



Our Congregation



News and views from Belsize Square Synagogue

KEEPING OUR DISTINCTIVENESS The Lessons of Purim and Passover

Shalom Belsize Square Synagogue,

As we approach the Purim festivities and the observance of Passover, my thought is this: what is the common element that binds the two holidays, Purim, the celebration of the defeat of Haman's plot to annihilate the Jews of Persia (circa 4th century BCE) and Passover, the celebration of the liberation from slavery in Egypt and the story of the journey to freedom?

I think this is the lesson: both Purim and Passover testify to the fact that the key ingredients enabling the Jewish people to survive have been our desire to remain distinct and a willingness to take on the most powerful empires in order to secure our survival. In Persia, Haman declared that the "Jews had an alien culture, laws and nation" and would not conform to the ways of the Persian Empire and therefore should be murdered. In Egypt, the most powerful ancient empire, Pharaoh decreed that the Israelites were too different, too numerous, too influential and should be enslaved forever and quarantined from Egyptian society.

We read in both the Book of Esther and the Book of Exodus that our people stood up to these far more powerful empires and said no to the easy path of assimilating and acculturating to

become like everyone else. In every generation of our people's existence we learned to say no to the crowd, refusing to give up our distinctiveness.

Abraham turned his back on the cradle of civilisation, Mesopotamia, on its worship of nature and idolatry and forged a new path toward monotheism. Moses left the comforts of Egypt, returned to his people and confirmed the Israelites' rejection of Egypt's obsession with nature, death and afterlife. Rabbi Akiva, Bar Kochba and the rebels of 66-74 CE said no to the violence and tyranny of the Romans and led two revolts against the mighty empire, refusing to become like the Roman crowd. Today, the Roman Empire is in rubble or museums and the Jews are still around.

Throughout the medieval period, the Jews resisted the might of both the Christian and Islamic empires, refusing to be converted. When forcibly converted, thousands of our people continued to assert their Jewish identity and practice even under the watchful and tyrannical eye of the Inquisition. During the Enlightenment, the pressure on Jews to convert to Christianity was enormous or, at least, to assimilate and discard Jewish identity. Jews refused to succumb to the overwhelming pressures of the majority and chose to remain Jewish.

In the 19th century, Jews attracted to revolutionary socialism were concerned with local conditions and rejected the internationalist outlook, refusing to give up language (Yiddish) and culture. The Jewish Bund (Alliance or Union) in Russia, Ukraine and Poland was the only socialist movement to be bootied out of the international socialist

movement, by Lenin in 1921.

And today there is the State of Israel, often isolated at the United Nations and struggling every day to assert its legitimacy alongside a worldwide effort to boycott, divest and sanction the only Jewish state in the world. Many people still expect the Jewish people to give up once and for all this keen desire to remain unique and different in the future. Israel continues to defy the odds. After 71 years of existence, Israel continues to tell the world through its efforts to continue to build its beautiful country that *am yisrael chai* – the people of Israel lives. We will never give up our wondrous uniqueness as a people, a nation and a religious civilisation.

I do hope you will all join us for our Purim and Passover celebrations, reminders of the kind of spiritual fortitude that enabled us to outlast every empire – Mesopotamian, Egyptian, Assyrian, Babylonian, Persian, Graeco-Syrian, Graeco-Egyptian, Roman, Christian and Islamic. There's ample reason why we are still here and those empires are part of a distant past.

My wishes to all of you for a wonderful holiday season, enriched by the presence of loved ones, the narratives of our people, and the warmth of knowing that there are some things that last forever, *Am Yisrael*, the People of Israel, being one of those miracles.

In shalom and, in advance, *chagim semachim* (happy festivals),

Rabbi Altshuler



PURIM AT THE SQUARE
Our Traditional Purim Party and more!
 Monday 9 March — 5.30pm - 8.00pm

Join us for dinner, Megilah Reading & Spiel, Costume Parade and Purim Songs. For catering purposes please let the Synagogue Office know if you are planning to attend.

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AJR HMD SERVICE

(Report on Page 3. Photos by Adam Soller Photography)



Zigi Shipper lighting a candle with his granddaughter Emma Harrod, watched by Rabbi Stuart Altshuler



Candle Lighters at the AJR service: Jane Banham (volunteer on the My Story project), Hephzibah Rudofsky (survivor's daughter), Mary Green (survivor), Emma Harrod with grandfather Zigi Shipper (survivor), Frank Bright (survivor), Dr Tom Keve (survivor), Marianne Summerfield and her husband Peter (both child refugees who came separately with their parents)

AJR chief executive Michael Newman standing between "survivor" speakers Zigi Shipper (left) and Frank Bright



RELIGION SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Cheder's HMD @ BSS project on 26 January: Peter Summerfield shows the GCSE class (years 9 & 10, age 13-14) his family passport, stamped with the letter J, which allowed him with his 5-year-old twin brother and parents to leave Berlin on the last train out, four days before the outbreak of war



Frank Joseph, chair of Education Committee (standing, facing camera) at the BSS Cheder Pot Luck Friday Night Dinner on 7 February



Caroline Loison, head of Religion School, dishes out dinner to hungry small customers



A Cheder lad holds up his Lego version of a tree to celebrate Tu B'Shvat, the New Year for Trees

STANDING TOGETHER AFTER 75 YEARS

Ruth Rothenberg on a moving service marking the liberation of Auschwitz

Belsize Square synagogue is the regular venue for the Holocaust Memorial Day service of the Association of Jewish Refugees. But this year's service on 23 January under the theme *Stand Together*, felt more heightened as it marked 75 years since the liberation of Auschwitz by the Soviet Russian Army on 27 January 1945.

We weren't alone in remembering that era of evil degradation and genocide. The date was marked nationwide with a service on 27 January at Westminster Central Hall, organised by the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust. Around the world, survivors told their tales.

At our shul, Michael Newman, chief executive of the AJR, introduced guests: Ralf Teepe, head of culture and information at the German Embassy; Christof Weingartner, head of press and public diplomacy at the Austrian Embassy; and Vivi Aisen, director of public diplomacy at the Israel Embassy.

The service, led by Rabbi Stuart Altshuler, began with the lighting of six candles representing the six million murdered Jews. Four were lit by survivors, one by a survivor's daughter active in Holocaust education, and the last by our members Marianne and Peter Summerfield, who each arrived as small children with their parents. Both Marianne and Peter were appointed BEM in the New Year Honours.

The speakers were impressive. Two were Auschwitz survivors. Frank Bright, 92, born in Berlin with the surname Brichta, moved with his family to Prague in 1938. They were sent to Theresienstadt in July 1943, where his father died, and to Auschwitz in October 1944, where his mother was sent to the gas chamber. He was selected to be sent as a slave labourer at a helicopter propeller factory near the Czech border.

He was rescued in early 1945 when French workmen in the Allied Forces unlocked the abandoned camp and turned off the current in the barbed wire fence. Returning to Prague, he came to England in 1946 after a distant relative in London discovered him and paid for him to come to Britain.

He worked in a machinery factory and studied at night school for nine years to

qualify as an engineer, while marrying and having children. His talk revealed how his psychological survival depended on being numb to the hell around him but his subsequent sense of injustice never left him.

Polish-born Zigi (Zygmunt) Shipper, 90, was 10 when he was put in the Lodz ghetto with his grandparents. His grandfather died of hunger. His father fled to Russia (he never saw him again) and his mother left for Belgium five years earlier after their divorce. When the ghetto was liquidated in July 1944, he was sent with his grandmother to Auschwitz. She died in Theresienstadt as it was liberated, while he worked in another camp as a slave labourer.

Placed on a death march while ill from typhus, he was kept alive by the support of his young fellow-marchers. They were bound for a northern port, supposedly for a boat to Denmark. The plan was to kill them at sea. But the British bombed the boat first. They were liberated on 3 May 1945.

Zigi's mother, who had remarried and fled to England, discovered him and wrote, inviting him to London. Zigi did not want to leave his new friends who had become "family" but they persuaded him. He described the first six months of adjusting to unknown parents as "hell".

But they held out and he found old friends and others who had undergone his experiences when he joined the Primrose Jewish Youth Club in Belsize Park (named after nearby Primrose Hill). It ran from 1946-49 under sportsman Yogi Mayer, a German-Jewish refugee who trained officially, but in secret, for the 1936 Berlin Olympics – though his talents were never called upon.

Having missed out on his education, Zigi found work in a shop, married and raised a family. One of his grandsons is a film-maker. He has spent his retirement talking to schools and young people, under the auspices of the Holocaust Education Trust, and has also made a film to record these memories. The message of his talk, which echoed Frank Bright's in describing how all feeling was stifled in the struggle to survive, was the destructive power of hatred. "There is nothing we can do about the past," he says. "But we can do

a lot about the present and the future."

The experiences of three other survivors (Dr Peter Brunner, Mary Green and Suzanne Lee) were read out by AJR volunteer Jane Banham from *My Story*, published in 2018. We also heard from Hephzibah Rudofsky, medical researcher and daughter of German-born pharmacologist, Sir Ralph Kohn, who died in 2016. Aged five, he moved to Holland with his family in 1933. They escaped to England early May 1940.

With her mother, Zahava, Hephzibah has spoken to schools across Britain and Germany. Zahava was born in Palestine to Dutch parents who returned to Holland because life in 1930s Palestine was so hard. The family was taken to Westerbork, the holding camp for Dutch Jews, and survived imprisonment in Bergen-Belsen. She came to London on marriage in 1963.

In 2001, when clearing her own late mother's room in an old-age home in Israel, she discovered a small bag full of wartime letters, documents and objects, including a yellow star. She turned this into a book of her parents' experiences, published in 2009 as *Fragments of a Lost Childhood*. It became the basis of her joint project with Hephzibah to tell schools not just about the persecution and suffering but the ability to rise above and be positive – the essence of *Standing Together To Recount History*, the title of Hephzibah's talk.

Perhaps the most unusual reading was given by Zigi Shipper's granddaughter, Emma Harrod. Translated from German and entitled *A Prayer of a Jewish Leader in an Extermination Camp*, it echoed biblical prophets, asking God to overlook the perpetrators and their dreadful deeds and concentrate instead on the sacrifices and heroism of the victims. It was published in a German magazine in 1947 and anticipates in strong terms the sentiments expressed in this very moving and impressive service. The composition was found by AJR member Marianne Parkes among her mother's papers.

The service ended with the memorial prayer *El malei rachamim* and Kaddish led by Rabbi Altshuler and familiar hymns before a warm and reflective reception in our hall.



LIVING WITH DEMENTIA

The address given to our congregation on Friday evening 31 January by our Community Care Co-Ordinator Eve Hersov to mark Mental Health Awareness Shabbat



Shabbat Shalom!

In the brief time I have tonight I want to speak specifically about ageing and dementia at Belsize Square Synagogue. I have spent time recently analysing the numbers, looking at how many older members we have in the congregation. This has allowed me to understand that we are unique in one area. We have more centenarians than any other shul in London. Our primarily refugee older members live very long lives.

And this is significant. We have enormously resilient people amongst our membership. What is also interesting is that while we are unusual in our congregation for our longevity, we are pretty much in line with national statistics when it comes to dementia, which affects a proportion of our older congregants but by no means the majority.

Dementia is a disease that can manifest and progress very differently in people. The rate at which it progresses varies widely. But my involvement with people tends to happen at two distinct stages. Sometimes I am involved with congregants soon after the point of diagnosis. This is a time when a person and sometimes their family can get into a bit of a panic. The diagnosis, if made early, can be a total shock. If it happens later, it may almost be expected because changes in function or behaviour have been noticed. But it is still a time that can disrupt people and their families and close friends tremendously.

In our congregation, families want to make the right decisions and find good support. They are loving and concerned. Every individual handles this diagnosis in their own unique way. Something I often say to people is that while they may have a new diagnosis that sounds tremendously scary, they have not changed overnight into a different human being. We have to adjust to new things but that doesn't change who we are today, even if we might need to understand that there may be changes ahead. And again, the changes ahead may not happen fast as there are numerous factors that influence progression.

Reassurance is the most important aspect of my involvement with people and their friends and families. It is important to contain panic and to help people to think clearly about what will help now, and what might be useful to think about for later. Some of what I have implemented with our older members is simply practical. I try to establish what's the best, the most effective, way to communicate, and how we can aid memory and provide reassurance.

Often what works for people with dementia is also helpful for us all. I increasingly use snail mail to convey information to people and sometimes add my photo to my business card. A few years ago one of our oldest members complained to me when I visited her that the synagogue hadn't sent her a Rosh Hashanah card. This confused me because I had no memory of us ever sending out a Rosh Hashanah card to congregants. But I thought it was a wonderful idea and now every member over age 80 gets a Rosh Hashanah card. It's a tangible reminder of good wishes, our available support, and I make sure that my photo is printed along with my name and phone number.

The second point where I am involved with people and their friends and families, is when there is a significant change in how a person is managing, when more or different support is needed. This might mean bringing in carers or planning a move, or thinking through the practical ways to ensure safety. We have members with dementia who live alone and we have members who live with a spouse or an adult child. We have members who have carers coming in once or twice a day and others who need full-time support.

Sometimes they are in their own home, sometimes in an assisted living, residential or nursing home. The decisions on what is best are often focussed around the personality of the individual, their ability to cope, the supportive people they have in their life such as family, health and social care professionals, friends – and also finances.

What I find most important is that within each situation there can be a "window of opportunity", a near-perfect moment when it may be easier to help a person to accept care or to plan a change or house move. There are ideal times for a person to learn to use technology to live more safely, and when people might adapt more easily to change. For instance, if a person has social needs but is growing isolated or at risk of living on their own, then it may be best to move into a communal setting before they lose their social skill to make new friends or the ability to adapt to a change in routine or to learn and enjoy new activities.

Our members have a wide variety of personalities. We have people who are quiet and compliant and we have people who are fiercely independent and adamant about not giving up control. Working with people requires sensitivity. I often think that adolescence and advanced ageing have much in common because each age group is struggling with independence. One group wants to achieve its independence, the other wants to hold onto it.

My work over 40 years has often been with people, together with their family and friends, helping to work out how best to plan and manoeuvre so that there is no loss of self-respect or sense of control. Together we can often find ways to reduce fear and come up with workable options.

It is important to note that we have some extremely happy people in our congregation who have dementia. We have members who light up with enthusiasm when someone visits. Sometimes, this is what they have always been. Sometimes it is where the disease has taken people. Dementia can be a journey with a circuitous route where people can be lonely, depressed, paranoid and violent, as well as incredibly content and happy.

There are members who used to complain that no one visited them – mostly because they could not

remember that they had a constant flow of visitors – who now are joyously happy and can no longer remember the things that used to depress them. We have had members who walk through a door and cannot remember having been in the preceding room – but can still speak and read German just as well as English.

Before I stop, I think there is also something important to add about some of our refugee members both with, and without, dementia. It is not uncommon, when an older person has an infection, for the infection to cause confusion. Sometimes I will hear from an adult child that their parent has suddenly changed and become paranoid. I remember asking one son, does your mother have an infection? She did. I asked him if, in the confusion she had due to the infection, she found herself back in Germany and feeling fearful. He was incredulous. Yes, that's exactly what was happening.

And it can happen. Our members can go back in time to when they were children or adolescents and feel fearful. What I have done when working with these members is to be careful not to try to dissuade them of this experience or belittle it. I do not find it helpful to tell a person who is frightened that they are wrong. So rather than invalidate their reality, I want to validate it, which

is respectful, and offer reassurance and hope.

So in one case, when a member was afraid that the food, drink and medication being offered to her in hospital was a plot to kill her, I held her hand, looked into her eyes and said: "I know you are frightened. I understand your fear. But I am here and we are going to get through this together. I know you are worried tonight, but I think that by tomorrow morning there may be a change and that we will be OK."

Those words offered reassurance rather than conveying that she was wrong or confused or crazy. And reassurance allowed her to move through the fear and back into a place of hopefulness. And once I had her trust she began to eat, drink and take medication.

It is important when dealing with confusion or dementia to speak to what that person needs, not necessarily to "correct" them, because what they feel and think is real to them at that moment, and we are trying to preserve their sense of autonomy and control.

I am going to close with a reference to two other members with dementia. Both members, despite the dementia, are wonderful conversationalists

although you may need to draw them out at times. They have lived fascinating lives. Speaking to each is, for me, like opening a history book. They have the ability to listen to a question and reflect and speak about their education and careers and travel, against the backdrop of politics and feminism.

Yet, regardless of whether they have family or not, neither of them has enough people in their lives who really listen to them, people who ask about the past. Contact with family is too often restricted to getting tasks done or having a brief and hurried chat. We all have a story. A life narrative. And the telling of that story and the reflection on it can be healing as well as fascinating.

I would urge our members to ensure that our own lives are not so tied up in just the "tasks" that assist our oldest members but are open to that window of opportunity before it is too late, that we listen to the wisdom they possess and the history they relate to, whether that history is family or societal.

One of our older members said to me: "We survived because we were tough."

But being tough is different to being healed and it is often through being with people and conversing with them that we make peace.



Eve's work for our older members: a Shavuot lunch from two years ago

A COLLAGE HAGGADAH

Please support my crowdfunding campaign on [kickstarter.com](https://www.kickstarter.com)

I am an artist and a Belsize member and I am making a Haggadah with dozens of collages, a full Hebrew text and a new inclusive English translation.

Be part of my project and help me make it happen. Thank you prizes will be offered to all donors.

Find me on Instagram for a direct link to the campaign page.

Any questions please email me emily.marbach@gmail.com

Thank you so much, **Emily Marbach**



AJR Plaques

Belsize Square is extremely proud of its special blue plaque given by the AJR in June on our 80th anniversary to mark our unique history as the community founded by refugees. Two more blue plaques were unveiled by



the AJR in November and December at sites where Jewish refugees from Nazism made their mark in Britain.

The first is the former Hampstead home of artist Milein Cosman and her musician/writer husband Hans Keller. Cosman arrived in Britain aged 18 in 1939. She was an illustrator whose clients included the *Radio Times*, where she met her husband. Keller was a musical writer and broadcaster, originally from Vienna who came to the UK in 1938, aged 19. He worked for many years at the BBC.

The second honours Otto Schiff for his work in founding the Jewish Refugees Committee, the forerunner of World Jewish Relief. The plaque is at Woburn

House in Tavistock Square, where the committee met between 1933 and 1939 and was critical in providing support to refugees from Nazism.



Belsize member Frank Harding is the AJR trustee responsible for the blue plaque scheme, which he started in 2013.

AN EVENING WITH JOHN MANN Tuesday 24 March at 7.30pm

John Mann will talk about his new role as HM Government's Independent Advisor on anti-semitism and the work he is undertaking, before taking questions.



Please contact the Synagogue Office to book your space.

London Young Sinfonia & Music at Belsize present SPRING CONCERT Saturday 4 April at 7.30pm

Conductor: **Elias Brown** Guest Conductor: **Philip Keller**
Andrew Norman **The Great Swiftness**
Haydn **Symphony No.90**
Beethoven: **Symphony No.4**

Tickets £12 available at www.synagogue.org.uk/events or on the door. All proceeds go to Belsize Square Synagogue.



ANNUAL HENRY KUTTNER Z"l CHOIR SHABBAT

Friday 13 March at 6.45pm

Each year we honour the Belsize Square Synagogue professional choir in memory of Henry Kuttner z"l. Join us in thanking the choristers who make our choir so special and unique.

Invitation to Nominate Candidates for Membership of the Board of The Belsize Square Synagogue (The Synagogue)

The fifth Annual General Meeting of The Synagogue (the AGM) will be held on **Monday 1 June 2020**. Formal notice will be given in due course.

The Board hereby invites the members of The Synagogue to nominate candidates for election to the Board for a period of three years commencing from the AGM. There are 15 vacancies.

Nominations must be in writing, addressed to the Hon. Secretary and submitted to the Synagogue Office by twelve noon on **Friday 17 April 2020**. Each Nomination must be signed by at least five members of The Synagogue who are themselves entitled to vote at the AGM. Only valid nominations which are received by that date can be considered. No member may sign more nominations for the Board than the number of vacancies (namely 15).

In accordance with the Articles of Association of The Synagogue, the following 10 members will be retiring from the Board by rotation but are eligible for re-election if duly nominated:

Adam Davis, Pat Hirschovits, Frank Joseph, Freddy Lehmann, Adam Nathan, Rob Nothman, Sarah Percival, David Pollins, Anthony Stadlen, Claire Walford.

From **20 April 2020**, a list of the candidates duly nominated will be available for inspection at the Synagogue Office and the formal notice of the AGM will also include a list of those candidates.

Celebrating Yom Ha'atzma'ut ISRAEL'S 72nd BIRTHDAY

Tuesday 28 April

- A great evening of music and dancing with The Israeli Dance Institute
- A conversation with a special guest, former MP for Liverpool Wavertree Luciana Berger
- Superb dining by our own chef, Adam Nathan
- Help support our deserving chosen Israeli charities

Tickets available through the Synagogue Office



SHABBAT CANDLE LIGHTING



Friday 13 March
Friday 20 March
Friday 27 March
Friday 3 April
Friday 10 April
Tuesday 14 April
Wednesday 15 April
Friday 17 April
Friday 24 April

Sue Heimann
Shelly Masters
Karen Sanders
Louise Keller
Kate Beswick
Vanessa Crocker
Sue Schraer
Emma Pollins
Mira Ross

Community News

The copy deadline for the next issue of
Our Congregation is Wednesday 1 April 2020

NEW MEMBERS

We extend a cordial welcome to:

Roy & Roni Zipris with children Tom & Ella
Grace Schneiderman
Jeremy Assouly
Peter Strauss
Jacob Polonsky with children Reuben & Ellen
Eve Phillips

BIRTHS

Mazal Tov to:

Jennifer & Charles Goldblatt on the birth of their son Leon David

BAR/BAT MITZVAH

Mazal Tov to:

Phoebe, daughter of Victoria & Oliver Jerome, 1 February
Harry, son of Tim Solnick & Sarah Bailey, 22 February
Joseph, son of Sam & Karen Sanders, 28 March

BIRTHDAYS

Congratulations and best wishes to:

Mrs J Van Vlymen (83) on 1 February
Mr G Sassower (88) on 2 February
Mrs R Sassower (83) on 2 February
Mrs Y Alweiss (87) on 26 February
Mr D Shalson (75) on 26 February
Mr J Danziger (83) on 26 February
Mrs M Stenham (100) on 4 March
Mrs B Flynn (100) on 5 March
Mrs B Harding (82) on 10 March
Mrs R Simion (92) on 16 March
Mrs M Suchy (98) on 20 March
Mrs P Mendel (84) on 25 March

DEATHS

We regret to announce the passing of:

Carol Goldblatt on 31 December 2019

STONESETTING

Sybil Raccah on Sunday 26 April at 12.30 at Edgwarebury Lane Cemetery

SECOND NIGHT SEDER

Thursday 9 April

Rabbi Altshuler and Cantor Heller invite you to join them for Second Night Seder at the Synagogue after the Service which starts at 6.45pm.

Members: £30 Non Members: £35 Under 13s: £15

Please contact the Synagogue Office if you wish to attend.

OFFICE HOURS FOR PESACH

The office will close at 12.00pm (noon) on Wednesday 8 April.

It will reopen on Tuesday 14 April, 9.00am-12.00pm (noon) and will then reopen at 9.00am on Friday 17 April.

SHABBAT HAGADOL

The Annual Remembrance Service will be held on

Saturday 4 April at 10.00am

We remember those who will not be at our Seder table and who have no others to remember them.

REGULAR SERVICES

Friday evenings at 6.45pm & Saturday mornings at 10.00am

Kikar Kids

Saturday 7 March, 4 April & 2 May

Under-5s Service in the Crèche (Crèche opens 10am)

Junior Service for 5-9 year-olds in the Library

11.30am – Kids' Kiddush

Please contact Frank Joseph on 020 7482 2555

if you would like to bring along your favourite dish.

Religion School

Sunday mornings: 9.30am-12.30pm

Spring Term ends: Sunday 29 March

Summer Term begins: Sunday 19 April

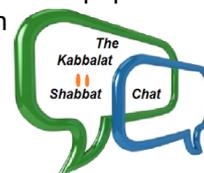
CANTOR HELLER'S KABBALAT SHABBAT CHAT

An invitation and opportunity for Bar Mitzvah class pupils to make Kiddush, sing Lecha Dodi and learn the lessons of the Parsha.

On the second Friday of the month

5.30pm in the Library

Next sessions: 13 March & 12 June



NW3 WEDNESDAY LUNCHEON GROUP

Giacomo, 428 Finchley Road, London, NW2 2HY

Wednesdays 25 March, 22 April, 20 May, 24 June

Please call Judy Field (020 8455 0614) if you wish to attend

SUNDAY MORNING ADULT DISCUSSION

1 March 10.00-11.15 Rabbi Altshuler: The Shoah Part 6 - WW1 and its Aftermath

11.15-12.30 Jonny Gould, "Talk radio" presenter: The People I have Interviewed - Surprises, Joys and Controversies

8 March NO SESSION - Jewish Book Week last day, Rabbi Altshuler away

15 March 10.00-12.00 Norma Cohen PhD, ex Financial Times journalist: How Britain Paid for War - Bond Holders in the Great War 1914-32 (sic)

12.00-12.30pm Open Forum discussion

22 March 10.00-11.15: Rabbi Altshuler: Prayer - The Amidah and Kedushah (continued)

11.15-12.30 Joe Ozer, European Director of Israel Bonds: Israel's Economic Development - From Fruit and Veg to Hi Tech

29 March 10.00-11.15 Mike Schraer PhD, mediaeval Spanish historian: 1391 - How Anti-Jewish Riots in Spain led to Inquisition and Expulsion

11.15 -12.30 Rabbi Altshuler: The Shoah Part 7 - Adolf Hitler and the rise of the Nazi Party

5 & 12 April NO Session - Pesach break

19 April 10.0 - 11.15 Rabbi Altshuler: Prayer Part 5 - The Kaddish
11.15-12.30 David Collier, undercover researcher into Anti-Zionism & Antisemitism, and Joseph Cohen, co-founder of Campaign Against Antisemitism & pro-Israel British activist: Fighting the Hatred on Line

26 April 10.00 -11.15 Rabbi Altshuler: The Shoah Part 8 - Evolution of Nazi Anti-Jewish Policies 1933-38

11.15 -12.30 Marie Van der Zyl, 48th President of The Board of Deputies of British Jews. Title of talk TBC (but may be Q and A)





EVERYONE IS WELCOME AT OUR SEDER TABLES

BUT IT'S ONLY POSSIBLE THANKS TO PEOPLE LIKE YOU.

This Pesach, Jewish Care will touch the lives of 10,000 people across our community. Just like every other week, we will give them the very best professional care and support they need and deserve. We need to raise £300,000 every single week to provide that care.

So please make a gift today. Thank you.

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SYNAGOGUE HELP LINES

THE BELSIZE SQUARE SYNAGOGUE

51 Belsize Square, London, NW3 4HX

Tel: 020 7794 3949

Email: office@synagogue.org.uk

Website: www.synagogue.org.uk

SYNAGOGUE OFFICE HOURS

9.00am - 5.30pm

Fridays: 9.00am-2.00pm

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Lee Taylor - 020 7794 3949

CHEVRAH KADISHA

Chairman: Rabbi Stuart Altshuler

Joint Vice Chairs: Helen Grunberg - 020 8450 8533

Cantor Dr Paul Heller

COMMUNITY CARE CO-ORDINATOR & BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT SERVICE

Contact Eve Hersov on 020 7435 7129

or email eve@synagogue.org.uk

FUNERALS

During Synagogue Office hours phone 020 7794 3949.

Evenings/weekends phone Calo's (Undertakers)

020 8958 2112

KIDDUSH

Rota enquiries to Jennifer Saul in the Synagogue Office
(not Thursdays or Fridays)

LIBRARY

Open Wednesdays 10am - 12 noon

At other times please check first with the office

CHEDER

Enquiries to Caroline Loison, in the Synagogue Office

or email caroline@synagogue.org.uk

PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

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YOUTH ACTIVITIES

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