,

Rabbi Jason Holtz

לשנה טובה

Lew and **Hadassah Britz** wish all their friends at Bromley Reform Synagogue *Leshanah Tovah u'Metukah*

Joy Goldberg and family wish all the members of Bromley Reform Synagogue a happy and healthy New Year.

Ronnie and **Gloria Goldberg** send greetings to everyone for a peaceful and prosperous New Year.

Sandra, MK, Sunny and Leroy wish everyone a happy, healthy and fun-filled 5779.

Dianne Mathews wishes you all a healthy and happy Shanah Tovah.

Philip Michaelis wishes everyone in the community a good, healthy and peaceful New Year.

Judi Sheffrin wishes everyone at BRS only good things in 5779.

The Caring Community wishes all our members a very happy, healthy and peaceful New Year.

A Happy New Year to all our readers from the **Editor of Highlight**.

SE10 and Beyond

Our next meeting is scheduled for **Thursday 11 October** from 7.30 pm in Greenwich.

Please get in touch for further details. This will be our first get-together since the summer break, so bring your ideas and suggestions for the coming year.

As ever, all are welcome, and so are drinks and snacks to share.

For further details contact: Michelle Brooks-Evans through the Synagogue

JLGB is so much more than a youth group: It's a proven investment in your children's future.

Thousands of young people benefit from JLGB's character-building and life-enhancing skills programmes

Shana Tova from JLGB. We hope you've had a great 5778. As we enter 5779 and think about the year ahead, why not make an important commitment to your children's future by enhancing their potential with JLGB.

At JLGB we focus on the individual and aim to recognise and enhance every young person's potential, building their character to develop their leadership, communication, organisation, initiative, resilience, confidence and creativity. Our local weekly groups have skilled up and empowered Jewish young people across the UK, giving them a wide range of new skills while honing their unique abilities to enable them to achieve in the future.

On a national level, our 'evolve - youth volunteering & skills initiative' - continues to remove barriers so that all Jewish young people can participate in programmes and national volunteering awards recognised by universities and future employers, such as the Duke of Edinburgh's Award and National Citizen Service, without compromising on religious practice.

JLGB has been part of several national studies that highlight some of the benefits from the programmes we offer:

82-83% of young people who were part of structured youth organisations said their confidence and leadership skills had greatly increased

68% of young volunteers in higher education felt greater motivation and self-discipline as a result of volunteering

84% of Duke of Edinburgh's Award participants said the Award increased resilience and responsibility

Building young people's assets and enhancing their skills starts from as young as 8 years old at your local JLGB group. This year alone over 1,000 unique skills programmes, run by young leaders, were delivered at our 30 weekly groups across the UK, including Maor, aged 12 who ran an athletics course for the Juniors at Redbridge JLGB.

Ask anyone and they will say JLGB is one giant family, bringing together young people in school years 3-13 from communities across the UK and the wider



Competing for the Duke of Edinburgh's Award

world, creating networks and forging friendships that last a lifetime. In addition to weekly meetings, JLGB hosts a series of regional and national events, camps and competitions throughout the year. This year's 'Wanderlust' themed Summer Camp united over 500 young people from England, Scotland, Wales, France, Russia, Israel and the Netherlands, making it the largest camp in over 20 years. Following on from this success, hundreds of people have already signed up for JLGB's Winter Camp, which will run in the last week of December, including a New Year's extravaganza.

We understand that there is a huge pressure on parents, when making important choices for their children, to enable them to take part in every extra-curricular activity on offer and it can be difficult to decide what is best. JLGB is dedicated to ensuring a positive future for all Jewish young people and presents a unique opportunity for your children to gain transferrable skills and positive values, in a fun and engaging environment so that they can become the leaders of tomorrow.

Make a commitment you won't regret this academic year. Register your children for two weeks free at your nearest local weekly group in September now at www.jlgb.org/free.

For more information email: getinvolved@jlgb.org or call 020 8989 8990

The Annual Jubilee Lecture a report by Stephen Weil

Two communities, Bromley Reform Synagogue, and CCJ SE London branch, came together on Sunday, 15 July for the



fascinating and insightful Bromley Reform Synagogue's Annual Jubilee Lecture, given this year by **Elizabeth Harris-Sawczenko**, Director of the Council of Christians and Jews. Elizabeth's subject was "How living in Jerusalem for 23 years changed my understanding of the Middle East: One Woman's View".

Elizabeth lived the first 21 years of her life in England and then moved, in 1987, to live in Israel and to study, in Hebrew, for an MA in Contemporary Jewry at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. It was at the University that she first encountered Arab Israeli students, whom she helped to improve their English language skills. This was a time of the Ingathering of the (Jewish) Exiles, the Jews from Ethiopia and the Soviet Union, quickly followed by the First Intifada.

Elizabeth found her working life in Israel became intricately bound up with the rapid changes taking place in Israel-Palestine. As she moved from Israel Radio to director of an educational institute and director of a grant-giving institute, she experienced at first hand the hope of the Oslo peace process; the collapse of the process at the hands of those on both sides determined to destroy it; the second Intifada; the rising anger of the Israeli Arabs at the lack of investment in the Arab towns and villages of Israel and the attempts by the Israeli Government to create programmes that responded to that anger and also to meet the demands of the OECD to reduce a rising gap in living standards between the communities.

Having seen all this change packed into such a short period of time, it was encouraging that Elizabeth remains hopeful, pointing to specific examples such as the Hand-in-Hand schools in Israel, where Christian, Jewish and Muslim pupils attend the same schools, to her belief that young people will demand better solutions than those achieved by their past and present leaders and to a deep sense of hospitality in the Middle East.

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The Jubilee Lecture
continued from page 7

Elizabeth's story is fascinating because it is not only her story, but is the story of our own lives too, as she showed us events we had seen on our television screens through a different prism. All this was delivered with clarity, punch, vivid language, and a strong sense of narrative.

Elizabeth also talked about her husband's personal connection with Bromley Reform Synagogue, the work of CCJ in general and, particularly, in Israel and the Palestinian Territories. As an example, CCJ arranges an annual leadership study tour by British Christians and Jews to Israel/Palestine, as part of a programme to facilitate Christian/Jewish dialogue on issues surrounding the conflict. The purpose of this tour is to create opportunities for a better understanding by engaging with a broad range of Israeli and Palestinian voices.

We thank members of Bromley Reform Synagogue for their generous hospitality and Elizabeth for such a powerful talk. We also thank **Rabbi Jonathan Wittenberg** for the donation of copies of his book "*The Eternal Journey, Meditations on the Jewish Year*" which is highly recommended for anyone seeking to engage with one of the finest rabbinical minds in contemporary Britain. Rabbi Wittenberg is Senior Rabbi of Masorti Judaism and one of the CCJ's 10 Presidents.

Stephen Weil

**Three Faiths Forum
Dates for Your Diary**

Following the format for past discussions, we have planned the next three events.

Monday, 15 October,
at St Johns Church, when we shall be looking at verses from the Torah

Monday, 19 November,
at Keston Mosque, looking at verses from Christian Scripture

Wednesday, 19 December,
at Bromley Reform Synagogue, with verses from the Qu'ran.

Further details
in next month's
Highlight.



SERVICES

September 2018 – Elul 5778/Tishri 5779

Fridays (recommencing after the High Holydays) at 7 pm, unless otherwise stated.

Saturdays at 10.30 am, unless otherwise stated

Friday 30 August	
Saturday 1 September	Ki Tavo (21 Elul) service led by Stephanie Alberti, scroll reader: Janet Posner
Saturday 1 September	Selichot - service at 7.30 pm in the synagogue
Friday 7 September	
Saturday 8 September	Nitzavim (28 Elul) service led by Joanna Biggin, scroll reader: Philip Michaelis
Sunday 9 September	Erev Rosh Hashanah service at 7.30 pm in the synagogue
Monday 10 September	ROSH HASHANAH service at 10.30 am at Orpington
Friday 14 September	
Saturday 15 September	Shuvah (Vayelech - 6 Tishri) service led by Rabbi Chava Koster
Tuesday 18 September	Kol Nidre service at 7.30 pm at Orpington, led by Rabbi Dr Deborah Kahn-Harris
Wednesday 19 September	YOM KIPPUR services from 10.30 am at Orpington, led by Rabbi Dr Deborah Kahn-Harris
Friday 21 September	
Saturday 22 September	Ha'azinu (13 Tishri)
Sunday 23 September	Erev Sukkot service at 6.30 pm at the synagogue
Monday 24 September	SUKKOT service at 10.30 am in the synagogue
Friday 28 September	
Saturday 29 September	Chol Hamoed Sukkot (20 Tishri) service led by Rabbi Laura Janner-Klausner
Sunday 30 September	Erev Shemini Atzeret-Simchat Torah, service at 6.30 pm at the synagogue led by student rabbi Anna Posner - unrolling and rerolling of the Sefer Torah scroll
Monday 1 October	SHEMINI ATZERET-SIMCHAT TORAH service at 10.30 am in the synagogue

Dates for Your Diary

September

S	1	Ki Tavo Selichot - service at 7.30 pm in the synagogue
S	2	
M	3	
T	4	
W	5	
Th	6	Bromley WIZO visit to Memorial Scrolls Museum , London, SW7, 1.45 for 2 pm
F	7	
S	8	Nitzavim
S	9	New Cheder Term begins , 10 am Erev Rosh Hashanah - service at 7.30 pm in the synagogue
M	10	ROSH HASHANAH - service at 10.30 am at Orpington
T	11	
W	12	Social Centre - 10.30 am to 2.30 pm at the Shul. David and Tom entertain.
Th	13	
F	14	
S	15	Shuva - Weekend visit by Rabbi Chava Koster
S	16	Erecting the Sukkah
M	17	
T	18	Kol Nidre - service at 7.30 pm at Orpington
W	19	YOM KIPPUR - services from 10.30 am at Orpington
Th	20	
F	21	
S	22	Ha'azinu
S	23	Decorating the Sukkah Erev Sukkot - service at 6.30 pm in the synagogue
M	24	SUKKOT - service at 10.30 am in the synagogue
T	25	
W	26	Social Centre - 10.30 am to 2.30 pm at the Shul
Th	27	
F	28	Macmillan Coffee Morning - 10 am to 12 noon at the Shul
S	29	Chol Hamoed Sukkot
S	30	Erev Shemini Atzeret-Simchat Torah service at 6.30 pm in the synagogue

October

M	1	SHEMINI ATZERET-SIMCHAT TORAH service at 10.30 am in the synagogue
T	2	
W	3	
Th	4	
F	5	
S	6	Bereshit
S	7	
M	8	
T	9	
W	10	Rosh Chodesh Cheshvan Social Centre - 10.30 am to 2.30 pm at the Shul
Th	11	SE10 and Beyond - meeting in Greenwich at 7.30 pm
F	12	
S	13	Noach
S	14	
M	15	3 Faiths Forum at St. John's Church
T	16	
W	17	
Th	18	
F	19	
S	20	Lech Lecha
S	21	
M	22	
T	23	
W	24	Social Centre - 10.30 am to 2.30 pm at the Shul
Th	25	
F	26	
S	27	Vayera Special service and kiddush to celebrate Janet Burlem's 20 years as Administrator
S	28	
M	29	
T	30	
W	31	



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