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ROSH HASHANAH

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שנת ה'תשע"ז



GIFFNOCK AND NEWLANDS
HEBREW CONGREGATION



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The Rabbi's Message

At the time that I am writing this article I am feeling very reflective and nostalgic. In 7 weeks time, 11 September, the community will be celebrating 25 years of Rubins at Giffnock Shul. How am I meant to encapsulate 25 years in a 10 minute speech? By the time you read this article my speech will be behind me and either I will be fully satisfied with what I said or regret not saying more, less or something different. Either way it will be over and I won't be able to

change or take back what I've said.

So it is with Rosh Hashanah each year, as we reflect back on the previous year we can regret or celebrate the past but one thing we cannot do is change it. This makes the Torah definition of Rosh Hashanah even stranger - a remembrance of Israel through the shofar blast, a holy occasion (Leviticus 23:24). This definition that led the Sages to refer to Rosh Hashanah as Yom Hazikaron, the Day of Remembrance.

This Godly remembrance feels depressing to me. If we cannot change the past then what chance do we have when on Rosh Hashanah God remembers the past? How are we meant to rectify our past misdeeds, the ones God is considering today in His remembrance? Are we not doomed even before the year begins?

The other problem with this name is that it is contradictory to the popular name Rosh Hashanah, which is all about the future, a new beginning. So is this day about the past or about the future?

Perhaps the day is not about the past or the future, perhaps the day is about pressing the pause button, stopping for a moment and taking stock. We cannot change the past but we can overcome our shortcomings and make the future a more meaningful experience.

The new year season, Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, is a time to reflect on our past deeds, the good ones and not so good ones. The season is about trying to build on those good deeds and, for the not so good deeds, show regret and resolve to avoid them in the future.

We cannot change the past but we can take the past and use it to inspire us to live a better and a more meaningful future.

May year 5777 be one such year, an inspiring and meaningful year.

From the Rebetzin, myself and all the Rubins we wish you all Shanna Tova, filled with good health, prosperity, Nachat and happiness.

Rabbi Moshe Rubin

THE CHIEF RABBI 'S MESSAGE - ROSH HASHANAH 5777

"בראש השנה יתבונן וביום צום כיפור יחתמן" – 'On Rosh Hashanah it is inscribed and on Yom Kippur it is sealed'

As we recited these moving words in the *Unetaneh Tokef* prayer last year, we could hardly have anticipated the devastation that would be wrought by the relentless terrorist atrocities that would follow. The daily threat of terror is one to which our brethren in Israel have long become accustomed, but that awful reality has largely been greeted by silence in the mainstream media. Global terrorism has spread its tentacles far and wide, making no place on earth immune to this scourge. As the French philosopher and author Bernard-Henri Lévy has said, the world must now learn from the experiences of the Jewish State.

Never before in the history of human conflict has every innocent man, women and child found themselves on the front line. As we endure an onslaught on our freedom, our democracy and our very civilisation, what should our response be?

The *Unetaneh Tokef* prayer provides an answer: תשובה תפילה וצדקה - Repentance, Prayer, and Charity.

תשובה - Repentance

Teshuvah comes from the Hebrew word meaning 'to return'. Over our High Holydays we are tasked with making a uniquely honest and comprehensive assessment of ourselves so that we can return to our natural state of piety and purity. Our global challenge is to return to the values of human dignity, tolerance, mutual respect and peaceful coexistence. That process must begin with ourselves and those upon whom we can make a positive impression.

תפילה - Prayer

#PrayersForParis #PrayersForMunich #PrayersForBrussels. If these popular sentiments from social media are anything to go by, it seems that the world is rarely more united in prayer than after devastating terrorist attacks. In July, after a particularly brutal murder of a beloved Catholic Priest in Normandy, one Twitter user responded to my own message in despair: "The time for prayer is long gone," he said. I couldn't disagree more. The Talmud describes prayer as *avodah shebalev* – the 'service of the heart' – because, in essence, prayer is about training oneself to love and serve God. The Hebrew word for prayer, *tefillah*, is linked to *tofel*, which means connecting to a greater power. We pray with a deep sense of humility and responsibility because we understand that we can never simply be a 'law unto ourselves'. The power of prayer has always been and will always be a force for good; a spiritual connection with something greater than ourselves, elevating our souls and directly affecting our future actions. We will never fully comprehend the potency of our prayers or how things would have turned out without them but we do know that while terror thrives on a sense of narcissism and superiority, through prayer, we act with modesty and accountability.

צדקה - Charity/Righteousness

The first Chief Rabbi of the Holy Land, Rav Kook, taught that the antidote to causeless hatred is causeless love. Having embraced *Teshuvah* and *Tefillah* with all of the self-improvement that they require, we will have an instinctive and deeply rooted love for peace. But *Tzedakah* is the means by which we look beyond ourselves and turn that goodness into positive, meaningful action that will leave a lasting impact on the world around us.

Every one of us can increase the degree to which we give of ourselves to others, whether as part of an organised charitable campaign or by investing our time and energy into kindness and generosity. There is no degree of evil that cannot be overcome and outshone by an equal and opposite desire to do good for others.

Embracing more fully these three fundamental principles of Jewish life as a response to global hatred and violence might feel inadequate, even naïve. But, I believe that we are far more likely to change the world through positive action and leading by example, than simply by standing in judgement.

May this coming year be one filled with only peace and reconciliation among the peoples of the world. Valerie and I extend to you all our very best wishes for a happy and fulfilling New Year.

Chief Rabbi Ephraim Mirvis
September 2016 • Ellul 5776



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

KEN GERBER



Six months into the job as Chairman, I am still trying to ascend a very steep learning curve! Being rather new to the job, and indeed to the giddy heights of being on the Shul Council / Executive, I look around and can't ignore the fact that our Shul has a gradually declining membership through emigration and, sadly, people passing away. Despite this, I see a friendly, welcoming, vibrant Shul with considerable constructive activity and energy.

Over the past six months, we have had a gala dinner and special Seuda Shlish'it to honour Rabbi Rubin's first 25 years at Giffnock Shul, a fantastic Purim party, three extremely

interesting and well attended lectures in the Glasgow Learning Programme, plus a course of popular haphtorah classes which have enabled members who have not done a haphtorah since their barmitzvah, to perform a haphtorah once again.

My aim is to make Giffnock more inclusive for everyone, no matter how seldom or often you come to Shul. We are planning a programme of informal and friendly classes, starting in October, on how to follow a service, how to lead a service and how to read / improve your reading of Hebrew. I am always happy to hear from people with constructive ideas and suggestions – please e-mail kengerber@outlook.com, or speak to me.

As we approach Rosh Hashanah, may I take this opportunity of wishing you all a healthy, happy and fulfilling year ahead.

Ken Gerber



Children's Service

Please join us on the last Shabbat of every month for our children services for all ages and family friendly Kiddush. The Services start at 11 am.

We play games, read stories and sing songs based on the last month of parshot. It is active, fun and sociable. All children, from babies to Primary 7s are welcome at one of the three services situated around the shul.

Preschoolers - playtime & songs upstairs in the crèche
P1 - P5 in the Reception Areas
P6-and up in the Beit Midrash with Rabbi Yossi.

Go on, bring your kids, grandkids or neighbours' kids!!

Emma Taylor



SCoJeC, and the Glasgow Jewish Representative Council, held a Klezmer concert and dance with Edinburgh fiddle player Gica Loening and her son Herbie in June. This was preceded by Zoe Jacobs, speaking about SCoJeC's JOES Boxes project - a set of authentic Jewish artefacts which have been distributed to every local education authority in the country. The event was generously supported by the Netherlee and Clarkson Charitable Trust.



Introducing Your “New” Parness

Giffnock Shul has been in my blood for as long as I can remember. My grandparents and parents were members at “May Terrace” which is where I was “Barmitzvahed”. My mother was the first secretary at the “New” Shul and I grew up surrounded by the prime movers and shakers of the community.

Hazel, my wife, was a member of Niddrie Road Shul and reluctantly agreed to move after our marriage. Many may still remember her writing to the Jewish Echo after Yom Tov, about the noise the children made! Our children are now adults and love and respect this wonderful place and all it encompasses.

My journey began five years ago after a close friend passed away and there were no males to say Kaddish. I felt that saying Kaddish daily was small thanks for being the very good friend he had been. A year later I was asked by the Rabbi to become Gabbai. Over the next three years I learnt what the job actually entailed! I thank my predecessor, Garry Mann, whose organisational skills and high standards of professionalism, raised the bar of “the Parness position. It was an honour and also fun to be his Gabbai.

Being Parness is a demanding job, made easier with the help of our fantastic Rabbi and group of volunteer Gabbais who never falter when asked to help out with a service or any other task needing attention, ensuring the smooth running of the Shul and services. Thanks to Helmi and Ann, who have provided me with information, tea, coffee and, of course, a good “yachnie”.

The role of Parness has many facets, some seen, (running around on Shabbos/YomTov asking people for Aliyas, preparing weekly announcements, producing timetables you see around the Shul) and some unseen, (booking members who wish to read Haftorah on Shabbos). If you would like to recognise a Yahrzeit or a special birthday, or even to repeat your own Barmitzvah Parsha, please contact me, via email, on parnass@giffnockshul.co.uk and I will allocate that Haftorah to you.

Part of my job is to help ensure the daily Minyonim. It is essential for Avalim (Mourners) who have just lost a family member, or who have come to say Kaddish for a loved one, to know there will be a Minyan. Your help in achieving this cannot be overstressed. Believe it or not we are just normal guys, some working, some retired, and there to help out. We even provide free coffee and biscuits every morning and, on Sundays, rolls and cream cheese.

Some mourners may need guidance through the service and are supported by our understanding group of regulars, who want to help the mourner get through this very hard part of their lives. Your presence will make that task that little bit easier.

Finally on behalf of my Family and I, we wish The Rabbi and Rebbetzin, the Executive, Council and all members a “Shana Tova” and well over the Fast.

Michael Goodman

parnass@giffnockshul.co.uk

Building On Success

When people ask where I live, and I say Glasgow, their reaction is either "Are there Jews there?" Or, "Isn't it a dying community?" I'm always excited to reply " But Glasgow's where it's at!"

Now we're starting our fifth year here in Scotland, I can truly say our community is thriving and rocking. From a busy Pesach in shul to a massive Yom HaAitzmaut party we, along with Glasgow Young Jewish Families, held many great events this year. On Shavout I was truly amazed by the number of people who came to learn Torah late into the night.



And now with my chaplain hat on, it's been an awesome term. First our Purim party then, (and I can't remember a more inspiring seder), we had students from ten different countries around our Pesach table, singing and celebrating true freedom.

Jewish life on campus this year has been so busy, and with increased student numbers, JSOCS are active and proud to be Jewish. Meetings held at Edinburgh, Glasgow, Strathclyde and St. Andrews ensure that university is a place where any student can feel safe on campus.

Rosh HaShana is a time to think through the past year and be proud of what we have accomplished. It is also a time to look to the future and plan, G-D willing, a really sweet year. The chaplaincy board in Scotland spend day and night helping and supporting



Jewish students on campus. We are sure this year is going to be even more happening and exciting thanks to Rabbi Rubin, and the shul executive, who are true mentors.

Wishing you all a Shana Tovah, full of happiness, health and success. May HaShem shower us all with lots of blessings.

Yossi, Sarah and the kids.

MAZELTOV TO



BRAD & RYAN
SOLOMON

GILLIAN AND NEVILLE BARMACK ON THE BARMITZVAH OF THEIR SON GREG AND TO GRANDPARENTS STANLEY AND CAROL LOVATT.

ALAN & JOY GRODEN ON THE BARMITZVAH OF THEIR GRANDSON JOSH

LINDA AND ALLAN COWAN ON THE BARMITZVAH OF THEIR GRANDSON OLIVER

LEILA SANDLER ON THE OCCASION OF THE BARMITZVAH OF HER GRANDSON GUY

MARK AND LIN SOLOMON ON THE BARMITZVAH OF THEIR TWIN SONS BRAD AND RYAN, AND TO GRANDPARENTS ESTELLE SOLOMON AND STANLEY

AND ESTELLE TAYLOR DANIEL AND PATRICIA CLAPHAM ON THE BARMITZVAH OF THEIR SON JACQUES.



GREG BARMACK

A Weekend in Israel

It seemed an easy thing to do - write a travel piece about a hot, sunny country with beautiful beaches, tremendous restaurants and iconic buildings. But had it been done before? Well, not about Israel or certainly not by The Herald! Dipping a toe in the Israeli Mediterranean sea seemed to be missing from previous travel reviews. So, as a Herald journalist, I said I wanted to do it.



There was a slight hesitation from my editors - not because they didn't want the piece, but concern about those angry letters it might provoke. However they said go ahead.

The newspaper had been invited to Jerusalem's first opera festival, and I duly arrived at Ben Gurion Airport where I met Henrietta from "Opera Magazine". As I had been in Israel lots of times, well actually once before, I tried to be as helpful as I could. When she saw teenage girls with rifles in the street, I explained they were just off-duty soldiers and not a heavily-armed girl gang. When the taxi driver started hitting his horn and shouting at every set of traffic lights, I said he was not mad, merely a normal Israeli driver.

When I told her we would get lost in Old Jerusalem she did not panic when we did, despite having a tour guide with us. The guide was from Tel Aviv and didn't seem to like Jerusalem all that much. I was able to point out that applied to most folk from Tel Aviv.

The guide also took us out for dinner in Tel Aviv on Friday night. "Will the restaurants be open on Shabbat?" I asked her, showing how my Hebrew had grown by at least one word since moving to Newton Mearns. "Of course!" she said, looking, as if she was dealing with an idiot. "You don't think we're going to eat stodgy chicken soup and chicken, do you?" I stood corrected.

The outdoor opera at the Sultan's Pool, just outside the city walls, was in a stunning arena. And yes, the Friday food was rich and varied. And the cafe lifestyle at Tel Aviv's beach was everything a holidaymaker would desire.

On my return I wrote about what a lovely holiday destination Israel is. In an area of insecurities, walking along the streets of Tel Aviv late on a Saturday night seemed far safer than doing the same in Glasgow's city centre.

Ken Smith



“OUR CLUB”

Unfortunately this year I lost my Mother, and while I have been part of the Minyan Rota for the Shul for some time, I now find myself almost living in the Beis Hamidrash. It has been a difficult time, but I have found that attending the Shul services and being part of the “Club” has been extremely therapeutic. The atmosphere is warm and friendly, and everyone is welcomed.

Sometimes it is a struggle to make our Minyan, especially over the holiday periods...but so far we have always made it. For those saying Kaddish through the year or for a Yahrzeit it is vital to have a Minyan.

Please join us ...once a week...once a fortnight....or as often as you can...but please come and support those who are saying Kaddish and help to keep our Shul strong.

You will find, as I have, that you get a lot more out of the Shul than you put into it. Do join us.....you **will** enjoy it.

Warren Karpf

Recipients of the Pushke fund are

JEWISH CARE, COSGROVE CARE, NEWARK CARE, RABBINICAL COLLEGE
CHAI CANCER CARE, MAGAN DAVID ADOM, MARY'S MEALS

TABLE TENNIS CLUB

The club had a very busy year, and in the spring, we had a singles competition for all members, which was won by Derek Tobias, with Eddie Cowan coming a close second, both receiving trophies. We are about to hold a doubles competition. The trophies are in memory of the late Phil Poston and the late Tom McQuillan, both of whom served for many years as important members of the club.

We are sorry to have lost one of our most regular and popular members. Shlomie Rubin has gone to study at Gateshead Yeshivah. He has worked hard over the past few years to improve his game. The members of the club presented him with a set of Machzorim. We hope he visits us for a match when he comes home. The standard continues to improve and we hope to have the opportunity to play other clubs over the coming season.





CHESS CLUB

The club continues to play on Wednesday evenings, but unfortunately no new members have joined the existing players.

Those who come have enjoyable and competitive games, in a friendly and happy environment. The standard of play has improved and the games are skilful and well executed.

Anyone interested, young or old, is very welcome and assured of tutoring from existing members.

The members wish Rabbi and Rebbetzin Rubin, their family, the Executive and all members of the Shul, a happy and peaceful New Year and an Easy Fast.

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

The Friendship Club meets every Tuesday between 1.45 and 3.45pm. New members are always welcome as is anyone who would like to entertain or talk with us!



We have enjoyed entertainment from Eddie Binnie and Rabbi Rubin, talks from Cindy about Flower arranging and Myra Livingstone about her travels in the North of Scotland. We also had a special "Wimbledon Tea", donated by the "Glasgow Girls" in London, at which our "own" tennis star Shlomie Rubin entertained us.

Unfortunately we had to forego our usual bus runs due to the weather but hope to make up for this next year.

We wish our members and the congregation a Good Yom Tov and well over the fast.

Adele Smullen

Monty Cowen

A tie for every season

Monty Cowen, our Senior Life President, has been a member of the Shul Council and Executive for 54 years. Many of us may be familiar, yet bemused, with his unusual selection of neckwear! Here is Monty's story.

It used to be the convention for sales reps to wear plain or simple striped ties as part of their "uniform". In order to stand out Monty decided to wear colourful, eye catching ties, a tradition he carries on to the present day.



In the mid 1980's Monty, a fan of Formula 1, purchased a tie displaying Formula 1 circuits and so his fascination and collection began. Initially he continued with the motor racing and cars motif. Later Monty's wife, Phyllis, suggested he seek out and wear ties with a religious theme. They found a U.S. company through the internet and they learned that the company's owner had fond memories of Scotland from his time serving here in the American army. As a token, the Cowen's sent some tartan memorabilia and in exchange they received some religious motif ties. New sources were identified and the collection blossomed. Monty now has over two hundred ties of which one hundred are worn regularly.

Monty's daughter found a company who could print ties to order. Like his most recent addition, a tie with photos of his great granddaughter, the ones that are most special, have a family connection. These include his "Proud Grandpa" ties; one spelling out Bar Mitzvah in Scrabble tiles and the other printed with "Grandpa of the Bride". His special collection includes a wooden tie, a tie with Cohen's hands with fingers in the deuchening position, ties with themes related to the weekly Shabbat sedrah, ties that reflect annual events such as the clocks going back or forward, ties for sporting events and ties for each of the Jewish festivals. Amongst this eclectic collection are ties bearing the Mona Lisa, the Colqhoun crest (Cowans are part of the Colqhoun clan) and one with the badge of the Glasgow Jewish Representative Council (created by the late Kenny Davidson and presented to Executive members).

There was one gap in his collection that Monty was keen to fill. Of all the Jewish festivals, Monty did not have an appropriate tie to wear on the first two days of Succot. However, such a tie has now been located and Monty plans to wear it with pride on his birthday, which coincides with Succot. To see what symbols the tie bears you'll need to come to Shul!

Michael Clerck

SHARING OUR HISTORY



Garnethill Synagogue, Scotland's oldest surviving synagogue (opened in 1879) is to house a Scottish Jewish Heritage Centre including a Scottish Holocaust-era Study Centre through a partnership between the Scottish Jewish Archives Centre and Garnethill Synagogue Preservation Trust (chairmen Dr Kenneth Collins and Bernard Goodman).

The Centre has received funding of £348,900 from the Heritage Lottery Fund including a £52,000 development phase grant. The Scottish Jewish Heritage Centre Working Group is now taking forward this exciting project.



The Scottish Holocaust-era Study Centre will showcase the Archive Centre's historic collections and provide public access to this internationally important archive that documents the experiences of adult and child refugees fleeing from Nazi Europe before the outbreak of the Second World War and of those survivors of the concentration camps, who found a safe haven in Scotland.

The project will also highlight the architectural heritage of the Grade A listed Garnethill Synagogue and the histories of pioneering congregants and their contributions to the development of modern Glasgow. Three new volunteer-led services will be created: a schools visit service, a weekday public guiding service and a weekend events and activities programme, along with enhanced marketing and developing events and activities.

A 'walking trail' APP is to be developed in partnership with the University of the West of Scotland and Glasgow City Council, which will show that Garnethill was a hub for Jewish refugees in the 1930s and 1940s.

The Archives Centre has seen a significant increase in demand for access to its Holocaust-era collections, especially from schools and universities. An increasing number of former refugees and their families have donated their memorabilia and documents. The Study Centre will offer new resources to a wide range of people including international researchers and those investigating family and local history. Scotland's excellent record in welcoming Jewish refugees fleeing from Nazi Europe is especially relevant to migration and anti-racism issues today.

The Working Group (Fiona Brodie, Deborah Haase, Harvey Kaplan, Harvey Livingston, Tony Silverdale and Claire Singerman) with the help of architects, designers, business planners and educational specialists including Holocaust education specialist, Dr Paula Cowan, are now preparing details for a 2nd Stage application to the Heritage Lottery Fund. The group will seek all the funding needed to deliver the £500,000+ project and to help with future running costs. Individual donations helped fund the development phase and the Association of Jewish Refugees has generously pledged £100,000 towards the delivery costs. For more information, or to become involved in some aspect or assist with funding contact Deborah at the Archives Centre by email: info@sjac.org.uk or telephone: 0141 332 4911.

Harvey Kaplan

*We are very grateful to David who submitted this article
before the sad loss of his beloved wife, Vivian.
The editors wish to express their sincere condolences to all the family.*



JEW'S WHO CRUISE

There was a time when there were certain prerequisites before one could go on a cruise. First, one had to be earning at least £2000 p.a. Two tuxedos were required, - one black and one white. Patent leather dancing shoes were a must, and porters ferried your heavy wooden trunks. There were two notable cruise lines in those days, P&O and Cunard.

Today there are so many cruise lines with so many liners that mid-ocean collisions are a distinct possibility, and parking spaces in ports can be a problem. The only prerequisites to go cruising now seem to be at least one tattoo and the ability to consume large quantities of food and alcohol.

Jews enjoy cruising for several reasons, the main one being food. One can eat up to six meals a day, plus room service in between. The larger liners have six or seven restaurants, each offering different types of food.

The second reason is Jewish company and banter. One can be sure of meeting at least a hundred Jewish couples, usually from America, London, or Manchester.

The first port of call on docking is the local Shul. It is important that you visit the Shul, take a photograph of yourself standing on the Bimah, and show it to your Rabbi when you get home - even if the Rabbi last saw you at your Barmitzvah, he needs to know that you visited a Shul. From Shul the waiting taxi takes you to the main shopping area. Shopping, however, can be disappointing because, like all high streets at home, the shops are the same - Zara, M&S, Top Shop, and all the mobile phone shops. It may interest you to know that it only takes five minutes for a Jew to learn the word "sale" in six languages.

One of the highlights of your cruise is the Friday night service, usually held in the ship's theatre. These services are compulsory for every Jew on the ship. The reasons are:

1. Every Jew wants to know who else on the boat is Jewish.
2. There is free challah and kiddush wine.
3. The ladies can see (and criticise) what the other ladies are wearing.

I recently attended one of these services for the above reasons. When I entered the theatre there were at least one hundred passengers (this would cause great excitement in most shuls on a Friday night.) I picked up a song sheet and yarmulke and sat down waiting for the Cruise Director to announce the Service, which I may add, was hours before Shabbos came in. The Cruise Director climbed onto the stage and announced that for this event he was our Shabbos Goy. Huge applause and laughter erupted.

He then announced that he had a volunteer to lead the service and introduced "Rabbi Cohen". She was wearing a tallis and yarmulke, colour coordinated with her thigh length dress and six inch stiletto heels. Rabbi Cohen asked us all to say where we came from, at which point the Americans shouted out almost every state in the USA, amid loud cheers. The Londoners, not wishing to be outdone shouted out North London, East London, South London, West London....

Rabbi Cohen asked us to turn to page one of our four-page siddur and proceeded to sing with a voice reminiscent of the ship's foghorns. 90% of the song sheet was in

English and, like fools, we all read out loud to the accompaniment of her drones. Like all the other orthodox Jews at this point I began to feel nauseous and vowed never to go to another Friday night service on a cruise ship.

The service ended on a high as everyone jumped out of their seats and headed for the wine and challah. A few congregants praised the Rabbi for her wonderful service but I did note that they were wearing double hearing aids and very thick spectacles.

There are many reasons why Jews cruise and, apart from the ones just mentioned, the main one, believe it or not, is that cruising is great value for money. Now that the competition between cruise lines is so great, once you have paid your fare you can opt for free drinks, free tours, no tipping, free air fairs etc.

So pay your fare and leave your wallet at home.

All aboard.

David Strang.

Letter from Canada

Alexandra Moses, nee Wober, has lived in Canada for 9 years with her husband Meir and children Yehudi (12) and Tali (9). Here she describes the vibrant Jewish life in Vancouver.

Vancouver hosts Jews from many nationalities – many Israelis and South Africans, as well as Argentinians and Mexicans. It can be hard to find community members here who were actually born and bred in Vancouver.

There are many choices of shul, e.g. Orthodox, Conservative, Reform, Reconstructionist. However, many Jewish people don't belong to a shul at all. Some prefer to express their Judaism in a more cultural way. For example, people who don't attend shul will still invite you to their annual Chanukah party complete with latkes, donuts, dreidels, candle-lighting and fun.

The Jewish Community Centre (JCC) is a major institution here. It has a preschool and daycare for little ones, plus loads of sports, dance, creative, educational and social programs for older kids and adults, as well as a variety of activities for seniors, like classical concerts, bridge, yoga and Jewish learning.

There is also a kosher café, library, pool, theatre, art gallery, holocaust education centre and offices of the Jewish Federation and other Jewish community organisations. I currently work at The Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs, which is the advocacy arm of Jewish Federation.



It is interesting to observe the incredibly diverse clientele that is found at the JCC café. You will see Jews of all denominations sitting together, and even find a rabbi sitting at one table, with a group of Chinese ladies at the next. Everyone is perfectly comfortable sharing the space – and the same integration happens throughout the centre whether in kids' swimming lessons, or dance classes.

Our kids go to one of the three main Jewish elementary schools - Vancouver Talmud Torah. There they spend half the day in secular studies and half the day in Hebrew/Judaics. Yehudi is about to go into his last year of Elementary school, the year that they will be doing their Bar/Bat Mitzvahs. Next year there is an option for him to go to King David, the Jewish secondary school. A big difference between here and the UK is the cost of Jewish education. As there is no such thing as a Jewish public school here in Canada, there are significant fees to pay.

There are other interesting alternatives for Secondary education. For example, you can apply to a school that will spend half the year on the general curriculum and the other half in the outdoors, learning through survival-style field trips, incorporating camping, cycling, kayaking - and even building igloos on snowy mountain tops! There are also schools which focus half their day on academics and the other half on a special artistic or sporting talent.

Summer holidays are ten weeks long and as I write Yehudi and Tali are both away at Camp Miriam, (Habonim camp) having the time of their lives! The beautiful campsite is located on Gabriola Island, BC, right by the ocean. The spirit of the camp is very similar to the UK Habonim camp experience that we had as kids – the major difference being the stunning setting and gorgeous weather!

Wishing you Chag Sameach

Burns Supper 2017 Priority Booking

Our Annual Burns Supper will take place on Sunday 22nd January 2017.

Our Burns Supper has the reputation of being "controversial" and with this year's line up of speakers it will be no different.

We are delighted to announce that the Immortal Memory Toast will be given by Scotland's First Minister, Nicola Sturgeon.

This is a "coup" for our community, whatever your Politics, and we know we will be inundated with requests for tickets.

Before we go to the general public we want to give our own Giffnock Shul members first option on places as we will be limited to approx 250.

We are now opening this PRIORITY BOOKING for our members and while we would appreciate Tables of 10 or 12 (with names) we will naturally take individual Bookings.

Tickets are £50 per person and all Bookings MUST be paid for at time of booking.

To give everyone enough time to make up tables, we will hold this Priority Booking open until Rosh Hashanah at the beginning of October....at which point we will go to the rest of the Glasgow Community.

Please contact the Shul Office on 0141 577 8250 and have your Credit Card at the ready!



My World Challenge

In May 2015, I was very fortunate to be selected to go on an incredible journey to Sri Lanka with the World Challenge organisation. The challenge began the day I received the letter confirming my place, as I had only a year to raise over £2500. It was great getting to know the twenty people in my team and we bonded straight away. Surprisingly, despite studying hard for my Highers, the year flew past, and before I knew it I was standing in Glasgow Airport with a massive rucksack on my back, ready to go.

Contrary to some people's assumptions the trip was far from a holiday and the name 'World Challenge' was pretty self-explanatory. This organisation sends young people around the world to aid communities living below the poverty line. At the same time it also teaches 'challengers' about important life experiences like handling money, responsibility and independence.



The trip not only met but exceeded my expectations. However it was the project itself that stood out for me. In Sri Lanka we visited Bambarabedda Junior School. There, we rebuilt a wall that had been washed away by the land slides and dug holes to plant trees for shade. We also taught English and played with the school kids. Although only there for three days, for both the school and ourselves, it was an unforgettable life changing experience. Three days doesn't seem like a long time but we had underestimated how attached we would become to the kids and the school; it was heart breaking to leave. It was the children who made the project so memorable and special. They had so little but were still happy and willing to share what they did have with us. The children use only natural materials that are available to them for art activities. Nothing was shop bought and it was brilliant to see how resourceful the kids and their teachers were. Although it may sound clichéd, seeing the kids constantly smiling and enjoying themselves was amazing, and really made me appreciate what I have.

The part of the Challenge I found the most difficult both mentally and physically was the trek. The weather was a huge obstacle as it was monsoon season and extremely wet, muddy and slippery. We also had to contend with leeches which were unwelcome visitors throughout the Challenge. The terrain was mountainous and we worked hard to keep ourselves motivated and to keep ourselves and each other going. Despite the difficulties we saw some magnificent sights including tea plantations, stunning waterfalls, and, thanks to the guides, we learnt so much about rural Sri Lanka. I finished the trek hand-in-hand with my friend and felt a massive sense of achievement. The Challenge was an amazing and unforgettable life experience and will, I am sure, help me to face challenges in the future.

Tori Purcell

CLEVER CLOGS!!!



JAMIE JACKSON MA(HONS)



DR LEONI BENNETT MBCHB



DANIEL WALTON
LEGAL PRACTICE COURSE (MERIT)



ABBY MILLER BSC (HONS)

MAZELTOV TO ALL OF OUR
HARD WORKING YOUNGSTERS
WHO GRADUATED THIS YEAR.
APOLOGIES IF ANY ONE IS
MISSED BUT WE RELY ON FAMILY
MEMBERS TO LET US KNOW
ABOUT THEIR CHILDREN'S
ACHIEVEMENTS.

GIDEON KINGSLEY
BACHELOR OF ACCOUNTANCY
(1ST CLASS)

MEGAN DALY
BSC (1ST CLASS)



GREGORY CLARK
MASTER OF PHYSICS (1ST CLASS)

BAT MITZVAH



EVIE WINOCOUR CELEBRATED HER BAT CHAYIL ON SATURDAY
10TH SEPTEMBER.

SHE HAS JUST STARTED 1ST YEAR AT HUTCHESONS' GRAMMAR
AND LOVES PLAYING MINECRAFT, READING, FOLLOWING
YOUTUBERS AND PLAYING GAMES- ESPECIALLY BRIDGE.

AS A MEMBER OF THE 5TH GIFFNOCK GUIDES EVIE ALSO ENJOYS
CAMPING.

EVIE IS THE DAUGHTER OF PAUL AND HELENA WINOCOUR AND
SISTER OF TOBY.

MAZELTOV TO THE BARNETT FAMILY ON THE BAT MITZVAH,
IN ISRAEL, OF SARA TALKAN

Glasgow Learning Programme – Let's Talk About It

This summer the GLP tackled three different medical issues of particular relevance to Jewish people. The talks took place in the Walton Community Care Centre and were a joint venture between Giffnock Shul and Jewish Care. The three talks were well attended and very successful and the organisers are grateful to the speakers - Professor Anthony Warrens (Organ Donation), Dr. Martin Livingston (Psychiatry) and Katrina Sarig (Jnetics).



The first talk, "The Jewish Attitude to Organ Donation" laid to rest the myth that Jewish people are not allowed to donate organs. Professor Warrens spoke eloquently about the need for more Jewish donors to increase the possibility of matches. He made his subject clear to the layman and left us in no doubt how important donation is in saving lives. Rabbi Rubin then explained the Talmudic references which, when interpreted, show clearly that donating organs in order to save life is completely compatible with orthodox Jewish beliefs and are in fact a "mitzvah". Marsha Gladstone spoke movingly about the decision she and her family made to donate her late son Yoni's organs after he was killed in Israel. She explained that the decision has given her some comfort knowing that Yoni continues to make a real contribution to the betterment of people's lives. Further information is available on myjewishlearning.com, aish.com/ci/sam/48936217.html, hods.org via the internet

In week two of the programme, Dr Martin Livingston gave an interesting and wide-ranging talk describing the influence of Jewish people on the development of understanding of psychiatric disorders and a summary of the impact of the prevailing disorders on family life.

The final talk was given by Katrina Sarig of the specialist charity, Jnetics. Katrina explained that there were a significant number of genetic disorders which are prevalent in the Ashkenazi Jewish community. She showed us that there was a high probability of a child being born with serious condition if two people who carry the same faulty gene conceive a child. The late Vivian Strang then spoke with great courage and passion about her own family situation.

Testing is available and Jnetics subsidises the cost. If a young couple are tested before they marry or conceive a child then, if there is a problem, steps can be taken to minimise any risk. **Families are urged to ensure that young people are advised of the importance of being tested.** If sufficient people express interest then a screening may be arranged in Glasgow. Please contact the Shul office if you would like to attend a screening session. Please see jnetics.org.uk for more information.

Shul Events

The shul events calendar was very full this year from Purim and Shavuot parties, to baby/child naming services, flower arranging tutorials, and the Beit Midrash Programme. We have picked out a few events to remind ourselves!



Yom Hashoah – May 4th.

A capacity audience in the Shul hall included local politicians of all parties even though it was the eve of the Scottish Elections. Abi Levitus and Oliver Levy compered. Children taking part in the UJIA Ethiopian Bar and Batmitzvah twinning programme lit candles in memory of the Six Million. Speakers included Agnes Isaacs and Paul Morron. There was also a display by Calderwood Lodge Primary 7 under the instruction of Joanne Hyman.

Yom Yerushalayim – 1st June

A taste of the East came to the Shul in June when a large group from Israel's Yemenite community entertained a packed audience on Yom Yerushalayim. There were singers and colourful dancers, not to mention a stand-up comedian .

A number of Yemeni were in the audience enjoying the event. It was fascinating for the community to mingle with so many exotic people. The evening was a meeting of two very different cultures but one people, and everyone left with smiling faces.



Ben Helfgott, the principal speaker was one of 732 orphaned Jewish children who survived the concentration camps and brought to the UK. He spoke movingly of his journey "from hell to paradise." His talk was inspirational and although his young life was catastrophic he managed not only to survive, but to build a successful life.

Royal Kiddush – 16th June

Lady Bette Stone invited the congregation to a special sit down kiddush in honour of Her Majesty's 90th birthday celebration. It was quite splendid and really appreciated by all.



Going to the Palace!

It is universally acknowledged that no-one is more deserving of being awarded an MBE than Giffnock Shul Life President, Malcolm Livingstone!

Ably supported by his wife, Myra, Malcolm works tirelessly for and behalf of the Jewish community in Scotland. Malcolm and Myra are proud parents of three sons and a daughter and have eight grandchildren. Despite all this Malcolm has always ensured that he makes time to enhance the community in which he lives.

Malcolm's parents set a high bar to follow as an example, through their involvement and leadership in JNF and WIZO.



Malcolm did not feel that he had a particularly auspicious start after he initially failed his "Qually" at age eleven. However his parents managed to persuade the powers that be to allow him to re-sit and this time he passed and went on to attend Eastwood Secondary School. He then studied Economics and Business Studies graduating from Strathclyde University in 1964.

Malcolm has been instrumental in most of the Glasgow Jewish institutions. These have included Bonnyton Golf Club, where he is currently the Chairman of the Bonnyton Trust, and the Glasgow Jewish Community Trust where he has been Chairman since 2000.

As a young parent he had a particular interest in Calderwood Jewish Day School, and after serving as Treasurer of the Parent-Teacher Association was later elected as Chairman. This led to becoming Treasurer and later Chairman of the Glasgow Board of Jewish Education.

As if this wasn't enough, Malcolm is also a trustee of the Glasgow Jewish Community Trust, and this has allowed him a great understanding of those less fortunate in our community whether by virtue of old age, disability, or social circumstances. He is also currently a delegate to the Board of Deputies of British Jews.

Malcolm's modest manner ensures he is well liked and respected by all with whom he comes into contact. We may be biased but surely it is Her Majesty who should be honoured to be conferring an award to such a "mensch"?

Been at the Palace!



Risha and I were honoured to be invited to the Queen's Holyrood Garden Party this year, and preparation was intense to comply with the numerous strict guidelines sent to us.

For me, it was quite simple: look out an old suit, select a shirt and tie, and of course, polish my shoes. However, Risha's take on the afternoon was quite different. A new dress was definitely required, but unsurprisingly did not match any of the myriad of shoes in the wardrobe!

On the day, suitably attired, we arrived in enough time to acquire a good parking spot. Naturally we were too early, so we sat in the car, roof down, eating our sandwiches and watching the Queen's Archers prepare for the visitors. Once the gates opened, ten minutes early, it still took twenty minutes, after security clearance by efficient yet friendly police, to enter the gardens.

Once inside, we were advised to 'grab some (more) sandwiches' whilst we could and I must say the cucumber and mint was delicious.

The big moment arrived and the Queen and entourage regally descended from the Palace. We were too slow to get into a "line" so observed from the sidelines the spectacle of others being introduced to Her Majesty.

Risha then 'lost me', and proceeded to ask if anyone had seen a grey haired man in a dark blue suit: a description that matched at least 4,000 other men! We eventually found each other and also Neil and Naomi Livingstone, Mark and Doreen Cohen amongst others.

Whilst the Queen's entourage were ensconced in their own tent, (sorry marquee), we enjoyed yet another round of cucumber sandwiches but this time there was also ice cream.

It was a fantastic day and we'd like to thank those responsible for our nomination.

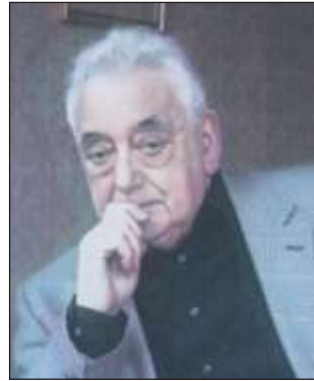
Jeremy and Risha Freedman



OBITUARY

ALBERT TANKEL

1934-2016



Albert was a man of vision who understood from an early age that any organisation, whether a business or charity, must be open to change if it is to survive and prosper. Aged 20, on the death of his father, Albert left the RAF to go into the family business. He quickly changed the direction of the company from a wholesale watch distributor to a highly successful diamond merchant, travelling world wide and building up contacts and close relationships with other diamond merchants. His love for the business continued throughout his life, even in his last months visiting the office once a week to keep up to date. He was a popular and well respected figure in the UK diamond industry receiving several trade awards. In 1977 and 1978 Albert received the Israel Trade Award in recognition of ' an outstanding contribution in the forging of international trade links with Israel ' and in 2004 he was awarded, (with Royal consent), a medal by the King of Belgium, for trade with that country.

In his younger years Albert was a very successful tennis player and played at Junior Wimbledon. In later years he continued to play regularly to keep himself fit.

Albert was a compassionate and generous person. He cared deeply about people and always wanted to help others. In the early sixties the Glasgow Jewish Welfare Board's activities had expanded into the provision of housing for those in need. In 1965 Albert realised that access to Government and Local Authority grants was essential to implement an ambitious housing programme. As a result of his recommendation the Welfare Board agreed to the formation of Arklett Housing Association, an independent Jewish organisation, which now has housing properties approaching £40 million. Later, in his role as housing convener and then as Chairman of the Board, Albert personally visited many clients to offer help and support.

Albert had become Joint Chairman of the Welfare Board with Marcus Green in 1979, and sole Chairman in 1995. A major report, identifying the need for radical change, had been commissioned in 1994 and, under Albert's guidance, a much needed professional element was sensitively introduced into a previously voluntary organisation. In 1996 he recruited Ethne Woldman, (recently retired as the Principal Officer for Community Care, Strathclyde Council), as the Welfare Board's first Chief Executive Officer. In the ensuing

years Albert, Ethne, the Board, the professional staff and the volunteers worked together to make his vision a reality.

In 2000 the purpose-built Walton Community Day Centre was opened and the organisation's name changed to Jewish Care Scotland. A unique partnership with East Renfrewshire Council was established which successfully continues today. Jewish Care Scotland had become and still is an example to many other charitable organisations.

Following his retirement as Chairman in 2005 Albert continued, as President of Jewish Care Scotland, to take great interest in the progress of the organisation attending many meetings and giving the Board the benefit of his many years of experience.

Albert once said that the most valuable thing a person can give to another was their time, and under his leadership, so many have come forward offering just that along with their personal skills. Through Jewish Care Scotland Albert has left a very special and valuable legacy to our community.

He is survived by his wife Alice and two sons David and Tony.

Maureen Solomons

**SINCERE CONDOLENCES AND WISHES FOR A
LONG LIFE TO THE FAMILIES OF**

Phoebe Isaacs

Dr Gilla Helenglass

Albert Tankel

Vivian Strang

Myrtle Rychal

Freda Cutler

Dr Isidore Wolff

Evelyn Bercott

Dorothy Zolkwer

Emma Levy

Hilda Silver

OBITUARY

HILDA SILVER

1952-2016



Hilda died suddenly and unexpectedly shortly after her 64th birthday. The following is extracted from words spoken at her funeral by her close friend Stella Sternberg.

Hilda loved family life and often spoke of her happy memories of "The Loaning", growing up with her parents Lily and Wolfie. She was a young woman when her father died, yet she inherited his love of charitable work and sense of community. Hilda, as a teenager, joined the "mini JOAH" committee, and later joined JNF and continuously fund raised for many Jewish charities throughout her life. She was a stalwart and active member of her local shul, Hampstead Garden Suburb, and was always the first to volunteer for a task. In recognition of her service and dedication the Shul held a special memorial service in her honour last month. Despite living in London for forty years, her heart remained with Giffnock Shul, where she regularly returned to daven.

Lily and Hilda remained exceptionally close, with the two of them enjoying many activities together such as theatre, exhibitions, cinema, and concerts. Hilda retained strong relationships with her nieces, nephews, cousins and all her friends, new and old. She was always interested in the lives of their children, looking upon them as her own, and delighted, whenever she could, in attending simchas all around the world.

Hilda attended Park School and Strathclyde University graduating with a Marketing degree. Hilda had a greater variety of jobs than most people, but whether it was advertising, shipping, children's party entertainer, yoga instructor, or finally marketeer for a chocolate company, she brought the same enthusiasm and attention to detail to every position.

Hilda enjoyed many hobbies, including Bridge, Pilates, Yoga, and walking. She had a great sense of fun but also a serious spiritual side. She was equally at home with Indian friends going to a yoga retreat or studying Jewish texts with Lubavitch friends. In many ways she was a contradiction; in her youth, mature beyond her years, in her more senior years, young at heart; someone who pursued a healthy life style before it was "in" to do so and yet, despite being almost unknown to her GP, died so prematurely.

Hilda was well known in many different circles and her unexpected death shocked local shopkeepers, past and present colleagues, pupils and friends alike, all of whom remember with affection her vibrancy, friendship and positive attitude to life. We wish a Long Life to her mother Lily and brothers Stephen and Leonard.

OBITUARY

VIVIAN STRANG

1940-2016

Vivian Strang, who died after a long battle with cancer, leaves a large hole in the hearts of everyone who knew her. She was a very special, kind and talented lady whose warm and caring nature touched the lives of many people especially at times of trouble. This was evident from the huge numbers who attended her funeral. Many shared Rabbi Rubin's tears as he spoke with emotion about his friend Vivian.

Vivian's talent for art and her love of embroidery was evident early on and led to her achieving a City and Guilds qualification. She was passionate about Jewish Care Scotland and when she started the Arts and Crafts club her incredible talent inspired people, who had never created anything before, to make intricate and beautiful embroidered works of art. People with dementia, sight loss, or problems with dexterity seemed to overcome these challenges in the time they spent with her. They simply adored her.

She designed the large banner portraying the embroidered faces of some club members which now hangs in the Day Room, (having been returned from display in East Renfrewshire Council offices), and she was especially proud of this along with a number of club members' works that adorn the walls of JCS. Vivian took great pride in having been part of the embroidery team who worked on the beautiful Yoni Jesner curtain now used for the Ark at Yom Tovim in Giffnock Shul. Her last labour of love was the exquisite Chupah cover she embroidered for her grand daughter Hayley's marriage.

She was co-chair of the Jewish Convalescent Holiday Fund which she ran with the same passion and care that she put into everything she did.

Even when Vivian knew she was dying she still talked about projects for the future; a community initiative to brighten up the shul and even in her final weeks, she gave an impassioned speech urging young couples to get tested to protect future generations against genetically transferred conditions.

Vivian put her heart and soul into everything she did because she cared about people, her community, her family and her friends. She will be missed. Fortunately we can remember and celebrate her life through her wonderful work which adorns the community.

Vivian was married to David for nearly 56 happy years. She is survived by her children Raymond, Ralph and Jacqui, and the grandchildren she adored, Hayley, Jon, Sophie, Jodi, Molly and Daisy.

Lesley Roles

Looking Out for the Next Generation

When I recently gave a talk at Jewish Care Scotland, I was met with a warm embrace from Vivian Strang. Though we'd emailed and spoken on the phone, I'd never had the pleasure of meeting Vivian before and I was immediately struck by her lovely personality and her passion for raising awareness about screening for Jewish genetic disorders.



That evening, to a packed audience, I explained about Jewish genetic disorders and how they can be better managed and prevented. Along with Tay-Sachs, research has identified other genetic conditions that are relatively common in Jewish people. These vary in severity but some are very debilitating and life-shortening and a few, like Tay-Sachs, are tragically fatal in childhood. Though rare, these very severe disorders are devastating and typically occur even when there is no family history.

This is something Vivian knew all too well. Her 'beautiful doll' granddaughter is affected by Familial Dysautonomia (FD) and Vivian bravely shared her story about the impact the diagnosis and associated health challenges had on her family. One of her most striking comments was that new cases of FD, as with other severe Jewish genetic conditions, could be eliminated if all young Jewish adults had carrier screening.

Carrier screening involves taking and testing a small blood sample to identify if a person is a 'carrier' of a Jewish genetic condition. 'Carriers' are NOT affected themselves but have a high risk of passing on a genetic disorder to their children if their partner is also a carrier of the SAME disorder. Carrier screening helps to identify if you are at increased risk of passing on a severe genetic disorder and enables you to consider the different options available to reduce the chances of having an affected child.

In the USA, Canada, Australia, Israel and the Haredi community, screening for many severe Jewish genetic disorders is standard practise but not so in the UK. To address this, the charity Jnetics established the first community screening programme covering 9 of the most severe Jewish genetic disorders, including Tay-Sachs.

The service is provided in partnership with an NHS lab and clinical genetics department to ensure responsible delivery. This is not currently available free on the NHS. However the charity subsidises the service to keep the cost to participants as low as possible (£190 to cover all 9 conditions).

Since February 2014, Jnetics has run 10 screenings in London and 1 in Manchester – testing over 370 people. Of these, 1 in 5 participants were found to be carriers of at least one of the severe conditions covered by the test. Furthermore, two couples were identified as being carriers of the same condition who now have the knowledge and support to effectively manage the 1 in 4 risk of passing on a severe condition to their children.

Vivian worked tirelessly to raise funds for those affected by FD and increase awareness about screening so that other Jewish families could avoid unnecessary tragedy. In

Vivian's memory, Jnetics hopes to facilitate access to screening for the Glasgow community in the near future.

Please visit www.jnetics.org for more information and contact screening@jnetics.org if you are interested in participating in our next event. We'd also appreciate members of the community getting in touch if they may be able to volunteer to support service delivery or help with subsidisation.

Katrina Sarig - Executive Director, Jnetics

MAZELTOV



HAYLEY STRANG AND
DAVID LUBZCANSKI.



LAUREN NICKOLAY AND
DANIEL BOR.



SUSAN LECKERMAN AND
DARREN HANIFORD.



NAOMI COWAN AND
ANDY JOSEPH.

GOLDEN WEDDINGS

RISHA AND JEREMY
FREEDMAN

DOROTHY AND BRIAN
LEVINE



PHILIPPA AND
YISRAEL WARBURG.

ANNE AND MICHAEL NICKOLAY ON THE MARRIAGE OF THEIR DAUGHTER LAUREN TO DANIEL BOR
RAYMOND & MANDY STRANG ON THE MARRIAGE OF DAUGHTER HAYLEY TO DAVID LUBZCANSKI AND TO
GRANDPARENTS DAVID STRANG AND SANDRA WINOCOUR.

ALAN & ANN HILL ON THE MARRIAGE OF ALICE PREVEZER & GARY HILL

DARREN HANIFORD & SUSAN LECKERMAN ON THEIR MARRIAGE AND TO PARENTS, LAURENCE & ESMÉE
HANIFORD AND ALAN & WENDY LECKERMAN, AND GRANDPARENTS SYDNEY SAMUELS, YVONNE HANIFORD
AND HAROLD AND IRENE BAKER

PAULA AND STEPHEN COWAN ON THE MARRIAGE OF THEIR DAUGHTER NAOMI TO ANDY JOSEPH.

GRANDPARENTS MARLENE AND IAN MORRISON AND BRENDA CARR ON THE MARRIAGE OF THEIR
GRANDDAUGHTER PHILIPPA TO YISRAEL WARBURG.

Smarties now Google! - Andy Taylor

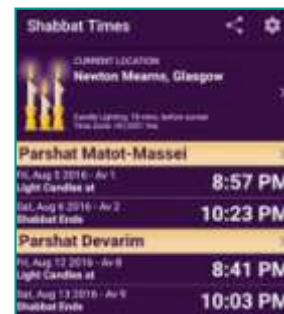
Believe it or not, we are approaching the 10th anniversary of the introduction of the original Apple iPhone by the late Steve Jobs. Back then, I was a young(ish) software engineer at the largest mobile phone manufacturer of the time - Apple's main competitor, and the now ubiquitous "app" market was in its infancy. Nearly a decade later, and although I have swapped mobile phones for aerospace, I am still a tech geek at heart. When the challenge arose to recommend some apps that might be of interest to the community, I was intrigued to investigate.

I mentioned Apple, but in 2016, Google dominates all things digital, and its mobile operating system, Android, currently enjoys 80% of the global market share. I will therefore be focusing on Android apps for the purposes of this review. Apologies, iPhone/iPad users, but you are in the minority these days!

Shabbat and Holiday Times

Link - <https://goo.gl/4sR4dT>

A useful app which determines candle lighting and end times for the forthcoming Shabbat, based upon your device location. You can look further forward to subsequent weeks and it also includes festivals and other high holidays. If that wasn't enough, information on the weekly parshah is a mere tap away.



JStream

Link - <https://goo.gl/BTXLGN>

This simple audio streaming app provides a selection of Jewish themed internet radio channels, including New York Jewish Radio, #1 Jewish Hits, and Radio Kol Chai.



Angry Jew

Link - <https://goo.gl/78zifU>

Imagine a surreal cross between Flappy Birds and Super Mario Bros - Angry Jew is a slick, fast paced platform game where you play Mendel, a 19th century Russian on a mission to restore as many holy books as possible, set against a dark backdrop and a suitably motivational klezmer soundtrack.

JFeeds

Link - <https://goo.gl/i3Jvg4>

A Jewish news aggregation app - choose your preferred news sources and frequency of updates and scroll through the latest stories - should you wish to read the full article, there is a built in browser, and the app makes it easy to share stories with your friends.

What's changed about Being Jewish in Scotland?



SCoJeC's inquiry into "Being Jewish in Scotland" was commissioned by the Scottish Government Community Safety Unit (CSU) after being told about a young mother whose daughter had been taunted in the playground that "you killed Christ", and the teacher's response, "Well you did!"

We collected personal stories from events in remote parts of the country which give Jewish people an opportunity to feel a sense of belonging in the Community, often for the very first time. Although we heard concerns about public services, particularly education, antisemitism and community changes, the typical response was that "I'm lucky to be Scottish and Jewish. I wouldn't change either if I had to be born again".

Sadly, that changed barely a year later. During August 2014, we received almost as many reports of antisemitic incidents as we had in the whole of the previous year. So many Jewish people said they felt uncomfortable, anxious and even afraid to go about their day-to-day activities that the Scottish Government asked us to carry out a further study of how the experience of Being Jewish in Scotland had changed.

Our findings (www.scojec.org/resources/resources.html) were extremely sobering: no fewer than 10% of respondents could think of anything good about being Jewish in Scotland. Many, (32%), talked unprompted about a heightened level of anxiety, discomfort, or vulnerability. Others, (17%), said they "considered it risky to show my Jewish identity in public". Some had changed their conduct to avoid Jewish gatherings including synagogue services, or for the first time had "seriously talked about an exit strategy for leaving Scotland."

This was reflected in a radical change in people's concerns: in 2012 people spoke about aspects of Jewish and Scottish identity, changes in communal priorities, lack of culturally appropriate public services, education about Judaism, and the importance of interfaith work, as well as attitudes to Israel, antisemitism, and their sense of security. This second inquiry was dominated by expressions of insecurity and alienation, and 80% attributed this to attitudes to events in the Middle East. Most tellingly, the person who said in 2012 that Scotland is a 'darn good place to be a Jew' now told us "I feel alienated, and no longer Scottish first then Jewish. I feel Jewish only."

The Scottish Government is taking these concerns seriously. Commenting on the new report, the Secretary for Communities and Equalities, Angela Constance said its findings "help us understand more fully the views and experiences of the Jewish community in Scotland and, while there is much to celebrate, we do, of course, share the concerns raised about a heightened level of anxiety within the Jewish community. My message to the Jewish community in Scotland is clear: Scotland is your home, you are welcome, and your contribution to our economy, our society and our culture is valued."

The First Minister has also made good her promise of "greater engagement with members of the Jewish community" by attending a number of communal events. She publicly reiterated the statement she made in our shul hall that "I don't want to be the First Minister, or even live in, a country where Jewish people want to leave or hide their identity" at a national conference on hate crime.

Scottish Jews are here to stay, and the Scottish Government is working with us to overcome their feelings of negativity and alienation. That gives us hope that at our next study of Being Jewish in Scotland, the consensus will again be that "Scotland's a darn fine place to be a Jew".

Ephraim Borowski

Engaging with Our Youth

David Collins, formerly of Glasgow, and now the United Synagogue's Director for Young People and Young Families confronts the question of how we engage with Jewish Youth. (Abbreviated from article in Jewish News).



In the words of the late Elie Wiesel: "Without memory, there is no culture. Without memory, there would be no civilisation, no society, no future."

We know that memories are essential to engaging the next generation. We may well remember our first Jewish trip away from home, but there seem to be a number of challenges in the way young people engage with Jewish life. Perhaps this is the right time to pose a couple of questions. Are we creating enough positive memories? Where in the midst of social media, school and university exams or even the rise of antisemitism on campus, do we find the space to create the meaningful, memorable experiences that shape young people's Jewish Identity?

For any organisation, self-reflection is important, so as Tribe approaches its 13th year, we have been considering how we must develop. Whilst our aim is clear – 'creating a future for our communities through engaging, educating and inspiring the next generation,' how do we actually ensure that we can make this aim a reality?

We have learnt that if you engage early and create memories whilst young, it's possible to establish an identity that is lasting. We are proud of our Jewish identity and it's something we want to instil in our children. Too often we see the younger generation disenfranchised and disconnected from their communities. Our task is to invest in events and programmes filled with experiences that stay with people long after the initial activity.

We also know that no two communities are the same, each has its own set of social pressures and norms. Therefore, our challenge is to facilitate centrally but deliver locally. Our central vision will manifest in numerous different ways across our local communities. We want every one of them to become unique places delivering inspiring educational activities that engage our future leaders.

It is also important that we communicate not only to those who take part in our programmes but also to their parents. They have the most important role in shaping a young person's Jewish identity with education and Jewish experiences rooted in the home. However, this is only one part of the equation. Given the importance of Jewish schools to Jewish life today we also work hard to bind synagogues and schools together. This is an essential three-way partnership. We look forward to increased partnership between school, shul and home to ensure that pupils are receiving a consistent message.

The creation of life-shaping memories doesn't end the second young Jews leave school. We must continue to work with other organisations to support young families, teens, gap year students, university students and young professionals. University is a complex balance of academic challenges alongside personal growth and development. Post University, getting right the work / Jewish life balance is no easier.

We must be ready and waiting to welcome our University graduates and others back to the community. We have put efforts into our United Friday night dinners, discounted membership and Birthright trips. This is just the start of the programming needed for our young people to reengage with their local communities after spending time away.

The memorable experiences that we create today will build not just a Jewish future but a truly engaged Jewish future. As we celebrate our Bar-Mitzvah year, we can never forget that it is our obligation to grab every opportunity to create a future for our communities.

Friends of Israel: pro Israel, pro Palestinian pro Peace



Just imagine when a pro Palestinian activist shakes your hand and acknowledges that the conversation you've both just had about the prospects for peace between the Israelis and the Palestinians has been constructive and helpful. And admits that he really didn't know some of the things you've told him and that it makes a difference to his thoughts about the conflict.

This has happened several times during the past few months at the Glasgow Friends of Israel advocacy stall in Buchanan Street. As have supportive comments of 'It's about time there was a pro Israel presence in Glasgow'.

GFI is a non denominational group established over a year ago to promote a better understanding about the State of Israel through the advancement of educational, cultural and social activities. GFI have established a presence in Glasgow's Buchanan Street by erecting a pro Israel stall supported by Christians, Jews and those of no faith. By engaging in constructive and civilised discussion about Peace, GFI takes positive action to oppose the general public's subjection to consistent, well organised propaganda that seeks to de-legitimise Israel. We present facts about the only accountable, democratic state in the Middle East which defends the human rights of all its citizens whether Jew, Arab, Christian or other. It is the only country in the region where the Christian population is increasing.

GFI's slogan and motto however is not one sided in support of Israel but is 'pro Israel, pro Palestinian, pro Peace' and promotes the rights of both people to self determination and nationhood.

Speaker events have included the Israeli advocate Neil Lazarus; Egyptian peace activist Ahmed Meligy; Rony Yedidia Clein from the Israeli Embassy; Itai Reuveni, from NGO Monitor in Jerusalem; and Israeli author Tuvia Tenenbom,

GFI also held the first Scottish pro Israel (4 night) silent vigil, outside the Tron Theatre to protest against a biased production of 'The Siege'.

The recent Shalom Festival at the Edinburgh Fringe promoted peaceful co-existence through a daytime exhibition by a range of organisations including: "Bridges for

Peace", "Magen David Adom Ambulances" and "Rockets to Roses"; sculptures which turn "objects of war into expressions of peace"; and an evening Gala Concert with Arab and Jewish performers. Despite vocal Israeli hate groups organising targeted protests in their efforts to persuade the Edinburgh Fringe to cancel this extraordinary event, it proved to be a very successful night and a wonderful celebration of Israeli culture and music.

Following this success we are looking forward to the GFI conference on Sunday 25 September, in the Glasgow Concert Hall, which will focus on the Centenary of the Balfour Declaration and the 50th anniversary of the 6 days war. Between 10.30am and 4.00pm there will be speakers, workshops and a Question Time session . Please join us at what will be a wonderfully inspiring and interesting day. See the YouTube GFI channel for videos of all Glasgow speakers and get more information from info@glasgowfoi.com

Sammy Stein

Glasgow Young Jewish Families

Glasgow Young Jewish Families (GYJF) is a new and active group launched last September. Our aim is to reach out to families with young and primary school age children, bringing us together through educational, fun and cultural activities, whilst celebrating and enjoying our Judaism.

The group has been a runaway success. Fifty people attended the launch at the fantastic Festivals' Brunch in Giffnock Shul, celebrating the New Year festivals with arts & crafts and stories.



"Sushi in the Sukkah" was another great event, with a Sushi-making demonstration by Rabbi & Rebbetzen Boddenheim followed by Sushi-making (and eating!) session in the Jacksons' Sukkah.

In November, over seventy of Glasgow's young Jewish community enjoyed a fantastic fireworks evening which really went with a 'bang'!

And in January over twenty families came together at Giffnock Shul for our first Young Families' Friday night dinner where children played whilst parents feasted.

The year rounded off with a Yom Hatzmaut barbecue. Amazingly, over one hundred and fifty young family members celebrated 'Israel 68' with games, crafts, a disco and fabulous food! A huge success!

It's been a great start for the Glasgow Young Jewish Families, and special thanks go to the Boddenhiems and Giffnock Shul for their support.

For more information about forthcoming Glasgow Young Jewish Family events or joining the Facebook page, please email me at vicky_corb@hotmail.com

Vicky Jackson

*1) Peter Piper 2) Bucket 3) Vincent Van Gogh 4) Captain (James) Hook 5) A Fledgeling
6) Five Farthings 7) Hedwig 8) Aladdin 9) Jacqueline Wilson 10) Collage*

MAZELTOV

EDWARD & ELLE LIVINGSTONE ON THE BIRTH OF A GRANDSON, A SON FOR HAL & DEBRA
AND ON THE BIRTH OF A GRANDDAUGHTER, A DAUGHTER TO KENNY & SARAH.

RABBI & REBETZIN ELIEZER WOLFSON ON THE BIRTH OF A DAUGHTER

STEVEN & MICHELLE GLADSTONE ON THE BIRTH OF A GRANDSON, A SON TO ROBERT & JOANNE RAMS

DAVID & DOREEN GILLIS ON THE BIRTH OF A GRANDSON, A SON TO LLOYD & ELANA SCHROEDER.

RABBI & REBETZIN MOSHE RUBIN ON THE BIRTH OF A GRANDSON, A SON TO MOTTY & MALKI SCHMIDT

RICHARD & LISA WOOLFSON ON THE BIRTH OF A GRANDSON, A SON TO DAVID & EVE BRILL,
AND A GREAT GRANDSON TO MAURICE MARKS AND ZENA LEVIN

DAVID & HAZEL OSDIN ON THE BIRTH OF A GRANDDAUGHTER, A DAUGHTER TO RICHARD & JOANNA OSDIN.

LAURENCE & JENNIFER HARRIS ON THE BIRTH OF A GRANDSON, A SON TO SIMON & RACHEL HARRIS.

DIANNE WOLFSON ON THE BIRTH OF GREAT GRANDDAUGHTER

SUZANNE FREEDMAN ON THE BIRTH OF A GRANDDAUGHTER,
A DAUGHTER FOR NICOLAS AND DEVORAH FREEDMAN

CHILDREN'S QUIZ

No Cheating- how many can you get right?

- 1 Who picked a peck of pickled pepper?
- 2 In Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, what is Charlie's surname?
- 3 Which artist painted a number of pictures of sunflowers?
- 4 What is the name of Peter Pan's piratical enemy?
- 5 What kind of animal is Beatrix Potter's Mrs Tiggy-Winkle?
- 6 In a nursery rhyme, how much are the bells of St Martin's owed?
- 7 What was the name of Harry Potter's pet owl?
- 8 Who is the son of Widow Twankey and brother of Wishee Washee?
- 9 Who created Tracy Beaker?
- 10 What is the artistic technique of gluing a number of items together to form a new work called?

SCHOOL VISIT

On Tuesday 14 June, sixty-five children from P5 at Kirktonholme Primary School in East Kilbride visited the Shul. The children made paper Magen Davids in the main hall and took it in turns to hear a talk about Judaism and the Shul by Avril Levy, one of the volunteer guides. The children were very knowledgeable and interested with lots of questions ... including asking the price of Avril's seat!!



Brumjam International Jamboree

Five Scottish guides and two leaders travelled early to the Brumjam International Scout and Guide Jamboree near Birmingham on Friday 28th July along with fifty Jewish Scouts, Guides and leaders from London and Manchester to form the Jewish Scout Advisory Council (JSAC) sub camp. We joined 2,000 Scouts and Guides of many religions from fifteen countries including Japan, Australia, Kenya, Ireland, Norway and the USA. Four hundred volunteer leaders from Scouting and Guiding worked for two years to create this awesome Jamboree.



We all enjoyed our first Shabbat together discussing the relevance of Parshat Pinchas to our movement. Our activities centred around the Olympic and Paralympic values and qualities that good leaders require such as respect, excellence, friendship, courage, determination and equality. Parashat Mattot, on the following Shabbat, focussed on laws concerning verbal oaths, and again seemed particularly relevant as the core of our movement is the Scout and Guide Promise, which binds us together and dictates how we conduct ourselves in life.

The opening ceremony was unforgettable with 2000 Scouts, Guides and leaders cheering all the nations' flags. From Sunday until Friday, participants were offered a choice of forty activities during the day and evenings. We used the story of Olympic gold medallist Joe Clarke who tried canoeing for the first time at a Scout camp, as motivation to try new things.

The Jewish Faith Zone at the Faith Tent was visited by 2,000 participants during the week. We escorted the Scouts, Guides and their leaders around our 'Jewish Life' display, and helped them to make a bookmark with their names written in Hebrew. I proudly escorted many visiting VIP's, including Chief Scout Wayne Bullpit, Duncan Cadbury, and the Lord Mayor of Birmingham around our display. They were very interested to learn about Judaism and they too learnt to write their names in Hebrew.



The closing ceremony, then saying farewell to new friends was, as always, a sad occasion. Only the Jewish group remained until after Shabbat and we watched in awe as tents, marquees, equipment, rucksacks, and cooking utensils were all packed and removed within a couple of hours. By lunchtime there were quiet empty fields where there had been smiling, active teenagers. The weather was

glorious and we enjoyed a quiet peaceful Shabbat together before we travelled home to Glasgow, Manchester and London. Plans are well under way for the Jewish contingent to camp together in May, along with the Brownies and Cubs!

Seven members of 5th Giffnock Jewish Girl Guides were able to attend thanks to the generosity of the Jewish Youth Fund Scotland, Netherlee and Clarkston Charitable

Trust, the Jewish Holiday and Convalescent Fund and the support of Giffnock Shul.

When on August 1st 1907 Robert Baden Powel blew a trumpet to open the first Scout camp at Brownsea Island, Dorset, he could never have believed that in 2016, there would be fifty nine million Scouts and Guides all over the world, supporting young people to choose the right paths in life and teaching love and understanding.

Evy Yedd

My First Habonim Camp

On Sunday 31st July I left home to attend my first Habonim camp . We left Glasgow and arrived in Wales nine quick hours later. After meeting the rest of our group we were split into smaller groups to go on "Tiyul" - outdoor camping. We set off through the cold and rain. In total there were fifty other chanichim all from Manchester, Leeds and London. We sang, chatted and got lost! At one point we walked miles up a mountain only to realise we had passed the campsite hours before. Sadly, or I think fortunately, my group only managed to camp for the first night due to the severe weather conditions and spent the rest of our time on the main site. Some other groups were luckier with the weather and eventually when everyone came back to main site there were 250 of us from all age groups. We enjoyed so many activities including learning about Israel, Judaism and life. We visited the local theme park for a day and took part in Habonim game shows including 'I'm on Habonim: Get me out of here' and 'Are you smarter than a Madrichim'. I made lots of new friends, who I will definitely keep in touch with and see at the upcoming reunion. All in all it was a great, enjoyable experience and I look forward to going again next year.

Greg Barmack

Anyone wishing the Sick Visiting Association to visit someone in hospital please call:

Hilary and Harvey Cowen on 637 5449

Please state hospital name and ward number

Many thanks to the Sick Visiting Association for providing such a wonderful service

The Yoni Jesner Foundation Fourteen Years On.

Whilst we know that time is measured with mathematical precision, we are also aware that time can feel anything but precise. As I approach the 14th Yahrzeit, my heart struggles when my brain tells me that so many years have passed since I last saw my son Yoni, always busy, always involved, always running to do good. The math and the emotions just don't see eye to eye. Sometimes it seems that Yoni has slipped so far away, and yet there are also wonderful moments of clarity when I feel him so near.



Marsha Gladstone, Chairperson with Mia Grey, recipient of the 2016 Yoni Jesner Scholarship, and Sam Clifford, Director of the YJF.

The Yoni Jesner Foundation is my way of keeping Yoni close. All the projects reflect aspects of his personality and character, and as long as his influence and legacy inspire people to do more and care more, Yoni's energy remains in this world. "Doing and caring" is what Yoni was all about.

Let me tell you very briefly what the YJF does. We have three main initiatives: The Yoni Jesner Award, runs in partnership with JLGB, and is now well-established in all mainstream London Jewish schools, with over one thousand young people having completed the challenge to date. Each year hundreds of schoolchildren undertake between twenty to one hundred hours of volunteering. Those who complete the required hours are presented with their YJAward certificate at a ceremony attended by the Chief Rabbi, other dignitaries, hundreds of pupils, their parents and teachers. This year we extended our scope to King David High and Yavneh College in Manchester, and it is our aim to further develop the reach of this fantastic programme to students who go to non-Jewish schools by making the YJAward part of the bar/bat mitzvah course many attend at their local Shul.

The YJScholarship is awarded each year, following a lengthy process of nomination, application and interviews, to two exceptional young men and women who demonstrate the leadership qualities Yoni possessed, and who will be spending a gap year in Israel, either with Bnei Akiva or at yeshiva/seminary.

The Yoni Jesner Conversations reflect Yoni's passion for debate and discussion. The Chief Rabbi converses with influential individuals, who are instrumental in building the Jewish future. They are run in partnership with London School of Jewish Studies. Organ Donation. Following the family's decision to donate Yoni's organs, we want to use our personal experience of being a donor family to enable a better understanding of the Halachic issues involved.

The YJFoundation has achieved a great deal in the past years. It gives me such pleasure to see young people who never knew Yoni, some of whom were born after he died, learn and grow, inspired by his example. We are determined not only to continue with our important work, but to keep growing the YJFoundation, stretching ourselves to extend and build on our success in all areas.

Please join our 'Friend of Yoni Jesner' Facebook page, and to find out more about us have a browse around our website yonijesner.org.

If you would like to make a donation please go to our [mydonate](#) page on the website, or contact Marsha on 0141 620-0542.

New UJIA Youth Worker

Hi everyone - My name is Brittany Ritell, I'm twenty-two years old and I'm excited to be joining the UJIA in September. I'll be stepping into the newly expanded role of the UJIA community youth worker.

Native to Ridgefield, Connecticut in the USA, I come to Glasgow after an intensive year of youth work in Copenhagen, Denmark. Working for the Jewish community there, I gained considerable experience including planning both a weekend leadership seminar for teens across Scandinavia and a nine day program for a Nordic Jewish sleep away camp (attended by over forty-five kids).



Prior to this, I spent four years completing my Bachelor's in Business at Brandeis University, Massachusetts. I find myself frequently using the management, negotiation and marketing skills that my degree taught me.

This year marks ten years since I joined the B'nai Brit Youth Organisation at thirteen, and my passion for youth work derives from this. Understanding the profound impact that mentors from these programmes had in shaping my life, I now hope to pay it forward.

As Youth Worker, I'll be running our Jewish activities in mainstream schools and the Ethiopian bar/bat mitzvah twinning programmes, overseeing youth movement activities, helping with community programmes and more.

If you're interested in learning more about the programmes UJIA has to offer and know any young people who would like to get involved, contact me at glasgow.youthworker@ujia.org.

200+ Club 200+ Club 200+ Club
Congratulations to the winners of our 200+ Club draws
Derek & Nicola Livingston
Richard Pinder

From Your Editors

Older, and hopefully wiser, we've learnt a bit from our last first experience as editors of the Shul magazine! We are really grateful to all our contributors and especially to the young people who have shared their experiences with us. If we've misspelt anyone's names we apologise; if we've missed any events / celebrations / children's accomplishments please let us know for the future. We rely on family and friends to tell us about your moments of pride. Unfortunately the Rabbi's "silver" celebration dinner is too late for us to include it in this edition, but fear not we'll be able to share it at Pesach. Please email us with any contribution you'd like to make. Best wishes for a healthy and happy New Year,
your editors Susan Bradman and Stephanie Silverstone.

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