

TISHREI 5778



H

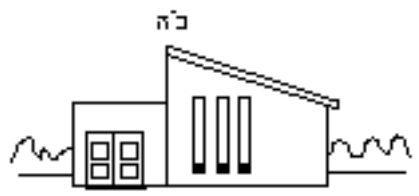
A

K

O

L

ELLUL 5777 - CHESHVAN 5778
SEPTEMBER - NOVEMBER 2017



Solihull & District Hebrew Congregation
rabbi@solihullshul.org
registered charity no. 1100938

Dear Friends,

Why is it that on the holiest day of the Jewish year we focus so much on death, and on the fleeting nature of life? We know we need to repent, but do we really need to be this depressing? Why does our focus on guilt move into being so outright morbid?



This is especially perplexing, given the fact that Judaism — despite our kvetching — is so life- oriented. Jews are the people who see G-d in life – this life, down here on earth. The Jewish toast is l'chayim! “To life!” Moses’ great command was Uvacharta va-chayyim, “Choose life.” From Rosh Hashanah to Yom Kippur we pray: “Remember us for life, Sovereign who delights in life, write us in the Book of Life for Your sake, G-d of life”.

And yet, on Yom Kippur we spend so much time thinking about the possibility of death and how fragile and brief life is. Why?

The reason is on Yom Kippur we are reminded how short life is, so that throughout the rest of the year we will remember how important it is to live it well, and to cherish it fully. If we never experience a rainy day, it's impossible to fully appreciate the beauty of sunshine. We cannot truly appreciate life until we fully understand its loss.

That is what Yom Kippur reminds us of. It is the day on which we give a reckoning of our life, remembering how short life is, and how every day is a gift from G-d. When we know that and feel it in our bones, that is when we really live.

Dinie and I extend our best wishes for a happy, healthy and above all peaceful New Year for the entire Jewish Community and in particular for our brethren in Israel.

Rabbi Yehuda Pink

CONTENTS

Loaves of Love	4
Tashlich	5
Yizkor	6
Sukkos	7
Simchas Torah	8
Chief Rabbi's New Year Message	10
ShabbatUK	12
Chief Rabbi's Visit	13
Single's Weekend	14
Friday Night Dinner	15
Whiskey Tour	16
Yom Tov in a Nutshell	18
Sukkah Building Made Simple	20
Yom Tov Recipes	21
Communal News	22
5777 in Pictures	30
Council Newsletter	34
Meet the Council	36
Dates for Yomtov - 2017/18	38
A Backpack full of Kisses	39
Ask the Rabbi	40
Community Matters	43
Jewish Humour	44
Dates in Jewish History	45
Dates for your diary	47
The Thursday Club	48
Kiddush Sponsorship	49
Did You Know?	51
Wish List	52
Legacies	53
Shabbos Times	54
A Guide to Jewish Websites	57
CST	58
Free Tefillin Health Check	59
Solihull Cheder	60
Hall Hire	61
Final Fiver	62
Solihull Academy of Jewish Education	63
Rosh Hashona Greetings	72
Adverts	76
Community Directory	80

DON'T ATTEND HIGH HOLY DAY SERVICES AT SOLIHULL SHUL THIS YEAR



If you want to be sent to sleep by lengthy, boring services

If you're tired of nodding off into your prayer book, join us for a High Holy Day service that's meaningful and easy-to-follow. Watch the timeless prayer book come alive with heart warming stories, commentary and down to earth lessons.

- All Welcome
- Full Explanatory Service
- Special Children's Programme
- Delicious Kiddush after the Service
- Break the Fast Refreshments after Yom Kippur
- Warm and Friendly Atmosphere

For more information contact Rabbi Pink
rabbipink@gmail.com
0121 706 8736
07973 955232
www.solihullshul.org

**Solihull & District Hebrew Congregation,
Monastery Drive, Solihull, B91 1DW**



What: Join Rebbetzen Dinie Pink and bake Challos for your Shabbos table and pass one on to another member of the community.
Discover the beauty of this tradition unique to Jewish Women.

Where: Solihull Jewish Community Centre, 3 Monastery Drive,
Solihull, B91 1DW

Special Pre-Rosh Hashonah Session
Thursday 14th September

Special ShabbatUK Session
Thursday 26th October

Join us for the Tashlich Service
in the grounds of Solihull Shul

6.45 pm on Thursday 21st September



Tashlich

On the afternoon of Rosh Hashona it is customary to go to the banks of a body of water to recite the Tashlich prayer. The word Tashlich means to throw away. We recite a prayer requesting G-d to cleanse us of our sins and then we symbolically throw our sins into the water. It is customary to use a body of water which contains fish. Fish never close their eyes and we express the wish that in the coming year G-d should constantly watch over us. The Service lasts for 15 minutes and will be held on *Thursday 21st September at 6.45 pm.*



Yom Kippur - Saturday September 30th 12.15 pm

Shemini Atzeres - Thursday October 12th 11.15 am

Yizkor, a special memorial prayer for the departed, is recited in the synagogue four times a year, following the Torah reading on the last day of Passover, on the second day of Shavuot, on Shemini Atzeret and on Yom Kippur.

Yizkor, in Hebrew, means "Remember." It is not only the first word of the prayer, it also represents its overall theme. In this prayer, we implore G-d to remember the souls of our relatives and friends that have passed on. When we recite Yizkor, we renew and strengthen the connection between us and our loved one, bringing merit to the departed souls, elevating them in their celestial homes.

The main component of Yizkor is our private pledge to give charity following the holiday in honor of the deceased. By giving charity, we are performing a positive physical deed in this world, something that the departed can no longer do. Any donation that you would like to give will be gratefully accepted. Some will be used to help support our day to day activities as the membership fees we charge do not cover our expenses. Some will be designated for the Shul Tzedokah Fund that supports a wide range of local, national and international charities. You can make a donation by clicking here <http://tinyurl.com/Yizkordonation>

The soul gains additional merit if the memory of its good deeds spur their loved ones to improve their ways. For more about Yizkor, [please click here.](#)

This year in honor of Yizkor we are putting together a listing of all the names of loved ones to be remembered during Yizkor at Solihull Shul. Having all these names compiled in one booklet, as is customary in many communities, brings everyone together as one family and brings an added measure of dignity and merit to the souls of our loved ones.

Please fill in the names of your departed loved ones by [clicking here.](#)

The Sukkah Project

Whether your Sukkah is a deluxe model, of more basic construction or even built out of lego we would like to include you in the fifth annual Solihull Shul Sukkah Crawl.

Leaving from Solihull Shul Car Park at 6.00 pm on Sunday 8th October we will be visiting a selection of Sukkos in the Solihull area.

Transport can be provided if you prefer the chance to say L'chaim as you visit the sukkos!

If you would like to purchase a Sukkah or need help or advise in constructing your own please contact Rabbi Pink



Rabbi & Mrs Pink
Rivka, Avrohom Yitzchok, Chanoch,
Mendel & Shmuli
Invite you to a
Succos Party



At Their Home
7 Granby Close
Monday 9th October
From 6.30 p.m.

R.S.V.P. 0121 706 8736
dinapink@gmail.com

**You Prayed
You Fasted
Now Its Time to Dance!**



***Shemini Atzeres Evening Wednesday October 11th
Hakofos followed by Kiddush 6.30 p.m.***

***Simchas Torah Evening Thursday October 12th
Hakofos followed by Kiddush 7.00 p.m.***

***Simchas Torah Friday October 13th
Hakofos followed by Sit Down Lunch 11.00 a.m.***

***Mazel Tov to Graham & Avril Stone on being honoured with the Mitzva
of Chosan Torah and to Mike & Bonnie Gold on being honoured with
the Mitzva of Chosan Bereishis***

***To help with catering arrangements please let us know if
you intend to attend the Simchas Torah Lunch***

The Chief Rabbi's Rosh Hashanah Message 5778

“FINDING UNITY IN COMMUNITY”

As we conclude a year which seems to have been dominated, in no small part, by disunity across the Jewish world, it is increasingly troubling to see some of the vitriol that is now routinely espoused by Jews against one another.

It takes no time at all to find comments on social media about “Chareidi extremist bullies with no grasp of the realities of the modern world” and “heretical leftists who wilfully dilute and undermine the sanctity of Torah at every opportunity.” Is this what it has come to?

“And may the people form a single united bond – to perform Your will with a full heart”.

These words, from our Mussaf prayer on Rosh Hashanah, encapsulate our deep and enduring desire for Jewish unity which stretches back, through the annals of history, to the point at which we left Egypt and became a nation for the first time. But, what is the virtue of unity? Don't we have a responsibility to protect what we believe to be right, even if that means division?

There is no question that we do, but what is also certain is that throughout history, disunity has been nothing short of an existential threat to the Jewish people.

The Talmud describes the tense state of conflict in Jerusalem during the years 67-70 CE, throughout which, the Romans laid siege around the walls of our capital city. In Jerusalem, there were storehouses which had provisions to last for 21 years. Yet tragically, when civil war broke out within the city, the storehouses were burned and destroyed. The Romans, who would otherwise have likely lost patience and moved on to fight more pressing battles, were now able to breach the walls and conquer a weakened people.

Chief Rabbi Lord Jakobovits pointed out that ‘Sim Shalom’, our prayer for peace in the Amidah, includes the words ‘Bless us our Father, all of us as one, in the light of Your countenance’. Why, in the context of prayers for peace with our enemies, must we aspire to peace amongst ourselves? Lord Jakobovits explained that if we cannot overcome our differences within, we will never prevail over our enemies without.

The first Chief Rabbi of the Holy Land, Rabbi Kook, would point out that in an orchestra, there are many different instruments which make their own unique sound. Together, under the baton of the conductor, they create beautiful harmony.

May 5778 herald a year in which each one of us can look to parts of our community within which we might ordinarily find very little common ground; those whose instruments possibly make an entirely different sound to ours, but with whom we can offer beautiful harmony to the world.

Valerie and I extend to you all our very best wishes for a happy, fulfilling and peaceful New Year.


Chief Rabbi Ephraim Mirvis



Chief Rabbi Ephraim Mirvis
September 2017 • Tishrei 5778

How do High Holiday Services leave **YOU** feeling?



HOW ABOUT INSPIRED?

If you're tired of nodding off into your prayer book, join us for a High Holiday service that's meaningful and easy-to-follow. Watch the timeless prayer book come alive with heart warming stories, commentary and down to earth applications.

- All Welcome
- Special Children's Program
- Hebrew - English Prayer Books
- Warm and Friendly Atmosphere
- Delicious Honey Cake Kiddush after the Service on Rosh Hashonah
- Break the Fast refreshments after Yom Kippur

All Services will be held at
Solihull Shul,
Monastery Drive
B91 1DW



For more information

rabbipink@gmail.com
0121 706 8736
www.solihullshul.org



28TH OCTOBER 2017

**SPECIAL EXPLANATORY SERVICE
FOLLOWED BY
SHABBOS LUNCH**

**ADULTS £7.00
CHILDREN £2.50**

1977 - 2017

Celebrating 40 Years!

Special service and buffet lunch to mark the 40th anniversary of the consecration of the Synagogue by Chief Rabbi Jakobovits

Guest of Honour - Chief Rabbi Ephraim Mirvis

Sunday 26th November 12.30 pm





The BIG Weekend includes:

- 2 nights accomodation
- Full board
- Fully Kosher meals and soft drinks
- 24 hour refreshment bar
- Access to luxury spa facilities
- Packed programme designed for you to meet other singles in a relaxed atmosphere
- Speed dating
- Cocktail reception

BOOK NOW

When?

Friday 27th October
- Sunday 29th October 2017

Where?

Mercure Warwickshire
Walton Hall Hotel and Spa



Book now

Early bird 10% discount

Twin room (2 people sharing)

£249 per person
(all inclusive price)

For more room options and information visit:
www.youngjewishsingles.co.uk

Solihull Shul

Annual Shabbaton

good food & wonderful company

Friday Night 12th January 2018
6.30 pm



Adults £25 Teenagers £9 Children £5
20% discount for members of Solihull Shul

Limited places available.
No seat will be reserved without payment in full.

To book a place send a cheque payable to Solihull Hebrew Congregation to:
Friday Night Dinner, 3 Monastery Drive, B91 1DW before 16th December 2017
Payment can also be made online to:
SDHC 30-65-49 38156760

**Following on the success of our inaugural
tour to Scotland we are pleased to announce
an
Irish Whiskey Tour**



Limited Places Available

**For Further Information and to Reserve a
Place Contact Rabbi Pink**



Over the past few years we have been able to dramatically upgrade the quantity and quality of our activities.

A big thank you is due to Chief Rabbi Ephraim Mirvis and his Centre for Community Excellence directed by Rachel Shababo and assisted by Talia Samuelson for the financial support that has made this possible.

Rosh Hashonah in a Nutshell

The festival of Rosh Hashanah --the name means "Head of the Year" --is observed for two days beginning on Tishrei 1, the first day of the Jewish year. It is the anniversary of the creation of Adam and Eve, the first man and woman, and their first actions toward the realization of mankind's role in G-d's world. Rosh Hashanah thus emphasizes the special relationship between G-d and humanity: our dependence upon G-d as our creator and sustainer, and G-d's dependence upon us as the ones who make His presence known and felt in His world. Each year on Rosh Hashanah, "all inhabitants of the world pass before G-d like a flock of sheep," and it is decreed in the heavenly court, "who shall live, and who shall die... who shall be impoverished, and who shall be enriched; who shall fall and who shall rise." But this is also the day we proclaim G-d King of the Universe. The Kabbalists teach that the continued existence of the universe is dependant upon the renewal of the divine desire for a world when we accept G-d's kingship each year on Rosh Hashanah.

The central observance of Rosh Hashanah is the sounding of the shofar, the ram's horn, which represents the trumpet blast of a people's coronation of their king. The cry of the shofar

is also a call to repentance; for Rosh Hashanah is also the anniversary of man's first sin and his repentance thereof, and serves as the first of the "Ten Days of Repentance" which culminate in Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement.



Another significance of the shofar is to recall the Binding of Isaac which also occurred on Rosh Hashanah, in which a ram took Isaac's place as an offering to G-d; we evoke Abraham's readiness to sacrifice his son and plead that the merit of his deed should stand by us as we pray for a year of life, health and prosperity. Altogether, the shofar is sounded 100 times in the course of the Rosh Hashanah service.

Additional Rosh Hashanah observances include: a) Eating a piece of apple dipped in honey to symbolize our desire for a sweet year, and other special foods symbolic of the new year's blessings. b) Blessing one another with the words *Leshanah tovah tikateiv veteichateim*, "May you be inscribed and sealed for a good year." c) *Tashlich*, a special prayer said near a body of water (an ocean, river, pond, etc.) in evocation of the verse, "And You shall cast their sins into the depths of the sea." And as with every major Jewish holiday after candle lighting and prayers we recite *Kiddush* and make a blessing on the *Challah*.

Yom Kippur in a Nutshell

Forty days after they received the Torah at Mount Sinai and committed to be G-d's chosen people, the Children of Israel worshipped a Golden Calf. Moses pleaded with G-d not to destroy His errant nation, and on the tenth of Tishrei G-d said, "I have forgiven." Ever since, we observe this date as the "Day of Atonement"—a celebration of our indestructible relationship with G-d. It is the holiest day of the year, when we reconnect with our very essence, which remains faithful to G-d regardless of our behavior.

Angelic Behavior

We wear white clothes in emulation of the spiritual angels. Yom Kippur is a fast day: from sundown on the eve of Yom Kippur until the following nightfall, we do not eat or drink. (If you're ill, consult a rabbi.) We also abstain from certain physical pleasures: wearing leather footwear, bathing or washing, applying lotions or creams, and marital relations. It is also a "day of rest," on which all work is forbidden (as on Shabbat).

Five Prayers

We wear white clothes in emulation of the spiritual angels, and spend the greater part of the day in the synagogue engaged in repentance and prayer. There are five prayer services: 1) The evening prayers, which begin with the solemn *Kol Nidrei*. 2) Morning prayer. 3) *Musaf*, which includes a description of the Yom Kippur Holy Temple service. 4) Afternoon prayer, during which the Book of Jonah is read. 5) *Ne'ilah*, recited as the day wanes and the verdict for the new year is sealed. The first four prayers include a (private) confession of sins to G-d.

Many laws and customs are associated with the prayer services; your synagogue rabbi will lead you along as needed.

End of the Fast

Ne'ilah concludes with the congregation calling out the *Shema* in unison, and then a blast of the shofar signals the end of the day.

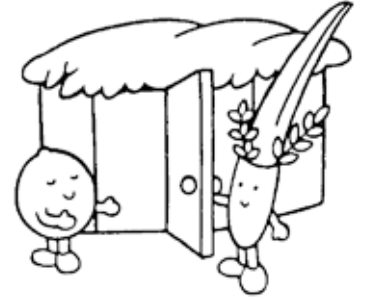
Yom Kippur is followed by a festive meal. We rejoice, confident that G-d has forgiven our sins.

Sukkos in a Nutshell

For forty years, as our ancestors traversed the Sinai Desert prior to their entry into the Holy Land, miraculous “clouds of glory” surrounded and hovered over them, shielding them from the dangers and discomforts of the desert. Ever since, we remember G-d’s kindness and reaffirm our trust in His providence by dwelling in a sukkah, a hut of temporary construction with a roof covering of branches, for the duration of the Sukkos festival (Tishrei 15-21). For seven days and nights, we eat all our meals in the sukkah and otherwise regard it as our home.

Another Sukkos observance is the taking of the Four Kinds: an etrog (citron), a lulav (palm frond), three hadassim (myrtle twigs) and two aravot (willow twigs). On each day of the festival (excepting Shabbos), we take the Four Kinds, recite a blessing over them, bring them together in our hands and wave them in all six directions: right, left, forward, backward, up and down.

ברוכים הבאים



The Midrash tells us that the Four Kinds represent the various types and personalities that comprise the community of Israel, whose intrinsic unity we emphasize on Sukkos.

Sukkos is also called The Time of Our Joy; indeed, a special joy pervades the festival. Nightly Water-Drawing Celebrations, reminiscent of the evening-to-dawn festivities held in the Holy Temple in preparation for the drawing of water for use in the festival service, fill the synagogues and streets with song, music and dance until the wee hours of the morning. The seventh day of Sukkos is called Hoshana Rabbah (“Great Salvation”) and closes the period of Divine judgment begun on Rosh Hashanah. A special observance is the Aravah, a bundle of willow branches that are carried around the synagogue.

Shemini Atzeres & Simchas Torah in a Nutshell

The holiday of Sukkot is followed by an independent holiday called Shemini Atzeret. In Israel, this is a one-day holiday; in the Diaspora it is a two-day holiday, and the second day is known as Simchat Torah. This holiday is characterized by utterly unbridled joy, which reaches its climax on Simchat Torah, when we celebrate the conclusion—and restart—of the annual Torah-reading cycle.

These two days constitute a major holiday (yom tov), when most forms of work are prohibited. On the preceding nights, women and girls light candles, reciting the appropriate blessings, and we enjoy nightly and daily festive meals, accompanied by kiddush. We don’t go to work, drive, write, or switch on or off electric devices. We are permitted to cook and to carry outdoors (unless it is also Shabbat).

The first day, Shemini Atzeret, features the prayer for rain, officially commemorating the start of the Mediterranean (i.e., Israeli) rainy season, and the Yizkor prayer

We no longer take the Four Kinds, and we no longer mention Sukkot in the day’s prayers; in the Diaspora, however, we do still eat in the sukkah (but without reciting the blessing on it).

Simchat Torah

The highlight of the second day, Simchat Torah (“The Joy of the Torah”), is the hakafot, held on both the eve and the morning of Simchat Torah, in which we march and dance with the Torah scrolls around the reading table in the synagogue. (In many synagogues, hakafot are conducted also on the eve of Shemini Atzeret.)

On this joyous day when we conclude the Torah, it is customary for every man to take part in the celebration by receiving an aliyah. The children, too, receive an aliyah!

After the final aliyah of the Torah, we immediately begin a new cycle from the beginning of Genesis (from a second Torah scroll); this is because as soon as we conclude studying the Torah, G-d’s infinite wisdom, on one level, we immediately start again, this time to discover new and loftier interpretations.



SUKKAH BUILDING MADE SIMPLE

A Sukkah is a hut of temporary construction with a roof covering of branches known as sechach. For forty years, as our ancestors traversed the Sinai Desert prior to their entry into the Holy Land, miraculous “clouds of glory” surrounded and hovered over them, shielding them from the dangers and discomforts of the desert. Ever since, we remember G-d’s kindness and reaffirm our trust in His providence by taking all our meals and otherwise “dwelling” in a Sukkah for the duration of the Sukkot festival.

Eating in the Sukkah is an all-encompassing mitzvah as our entire body is inside the Sukkah and engaged in the performance of this observance.



There are excellent prefabricated Sukkah kits available, in a variety of sizes, from many Judaica vendors. The first thing you need to do is select the proper spot for your Sukkah, so you’ll know what size Sukkah to get. Then follow the manufacturer’s instructions for assembly, move in a table and chairs and you’re all set!

Construct your Sukkah outdoors, in a spot that’s as accessible as possible to your home or apartment. An important requirement is that there should be nothing between your Sukkah and the open sky. So make sure that there are no trees, canopies or roofs of any sort overhanging your Sukkah.

If you’re building your own Sukkah, here are the basic materials you will need:

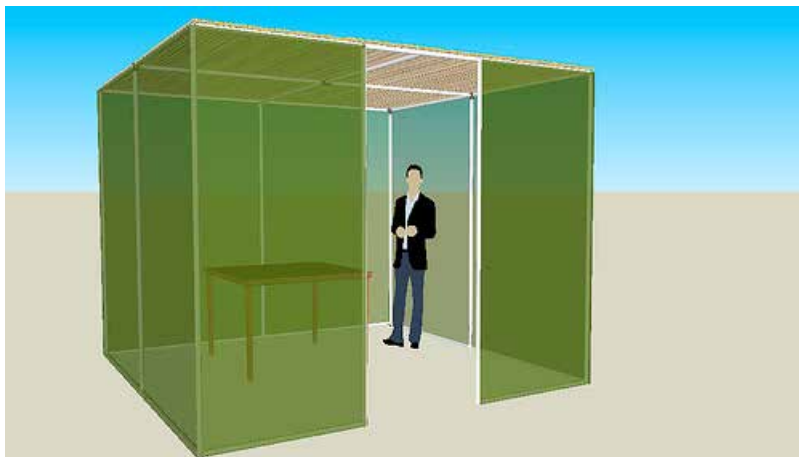
The Walls: The walls of a Sukkah can be made of any material, provided that they are sturdy enough that they do not move in a normal wind. You can use wood, plywood or fibreglass panels, waterproof fabrics attached to a metal frame, etc. You can also use pre-existing walls (i.e, the exterior walls of your home or garage) as one or more of the your Sukkah walls. A Sukkah must have at least two full walls plus part of a third wall (the “part” needs to be a minimum of 3.2 inches wide). It is preferable, however, that the Sukkah have four complete walls.

The Roof Covering: The Sukkah needs to be covered with sechach, raw, unfinished vegetable matter. Common Sukkah roof-coverings are: bamboo poles, evergreen branches, narrow strips (1x1 or 1x2) of unfinished lumber, or special sechach mats. There must be sufficient sechach to provide enough shade so that on a bright midday there is more shade than sun seen on the floor of the Sukkah.

The sechach has to be spread out evenly over the entire Sukkah so that there should not be any spaces more than 9.6 inches apart.

Anything that is directly supporting the sechach should not be made out of materials that are not fit to be used as sechach. Thus, if the sechach is resting directly on the Sukkah walls and the walls are not made out of wood, strips of wood should be placed between the Sukkah walls and the sechach. In larger sukkahs where a framework of beams is needed to hold up the sechach, wood or bamboo poles should be used, not metal. Nor may the sechach be tied on with wire or fastened with any metal object.

For more information on where to purchase a pre-fabricated Sukkah or for advice or help in building your own Sukkah contact Rabbi Pink.



Yom Tov Recipes

Yerushalmi Kugel



12 OUNCES THIN NOODLES
½ CUP OIL
1 ½ CUPS SUGAR
6 EGGS, LIGHTLY BEATEN
SALT AND PEPPER TO TASTE

In a 4-quart pot of boiling water, cook noodles 5 to 7 minutes, drain and rinse, place in a large bowl and set aside.

In a 1-quart saucepan combine oil and sugar, cook over low flame until sugar is liquid and brown, about 20 minutes. Pour caramelized sugar over noodles and set aside to cool.

Preheat oven to 350. place greased 9 by 13 inch baking pan to preheat as well.

Add eggs to cooled mixture and season with salt and pepper. Mix well. Pour into preheated pan and bake for 1 hour.

USE: 4-quart saucepan
1-quart saucepan
9 by 13 inch baking pan
YIELDS: 16 servings

Dinie's Famous Chocolate Cake

6 EGGS
2 ½ CUPS SUGAR
1 ⅓ CUP OIL
1 CUP COCOA
1 ⅓ TSP BAKING SODA
1 ¾ CUPS STRONG COFFEE
3 TSP VANILLA
1 TSP SALT
3 CUPS SELF RAISING FLOUR



ADD ALL INGREDIENTS IN A MIXING BOWL IN ORDER LISTED. MIX UNTIL ALL THE FLOUR HAS BEEN FULLY COMBINED WITH THE OTHER INGREDIENTS AND THE BATTER HAS A DARK SMOOTH CONSISTENCY

LINE AND GREASE TWO 9 INCH ROUND TINS

BAKE FOR 45-50 MINS UNTIL A TOOTHPICK COMES OUT CLEAN



Lag B" Omer BBQ & Fun Day

by Shirley Epstein

May began with a wonderful bonfire and BBQ to celebrate Lag B'Omer. Rabbi Pink had promised good weather and we were not disappointed. After a brief shower, the clouds parted, the sun came out and we enjoyed a wonderful warm sunny afternoon.

A large crowd of 60 adults and children enjoyed a delicious array of meats and salads (with veggy options as well) prepared on our spanking new BBQ. While the adults chatted and enjoyed the delicious food the children played on the bouncy castle, I understand that there was an unconfirmed sighting of a couple of adults trying out the bouncy castle. In keeping with the traditions of Lag B Omer we also enjoyed an archery competition, fortunately the arrows had blunt tips as they were flying in all directions. The bonfire had been expertly built by the Pink children and Ryan



Langman who had gone over the shul grounds with a fine tooth comb collecting every spare scrap of

wood resulting in a bonfire that stood some 5 foot tall and due to its careful construction kept its shape rather than collapsing in on itself, once the fire had finally died down, the children under careful adult supervision had fun toasting marshmallows over the glowing embers. This event was one more in the long list of events that we have held over the past couple of years that has been made possible by the generous support of the Chief Rabbi's Centre.



With the first Thursday in June falling on Shavuot, the monthly Loaves of Love Challah Baking Session with Rebbezen Pink was brought forward a week to the end of May. This time they learn how to make round challos in honour of yomtov and why yomtov challos are traditionally round as opposed to the Shabbos challos that are braided. A good



time was had by all and we all left loaded down with challos for ourselves and to share with family and friends who were unable to attend.

Shavuot in Solihull by Shirley Epstein and Hilary Fine

Unusual activity was reported in the vicinity of Granby Close, late in the evening of Tuesday 30th May. Further investigation revealed a group of men sitting around a table laden with a wide selection of Single Malt Whisky. This was of course the annual late night cheesecake and whisky study session in honour of Shavuot. After the Maariv service we sat down for Kiddush and delicious home baked challah followed by bowls of steaming hot mushroom soup and delectable Cheese Blintzes freshly fried by Rebbetzen Pink.

After we had eaten our fill we got down to the serious business of reading the Tikun Leil Shavuot which contains a few verses from the beginning and end of each sidra, as well as selections from all the other books of the Bible, Mishna and Kabballah.

Refreshments as usual were plentiful with a selection of different style cheesecakes, juices, lemonades and of course a fine selection of quality whiskeys.

This annual event in the Shul calendar has increased in popularity in recent years with some attendees attempting to see if they can stay awake longer than the Rabbi. Recent activity at Granby Close indicates that the Rabbi has been in training for the late night marathon for some months with an uncorroborated report that the 4.30 am barrier was recently smashed! Once again those wanting to stay awake longer than the Rabbi couldn't stay the course, although they improved on last years time by

a full thirty minutes, at 2.45 am the session ended with DJ de Jonge, Rabbi Pink and his son Avroham Yitzchok finishing the last lines of the Tikun by which time they had gained a most fascinating insight into some of the more esoteric parts of the Torah. What was even more impressive was seeing most of the group in Shul on time at the beginning of the service a few short hours later.

The first day of Shavuot dawned and many of us made our way to Solihull Shul. After a very short time, it seemed, a recess was called and we all made our way into the foyer to be greeted by laden tables of many varieties of cheesecake, chocolate, strawberry, etc. courtesy of our multitalented Rebbetzin Dinie.

There were also contributions from her daughter, Rivkale, who is obviously following in her mother's culinary footsteps with her contributions, especially the fabulous cinnamon buns that were a very agreeable addition to the repast!

When we had eaten our fill, back we all went to continue the morning service, feeling very full and content! Following a spirited rendition of "Adon Alom" all those attending our Shavuot luncheon, which was the majority, made their way into the hall in readiness for



this, still rather full from the special cheesecake Kiddush but obviously determined to do justice to the meal ahead! The word is spreading – a Solihull Shul function is the place to be! This was borne out recently at our Shavuot luncheon, with over 60 people attending, a record number for Shavuos. There were some familiar faces, some not so familiar but a happy throng all made their way into the main hall, which had been beautifully prepared and decorated, as were the tables. There was an excited noisy hubbub of sound as people took their designated seat and eagerly awaited the first course, which they all knew from past experience would measure up to the special Pink standard of catering!

They were not disappointed! The efficient waitresses served the first course of piping hot chicken soup, with a vegetarian option for those who preferred that. Then came the second course, a masterpiece of fabulous roast beef, tasty and succulent served on platters so that people could help themselves to as much as they wanted and by golly, they certainly did! Then platters were passed round of individual potato knishes and broccoli kugels and bowls of French beans and coleslaw. There were also spinach quiches as an alternative and everyone tucked in to a really sumptuous meal!

At the end of the hall, the tables were laden with a huge selection of fresh fruits, such as melon, pineapple, strawberries, etc. and cornets of various flavours of ice cream were also available as well as a wide variety of parev pies made with pineapple, Tofutti or lemon curd. Again, everyone took whatever was his or her fancy, to finish off this really special meal.

In the words of the old song we had to “sing for our supper” so in the meantime, Rabbi Pink had distributed separate sheets of questions and answers to all the people present but with difference. This was that the q’s and a’s were totally apart and Rabbi Pink explained what we had to do, to try to marry up each question with the appropriate answer. Ryan Langman compered the quiz amidst much hilarity.

Shul President, Jon Gouldman gave a much-deserved vote of thanks to Rabbi Pink and Dinie for once again “coming up trumps” foodwise (honestly, they never disappoint, do they!) and also thanking all the helpers at the same time and then benching took place. After this, people started to make their way home, certainly not having to think of what to have for the evening meal, as I would think that food was the last thing on their minds! We were all so absolutely replete, having once again thoroughly enjoyed a really special luncheon to make the festival of Shavuot

and now we’re all looking forward with great



anticipation to the next Solihull Shul function, our Summer Barbeque! Look forward to seeing you all there on 25th June!

In what has now become a tradition, we joined the rabbi and members and friends at Solihull shul on the evening of the Second Day of Shavuos for the Mincha service and to read the book of Ruth. This was very interesting as were the interpretations that emanated from the reading of the book.

Of course before we started we needed to have some food! We enjoyed a light dairy meal rounded off with some sumptuous cheesecake and quality single malt whisky. Just as we started the studying the lights went out, whoever had set the time-switches before Yomtov hadn't taken into account the later than usual service. With sunlight fading we decamped to the Shul where we were able to continue by the light of the Ner Tamid. All in all we had a very enjoyable time and look forward to further occasions in the future.

GNO Cheque Presentation 2017

by Stephen Abrahams

My wife and I attended this annual presentation representing the Solihull Thursday Club who have been beneficiaries of the largesse of the GNO for many years. This was the first occasion that we were present at the event. Although we knew of the substantial grants that had been made over the past 25 years to various worthy causes it was very memorable and emotional experience.

This year's presentation began with a reception and buffet lunch the guests mingled with fairy tale characters and children many of whom had been seriously ill and were handicapped. There was a real party atmosphere arranged especially for them.

In attendance was the recently elected Mayor of Solihull, Councillor Stuart Davis and representatives of the various charities. Also present was Sir Doug Ellis OBE a very generous donor to the charity for many years now well over 90 years young. This coming December marks the 25th anniversary of the Gentlemen's Night Out fund raising event which over the years has provided not only substantial benefits but also ongoing moral and personal support by the organizers.

This was clearly demonstrated as we were ushered into the adjoining hall accompanied by a lively trad jazz band for the cheque presentation.

The master of ceremonies was Arnie Kaplan-also the chairman of Gentlemen's Night Out ably supported by his wife Kathy, son David and other members of the committee.

As various organisations were called up to receive their cheques, it was wonderful to observe and sense the rapport Arnie has established with young and old alike. His warm and endearing personality shows complete empathy with everyone and of course his own brand of humour. He got us all singing and kept the party atmosphere going.

Each group called up had a story to tell and many told of brave triumph over adversity. Arnie talked with many of the children who he knew by name and some were awarded trips to Florida and New York.

In 2016 Arnie was awarded the MBE and when one considers the charities that have been beneficiaries it is very well-deserved recognition. The charities include Marie Curie cancer care, children's special needs, clubs for the disabled, bereavement counselling service etc etc. Wishes are granted and every penny collected goes to the worthy beneficiaries.

Harvey Williams a close friend of the Kaplan family commented - "The pure quality of Arnie's performance and extent of his intimate knowledge of the medical complications involved and keeping over 250 people engrossed for more than 3 hours does really defy belief (How does he ever remember all the dear children's names ?!!!)"

Travelling Mincha and Seudah Shelishit

by Shirley Epstein

The new season of "travelling Mincha and seudah shlishit" was inaugurated on Shabbat 21st May with about 25 people gathering at the home of Rabbi and Rebbetzen Pink in Solihull. A very warm atmosphere pervaded the entire evening, which commenced, obviously, with Mincha being recited first of all and the Torah being read.

We then took our places for the usual sumptuous array of different foods, which has become the hallmark of any Pink event! There were numerous salads such as chopped herring, olive spread, aubergine salad, etc. etc. and many others too many to itemize, together with fish of many different types, such as gefilte fish, fishballs, salmon salad and all in all, nobody could possibly go hungry! This was followed by platters of fresh fruit, beautifully arranged on salvers and everyone helped themselves as they wished.

The conversation never flagged for the whole evening, Rabbi Pink entertained us with some jokes (some good, some so-so!) and then once we had eaten our fill it was time to exercise our brains. Volumes of Pirkei Ovot, the Ethics of the Fathers were distributed and we studied the chapter of the week, Chapter 5. For some of us this was the first time studying the Pirkei Ovot and it was most fascinating. Benching took place at the end of the meal just before the conclusion of Shabbat. Following



the Havdollah ceremony we all made our way home, having enjoyed a very special evening, a fitting start to this year's season of "travelling seudah shlishit". Now for the next one!

The Summer Shabbat Mincha Sessions continued in June sponsored by David & Hilary Fine. As it would have been rather difficult to squeeze the thirty attendees into their small flat they decided to hold it in the Shul. Following Shabbos Mincha everyone sat down to a delicious spread in the Shul Hall. Once we had all eaten our fill and sung the traditional Shabbat Zemiro's Rabbi Pink gave a fascinating Shiur on the 4th Chapter of the Pirkei Ovos.

In July we had another session of the "travelling Seuda Shlishit" which was held again in the Shul sponsored by Jon Gouldman. A few of us came a little earlier than the rest to help set out and prepare the tables, which ended up absolutely groaning under the weight of all the dishes.

Once again, we had all the various herrings and smoked salmon but this time, the fish balls were of the cocktail variety i.e. so much smaller that, although daintier, seemed to consist of all exterior and no interior! (Personal note!). Unlike the bigger ones served at the Kiddush previously, you just couldn't taste anything inside, especially not fish! (Caterers, please take note!). There were many varied dips and crackers, delicious cakes and fruit platters as before, with melon, pineapple and grapes



which seemed to disappear with alarming speed! Of course, we also had the addition of delicious cakes made by the deft hands of the Pink family and these made a very welcome addition. There was no chance at all that anyone went hungry!



Then we had benching, after which Rabbi Pink distributed the necessary books from which we studied (with little shmuli's help!) the subject being Pirkei Ovos with some questions being asked. This time we were spared the lights going out like last time, as the time switch had been dealt with previously and when Rabbi Pink had concluded, it was decided that as it was only 20 minutes or so until the end of Shabbos, it was not worth returning home. People stayed on,



therefore of Maariv and Havodola, with the evening finishing at about 10.30 p.m. Everyone agreed that it had been a thoroughly enjoyable experience from start to finish and eagerly await the next one!

We didn't have to wait too long and on 19th August we converged on our satellite shul in Prospect Lane for Mincha and Seudah Shelishis. The travelling mini Ark and Sefer Torah had been delivered by Rabbi Pink on Friday afternoon and we were able to hold a full Shabbat Mincha Service. Following this we moved to the adjacent room where we sat round a table groaning with food all purchased locally from Morrisons and Central Deli. Of course with Jakob's connection to the Cheese Industry there was a wide selection of kosher cheeses. After we had made good inroads into the food we sang the traditional Zemirots and I must say that our singing is certainly better than it was at the beginning of the summer! Rabbi Pink then led a shiur on the last chapter of Pirkei Ovot, the Ethics of the Fathers that generated lively discussion until it was time to daven Maariv and bid farewell to Shabbos with the havdolah service.

Joint Solihull & Sheffield Summer BBQ

by Shirley Epstein

The day dawned ominously overcast and cloudy but we took heart from the many weather forecasts that

forecast perhaps a little rain but generally dry and perhaps even a little sunny! We went ahead, with the band of willing helpers happily chopping all the ingredients for the various salads and preparing obviously all that was needed for the barbie itself. Then alas and alack, the heavens opened – just a little bit – and although the skies looked very threatening, happily after that initial quite heavy shower, it all cleared and kept quite fine after that!

The tables were laid with all the necessary items and we awaited the arrival of the coach from Sheffield, with about 40 people on board and just after 12 noon it arrived, to dislodge a throng of happy chattering people. They all came in, to be welcomed by members of the Solihull community with people renewing the friendships they had made on our initial visit to Sheffield Shul a few weeks ago. After a glass of wine and some nibbles they were invited to make their way into the shul area, where Rabbi Pink gave a short talk on the history of the shul from its earliest beginnings and developments.

By this time, the food was ready and an eager queue formed, plates in hand, ready to sample all the goodies available. There were chicken wings, sausages, beef burgers, all coming off the BBQ at a merry pace and being selected equally quickly by the hungry crowd! As they all made their way along the tables, there was a selection of salads, falafel and hot jacket potatoes. Everyone eagerly helped themselves to the food of their choice, finishing at the end of the table with a selection of condiments. It was confirmed that to really enjoy BBQ food, it is best to use one's fingers, albeit necessitating the use of extra serviettes to wipe off the residue – fine dining is really not an option!

There were many different bottles of cold drinks if one was thirsty and after the main meal, succulent slices of





watermelon were handed round on platters. There were also ice cream cones of various flavours, if desired.

A raffle had been organised before, with all the many prizes laid out on a table and when it was time to draw the winning tickets, as each number was called, that person came up to the table to select the one they wanted. Of course there was the traditional bouncy castle for the children and for those adults brave enough to have a go, Inflatable Sumo wrestling suits. All in all, the atmosphere couldn't have been bettered. The two communities intermingled and the conversation flowed endlessly for the whole afternoon. Well, with about 90 of our brethren present, what else would you expect!!

The time came for our Sheffield friends to depart and the coach arrived at about 3.30 p.m. They all got on board and with us all waving them off, made their way home, all saying what a great time they had had!

We thoroughly enjoyed their company and look forward to the next twinning event, what a great initiative of the Chief Rabbi and thank you to the Chief Rabbi's Centre of Communal Excellence for part funding the event.

In addition to the Summer BBQ, we have had a special Kiddush virtually every week. The month started off with a special Kiddush jointly sponsored by David & Hilary Fine in honour of their 45th Wedding anniversary and

Rabbi Pink in honour of his birthday. The following week we celebrated Ryan Langman's barmitzvah. His actual birthday was on Monday so early in the morning family and friends arrived for a special Shachris Service where Ryan read from the Torah and received his first aliyah. This was followed by a delicious smoked salmon bagel breakfast. The following Shabbos the shul was packed with family and friends who had travelled from all over the world to join the Langman family in their celebrations. Ryan read the entire Sedra and Haftora clearly and fluently following which he was hoisted up on shoulders and let around the shul in a spirited dance accompanied by a rousing rendition of Siman Tov and Mazel Tov. Following the service everyone enjoyed a fabulous Kiddush, there was certainly no need for lunch following the Kiddush.

The month ended with a special Kiddush in honour of the CST and West Midlands Police, we often take our security personnel for granted not realising the dangers they expose themselves to and the long and unsociable hours often in unpleasant weather conditions. The special service was intended to convey our thanks and appreciation, particularly in the current climate with so many threats to our safety. During his sermon Rabbi Pink thanked all the visitors for their dedication and reminded the community how lucky we are to live in a country where we can practice our religion freely and enjoy police protection at our communal buildings and events. He also praised the work of the CST, mentioning how the unprecedented level of funding provided by the government to the CST demonstrates the tremendous esteem with which the CST is viewed and how it was understood that they are the experts when it comes to security of the Jewish Community. The service was followed by another delicious Kiddush where the guests had an opportunity to speak to members of the community and where they introduced to the traditional Shabbos delicacies of cholent and potato kugel.

It was with a mixture of celebration and regret that we went to shul on 22nd July when, after the service, we had a special Kiddush for the double reason of marking the engagement of Jon Gouldman to Mandy Steinberger and to bid Jon farewell as he had left Solihull after many years in the Solihull community was now living in Manchester. Jon is quite a traveller, having lived originally in Liverpool then Manchester and Leeds before moving to Solihull and then back to Manchester but this time, after some recent months there, he made a wonderful discovery – Mandy! Seeing them together at the Kiddush, it was obvious how well they are suited and so comfortable with each other and of course, we all wish them many happy years together.

Before the Kiddush, however, during the service, Rabbi Pink made a presentation to Jon of a special Book of Haftorahs, which Jon really appreciated and made a special speech of thanks, touching on the many things he had been involved with during his many years in Solihull.

The Kiddush itself was quite a splendid affair, with many different types of herring, smoked salmon (obviously!), fish balls, varied dips and crackers and fruit platters of pineapple, melon and grapes, etc. There was, of course, the usual welcome hot cholent prepared by Rebbetzen Pink and the whole Kiddush was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone there. We all had a chance to speak to “the happy couple” who plan to marry in November and all in all, it was a very happy occasion.

A few weeks later we welcomed Jon and Mandy back to Solihull again, this time for a special Kiddush sponsored by Jon’s good friends, Claire and Jakob de Jonge to thank Jon for his devoted work on behalf of the community. During his sermon, Rabbi Pink thanked Jon for his work in various positions over the years, including Council Member, Chairman and President and announced that although Jon was moving to Manchester he was not relinquishing his ties with Solihull and would be continuing to provide advice and support.

SAJE – Solihull Academy of Jewish Education

A central plank of Rabbi Pink’s ministry has always been education and over the years this has expanded to include eight weekly shiurim as well as a number of one to one learning slots. These are open to all irrespective of shul membership and cater for all knowledge and skill levels. Rabbi Pink has lost track of the exact number of shiurim he has delivered since he arrived in Solihull but he estimates it to be in excess of 10,000! The various lectures have now been brought together under the banner of SAJE, Solihull Academy of Jewish Education.

The Thursday Club marks its Barmitzvah

The Thursday Club celebrated its Barmitzvah in April, the first session having been held in April 2004. Over the past thirteen years we have served almost 25,000 meals, drunk over 10,000 gallons of tea and coffee and hosted hundreds of speakers. Unfortunately many of the members who joined us in the early years have passed away but we have welcomed many new faces. The excellence of our work has been recognised by the award of The Queens Award for Voluntary Service, the



equivalent of an MBE for Charities. Indeed at the time we were only the second Jewish Charity in the United Kingdom to receive this special honour. We have also been recognised locally with the Solihull Together Award for Best Community Organisation. In addition numerous charitable trusts have recognised the value of our work by making grants to help us build on our success. The Club was founded with the support of BJCC who continue to be supportive and we are extremely grateful to them for this.

Ruth Abrahams has been the Club Co-Ordinator since its inception and together with her small but hard working team of dedicated volunteers have enabled the club to provide a much needed place for over 60’s to meet in a social setting enjoying great food and good company. Thanks must also go to Rebbetzen Pink and Sharon Lester for providing the delicious meals.

In May we welcomed back Ron Ball, the former Police & Crime Commissioner for Warwickshire who was also a commercial airline pilot. A tribute to his fascinating talk was the fact that not a single person fell asleep! We also enjoyed another of Les Bloom’s famous quizzes and a chance to share our favourite memories.

In June we welcomed back our friends from Solihull Health Exchange who spoke to us about the facilities available to help us navigate the challenges posed by old age and failing health. The following week we pitted our wits against Rabbi Pink in a stump the Rabbi session. Unfortunately he met even our most craftily delivered googlies with a straight bat, answering every question with his imitable mix of humour and wisdom. The quizzes designed by Les Bloom challenged our grey matter the following week with a mix of serious and light hearted questions (What do you call a French Man

who falls in a river – Insein! Of course the food was up to the usual high standard however the week that we had chicken soup, salt beef and chips rounded off with parev choc ices was voted by all as the best meal of the month. Why not come along and see for yourself?

The Thursday Club has continued to meet every week during the summer holidays. We were delighted to welcome our friends from Starchley again and in their honour we had a special lunch of roast beef and chips, it was great to welcome back Danny for a sing along and we all enjoyed belting out the old time favourites. The following week we watched a fascinating video called Chicken Soup and Scouse about the History of Jews in Liverpool as it was the Nine Day Period when meat is off the menu we had to make do with a cheese lasagne, however it was still a great meal. Sharing our War memories was another great session, we were all kept spell bound by Louise Ichbia's tales of her families travails in war time France as well as stories from our resident RAF hero, Peter Zolty who shared some of his experiences as a bomber navigator. We will be having a short break over the Yomtov period but look forward to welcome all our regulars and hopefully some new faces when we restart in October.



Solihull Food Bank

With 13 million people living below the poverty line and £13 billion of food thrown away every year, Dr Andrew Goldstein felt that the Jewish Community should be helping to reduce both figures. He approached Rabbi Pink with a request to site a collection box for surplus food in the Shul. This was readily approved and since then 3 deliveries off food have been made to the Trussell Trust, a food bank with branches around the country. The box is situated in the first classroom and donations can be dropped off at the Shul on a Sunday or Thursday or at other times by appointment.

5777 in Pictures











Council Newsletter July 2017

The council met in May and July, the May meeting was chaired by Malcolm Hyams and the July meeting by Gerald Langman. Discussions included:

AGM

A date was fixed for the AGM – 7th September and a list of the various documents that had to be circulated to comply with the statutory regulations as laid down by the constitution was drawn up. Jon Gouldman informed the Council that he would be moving up to Manchester in June to be nearer to his children and grandchild and to his fiancé Mandy Steinberger. Jon will be continuing as a fully paid up member of the Shul and will remain in office as President offering support to the Rabbi and Council until the Council together with the Rabbi nominate a successor that the and the community subsequently vote their approval for - as set out in the Constitution.

Maintenance

The refurbishment of the toilets has been completed and the work has been completed to a very high standard. It was agreed to authorize the same company to refurbish the disabled toilet and cloak room area. A snagging meeting has been arranged to ensure any mi-nor issues are rectified.

The new central heating boiler has been enclosed with a cupboard and the Judaica Store display unit has been repaired.

The skylights in the toilets and Kiddush area are letting in draughts and it was agreed to investigate how to rectify this.

Russell Starr has tidied up the wiring by the Yarzeit Boards and thanks were extended to him for his help.

It was agreed that a book support be installed on the section of the mechitza that was missing one. The commercial potato peeler in the meat kitchen has stopped working, as we purchased it second hand ten years ago we have had good use from it. Rabbi Pink has sourced funding for a replacement and Graham Stone took responsibility to identify and supply a suitable machine.

Finance

The move to CAF bank had not been as positive as hoped, the two main reasons for moving being no bank charges (they now started charging!) and the ability to operate an electronic dual approval system (Lloyds have now added this facility). So the move to CAF is to be unwound and the dual approval facility added to our existing account.

The finance subcommittee needs volunteers to help with some of the workload. A few names were suggested. Subsequent to the meeting Avril Stone agreed to take on some of the tasks.

Graham Stone agreed to take on the role of advertising manager, working with Rabbi Pink to identify businesses who would be prepared to advertise in the Hakol newsletter.

Membership & PR

Rabbi Pink reported on the progress of the Solihull Diaspora. He has met with Paul Kay and Jonathan Middleburgh. The programme would be rolled out gradually via personal approach only and formally launched during the Chief Rabbi's Visit.

We discussed the various burial options available to members of the community. It was agreed that a document will be drawn up detailing the various options and circulated to all members.

We discussed raising awareness of the work of the Council and it was agreed that a brief bio of each council member and their contact details would be inserted into the next issue of Hakol.

Rabbi Pink reported that he had secured funding to revamp the website and it was hoped that the new site would be active by the beginning of September.

Fund raising

The School visits led by Marina Kaplan have been very successful - Rabbi Pink reported that 2170 school children from 43 schools had visited the Shul in the past 10 months, this had generated net income of £1,650 for the shul. Marina was doing an excellent job and was optimistic that numbers would increase further next year.

Social and Welfare

We reviewed the various social events that have taken place over the past few months including the Pesach Seder, Lag B Omer BBQ, Twinning Trip to Sheffield, Shavuot Lunch and Summer BBQ. They were all very successful and the decision to keep the cost as low as possible had boosted numbers.

Rabbi Pink expressed thanks to the Office of the Chief Rabbi for the ongoing financial support received from the CCE. He pointed out that it was vital that as many people as possible provided feedback to the CCE after each event.

It was agreed that members of the Community should receive a discount on the entrance fee of any future event organized by the Shul.

Rabbi Pink thanked Adrienne Langman for her work in ensuring that the Facebook page and twitter feed are regularly updated.

The Chief Rabbi's visit is on 26th November it was agreed that a similar format to the visit of Chief Rabbi Sacks should be followed. A prayer service, address by Chief Rabbi & Rabbi Pink and then a buffet meal with the chance for people to be introduced to the Chief Rabbi.

A meeting of the Religious Sub Committee to be convened to discuss plans for Yom Tovim.

Civic Service - The last one was in 2016, it was agreed that we should look at organising one in first half of 2018.

Security

Special Kiddush for CST and Police Thanks have been received from the Police who were very touched at the warm welcome and sincere thanks they received from the Congregation. The security arrangements for the High Holy Days were reviewed.

The purpose of this newsletter is to share information with you and invite any constructive feedback you have for the benefit of the community and to also invite any volunteers willing to assist the Council members even if only for one thing in one area - all help welcome. There is no need to join any formal committee or attend meetings, you can volunteer for one specific job and help relieve the workload of the Rabbi and Council. If you would like more information please contact Rabbi Pink or any of the members of the Council.

Meet the Council

Council of Solihull & District Hebrew Congregation

Jon Gouldman - President (Ex-Officio)

07984 012 157

jongouldman@gmail.com

Stephen Abrahams - Fundraising & Membership

07749 843 529

sabrahams@uwclub.net

Shirley Epstein - Social & Welfare

07707 698 441

shirleyepsteinnumber2@gmail.com

Malcolm Hyams - Maintenance

07976 617 346

malcolm@litewheels.co.uk

Gerald Langman - Finance

07974 921 687

gerald.langman@heartofengland.nhs.uk

Graham Stone - Health & Safety and Security

07889 464 583

grahamstone1946@gmail.com



Stephen Abrahams

I was born in Liverpool in 1944 and attended Liverpool Hebrew Primary School and was 4th generation at the school. My father and many relatives were active in Jewish communal affairs in Liverpool.

I attended Liverpool Institute High School

for boys from 1955 until 1961 having passed the 11+. The following were at the school at the same time--- Rabbi Pink's father, Paul McCartney, George Harrison, Peter Sissons and Bill Kenwright. I enjoyed studying

languages-French and Spanish as well as History.

On leaving school with some GCE O and A levels I embarked on a career in financial services initially in Liverpool and moved to Birmingham in 1971.

I am married to Ruth who was born in Sunderland and we have 3 grown up children as well as several grandchildren. Ruth has for the past 13 years been co-ordinator of the Thursday Club for the senior members of our community.

My hobbies include gardening family genealogy and creative writing.

My association with Solihull Hebrew Congregation goes back over 35 years.



Shirley Epstein

I am the only woman on the Council of Solihull Shul but here is a little bit of my past history. I met and married my dear husband Paul as a very young bride and we lived initially in

Golders Green for a few years, when I had my first son, Jeffrey. Shortly after that, we moved to Stanmore in Middlesex, where our next two children, Murray and Alison, were born. After a few years, we needed more space as Paul's father came to live with us and Stanmore was exorbitantly expensive, at least for us, so we moved to the then little known area of Bushey Heath, just up the hill from Stanmore. At that time, most people shuddered at the mention of the word "Bushey" because then, all that people knew of that area was the cemetery. That all changed, however, once we had established our small community, which it was then, not unlike Solihull Shul today. Over the following years, more and more young marrieds moved to that area, as – at that time – it was cheaper than Stanmore. How times change, as now Bushey and Bushey Heath are extremely expensive areas in which to start married life.

We actually spent about 42 years in the Bushey area, during which time we both became very involved in the many activities of that Shul and indeed both served on the Board of Management there. I myself completed 25 years of being a Board Member (never a "bored" member!) and the community went from very small in those early days to the enormous vibrant one it is today of more than 2,500 FAMILIES!

For many different reasons, we decided we wanted a change and moved "oop North" about 8 years ago and in fact Solihull has always reminded me very much of the surrounding areas that we left behind, such as Chesham and Amersham. We were made very welcome in the Solihull community and even started to get involved Shul activities once again. Unfortunately, my dear husband became ill and I was left on my own after a few short years but I continue to take an active part wherever I can be of any help.

I have always advocated the inclusion of women in Shul affairs, wherever halachically possibly and will NEVER subscribe to that man-held belief that we are second-class citizens, religiously-speaking. I will continue to make sure that our views are heard and noted because I know that all you women will agree with me when I say that without us, where on earth would they be!!



Malcolm Hyams

I was born in Birmingham and moved to Solihull in 1973 when Annette and I got married. I joined the Solihull Hebrew Congregation soon after.

We have both been involved with the Congregation for many years.

I am a keen dinghy sailor and was very competitive, I still sail as much as I can still taking part in

National events. I was also an amateur pilot for many years.

In my business life I have been involved in plastics and run successful companies, achieving the Queens Award for Export in 1988.

Since joining the executive of the Synagogue I have been successful in identifying many areas that we could save money and have negotiated new deals with suppliers cutting many thousands of pounds of expenses of the congregation. In my roles as holder of the Maintainance Portfolio I have worked hard to refurbish our premises. In the past couple of years we have recarpeted the shul and hall, fitted new blinds, refurbished the toilet and cloakroom area and paved a new path to the gates. I am very proud of our shul and community centre and particularly of our beautiful grounds.



Gerald Langman

I was born in Cape Town South Africa where I attended School and University,

graduating as a doctor in 1990 and pathologist in 1999. I married Adrienne in 2000 and the following year left South Africa to take up a position as a pathologist in Birmingham Heartlands Hospital. It didn't take long before we joined Solihull Shul and have been members for almost 17 years. During that time we have had 2 children, Hayley and Ryan who have provided us with much nachas

over the years. I work long hours at the hospital and with fitting in regular gym sessions and bringing up teenagers there is little time for other activities. I joined the Shul Council in 2014 and became Honorary Treasurer in 2015.

Graham Stone

I was born in North London and lived in Hornsey till the age of 6 when my parents moved to Birmingham for work reasons. I attended the old Birmingham Hebrew School (forerunner of the King David School) as did our 3 children. At 16 I spent 6 months just outside Boston USA having won a youth leadership course. Following secondary school I attended Birmingham College of Food (now part of University College Birmingham). I went into the hospitality world which included a 6 month stint in a Zurich restaurant.



Avril, who is from Cardiff; we met in 1966 and we were married in 1968 in the now defunct Penylan Synagogue.

My main interests are my

work as an owner of a small business selling commercial catering equipment. Other interests include: acting as Police Liaison Officer for CST having worked as a volunteer for over 40 years. I am an avid collector of mint Israeli and British stamps; family genealogy; Israeli affairs and of course our beautiful grandchildren.

DATES OF YOM TOV 2017-18

CHANUKAH 13TH - 20TH DECEMBER 2017

PURIM 1ST MARCH 2018

PESACH 3¹ST MARCH - 7TH APRIL 2018

SHAVUOS 20TH - 21ST MAY 2018

ROSH HASHONA 10TH - 11TH SEPTEMBER 2018

YOM KIPPUR - 19TH SEPTEMBER 2018

SUCCOS 24TH - 25TH OCTOBER 2018

SIMCHAS TORAH 1ST - 2ND OCTOBER 2018

ALL FESTIVALS START THE PREVIOUS EVENING

A Backpack Full of Kisses

By Rivka Zahava www.chabad.org

“Don’t make me go! I don’t want to go to school!”

My son’s little pudgy hands pulled on my skirt, and his huge teary eyes pulled on my heart. It was the fourth day of preschool, but he still was scared to be there without me.

These moments are so hard for a mother. Of course, I knew that I was doing what was good for him, but seeing him so tormented tied my stomach up in doubt. “I want to be with yooooooooooooooooou!” he pleaded.

An idea sparked.

I knelt down in front of him and asked me to hand me his backpack. Sniffing, he shrugged it off and shoved it into my hand. Unzipping the bag a few inches, I created a small hole.

“Look,” I said softly, “This morning I put a sandwich and carrot sticks in your bag, so that you won’t be hungry. Do you know what I am going to put in now? Kisses! And hugs! And smiles! Lots and lots of them! When you begin to feel sad in school, then you just open up the bag a little bit and put your cheek on the hole, and kisses and hugs will fly at you!”

His eyes brightened, and he couldn’t help but smile, revealing the tiniest little teeth that always remind me of little square soup nuts.

I kissed and kissed into the opening while he giggled. Then I smiled into the bag, hugged it tight, and zipped it up. My son, looking much braver, took my hand and we began to walk together.

As we walked, I listened to the morning songs of the birds, and felt the early sun caress my skin, and it occurred to me that we all essentially have a backpack on our backs. Ours have been packed by G-d.

G-d sends us out into this earthly world, where we can’t see Him or hear Him. There are moments that are ultimately for our good, but are excruciatingly hard to go through. Whether it is the stress of waiting a week for an emergency MRI appointment or the pain of saying goodbye to a loved one forever, sometimes it feels as if He has abandoned us, and we shrivel up in fear. Even in those bleak moments, if we look around us, we will find millions of His “kisses” in every moment of every day. Sometimes, it is a helpful neighbor who saves the day; sometimes, it is a child’s laugh. Maybe it is a starry sky or the smell of an overflowing jasmine plant.



Whatever the kiss may look or feel like, it is a moment when we are comforted and encouraged, when we feel that the world is perfectly wonderful and that we have so much to be happy for.

Maimonides gave us a guaranteed way to arouse the affection between ourselves and our Creator. It’s called nature. Examining an autumn leaf or the structure of a banana is enough to instill awareness of the Creator’s greatness. A moss-covered rock, a line of marching ants—we are surrounded by boundless miracles. Read about one day in life of a human embryo, and you will find your mouth hanging open in awe. Allowing ourselves to see nature’s wonders will open us up to feeling grateful and loved by the One who is behind it all.

One hiker testified that his first time feeling G-d in his life was when he stood at the top of a mountain overlooking Doubtful Sound, a fjord in New Zealand. At that moment, he realized that the Creator of this spectacular place created him, too, and he owed it to himself to find out why.

Sukkot. We leave the wallpapered concrete and ceramic tiles of our home, and move out to nature. Outside, we can hear the leaves dancing in the wind, and see the stars sparkling between the branches of the sechach that covers our sukkah. The crickets sing a lullaby to those falling asleep on a mattress in the sukkah, and the dew kisses them awake at sunrise. Out in the world that G-d created for the pleasure of mankind, mankind can shake away the indifference to His love and begin to reciprocate.

“I am for my Beloved and my Beloved is for me, the Shepherd of roses.” Why “the Shepherd of roses”? Since when do roses need shepherding? Do they stray away

like sheep or goats? King Solomon's hidden message to us is that when we make ourselves into roses, He is our Shepherd. A rose is a symbol of freshness, of love that is alive and thriving. If a rose is not fresh, it is not beautiful;

when the relationship between man and his Creator is not fresh and alive, then it is like a withered rose.

We, the Jewish people, are forever in the stage of newly opened buds: always questioning, learning and thinking, to deepen our lives and connection to what is real.

Ask The Rabbi???

Question: I always associated going to synagogue on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur with heaviness, guilt and a somber atmosphere. I guess that's what I grew up with. But last year I came to your services and found them to be happy, light, musical and joyous. I enjoyed the experience, but I'm wondering, is it fitting to be so upbeat on days when we are seeking forgiveness for our sins?

Answer: There is a curious discussion in Jewish law about honey:

What happens if a bee's leg falls off and gets stuck in a vat of honey? Bees are not kosher, and detached bees' legs can't always be extracted from honey. Does that mean that the whole vat is non-kosher?

One opinion says no. The honey is kosher and you can eat it, bee legs and all. Because one of the fascinating properties of honey is that foreign bits that fall into it eventually become honey too. The bee legs dissolve and lose their distinct identity, so there is nothing non-kosher left, just honey.

What is unique about honey as it's described in Jewish literature is that it doesn't overpower with brute force, like fire which violently consumes whatever it touches. Honey overpowers with sweetness. The sweetness of honey is so intense that everything it touches is overwhelmed and succumbs to its sweet embrace.



This power of honey represents a deeper approach to the High Holidays. Yes, these are somber times, and there is a real need to return to G-d. But the introspection and good resolutions that these days inspire need not come from a place of guilt. We don't repent out of fear of fire and brimstone. Rather, when we experience the sweetness of Divine love, when we feel how close G-d is to us and what a blessing it is to be a Jew, our joy can melt away whatever is evil and purify us from our less than kosher ways.

This is why we start the High Holidays by dipping challah and apple in honey. Only a Judaism that is infused with sweetness and joy has the power to dissolve negativity, cynicism and indifference, and make us all kosher again. Sadness and heaviness will not cleanse our soul. But the experience of sweetness will.

So don't just dip your apple in honey, immerse yourself in joyful Judaism. It's the bee's knees. I take this opportunity to wish you a year of overwhelming sweetness; may all bee legs in all their forms melt away.

Hospital-bound, She Found a Way to Celebrate Rosh Hashanah

By Jane Falk www.chabad.org

It was bad enough that my heartbeat went berserk and I had to be hospitalized. But on Rosh Hashanah? Not only would I miss the synagogue service I so loved, and not have visitors, but how could I possibly adhere to the High Holy Day commandments? Sure, God would forgive me – my life was at stake – but I couldn't bear the thought of ushering in the New Year without its glorious rituals.

The hospital had its own rituals, I soon discovered.

"My husband is Jewish, too," said the admissions clerk at the Alta Bates Hospital in Berkeley, California, while glancing at my "religious affiliation" on the form I had just filled out.

"Is he a good husband?" I asked, at a loss for the right thing to say.

"Yes! My mother taught me that Jewish men make good husbands, and she was right."

After being admitted, I took the elevator to the 6th floor telemetry unit, where my arrhythmia would be monitored for three days while I began a new medication. I approached the nurses' station with trepidation. I held little hope that my religious requirements would be understood, much less accommodated.

"For religious reasons, I can't take calls starting at sunset, or turn my lights on or off, or buzz for help," I told the head nurse. Could anything sound weirder?

I didn't even ask about lighting candles. Not a good idea with oxygen around.

But she didn't blink. "Just write down the names of people you will permit the desk to update on your condition," she said. "When evening comes, I'll tape your light switch and put up a sign. If you need a nurse, you can just walk out and find one, since you'll be on a portable monitor. No problemo." Evidently, in Berkeley, anybody's ritual goes. Whew!

"What about meals?" I said with a sigh. "I'm strictly kosher."

"I'll send up a dietician," the nurse said.

And she did. A Jewish dietician spent an hour with me, reviewing a v a i l a b l e choices, filling out menus and waxing n o s t a l g i a

about the kosher home of her childhood. The kitchen adhered to our requests, but the packaged main dish never arrived hot. Well, better cold than nothing.

The next issue was to hear the shofar, the hallmark of the holiday. But the hospital rabbi was on vacation, the head chaplain informed me. What? Then I remembered that Yehuda Ferris, the Berkeley Chabad rabbi, had offered to come by. I called him.

"Sure. And get me room numbers of the other Jewish patients so I can blow shofar for them, too," he requested.

But the head chaplain informed me: "Sorry, the HIPAA laws prohibit disclosing religion except to the official hospital chaplains."

Oy, how would my 87-year-old Christian roommate respond? I then had a brainstorm; the rabbi could blow it over the loudspeaker like a "Code Blue." (It hadn't occurred to me that using a mic – electricity – was forbidden.) I appealed to the head nurse.

"No way. That's imposing your customs on others," she said.

"But surely you broadcast carols on Christmas," I responded.

"As a matter of fact, we don't. If we did it for Christmas, we'd have to do it for every religion's holidays. Do you have any idea how many different religions are represented here every day?" she asked.



Foiled by political correctness. The horn would be blown in my room.

Oy, how would my 87-year-old Christian roommate respond? She hadn't uttered a peep when I kept my light on all night, but the shofar was pushing it.

But, surprise, surprise! "I have a Jewish son-in-law; I know all about Rosh Hashanah," my roommate said, looking forward to the event. Sure enough, on the afternoon of the first day of Rosh Hashanah, Ferris marched into my hospital room. His black fedora was cocked gangster-like to the right, and the tails of his frock coat flapped with every step. His svelte, youthful wife followed behind, pushing the youngest of their 10 children in a stroller.

The news traveled fast. My Kenya-born nurse rushed into the room and brought a Jewish colleague, who was proud to be an insider.

"Tekiyah." Through an imaginative picture window, the bearded rabbi was silhouetted against the rolling hills

like a transplanted Chagall. He elongated the pitch-perfect "iy" so that the plaintive cry for attention from Above reverberated inside me.

"Shevarim." The interrupted chords of the second sequence embodied my feelings of humility and brokenness in the face of the Creator.

"Teruah." The staccato notes of the third blast were my own heartbeats, now in regular rhythm, both pleading and grateful. My body quivered along with the notes, and tears rolled down my face.

"Tekiya." Everyone in the room, Jew and non-Jew, stood transfixed.

The hospital room had been transformed into a synagogue whose congregation consisted of my Kenyan nurse, my 87-year-old roommate with a Jewish son-in-law, a Jewish nurse with a non-Jewish husband, plus assorted passersby, and it felt holy.

G-d must have smiled, too, for He gave me a very good year.



*Don't forget to order your Lulav & Esrog before
20th September
Contact Rabbi Pink for more information.*

Community Matters

Mazel Tov to - Sharon & David Lester on the birth of a grandson, Shneur Zalman.

Mazel Tov to - Jon Gouldman on his engagement to Mandy Steinberger.

Mazel Tov to - Graham Stone on being honoured with the mitzvah of Chasan Torah and Mike Gold on being honoured with the mitzvah of Chasan Bereishis.

Congratulations to - Alexander Nathan on receiving a 2:1 in Geography from Hull University

Congratulations to - Joshua David Phillips Gough on receiving a 2:1 in Business Studies from Nottingham Trent University

The Stanley Middleburgh Library



The Stanley Middleburgh library contains over 1600 books and periodicals on a wide range of topics from Israel to Jewish History, from novels to biographies. There are books suitable for all ages, from toddler to adult. The library also has a collection of over 300 videos and DVDs on a variety of topics for both young and old. All members of the community are welcome to come and browse through our collection.

The library has recently been reorganised and sorted into categories to make it easier to locate the book that you require.

If you have any books or videos of Jewish interest which you would like to donate to the library, or if you would like to sponsor the purchase of books or videos please contact Rabbi Pink

Opening Hours

Sunday Morning 9.15 am -10.45 am

Thursday Morning 10.30 a.m. - 2.00 p.m.

Other times by appointment

www.jewishnewyear.org

The original and still the best site for
everything related to the High Holidays



Jewish Humour

Shmuel had a bad car accident involving a large truck. Weeks later, in court, the trucking company's fancy lawyer was questioning Shmuel.

"Didn't you say, at the scene of the accident, 'I'm fine,?'" asked the lawyer. Shmuel responded, "Vell, I'll tell you vat happened. I just put my dog Moishele, into the..." "I didn't ask for any details", the lawyer interrupted. "Just

answer the question.

Did you not say, at the scene of the accident, 'I'm fine!?' Shmuel said, "Vell, I just got Moishele into the car and was driving down the road...."

The lawyer interrupted again and said, "Judge, I am trying to establish the fact that, at the scene of the accident, this man told the Highway Patrolman on the scene that he was just fine. Now several weeks after the accident he is trying to sue my client. I believe he is a fraud. Please tell him to simply answer the question."

By this time, the Judge was fairly interested in Shmuel's answer and said to the lawyer, "I'd like to hear what he has to say about his dog Moishele".

Shmuel thanked the Judge and proceeded. "Vell, like I was saying, I just loaded Moishele, my lovely hundteleh (dog), into the car and was driving him down the highway when this huge semi-truck and trailer ran the stop sign and smacked my truck right in the side. I was thrown into one ditch and Moishele was thrown into the other. I was hurting, real bad and didn't want to move.

However, I heard Moishele moaning and groaning. I knew he was in terrible shape just by his groans. Den a Highway Patrolman came along. He could hear Moishele moaning and groaning so he went over to him. After he looked at him, and saw vat terrible condition Moishele was in, he took out his gun and shoots him between the eyes.

Den the Patrolman comes across the road, gun still in hand, looks at me and says, "How you feeling?" "Nu, Judge, vat

would you say?

~~~~~

Sarah had just finished her fish dinner.

She was, however, not at all happy with it, so she called over the waiter.

"I've tasted fresher fish," said Sarah.

"Not in here," replied the waiter.

~~~~~

Some new events that can hopefully be included in the next Maccabi Games in 2021

Oyga Vault:

A sound-enhanced Pole Vault competition, the vaulter must clear the bar then yell "Oy" upon hitting the foam pad below. Any heights cleared without an "Oy" will be considered a fault. Points will be added for more enthusiastic exclamations of "Oy," such as "Oy vay iz mir!", "Oy, I've just landed on my shana punim!" or, the winner in the Olympic trials', "Oy, such tzorris this is causing me!"

Triathlon:

This year's Triathlon will involve one pound of schnitzel and a serving of tzimmes. The athlete must cook the schnitzel and tzimmes (first part), say a brocha before eating this kosher meal (second part), and then run a marathon (third part). If the contender forgets to say the brocha, he/she will be disqualified, but will still be required to run the marathon.

~~~~~

Moshe is walking along Broadway Street and sees a little tailor's shop called COHEN and O'REILLY.

Moshe goes in and tells the typical little Jewish tailor behind the counter how impressed he is that for once the Irish and the Jews have come together like this...

The little Jewish man seems unmoved...'You sopprized by dis!?' he asks.

'Well, yes' says Moshe, still oozing enthusiasm. 'I mean...COHEN and O'REILLY working together in the same shop. I mean, It's heart-warming!'

'Vell' says the little Jewish tailor 'Here's annuder sopprize for you:

I'm O'Reilly!'

# Dates in Jewish History

## **1st Tishrei - 2229 - 1532 B.C.E.**

Jospeh was freed from Prison by Pharoah

## **1 Tishrei - 3340 - 422 B.C.E.**

Gedalia ben Achikam, appointed by Nebuchadnetzar to rule the remaining Jews after the destruction of the first Temple, was murdered by Yishmael ben Nesanya.

## **1 Tishrei - 5314 - 1553**

Cardinal Caraffa (later to be Pope Paul IV), with the backing of Pope Julius III, publicly burns the Talmud and other holy books in Rome.

## **7 Tishrei 2312 - 1450 B.C.E.**

Birthday and Yahrtzeit of Zebulun. He was the tenth son of the Patriarch Jacob

## **8 Tishrei 2937 - 825 B.C.E.**

The dedication festivities celebrating the completion of the Temple, built by King Solomon, commenced and continued for seven days.

The magnificent structure took seven years to build, and served as the epicenter of Jewish national and spiritual life for 410 year before being destroyed by the Babylonians.

## **8-9 Tishrei 5702 - September 29-30, 1941**

The Nazis carried out executions at Babi Yar, as thousands of Jews were buried in a ravine near the Ukrainian city of Kiev. With the aid of Ukrainian citizens, 35,000 Jews were ordered to undress, beaten if they resisted, and then shot at the edge of the Babi Yar gorge.

## **10 Tishrei 1677-1556 B.C.E.**

Birth of Rivkah wife of Isaac.  
One of the Four Matriarchs of Israel.

## **10 Tishrei 2450 - 1312 B.C.E.**

Moses descended from Mount Sinai with the second

set of Tablets. 82 days after the people of Israel betrayed their newly entered covenant with Hashem by worshipping the Golden Calf.

## **10 Tishrei 5726 - October 6, 1965**

Los Angeles Dodgers pitcher Sandy Koufax refused to pitch in the first game of the World Series, choosing instead to attend Yom Kippur services in the synagogue and observe the fast. The World Series went to a seventh and deciding game, and Koufax threw a three-hit shutout to win the Series and earn the MVP award.

Arthritis ended his career at the age of 31, and he became the youngest person ever elected to the baseball Hall of Fame. Yet despite all his achievements on the field, Koufax is still remembered best for his Yom Kippur break,

## **11 Tishrei 2450 - 1312 B.C.E.**

Jethro advised Moses to appoint others to help him judge the nation. Moshe appoints judges of tens, fifties, hundreds and thousands. .

## **10 Tishrei 5734 - October 6, 1973**

The Yom Kippur War begins with Egyptian and Syrian forces attacking across 1967 cease-fire lines.

## **15 Tishrei 5655 - October 15, 1894**

Alfred Dreyfus was first arrested for treason. A French army officer, Dreyfus was the victim of a frame-up; falsified documents were exposed in a famous open letter entitled J'accuse! (I Accuse!). This scandal, which came to be known as the Dreyfus Affair, bitterly divided French society for many years. Dreyfus was stripped of his rank and sentenced to life imprisonment on Devil's Island. (Five years later, he was released and later pardoned.)

## **17 Tishrei 5728 - October 21, 1967**

The Israeli destroyer, INS Eilat, was sunk by Egyptian missile boats near Port Said; 47 Israeli crew members were killed.

## **21 Tishrei 5707 - October 16, 1946**

Following the Nuremberg trials, 10 senior Nazi war

criminals were hanged.

### **27 Tishrei 5687- 1927 C.E.**

The Town of Netanyah in Israel is established

### **28 Tishrei - 1187 C.E.**

Saladin recaptures Jerusalem from the Crusaders and allows Jews to return after an absence of 88 years

### **3 Cheshvan 5051 - 1290**

16,000 English Jews were expelled from England by King Edward I.

King Edward had banned usury and forced Jews over the age of seven to wear an identifying badge. Some Jews managed to remain in England by hiding their religious identity, but thousands were forced to leave.

Following the expulsion, Jews would not return to England for 350 years, when the policy was reversed by Oliver Cromwell in 1655.

### **4 Cheshvan - October 17, 1483**

Tomas de Torquemada, was appointed Inquisitor General of Spain.

Jews of Spain had been forced to convert to Christianity, and the Inquisition was designed to uncover those who were continuing to practice their Judaism in secret (called Conversos or Marranos). Those who never confessed were burned at the stake; those who did confess were strangled first. It was on his recommendation that the remainder of the Jewish community -- 200,000 people -- were expelled from Spain in 1492. An estimated 32,000 were burned at the stake, and Torquemada's name became a byword for cruelty and fanaticism in the service of religion. The order of expulsion was not officially voided by the government of Spain until 1968.

### **6 Cheshvan 5708 - 1948 B.C.E.**

In 1948, the first census taken by the State of Israel placed the population at 780,000 -- 91% Jewish and 9% Arab. A vigorous influx of Jews would arrive the next few years, when 750,000 Jewish refugees fled from Arab countries. Subsequently, Israel has witnessed the dramatic homecoming of Jews from Ethiopia, the former Soviet Union, and dozens of other lands. As of 2017, the population of Israel stands at 8.7 million, of which 20% is Arab.

### **10 Cheshvan 1656 - 2106 B.C.E.**

Methuselah dies, a week before the Flood begins. On this day Noach, his wife, his sons and their wives entered the Ark. It wasn't until seven days later,

however, that the intense rains began for 40 days and 40 nights. The delay was to allow a proper mourning period for Metushelach, the righteous grandfather of Noach who had just died at the age of 969 years, history's oldest human being.

### **11 Cheshvan 2208 - 1554 B.C.E.**

Yahrzeit of Rachel Imeinu, during the birth of her son Binyamin.

Yaakov Avinu buried her by the roadside in Bethlehem. Today, Kever Rachel / Rachel's Tomb serves as a place of pilgrimage and prayer, as it has for more than 35 centuries, and is regarded as Judaism third-holiest site.

### **Cheshvan 15 - 139 BCE**

Yahrtzeit of Matityahu, the leader of the Maccabees in their fight against the Syrian-Greeks, as recorded in the Chanukah story. Matityahu bravely resisted the attempts to spread secular-Hellenist culture throughout the Land of Israel, and with his five sons, started an uprising. The revolt continued after Matityahu's death in 139 BCE, and successfully concluded with the rededication of the Holy Temple and the miracle of the oil that burned for eight days.

### **29 Cheshvan 5769 - November 27, 2008**

The city of Mumbai, India, was hit with a series of coordinated terror attacks, starting on Wednesday evening, which left close to 200 dead and scores more injured.

One of the terrorists' chosen targets was the local Chabad House, known as the "Nariman House," operated by Chabad-Lubavitch emissaries Rabbi Gavriel Noach (Gabi) and Rivkah (Rivki) Holtzberg.

In the subsequent standoff, which continued until Friday afternoon, Gabi and Rivki and several other Jews in the Chabad House -- Rabbis Bentzion Chroman and Leibish Teitelbaum, Norma Schwartzblatt-Rabinowitz and Yocheved Orpaz -- were killed in cold blood.

Miraculously, the Holtzbergs' two-year-old child, Moshe, was saved by his nanny.

### **30 Cheshvan 5544 - November 25, 1783**

American forces recaptured New York City from the British. This cleared the way for the return of Jews who had been forced to flee when the British captured New York City in 1776. Jewish leaders were in danger due to their public support of the American Revolution.





*Please enter these dates into your diary to ensure that you will be able to join us at one or all of these occasions.*

*More information about specific events will be publicised closer to the date of each event.*

*All events are at 3 Monastery Drive unless indicated otherwise.*

|                                    |               |          |
|------------------------------------|---------------|----------|
| Sukkos Party (Granby Close)        | 9th October   | 6.30 pm  |
| Simchas Torah Hakofos & Lunch      | 13th October  | 10.15 am |
| Shabbat UK Lunch                   | 28th October  |          |
| Chief Rabbi's Visit                | 26th November | 12.30 pm |
| Public Menorah Lighting            | 14th December | 6.30 pm  |
| Chanukah Party                     | 17th December |          |
| Friday Night Meal                  | 13th January  | 6.30 pm  |
| Purim Party                        | 28th February | 7.15 pm  |
| Purim Meal                         | 1st March     | 5.00 pm  |
| Pre-Pesach Shopping Trip to London | 25th March    | 10.00 am |
| Communal Seder (Granby Close)      | 30th March    | 8.00 pm  |
| Lag B Omer Bonfire & BBQ           | 3rd May       | 5.30 pm  |
| Shavuot Lunch                      | 20th May      | 12.30 pm |
| Summer BBQ                         | 24th June     | 12.30 pm |

There are also a number of events in the planning stages that do not have confirmed dates yet.

Whiskey Tour of Ireland

Inter-Community Twinning Event With Sheffield

Bosworth Shabbaton



# The Thursday Club

(A joint project of Solihull Hebrew Congregation and Birmingham Jewish Community Care)



Solihull Jewish Community Centre

3 Monastery Drive, Solihull, B91 1 DW

**Programme of Events 7th September - 14th December**  
**Every Thursday 11.00 a.m. - 2.00 p.m.**

|                |                                                                                                          |
|----------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| September 7th  | Pre Yomtov Question Time with Rabbi Pink                                                                 |
| September 14th | Tell us about your favourite Country                                                                     |
| September 21st | Closed                                                                                                   |
| September 28th | Closed                                                                                                   |
| October 5th    | Closed                                                                                                   |
| October 12th   | Closed                                                                                                   |
| October 19th   | Relatively Musical talk & music with John Smith                                                          |
| October 26th   | How to be an associate member of Hells Angels aided by my Mums<br>kosher chicken soup talk by Lee Benson |
| November 2nd   | Topical Discussion of this weeks news                                                                    |
| November 9th   | Quiz Afternoon with Les                                                                                  |
| November 16th  | Music by Richard Rodgers & Lorenz Hart with Joe Seager                                                   |
| November 23rd  | David Attenborough The Blue Planet DVD                                                                   |
| November 30th  | Listening to Chopin Music                                                                                |
| December 7th   | Great Liners DVD                                                                                         |
| December 14th  | Chanukah Party                                                                                           |

*For More Information Contact Ruth Abrahams 0121 705 5287 [sabrahams@uwclub.net](mailto:sabrahams@uwclub.net)*

- Delicious and nutritious hot lunch every week.
  - Meet old friends, make new friends.
  - Stimulating Activities.
  - Read the papers.
- Special Dietary needs catered for.

# Kiddush



# Sponsorship

*We offer five menus that you can choose from at a fixed price.*

*Menus may be customised by the addition of any of the items below.*

*Fruit £23.00 Crackers & Dips £16.00*

*Fishballs £22.00 Smoked Salmon £19.00*

*These prices assume a maximum of 30 people. Prices will increase proportionally for more than 30 people.*

## *Menu A £30.00*

Wine & Grape Juice  
Cookies  
Cake  
Crisps  
Pretzels

## *Menu B £45.00*

Wine & Grape Juice  
Cookies  
Cake  
Crisps  
Pretzels

*Crackers & Dips*

## *Menu C £55.00*

Wine & Grape Juice  
Cookies  
Cake  
Crisps  
Pretzels

*Fresh Fruit*

## *Menu D £65.00*

Wine & Grape Juice  
Cookies  
Cake  
Crisps  
Pretzels

*Fishballs*

*Smoked Salmon*

## *Menu E £130.00*

Wine & Grape Juice  
Cookies  
Cake  
Crisps  
Pretzels

*Crackers & Dips*

*Fresh Fruit*

*Fishballs*

*Smoked Salmon*

*Herring*

*Olives & Pickles*

- These prices include the purchase of all items and setting up and clearing away the kiddush by the Ladies Guild.
- Menu E will require the services of a waitress, at an additional cost of £40.
- All kiddushim for more than 45 guests will require a waitress, at an additional cost of £40.
- Alcohol, other than kiddush wine, (whisky etc.) is not provided by the Ladies Guild. It is the responsibility of the host to deliver this to Shul before Shabbos if they wish this to be served at the kiddush.
- On most weeks we provide a hot cholent as a free bonus, however this is not guaranteed.

To book a kiddush contact Judith on 07779 094 420 or  
[judith@finesse-services.co.uk](mailto:judith@finesse-services.co.uk)

*Did you know that the Ladies Guild relies on sponsorship to fund the cost of the weekly kiddushim?*

*Prices start from as low as £30.00  
Contact Judith today on 07779 094 420  
or email  
[judith@finesse-services.co.uk](mailto:judith@finesse-services.co.uk)*

## **BIRMINGHAM JEWISH COMMUNITY CARE**

The Social Care Department can help in many different areas to ensure independence can be maintained. This may be by:



Offering support for carers

Ensuring appropriate benefits are claimed

Help with social isolation

Liaison with social services

Falls Prevention/Enablement

Accessing care at home and Living Safely

Meals on Wheels

Please just pick up the telephone and call us in confidence  
Birmingham Jewish Community Care - Social Care Department  
0121 458 6891



# Did You Know?

Over the past few years the Solihull Shul on Monastery Drive has grown from being primarily a Synagogue to a fully fledged Jewish Community Centre. As many members are unaware of the vast range of activities and services that we offer, I have listed some below. We would be delighted if you wish to avail yourself on any of our services.

## *Prayer Services*

- Prayer Service every Friday Night, Shabbos Morning, Yom Tov, Sunday Morning and Bank Holiday Morning.
- Prayer Services at any other time by arrangement to allow the recital of Kaddish.

## *Kiddushim & Breakfasts*

- Kiddush every Friday Night
- Hot cholent Kiddush after the service every Shabbos.
- Smoked Salmon Bagel Breakfast following the Service every Sunday

## *Communal Celebration of Festivals*

- Sukkos Party
- Simchat Torah Luncheon
- Chanukah Party
- Public Menorah Lighting in Mell Square
- Purim Party
- Communal Seder
- Shavuot Luncheon
- Friday Night Meal
- Mishloach Monot - Purim Gifts to members of the community.

## *Activities for Youth*

- Cheder for children aged 3 -13 on a Sunday Morning.
- Bar & Bat Mitzvah Preparation Classes.
- Pre Yom Tov Fundays for children.
- Childrens Play Ground.
- Children's Service every Yomtov.

## *Solihull Academy of Jewish Education*

- The West Midlands Jewish Medical Ethics Forum
- Solihull Jewish Business Ethics Forum
- Bagels Lox and Torah every Sunday morning.
- Text based Rambam Shiur every Sunday Evening.
- SMILES Lecture Series every Monday Evening.

- Ladies Discussion Group with Rabbi Pink every Tuesday Morning
- Retired Gentlemen's Shiur every Wednesday Morning.
- Shiur for Ivrit Speakers every Wednesday Evening.
- Torah & Tea Shiur every Saturday Morning.
- Text based Talmud Shiur every Saturday Evening.
- One to One Study Sessions with the Rabbi or Rebbetzen

## *Social Welfare*

- The Thursday Club for over 60's
- Meals for the housebound.
- Hospital Visitation
- Prison Visitation

## *Social Cohesion*

- Educational Visits to the Shul for Schools and other groups
- National Holocaust Day Service
- Civic Service
- Regular Social Activities
- Hakol Newsletter
- Week Ahead Emails

## *Communal Facilities*

- Judaica Store
- Tefillin and Mezuzah Checking Service
- Stanley Middleburgh Reference and lending Library
- Hall and Kitchens available for private hire.
- Countersigning Facility for Official Documents.
- Help and Advice in organising Life Cycle Events  
Bris, Pidyon Haben, Bat Mitzvah, Bar Mitzvah,  
Wedding, Funeral, Stone Setting.

# Thank you



## Solihull & District Hebrew Congregation Wish List

Six years ago we drew up a wish list, since then through the generosity of a number of individuals and charitable trusts we have purchased virtually all the items on that list.

New Carpet for Shul & Community Hall.  
Induction Loop for Hearing Aid Users.  
Resurfacing of the Carpark.  
Tashlich Pond.  
Electronic Noticeboard  
New Blinds for Shul & Community Hall.  
Intruder & Panic Alarm & CCTV.  
Stab proof vests for Security Personnel.  
Automatic Defibrillator.  
New Display Cabinet for Judaica Store.  
New Bookcases & Books for Stanley Middleburgh Library.  
Secure Storage for Shul Archives.  
Total Rebuild of Simon Livingstone Sukkah.  
LED Lighting for Shul & Community Centre  
Paved Path from Gate to Front Door  
Refurbished Toilets & Cloakroom  
Portable Sound System

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all those individuals and charitable trusts whose generosity has enabled us to purchase these items allowing us to further improve the service we offer to our users.

MAYOR OF SOLIHULL'S CHARITY  
PAUL & KOTI KAY, MARTIN & BARBARA KAY,  
ROBERT & SARRAH LUNZER  
SHEILA MIDDLEBURGH  
RUSSELL & VICKY STARR  
THE COLEBRIDGE TRUST

BARON DAVENPORT TRUST  
NIGEL CANIN  
GREGGS BAKERY CHARITABLE TRUST  
THE NATIONAL LOTTERY  
CSE COMMUNITY TRUST  
THE CST  
DANIEL JAQUES DE JONGE

## How Can I Best Help SDHC Today?

# Solihull & District Hebrew Congregation Wish List

## How Can I Best Help SDHC Today?

### REVENUE ITEMS

Sponsor Regular Shabbat Morning Kiddush

**Cost: £30.00**

Sponsor SDHC's Yom Kippur Break Fast Refreshments

**Cost: £150**

Sponsor SDHC's Rosh Hashona Honey Cake

**Cost: £150**

Sponsor SDHC's Annual Sukkot Party

**Cost: £250**

Sponsor SDHC's Annual Chanukah Party

**Cost: £250**

Sponsor SDHC's Annual Purim Party

**Cost: £250**

Sponsor SDHC's Website & Internet Facilities

**Cost: £50 per month; £600 per year**

Sponsor One Issue of Hakol

**Cost: £100**

Defray Cost of SDHC's Gas and Electricity

**Cost: £75 per week**

Defray Landscaping and Building Maintenance

**Cost: £100 per week**

Defray Cost of TBE's Insurance Premiums

**£300 per month**

### CAPITAL ITEMS

~~Secure External Letterbox~~

~~Cost: £125.00~~

~~Paved Path from gate to main entrance~~

~~Cost: £2,000~~

~~Refurbish Cloakroom & Toilet Area~~

~~Cost: £15,000~~

Milk Kitchen Equipment

New Crockery

**Cost £950.00**

Commercial Dish Washer – Milk Kitchen

**Cost: £1,800**

10 Litre Commercial Dough Mixer

**Cost: £850.00**

Retractable Canopy Roof for Sukkah

**Cost: £2,500**

Upgrade Fire Alarm System

**Cost: £3,500**

New furniture for the Shul.

**Cost: £18,000**

New Fridge/Freezers for Food Store Shed

**Cost: £600 per unit (3 needed)**

### SPECIAL NAMING OPPORTUNITIES

*Parts of our Community Centre are available to be permanently named in honour of a donor or person of the donor's choosing.*

Communal Hall **£15,000**

Lobby/Kiddush Area **£7,500**

Milk Kitchen **£5,000**

Meat Kitchen **£5,000**

# Your Moment. Your Legacy. Your Shul.



This is your moment to hold hands across the generations. This is your moment to ensure a Jewish future that is spiritual and meaningful. This is your moment to leave a Jewish legacy.

Solihull Shul has been at the forefront of building the Jewish community in Solihull. Today we operate a Shul and Community Centre with a wide variety of religious, cultural and educational activities for all ages.

Now it is your turn to lead us forward.

Planned Giving builds Judaism where it is needed most, in your local community. From young to old, visiting the sick or comforting the poor, this is your moment to make a difference. Join with us through the loving act of planned giving by leading your community to a strong and vibrant future. This is your Moment.

## More about the tax benefits of leaving a Legacy to charity

Charity Legacies are exempt from tax and there is no upper limit on the value of the Legacy you leave. Legacies are therefore a very efficient way of supporting your favourite Jewish charities because the Government is encouraging your generosity by adding funds from central funds.

You may leave as much as you like, entirely tax-free to a spouse, civil partner or UK registered charity. You may also leave up to £325,000 to any other beneficiary or beneficiaries. Over and above that, Inheritance Tax (IHT) is then applicable on the remainder of your Estate at flat rate of 40%. However, if you leave a Legacy to charity, that Legacy is deducted from your Estate before it is taxed, thereby lowering the amount of IHT that will be payable. In addition, as from April 2012, if you leave 10% or more of your taxable estate to charity not only will the Legacy be deducted before tax is calculated, the tax rate will be reduced from 40% to 36%. This is the Government's way of encouraging more of us to give to charity and for us also to increase existing charity Legacies to the crucial 10% level; they want to make giving 10% of one's Estate to charity "the new norm in our country".

This might not seem much of a reduction, but the combination of the charity exemption from IHT and the new relief means that a charity Legacy could now 'cost' your family just 24% of its value, compared to 60% previously. £7,600 out of a £10,000 Legacy to charity could now be funded by the Government. This means that the cost to your loved ones of a £10,000 Legacy could be as little as £2,400, making charitable Legacies considerably more affordable, as well as of significant benefit to the causes that are close to your heart. This reduced tax rate will help to encourage more members of the Jewish community to leave Legacy gifts to charity, and for those who have already done so, to consider increasing those Legacies, potentially at no additional cost to their family – a real 'win-win' situation.

**Allow us to work with you, your family, and if desired your financial advisor, to develop the most personalised strategy for your goals. For more information contact us.**

**Solihull Hebrew Congregation Legacies  
3 Monastery Drive, Solihull, B91 1DW**

**[solihullshul@gmail.com](mailto:solihullshul@gmail.com)**



# Did you know that a donation of £125 can cost you only £75?

## Gift aid and higher rate tax payers

If you pay higher rate tax, you can reclaim the difference between the higher rate of tax (40 per cent) and the basic rate of tax (20 per cent) on the total (gross) value of your donation to Solihull Hebrew Congregation.

For example, if you donate £100, the total value of your donation to the charity is £125 - so you can claim back 20 per cent of this (£25) for yourself. You can make this claim on your Self Assessment tax return if you were sent one.

Tax relief can be claimed by completing the relevant section on your Self Assessment Tax Return form. If you don't complete a self assessment form, but receive Form P810 from the Inland Revenue, this can be used to declare any gift aid payments. Alternatively you can claim the relief by writing to your tax office, giving full details of the gift(s) you have made.

## Donating Shares

Making a gift of shares can be a highly tax effective way of supporting Solihull Hebrew Congregation.

By giving shares, it is possible to make a substantial tax saving, not only on capital gains tax, but on income tax as well.

Twelve million people own shares in the UK, worth over £200 billion. This area of giving is often overlooked, but by unlocking your capital and passing it on you can turn it into something of great value to Solihull Hebrew Congregation and substantially lower the cost to yourself at the same time.

In order to qualify for the tax relief, the shares or securities must be; listed or dealt on a recognised UK or foreign stock exchange, units in authorised unit trusts, shares in a UK open-ended investment company or holdings in certain foreign collective investment schemes.



Would you like to perpetuate the memory of a loved one by dedicating a plaque on the  
Memorial Board?

The plaque will be illuminated on the day of the yartzeit and a memorial prayer recited in  
Shul to mark the yartzeit.

FOR INFORMATION ON HOW TO DEDICATE A PLAQUE  
CONTACT RABBI PINK ON 0121 706 8736

# פראשית

## Shabbos Times

**Date**

**Shabbat  
Begins  
(Friday)**

**Shabbat  
Ends  
(Saturday)**

**Sedra**

|                   |                |         |         |
|-------------------|----------------|---------|---------|
| Ki Seitze         | 2nd September  | 7.38 pm | 8.43 pm |
| Ki Sovo           | 9th September  | 7.22 pm | 8.25 pm |
| Nitzovim/Vayelech | 16th September | 7.05 pm | 8.08 pm |

*For Yomtov times please see Yomtov timetable*

|              |                |         |         |
|--------------|----------------|---------|---------|
| Haazinu      | 23rd September | 6.48 pm | 7.51 pm |
| Bereishis    | 14th October   | 5.59 pm | 7.03 pm |
| Noach        | 21st October   | 5.44 pm | 6.48 pm |
| Lech Lecho   | 28th October   | 5.30 pm | 6.35 pm |
| Vayero       | 4th November   | 4.16 pm | 5.22 pm |
| Chayei Sorah | 11th November  | 4.04 pm | 5.12 pm |
| Toldos       | 18th November  | 3.54 pm | 5.03 pm |
| Vayetzei     | 25th November  | 3.46 pm | 4.56 pm |
| Vayishlach   | 2nd December   | 3.39 pm | 4.51 pm |
| Vayeshev     | 9th December   | 3.36 pm | 4.49 pm |
| Miketz       | 16th December  | 3.36 pm | 4.49 pm |
| Vayigash     | 23rd December  | 3.38 pm | 4.52 pm |
| Vayechi      | 30th December  | 3.43 pm | 4.58 pm |
| Shemos       | 6th January    | 3.51 pm | 5.05 pm |



## A GUIDE TO JEWISH WEBSITES

### **<https://www.hebcal.com/>**

Holidays, candle lighting times, and Torah readings for 2017-2018 and any year, past or present. Download to Outlook, iPhone, Google Calendar, and more.

Customize calendar settings

Convert between Hebrew and Gregorian dates and see today's date in a Hebrew font.

### **<http://www.travelmania.com/>**

Travelmania, Israel's travel reservations center, is a fast and secure way of booking your travel arrangements to Israel. We work with over 150 hotels country wide in all locations including Jerusalem, Tel-Aviv, Haifa, Eilat, Dead Sea, Tiberias and many more. You can rent a car, order an organized tour, hire a private chauffeured driven limousine or enjoy the luxurious spa vacations in the Dead Sea. Join the thousands of people who have enjoyed our services.

### **<http://www.basketstoisrael.com/>**

Baskets to Israel merged together with Fly A Cake in 2007 and has experience in designer gift items since 1996. For years we have succeeded in ensuring our customer's satisfaction with our quality and elegant presentations.

Baskets to Israel is opened only for Rosh Hashanah, Sukkot, Chanukah and Purim. Deliveries of our baskets are made within the week before each holiday. Our offices are open 3 weeks before each holiday and 2 weeks after. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us anytime.

Gift basket products will only be substituted with items of equal or greater value.

We look forward to serving you!

### **<https://jewsforjudaism.org/>**

The Mission of Jews for Judaism is to strengthen and preserve Jewish identity through education and counseling that counteracts deceptive proselytizing targeting Jews for conversion and promotes critical thinking.

Jews for Judaism is an international organization that provides a wide variety of counseling services, along with education, and outreach programs that enable Jews of all ages to rediscover and strengthen their Jewish heritage.

We are a positive resource, utilized and endorsed by all denominations of Judaism. Our warm and open-minded approach successfully reaches out to individuals who have been lured away from Judaism by other belief systems or through assimilation.



# SHANA TOVA FROM CST

CST is Community Security Trust, the charity that provides security for British Jews. We want to take this opportunity to wish all of our community *Shana Tova*, well over the Fast and to ask for your help in our work.

CST is here to facilitate Jewish life at a time when terrorism, extremism and antisemitism can sometimes feel hard to escape from. We literally give our community the chance to play its part in the continuing challenge against those negatives. Above all, we need men and women to step forward and play their part as security volunteers, joining our teams and being trained in self-defence and community protection.

In recent years, CST has spent nearly eleven million pounds on enhancing the security of Jewish communal buildings throughout the UK. CST is also responsible for obtaining and managing Government funding for commercial security guards at Jewish schools, synagogues and other venues.

CST has offices in London, Manchester and Leeds. Over 80 staff and more than 3,000 communal security volunteers work in partnership with synagogues, schools, and community centres to help keep our community safe. Together, we secure over 600 Jewish communal buildings

and approximately 1,000 communal events each year.

CST helps and supports victims of antisemitism, and monitors and records antisemitic activities and incidents. CST is the only UK organisation that records, analyses and publishes nationwide statistics and information about antisemitic incidents and hate crimes. Sadly, the number of antisemitic incidents has grown. During 2016, CST often dealt with over 100 such reports per month and this unhappy trend has continued into 2017.

CST represents British Jewry to Police, Government and media on antisemitism and security. It works in operational partnership with Police and enjoys the full support of Government and Opposition. CST is widely held to be the role model of its type.

All of CST's work is provided free of charge, but we rely upon the partnership and active participation of our entire Jewish community: for our volunteer recruits, for our funding, for reporting, and also for the willing co-operation that underpins every one of our activities throughout UK communities. Please, play your part and join us in our work: you may well find it challenging, but it will certainly be highly rewarding.

 [www.cst.org.uk](http://www.cst.org.uk)

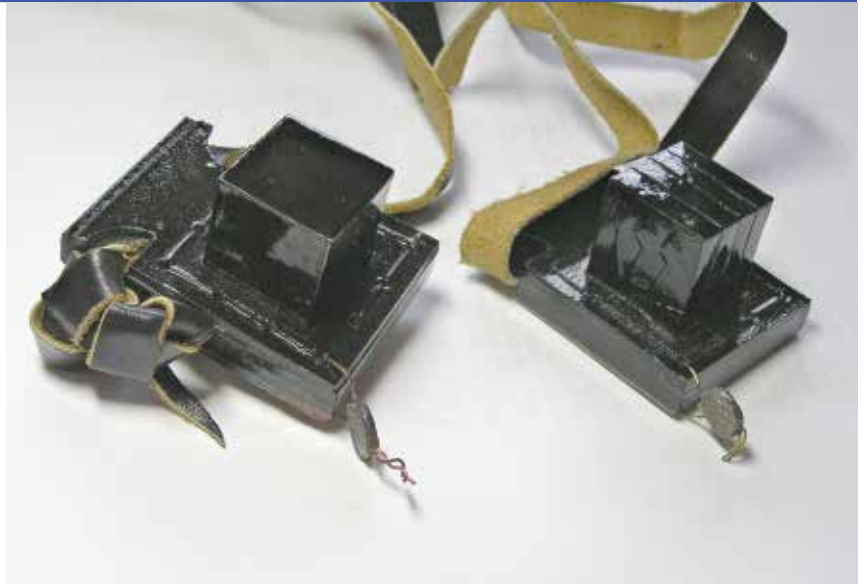
 **Community Security Trust**  **@CST\_UK**  **CSTmedia**

 **National Emergency Number (24-hour) 0800 032 3263**  
**Manchester (Northern Regional Office) 0161 792 6666**  
**London (Head Office) 020 8457 9999**



Community Security Trust is a registered charity in England and Wales (1042391) and Scotland (SC043612)

## FREE TEFILLIN HEALTH CHECK



Tefillin need regular checkups to ensure that the scrolls have not faded or cracked.

Straps need repainting regularly to ensure that the paint is in good condition.

Boxes can be damaged by extremes of heat, cold or moisture.

For a free health check and report on the condition of your tefillin contact Rabbi Pink

Do you get tangled in knots trying to put on your tefillin?



Go to <http://tinyurl.com/7j7xa3x>  
for a video guide how to put on Tefillin.



# Solihull Cheder

Registration now open for 2017-18 Academic Year

- Small Class Sizes.
- Individual Attention to each pupil.
- Fully equipped state of the art multi media centre.
- Learn about Judaism in a fun and hands on manner.

For more information or to register your child(ren)  
contact [rabbipink@gmail.com](mailto:rabbipink@gmail.com)



לְכָה דוּדֵי לְקִרְאָת כָּלָה פְּנֵי שַׁבָּת נִקְבְּלָה

## Come Along To The Friday Night Service

*The service starts at 6.30 pm (from 22nd September)*

*lasts for about 25 minutes and is followed by a kiddush*

*Please try to come and help make the minyan.*

*You may be the one who makes all the difference.*



## Solihull Jewish Community Centre Hall Hire

The community and events centre is available for hire for private functions, parties and meetings. Our building is on one level with easy disabled access and secure onsite parking. We are able to offer a hall, two well-appointed side rooms and either a dairy or meat kitchen. We also have state of the art projection and sound systems as well as a hearing loop. Our facilities are bright, modern, fully furnished and equipped. All bookings and requests for information and services should be addressed to Mr Malcolm Hyams - 07976 617 346 or malcolm@litewheels.co.uk

|                                          | Half day <sup>1</sup> | Evening <sup>2</sup> | Full day <sup>3</sup> | Full Day <sup>4</sup> |
|------------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Entire Facility<br>(Excluding Sanctuary) | £225                  | £275                 | £400                  | £475                  |
| Main hall alone <sup>5</sup>             | £150                  | £180                 | £260                  | £300                  |
| Kitchen (either meat or milk )           | £50                   | £60                  | £70                   | £95                   |

1 Half Day - a morning or afternoon function of less than 6 hours duration ending before 6pm

2 Evening – an evening function of up to 6 hours ending before midnight

3 Full Day – a full day function of up to 12 hours ending before 6pm

4 Full Day – a full day function of up to 12 hours ending before midnight

5 Add kitchen tariff if kitchen required.

*Members of the congregation and registered charities will enjoy a discount of 20%.*

### Kashrut

All catered functions will require a shomer (supervisor) approved by the Rabbi. All food brought onto the premises must be authorised by the Rabbi and may require the services of a shomer. An advice sheet on Kashrut will be provided to each event organiser.

### Event preparation and clearing up

Reasonable access will be given to event organisers prior to and following the function to allow setting up and clearing away. Mr Malcolm Hyams will arrange access to the site, he will inspect the facility following the event with the organiser to identify any damages or breakages and ensure cleanliness.

Mr Hyams can provide contact details for the Shul caretaker and private arrangements may be made between the hirer and the caretaker for set up/put away/cleaning.

A down-payment of £50 is required in order to secure a reservation, this is non refundable.

A refundable deposit of £50 must be provided in advance, this will be returned less the cost of repairs, replacing breakages and for cleaning (if the site is not left as found).

### Insurance

It is the responsibility of the organiser to arrange any necessary insurance for their event (a photocopy must be provided to the synagogue)

### Synagogue

The Synagogue (Sanctuary) itself is not for hire but is available for religious services and ceremonies. These will be arranged by direct contact with the Rabbi on 0121 706 8736 or rabbipink@gmail.com.



The old £5 notes like the one above are no longer legal tender, which means you can no longer use them to pay for anything.

If you have any old £5 notes we are still able to redeem them to help us carry out our important work.

Simply drop your donation in to the Shul or Granby Close in an envelope marked "SDHC Old Fiver" and we will convert it into a donation. All donations of old £5 notes are eligible for Gift Aid.

For the latest community updates visit  
<https://www.facebook.com/solihullshul>

If you have some news that you would like  
publicised on the Shul Facebook page contact  
Adrienne Langman  
[adie.langman@gmail.com](mailto:adie.langman@gmail.com)



# Solihull Academy of Jewish Education

## Jewish Learning for Life

**Whatever** your skill level

**Whenever** you have free time

A variety of topics, times of the week and levels to suit all tastes.

If you would prefer a one to one learning experience a variety of slots are available to study the topic of your choice at a time convenient to you.

Contact Rabbi Pink to set up a learning session today.

**Details of the regular weekly study sessions  
are on the following pages.**



LSD & BLT  
Every Sunday at 9.30 am

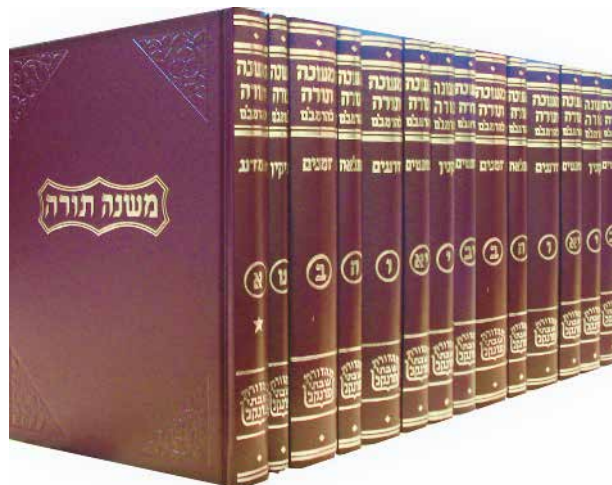
WHAT WERE  
YOU THINKING???

Lets start Davening  
followed by Bagels, Lox and Torah



# Do you enjoy advanced Torah Study?

Come along to the Rambam Shiur  
Sunday evening at 8.00 pm  
and delve into the intricacies of Maimonides Magnum  
Opus - The Yad Hachazakah



# Does Judaism leave you feeling Bored? Confused? Turned off?

TRY OUT

**S**olihull **M**onday **I**nformative **L**ecture **S**eries



Discussions on topics of Contemporary Jewish Interest with  
Rabbi Yehuda Pink

EVERY MONDAY EVENING 8.30 PM AT 7 GRANBY CLOSE

Light Refreshments served

**For more information contact Rabbi Yehuda Pink on 0121 706 8736**

|                |                                                                             |
|----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 11th September | Demystifying the Machzor                                                    |
| 18th September | The Kabbalah of the Shofar                                                  |
| 25th September | Kapporas - An Ancient Minhag or Barbaric Ritual?                            |
| 16th October   | A review of Rabbinic Responsa                                               |
| 23rd October   | Fascinating Halachic Dilemmas                                               |
| 30th October   | Pearls from the Psalms                                                      |
| 27th November  | The History of the Mechitza                                                 |
| 11th December  | Airmiles and Loyalty Points on Corporate Travel -<br>Who do They Belong To? |



**ENJOY A GOOD CUP OF COFFEE  
AND TAKE THE CHANCE TO ASK ALL  
THOSE QUESTIONS ABOUT JUDAISM YOU  
NEVER DARED TO ASK**



**LADIES DISCUSSION GROUP WITH RABBI PINK  
EVERY TUESDAY 11.00 AM - 12.00 PM  
AT 7 GRANBY CLOSE**

Do you have free time on a Wednesday morning?  
Are you looking to expand your knowledge of Judaism?



*Come along to the  
Retired Gentlemen's Shiur  
Wednesday 11.00 am - 12.00 pm  
at 7 Granby Close*



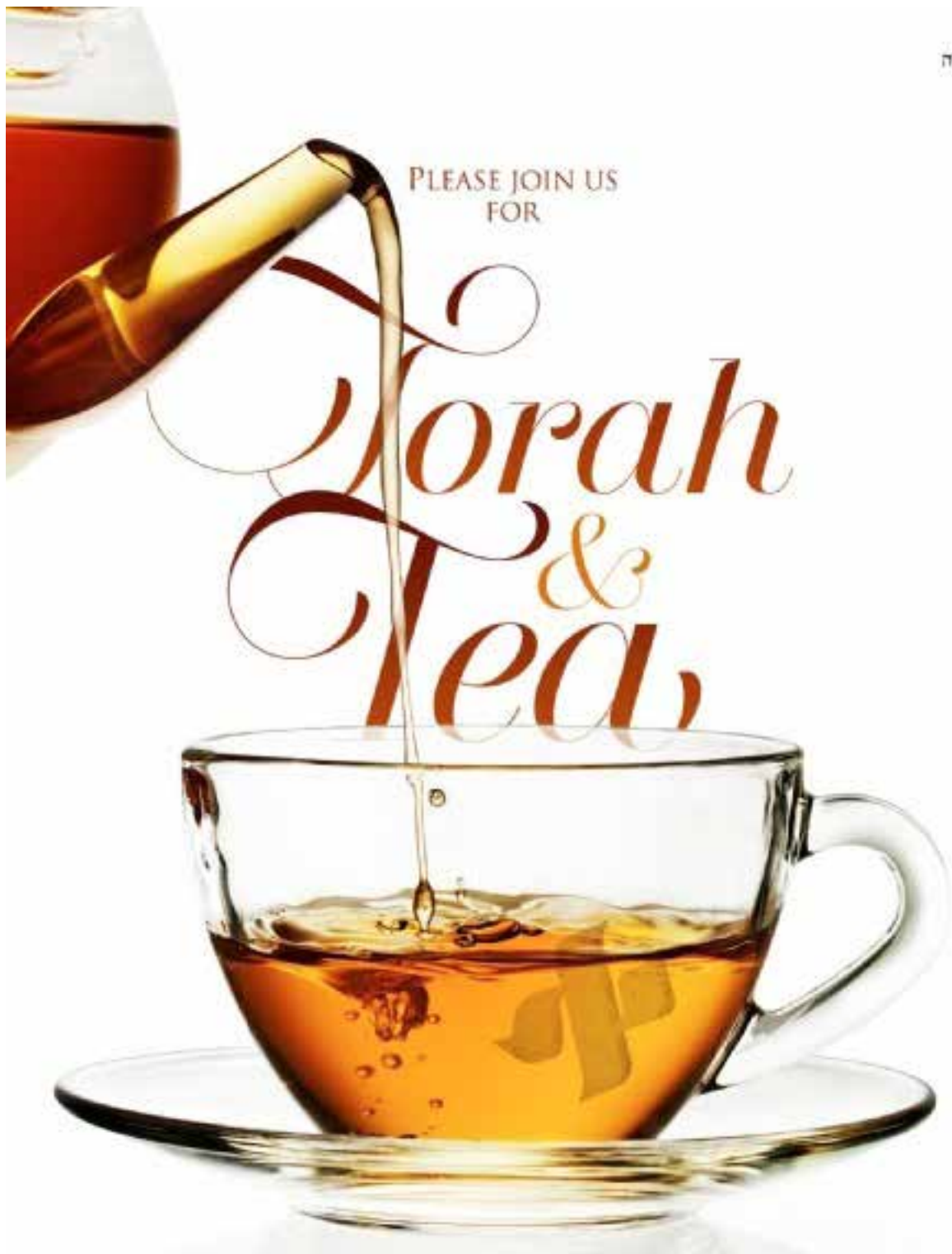
**שיעור מיוחד לדוברי עברית**

**יום רביעי בערב 10.00 - 11.00**

**עיקרי האמונה של יהדות**

**הזדמנות לקבל תשובות לכל  
מה שרצית לדעת ולא העזת לשאול**





Every Shabbos Morning  
9.30 am - 10.00 am

**Talmud Shiur**  
**Saturday Evening**  
**45 minutes after the end of Shabbat**

**7 Granby Close**



Stephen and Ruth Abrahams  
wish their dear children, grandchildren Rabbi and Mrs Pink and all friends  
A Healthy and Happy New Year  
**לשנה טובה ומתוקה**

Esta Benson with Lee, Riva and families wish  
Rabbi, Dinie and the whole Pink family plus all family and friends  
a very Happy and Healthy New Year  
**לשנה טובה ומתוקה**

As the New Year begins, reach out for your motivational wish. May you have a fruitful life,  
leave all your worries behind and keep on reaching for your dreams.  
Kindest regards from Les, Michelle, Steven and Sparky (the cat) Bloom.  
**לשנה טובה ומתוקה**

Adrian and Maureen Berger  
Wish the entire community a very happy New Year and well over the Fast.  
**לשנה טובה ומתוקה**

"Every human life is precious. We hope for peace in all conflicts throughout the world.  
A Happy New Year and a thoughtful Day of Atonement to all.  
Diane and Richard Canin and family  
**לשנה טובה ומתוקה**

Claire & Jakob de Jonge & Family  
Wish Family, Friends & All the community  
a very happy and healthy New Year and well over the Fast  
**לשנה טובה ומתוקה**

Shirley Epstein  
wishes all the members of her family in England & Canada  
Also all her friends and of course Rabbi & Rebbetzen Pink  
A Healthy & Happy New Year & Well Over the Fast  
And May we all enjoy Peace in the Future  
**לשנה טובה ומתוקה**

Hilary & David Fine  
Wish Judith, Mike, Rabbi Yehuda, Dinie,  
Rivka, Avraham Yitzchok Chanoach, Mendel & Shmuel Pink,  
Family, Friends & The Solihull Community A Happy, Healthy & Sweet New Year  
**לשנה טובה ומתוקה**

Lena Gilinsky  
Wishes all the family and the Congregation  
A Happy, Healthy and Peaceful New Year  
**לשנה טובה ומתוקה**

*Andrew Goldstein & Family  
Wish Family, Friends & All the community  
a very happy and healthy New Year and well over the Fast.  
לשנה טובה ומתוקה*

*Bonnie & Mike Gold, Emma, and Mandy, Glenn & Evan Fraser (Atlanta)  
Wish A Very Happy New Year To All Our Friends  
לשנה טובה ומתוקה*

*Richard Gold and Family  
Wish The Solihull Community  
A Happy, Healthy and Peaceful New Year  
לשנה טובה ומתוקה*

*Jon Gouldman and Mandy Steinberger would like to wish all our friends in the Solihull  
community a Shana Tova and that we are all well over the fast. Our thanks for all the kind  
wishes on our engagement.  
לשנה טובה ומתוקה*

*The Gouldman Family  
Would like to Wish All Their Friends in The Community  
A Chag Sameach and a Happy Year Ahead  
לשנה טובה ומתוקה*

*Irene Hoyles  
Wishes the Entire Community a Very Happy New Year and Well Over the Fast.  
לשנה טובה ומתוקה*

*Annette & Malcolm, Ben, Phillip & Max Hyams With Their Families  
Wish All Our Friends  
A Very Happy Rosh Hashona And Well Over The Fast  
לשנה טובה ומתוקה*

*The Ichbia & Gough Families  
Wish Rabbi & Dinie Pink and Family, and all their friends  
A Happy and Healthy New Year  
לשנה טובה ומתוקה*



*The Kaplan Family wish  
Their Family, Friends, & All The Community  
A Happy Healthy & Sweet New Year  
לשנה טובה ומתוקה*

*Gerald, Adrienne, Hayley & Ryan Langman  
Wish All Their Friends  
A Shanah Tovah And Well Over The Fast  
לשנה טובה ומתוקה*

*Paula & Mike Leek  
Wish all their Family & Friends  
A Happy, Healthy & Peaceful New Year And Wel Over the Fast  
לשנה טובה ומתוקה*

*Sharon & David Lester  
Wish Their Dear Children Chana Miriam & Alon Chanoch, Shim & Shellie,  
Their Darling Grandchildren, Sorah Baila, Levi Yitzchok, Shmuel Avraham,  
Menachem Mendel, Sholom Dovber, Refael Efrayim, Baila Yehudis & Shneur Zalman  
And All Their Family & Friends in the Community A Happy, Healthy & Sweet New Year  
לשנה טובה ומתוקה*

*Maureen Leveson  
Sends Greetings & Warm Wishes For A Happy & Healthy New Year  
To All Family & Friends In Birmingham & Solihull  
לשנה טובה ומתוקה*

*Howard & Gillian Lewis  
Wish Rabbi & Dinie Pink & family  
And everyone at Solihull Synagogue a Happy New Year and well over the fast.  
לשנה טובה ומתוקה*

*Jenny and Bernard Librack  
Wish Rabbi and Dinie Pink and family, our dear family, both here and Australia, and our  
wonderful friends a very happy and healthy New Year  
לשנה טובה ומתוקה*

*Shirley & Maurice Littlestone  
Wish all Their Family and Friends  
A Healthy and Happy New Year and Well Over the Fast  
לשנה טובה ומתוקה*

*Ian, Janet, Ben, Ellie and Mia Rowlinson  
wish Rabbi and Dinie Pink and Family, Together with their Friends in the Community,  
A Happy, Healthy and Sweet New Year  
לשנה טובה ומתוקה*

*Russell & Vicky Starr  
Wish all Their Friends & The Congregation  
A Happy, Healthy & Peaceful New Year  
לשנה טובה ומתוקה*

*Judith and Mike Stephenson  
would like to wish Judith's Mum and Dad, Rabbi Pink, Dinie and the children, all their  
family and friends a very Happy, Peaceful and Healthy New Year and well over the fast  
לשנה טובה ומתוקה*

*Avril & Graham Stone  
Wish Family & Friends  
A Happy, Healthy and Peaceful New Year  
לשנה טובה ומתוקה*

*Avi Tordjeman  
Wishes The Entire Community a Happy & Sweet New Year  
לשנה טובה ומתוקה*

*Stacey, Mark, Courtney, Dayna & Ashleigh Winter  
Wish Family & Friends  
A Happy, Healthy and Peaceful New Year  
לשנה טובה ומתוקה*

*Ian & Margaret Zetland  
Wish Rabbi & Dinie Pink & Family, All our Friends & Everybody at Solihull Jewish Community  
A Healthy, Happy New Year and Well Over the Fast  
לשנה טובה ומתוקה*

*Rabbi Yehuda & Dinie Pink & Family together with the  
President & Council of the Solihull & District Hebrew Congregation  
Wish the Entire Community  
A Very Happy, Healthy & Peaceful New Year  
לשנה טובה ומתוקה*

*Ephraim Gershon wishes his wife Judith and their three children*

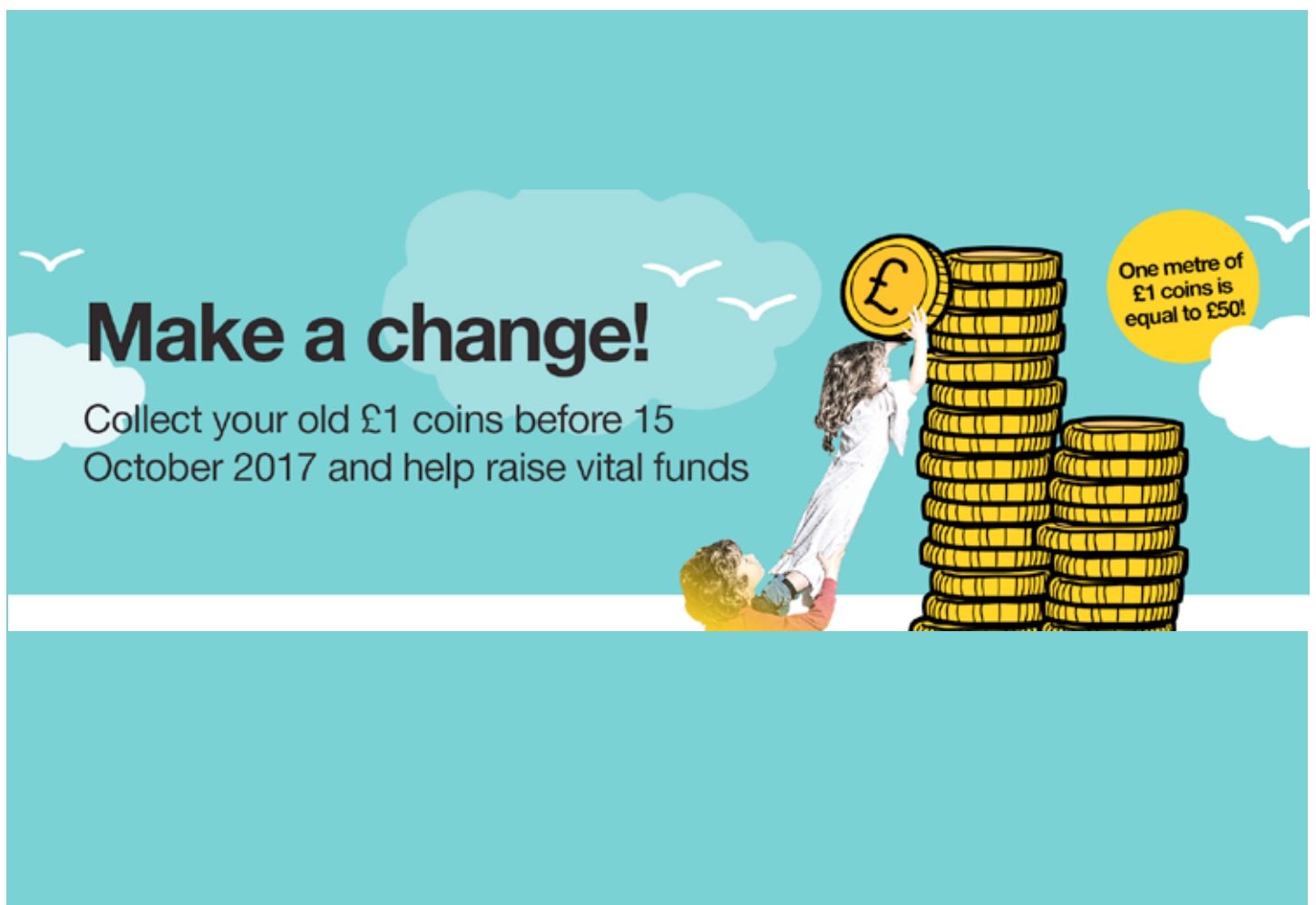
*Yuddi, Zippi and Ben together with Simon and Reuven Gershon  
a Good and Sweet New Year and that the forthcoming year is a happy, healthy and  
prosperous one for them all.*

**לשנה טובה ומתוקה**

View some of the finest archival images from  
a collection of over 100,000 originals for use  
by education and professional publications

## THE DES GERSHON IMAGE ARCHIVES

<http://www.gershon.co.uk>

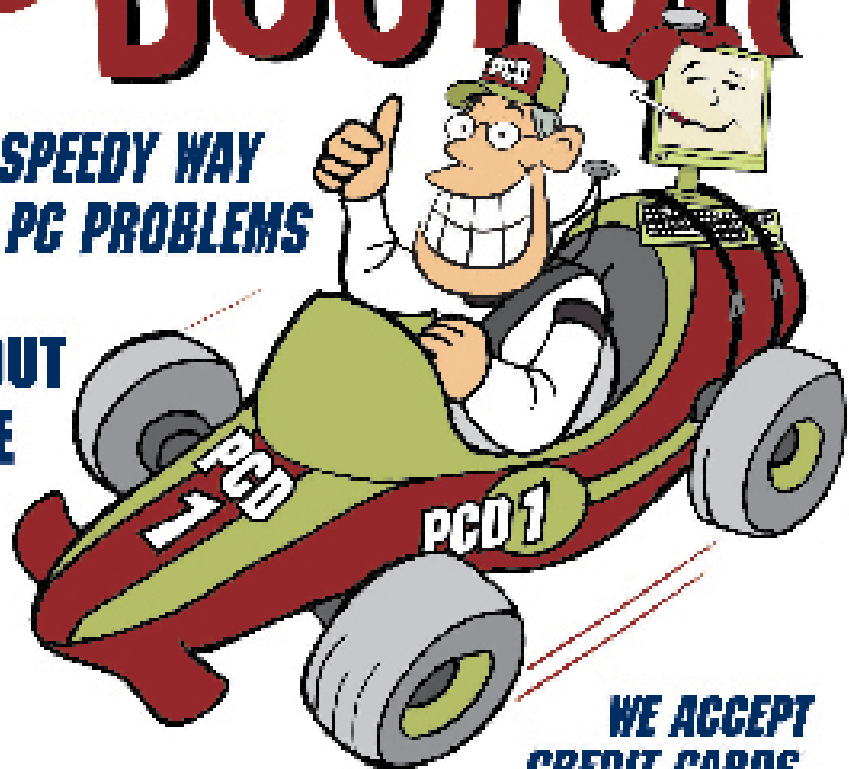


**FOR ALL YOUR COMPUTER SOFTWARE, HARDWARE,  
NETWORK, INTERNET, VIRUS PROBLEMS AND CONCERNS**

# PC ⊕ DOCTOR

***THE NO.1 SUPER SPEEDY WAY  
TO FIX ALL YOUR PC PROBLEMS***

- ✓ **FREE CALL OUT**
- ✓ **FREE ADVICE**
- ✓ **LOW RATES**
- ✓ **WE COME  
TO YOU**
- ✓ **NO HIDDEN  
EXTRAS**



***WE ACCEPT  
CREDIT CARDS***



**CALL BENJAMIN HYAMS ON:  
0121-704-2134**



# BELLAMY & WATERHOUSE MEMORIALS

Established Family Business



- New Memorials
- Additional Inscriptions
- Renovations
- Make Safe
- BRAMM Accredited

**Telephone 0121 772 0747**

Email: [sales@bellamyandwaterhouse.co.uk](mailto:sales@bellamyandwaterhouse.co.uk)  
[www.bellamyandwaterhouse.co.uk](http://www.bellamyandwaterhouse.co.uk)

3 Porters Way Bordesley Green Birmingham B9 5RR



**Do you need a new machzor for Yomtov?**

**We have a wide range of New Year Greeting Cards available.**

- Mezuzah Scrolls...
- Mezuzah Cases...
- Tallis...
- Tallis Bags...
- Tefillin...
- Tefillin Bags...
- Tzitzis...



- Cards for all Occasions...
- Jewish Childrens Toys...
- Books, Videos and CD's...
- Havdolah Candles...
- Shabbos Candles...
- Yarzeit Candles...
- Soft Toys

- Machzorim...
- Siddurim...
- Jewish Books...
- Haggadahs...
- Megillahs...

**Open**

**Sunday 9.15 a.m. - 10.30 a.m.**

**Thursday 10.30 a.m. - 2.00 p.m.**

**Other times by appointment.**

**Solihull Judaica Store**

Solihull Jewish Community Centre  
3 Monastery Drive, Solihull, B91 1DW  
0121 706 8736 [rabbipink@gmail.com](mailto:rabbipink@gmail.com)

# COMMUNITY DIRECTORY

|                                         |                   |               |                               |
|-----------------------------------------|-------------------|---------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>Rabbi Pink</b>                       | 0121 706 8736     | 07973 955 232 | rabbipink@gmail.com           |
| <b>Rabbi's PA</b>                       | Judith Stephenson | 07779 094 420 | judith@finesse-services.co.uk |
| <b>President</b>                        | Jon Gouldman      | 07984 013 157 | jongouldman@gmail.com         |
| <b>Security</b>                         | Graham Stone      | 07889 464 583 | graham.stone1946@gmail.com    |
| <b>Cheder</b>                           | Rabbi Pink        |               |                               |
|                                         | 0121 706 8736     | 07973 955 232 | rabbipink@gmail.com           |
| <b>Hall Bookings</b>                    | Malcolm Hyams     |               |                               |
|                                         | 0121 704 4603     | 07976 617 346 | malcolm@litewheels.co.uk      |
| <b>Hakol</b>                            | Rabbi Pink        |               |                               |
|                                         | 0121 706 8736     | 07973 955 232 | rabbipink@gmail.com           |
| <b>Kiddush Sponsorship</b>              | Judith Stephenson |               |                               |
|                                         |                   | 07779 094 420 | judith@finesse-services.co.uk |
| <b>Ladies Guild</b>                     | Dina Pink         |               |                               |
|                                         | 0121 706 8736     |               | dinapink@gmail.com            |
| <b>Thursday Club</b>                    | Ruth Abrahams     |               |                               |
|                                         | 0121 705 5287     |               | sabraahams@uwclub.net         |
| <b>Birmingham Jewish Community Care</b> | 0121 459 3418     |               |                               |
| <b>Communal Mikveh</b>                  | 07834 178 656     |               |                               |
| <b>Chevra Kadisha</b>                   | 07976 227 209     |               |                               |

Sponsored by the  
Fine Family on  
the Occasion of  
Hilary & David's  
45th Wedding  
Anniversary

To sponsor future issues of the Hakol please contact our advertising manager,  
Graham Stone

Tel: 0121 448 3756 Mobile: 07889 464 583 [Solihullshul@gmail.com](mailto:Solihullshul@gmail.com)