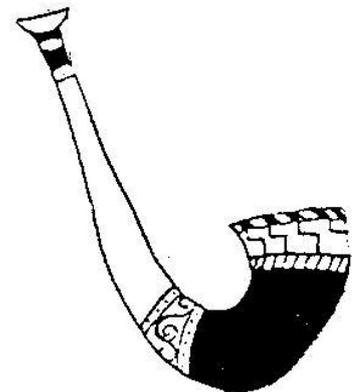
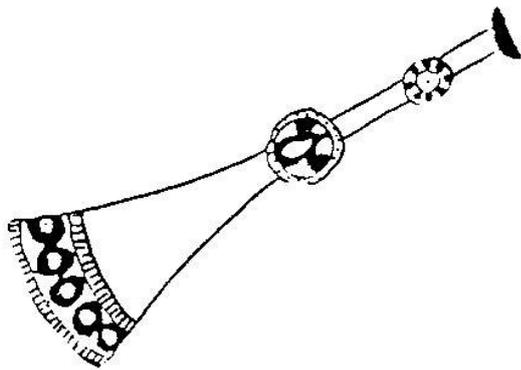
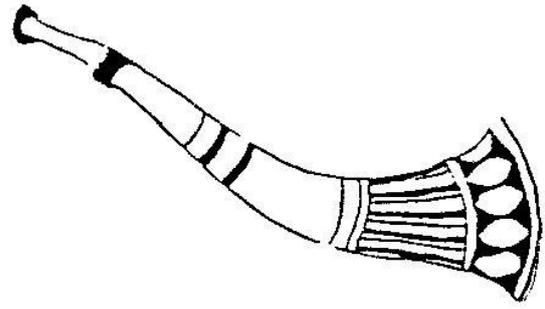


Shofar
Shalom



The Official Newsletter of Ne've Shalom, the Hull Reform Synagogue



CHAIR'S REPORT

Iyar/Sivan 5774
May/June 2014

Having fully recovered from Pesach (egg and saltwater never taste the same at any other time), I can report on a very successful Communal Seder which was held on Monday 14 March 2014, which corresponded to the first night of Pesach. There were some 29 people present and the Seder Service was expertly led by Rabbi Robert Ash who provided a running commentary on the prayers and songs within the Haggadah. I would like to thank Robert for agreeing to conduct our Seder, to Ann Bush for the smooth organisation of the Seder and to all those who prepared the food for the Seder. I understand that there was very little of it left over, not even the fruit salad.

Our last Council meeting was held on Friday 21 March and a brief summary of those items discussed can be found on page 4.

Looking ahead, the next Erev Shabbat communal meal has been arranged for Friday 30 May 2014 at 6.30pm to prepare for the Shabbat and this year's Shavuot Service and Kiddush is taking place on Tuesday evening 3 June 2014 at 8.00pm. I look forward to seeing you all there and details of both events can be found on page 3.

Our next Shabbat Morning Service on 7 June 2014 will be conducted by Rabbi Amanda Golby who is visiting us to celebrate John Friend's 'Second Barmitzvah'. In Jewish tradition, humans are said to live for "three-score years and ten", i.e. 70 years. Having reached 70, a person's age is then re-calculated, meaning that someone aged 83 is said to be theoretically 13 and therefore eligible for their second Bar or Batmitzvah. A more detailed rabbinic explanation can be found on page 5.

Finally, don't forget that our Friday Night and Shabbat Services are still going strong and I look forward to seeing you there.

POTENTIAL NEW MEMBERS



If any members of the Synagogue are aware of, or are contacted by, potential new members, hoping to join our Synagogue, please advise them to contact our Secretary **Joanne Kearsley** at

29 Copse Road, Ashby, Scunthorpe DN16 3JA.

Tel: 01724 340506

E-mail: joannekearsley@yahoo.co.uk

who will provide them with further information and the necessary application forms.

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL



FRIDAY NIGHT COMMUNAL MEAL

The next communal meal has been arranged for **Friday 30 May 2014** at **6.30pm** to prepare for the Shabbat.

The theme of the meal will again be “pot luck”, as those attending will be asked to bring some food with them. Please contact Suzanne Finlay on 07963 975312 or at suzieannefinlay@hotmail.com if you are planning on coming. Everyone is welcome.



SHAVUOT SERVICE

This year's Shavuot Service and celebrations will be taking place on **Tuesday evening, 3 June 2014**, starting at **8.00pm**.

Following the Service, there will be a Shavuot Kiddush, to which everyone is invited.



SECOND BARMITZVAH

Carol and John Friend wish to invite all members and friends of Ne've Shalom to join them to celebrate John's 'Second Barmitzvah' during the Shabbat Morning Service on **7 June 2014**. The Service will start at **10.30am** and Rabbi Amanda Golby will be conducting the Service, whilst John will be reciting the Torah portion.

Following the Service, there will be celebratory Kiddush catered by David Eastburn.



BETH SHALOM HOLOCAUST CENTRE

The communal visit to the Beth Shalom Holocaust Centre near Newark will be taking place on **Sunday 8 June 2014**. We have booked a coach for those wishing to attend and have a few spare places still available.

The cost for members and friends will be £12.00 per head to cover the cost of coach hire, admission, the guided tour of the Centre and a speaker. Non-members are welcome, but will be charged the full cost price of £17.00. We intend to meet in the Shul car park at 9.00am and arrive back at about 4.30pm.

Please contact **Suzanne Finlay** on 07963 975312 to book a seat, if you haven't already done so. To confirm your place, please provide Suzanne with a £5.00 deposit. This interesting and educational event is open to all.

SYNAGOGUE COUNCIL MEETING - 2 MAY 2014

Present - Ian Sugarman (Chair), Joanne Kearsley (Secretary), Audrey Sugarman, Jim Lightowler, Peter Altoft, Henry Goldstone, Elaine Winetroube, Tony Sevilla-Harland (Treasurer) and Suzanne Finlay.

Business

The Chair reported that 48 people attended the Open Friday Night Service held on 4 April 2014 which appeared to be enjoyed by everyone present. He thanked John Friend for assisting him with Service, as well as all those who prepared and set-out the Kiddush. The Communal Seder, held on the First Night, was also very well attended and there were 29 members and friends present. The Seder Service was conducted by Rabbi Robert Ash whose educational style of conducting the Seder proved to be very popular with most of those who attended.

The Treasurer reported that the Shul's bank balance was in a healthy position and the end-of-year accounts had been submitted to Sadofskys. He explained that he was in contact with Martin Baker regarding any queries and he hoped to hear some positive news regarding the Gift Aid revenue still owed to the Shul by HMRC. Following his report, the Council agreed that this year's AGM would be held at 7.00 pm on Friday 13 June 2014, prior to the Friday Night Service. The Chair asked the Treasurer to contact Sadofsky's with the date of the AGM and impress upon them the importance of having the end-of-year accounts ready to be approved by the members.

Ian reported that Rabbi Ian Morris had handed over his sponsoring of Michael and Marija Guilas to Sinai's new Rabbi, Esther Hugenholtz. Ian also confirmed that he had completed the final reports on Michael and Marija and that Thursday 4 September 2014 had been confirmed as the date of their Beit Din interview. Ian also reported that he had contacted Rabbi Esther regarding those potential converts who were attending the Hebrew and Conversion Classes to set-up initial interviews.

The secretary was asked to write to Waitrose thanking them for this year's supply of Pesach products and for maintaining a supply of Kosher meats and groceries during the year

Date of next meeting – AGM – Friday 13 June 2014

SYNAGOGUE COUNCIL

Chairman:	Ian Sugarman (Shul Management)	01482 835864
Vice Chairman:	Sarita Robinson (Kiddush Sponsoring)	01482 447549
Secretary:	Joanne Kearsley (Administration)	01724 340506
Treasurer:	Tony Sevilla-Harland (Financial)	01652 688362
Senior Warden:	Peter Altoft (Services and Mitzvot)	01724 845307
Council Members:	Henry Goldstone (Security/Plaques)	01482 667258
	Audrey Sugarman (Catering)	01482 563835
	Elaine Winetroube (Telephone)	01482 571035
Co-opted Members:	Jim Lightowler (Building Maintenance)	01482 654663
	Les Rosenberg (General)	01482 657102
	Suzanne Finlay (Social/Marketing)	07963 975312

ASK THE RABBI



Rabbi Mark Greenspan at *Jewish Values On-line* responds to the question:

“Is there a source in the Torah for having a second Bar Mitzvah at age 83? If not, where did this custom originate?.”

A second Bar Mitzvah is usually marked when a person reaches the age of 83. There are no specific rules or traditions about celebrating a ‘second Bar Mitzvah,’ just as there are no specific rules about becoming a Bar Mitzvah. Bar Mitzvah is not a ceremony (and it’s certainly not a verb as in ‘becoming Bar Mitzvahed’). Rather Bar Mitzvah is a statement of person status. One becomes a Bar Mitzvah or a Bat Mitzvah; one doesn’t have a Bar/Bat Mitzvah. In Pirke Avot, a second century collection of rabbinic aphorisms and wisdom, we learn about the various stages of life in a statement attributed to Rabbi Yehudah ben Tema: “Five is the age for the study of scripture, ten for the study of Mishnah and thirteen (l’mitzvot) for the fulfillment of the commandments...” (Avot 5:24) There is virtually no discussion in rabbinic literature about what one is supposed to do upon reaching the age of thirteen. One simply becomes responsible for the fulfillment of the commandments. In fact the only ritual of any sort is the responsibility of the parents and not the young person. They are supposed to recite a blessing the first time the new Bar Mitzvah is called to the Torah in which they say, “Blessed is the One who has exempted me from the sin of this (young) person.” Whether or not one is called to the Torah, however, one becomes a Bar Mitzvah by virtue of having reached one’s thirteenth birthday.

I would put the celebration of a second Bar Mitzvah in the realm of custom rather than Jewish law. In the Book of Psalms we learn that, ‘The days of our years are threescore and ten, or even by reason of strength, fourscore...’ (Psalm 90) Based on the significance of seventy as the normal length of a human life, the custom arose of marking one’s second Bar Mitzvah thirteen years later at age 83. While it is not necessary or required to do so (any more than it is required to have a big party at age 13), it is certainly appropriate to mark special milestones in one’s life in spiritual ways.

A second Bar Mitzvah is an opportunity to give thanks for having reached a significant age in relative health and wellbeing. It can be celebrated in many ways but it usually involves being called to the Torah for an Aliyah and reciting the Haftarah, or the prophetic portion, for that day. It is also an opportunity for family to come together around a beloved octogenarian, and to mark this moment with gratitude and rejoicing. It is also a chance for a family elder to make a statement to children and grandchildren about the importance of Judaism in their lives.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE NE’VE SHALOM SYNAGOGUE



The Synagogue Council would like to inform all members that the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of Ne’ve Shalom, the Hull Reform Synagogue will be taking place on **Friday 13 June**, 2014, starting at **7.00pm** prompt. This will be followed by the Friday Night Service. Please make every effort to attend.

THE NATURE OF NATURE AND THE NATURE GOD

This interesting article by Larry Fine was first published in the May 2014 edition of the Jewish Magazine

When I was young it was fashionable to say that God is nature. I don't know if people say that today or not, but thinking about the purpose of life and the world and everything that makes up the world seems to have fallen from fashion. (I sometimes doubt if people are capable of independent thought.)

But still the question remains: What is nature exactly? How does something become defined as nature? How does nature exist and its relationship to God?

Let us first understand what is 'nature'.

We use the word nature to describe something that we cannot give a logical reason for being. In the old days people were puzzled why do some objects fall faster than others. A rock will fall faster than a feather. Why? They answered simply that a rock weighs more than a feather therefore it falls faster. It is the nature of a heavier object to fall faster than a lightweight object. That was nature; look, see, measure and come up with the logical conclusions.

Later scientists discover that no, objects fall because there is 'gravity' which pulls objects down and since there exists also air which presents friction to prevent objects from falling, therefore a rock falls faster since the air friction is less effective upon it than on a feather. However in a perfect vacuum, both the rock and the feather should fall at the same velocity.

Then the question came up what is gravity and what causes it to be? The answer was 'nature'. Today we can be more sophisticated but still we must stop our intellectual inquiry at some point and just say, "it is nature".

What has happened is that nature became the stopping point of human inquiry; more than this we do not know therefore we say when we cannot explain a phenomenon that this exists because it is nature.



As an example a young boy asks his father, why is it that the light goes on and off when we flip a switch. So the father explains because there are wires that go from the switch to the light and by flipping the switch turns the light on and off.

So the boy is satisfied with the answer for the moment but comes back and asks how does it work that the wires turn the light on and off. The father answers him that there is electricity in the wires and when you flip the switch off it stops the electricity from reaching the light bulb and when you turn the switch on then the electricity reaches the light bulb and the light comes on.

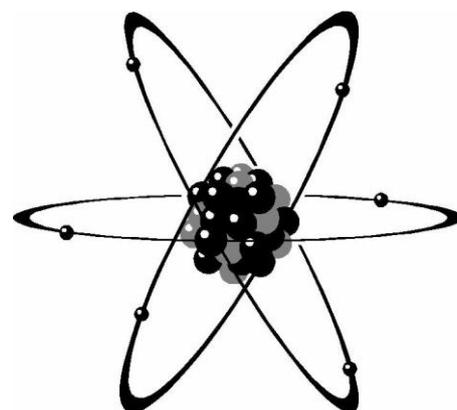
So now again the boy is satisfied with the answer, but later the boy comes back and asks the father how did the electricity get in the wires. So the father replies that all homes are connected to the electric company and the electric company provides us with electricity.

So again the boy is satisfied with the answer, but later the boy returns to ask his father how did the electric company get the electricity. So the father says there are generators that produce the electricity for the electric company.

So the boy is again satisfied with knowing what is going on in the world. That is until he returns and asks how do generators make electricity. Here the father no longer has an answer. Rather he replies that generators somehow turn to produce electricity but a deeper explanation he cannot give.

Here the boy stops, at least for a while, knowing that generators produce electricity, but he knows not how. That is until he goes to physics class and there the teacher teaches how the magnetic variations produced by rotors rotating at given speeds induce electricity into the wire and this electricity can be transported by wires to remote places. At this point he understands deeper than his father the essence of electricity but he knows not exactly how it works, rather that it is the nature of magnetic fields to create electric charges.

It is not until he reaches college that he studies electricity on a deeper level and learns about the molecular structure of the atom and how each piece works. His depth of understanding becomes even deeper but still there are things that even he, on his deep level, cannot understand and therefore when someone asks him why the molecular structure is such, he will answer that it is nature.



Nature therefore is when we stop and cannot provide a logical explanation other than this is the way it is and we do not know why it is this way.

One of the Hebrew names of God, *Elohim*, is said to equal in *gematria* the Hebrew work *HaTeva*, meaning 'the nature'. (*Gematria* is the use of the numerical equivalents of Hebrew words that by adding up the numerical equivalent of the letters and arriving at the numerical sum of the word which sheds some hidden light on the meaning of the word in question.)

Elohim is the name of God that was used for creating the world; it does not describe the essence of God but rather the hidden-ness of God's essence.

When God created the world God did it in a manner that we should not be able to perceive God in the world. To perceive God in the world takes much effort and contemplation since God uses the nature to hide from us. That is why nature is not God, yet nature is bound up in God in a manner so hidden that it can never truly be revealed.

All contributions are accepted on the understanding that the authors are responsible for the opinions expressed which do not necessarily reflect the views of Ne've Shalom - the Hull Reform Synagogue.

A FEW I FOUND FUNNY

(With special thanks to the Chief Rabbi for this contribution)

An El-Al flight took off from Ben Gurion heading for London Heathrow. As they flew across France and over the Channel, the Captain came on the speaker and announced that due to a thick blanket of fog covering London, they were unable to land at Heathrow. He went on to announce that the flight was being diverted to Manchester International and that the passengers would then be sent by coach back to Heathrow.

With that, a Chassid jumped up, pulled out a Siddur and started praying.

One of the air hostesses noticed this and thought that it was cute that the Chassid thought that a prayer would lift the fog over London. With that, the Captain came back on the speaker and announced that the fog had suddenly lifted and that they would be landing at Heathrow after all.

The air hostess was shocked and went over to the Chassid.

"I owe you an apology and my thanks", she said

"Why" asked the Chassid

"Because I didn't believe that your prayers would cause the fog to lift. That must have been some powerful prayer".

"There's no need to thank me", replied the Chassid, "I wasn't praying for the fog to lift, I was actually thanking God for causing the fog.

"I don't understand", said the hostess

"Because in live in Manchester"

A dietician is addressing an audience in the Shalom Retirement Home.

"The material we put into our stomachs is enough to have killed most of us sitting here years ago. Red meat is awful. Soft drinks erode your stomach lining. Chinese food is loaded with MSG. Vegetables can be dirty and disastrous, and none of us realizes the long-term harm caused by the germs in our drinking water."

"But there is one thing that is the most dangerous of all and most of us have eaten it. Can anyone here tell me what food it is that causes the most grief and suffering for years after you eat it?"

In the front row, 75-year-old Abe stands up and says, "Wedding cake"

Bernie and Sam are having a conversation.

Bernie asks Sam what time is it. Sam answers him and asks Bernie why he doesn't have a watch. Bernie answers that he doesn't need one since he could always ask someone else for the time.

"But, what do you do if you get up during the night and you want to know what time it is", asks Sam.

"I have a shofar." answers Bernie

"A shofar? How's that going to help?", asks Sam.

"Simple", answers Bernie. "I just open the window and start blowing. Soon the neighbours start yelling. . . . "Are you crazy, blowing a shofar at 3 in the morning!"

*ENGLISH YAHRZEIT DATES WHICH CORRESPOND TO
THE HEBREW DATES FOR RELATIVES OF MEMBERS OF
NE'VE SHALOM - THE HULL REFORM SYNAGOGUE*

Amelia Gold	16 May 2014	Jeannette Sevilla	25 June 2014
Adam Raphael	18 May 2014	Issac Maniloff	28 June 2014
Lilly Loofe	23 May 2014	Abby Furman	29 June 2014
Ernst Kuschnitzky	27 May 2014	Jennie Harris	3 July 2014
Morris Levin	1 June 2014	Cissie Silver	3 July 2014
Anita Sevilla	1 June 2014	Edgar Bennett	3 July 2014
Rosza Lusztig	6 June 2014	Berta Rose	4 July 2014
Gerald Godfrey	11 June 2014	Janet Sugarman	5 July 2014
Annie Brookner	14 June 2014	Immanuel Godfrey	5 July 2014
Ada Bransky	16 June 2014	Phillip Waytzman	6 July 2014
Stuart Rosenthal	19 June 2014	Jim Smith	18 July 2014
Harold Harris	22 June 2014	Tessa Pliener	24 July 2014
Leah Stetinski	22 June 2014	Becky Furman	26 July 2014

Traditionally, Jewish Yahrzeits are remembered on the Hebrew date, which means that there might be some variation in the English date each year. **If the Hebrew date is observed, it must be remembered that the Yahrzeit starts the evening before.** Memorial prayers for the deceased will be recited during the Friday Night Service for those Yahrzeits which fall during the coming week. If a Yahrzeit falls on a Friday Night, please remember that the prayers will usually be recited during the Friday Night Service the week before.



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MEMORIAL BOARD

The Synagogue Council would again like to inform members that there is still space available on the Memorial Board for members to purchase a plaque in memory of their loved one(s). For further details, please contact Henry Goldstone on (01482) 667258.

KIDDUSH SPONSORING

During the year, you might want to mark that special occasion in a unique, yet innovative manner. In order to help you solve your dilemma, the Synagogue Council has agreed to allow the sponsoring of Kiddushim.

If you would like further details, or wish to reserve a particular date, please contact Sarita Robinson on (01482 447549)

FORTHCOMING SERVICES AND EVENTS

Date	Time	Leader	Refreshment Rota
Friday 16 May	8.00pm	John Friend	Helen Jackman Andy Harbert
Friday 23 May	8.00pm	Peter Altoft	Joanne Kearsley Jackie Lukes
Sunday 25 May (Hebrew Reading Class)	10.30am	Deborah Wrapson	N/A
Sunday 25 May (Conversion Class)	11.30am	Ian Sugarman	N/A
Friday 30 May (Erev Shabbat Communal Meal)	7.00pm	Suzanne Finlay	N/A
Friday 30 May	8.00pm	Tony Sevilla-Harland	Ann Savilla-Harland Deborah Wrapson
Tuesday 3 June (Shavuot Service)	8.00pm	Ian Sugarman	Audrey Sugarman Gillian Smith
Friday 6 June	8.00pm	David Pedro	Jannette Dubb Elaine Winetroube
Shabbat 7 June (John Friend's Barmitzvah)	10.30am	Rabbi Amanda Golby John Friend	Dave Eastburn Caterers
Sunday 8 June (Trip to Beth Shalom)	9.00am	Suzanne Finlay	N/A
Friday 13 June (Shul Annual General Meeting)	7.00pm	Ian Sugarman	N/A
Friday 13 June	8.00pm	Geoff Annis	Lesley Annis Jannette Dubb
Sunday 15 June (Hebrew Reading Class)	10.30am	Deborah Wrapson	N/A
Sunday 15 June (Conversion Class)	11.30am	Ian Sugarman	N/A
Friday 20 June	8.00pm	Tony Sevilla-Harland	Ann Sevilla-Harland Veronika Keczkas
Friday 27 June	8.00pm	Peter Altoft	Joanne Kearsley Jackie Lukes
Sunday 29 June (Hebrew Reading Class)	10.30am	Deborah Wrapson	N/A
Sunday 29 June (Conversion Class)	11.30am	Ian Sugarman	N/A
Friday 4 July	8.00pm	John Friend	Helen Jackman Andy Harbert
Shabbat 5 July	10.30am	Ian Sugarman Tony Sevilla-Harland	Natalie Winetroube Gillian Smith

If you are unable to take your turn on the **service rota**, please arrange for someone else to take your place.

If you are unable to take your turn on the **refreshment rota**, please arrange for someone else to take your place and **inform Audrey Sugarman on (01482) 563835** to ensure that sufficient refreshments are available.

NOMINATIONS FOR SYNAGOGUE COUNCIL

All the positions on the Council are open to nomination and voting for each position (if there is more than one nominee) will take place at the **Annual General Meeting** of Ne've Shalom – The Hull Reform Synagogue has on **Friday 13 June, 2014** in the Synagogue Hall, Great Gutter Lane, Willerby HU10 6DP at **7.00pm prompt**. All nominations must be received by the Synagogue Secretary no later than midnight, Friday 6 June, 2014, otherwise the papers will be deemed as invalid. If the position does not have a nominee, then that position will be unfilled on the night and the Synagogue Council, if it so decides, has the power to co-opt a person to that position at a later date.

When nominating and seconding a person for any position, please ensure that the nominee wants to be considered and is aware of the duties of that position.

To complete the form below, please insert the name of the person being nominated against the appropriate position and complete the details of the proposer and seconder in the boxes below.

Position	Present Holder	Person Being Nominated
Chairman:	Ian Sugarman
Vice-Chairman:	Sarita Robinson
Secretary:	Joanne Kearsley
Treasurer:	Tony Sevilla-Harland
Senior Warden:	Peter Altoft
Council Members:	Henry Goldstone
	Audrey Sugarman
	Elaine Winetroube

Please complete (in capital letters):
PROPOSER
 Name:
 Address:

Please complete (in capital letters):
SECONDER
 Name:
 Address:

When completed, please send this nomination form to:

Mrs Joanne Kearsley, Secretary, 29 Copse Road, Ashby, Scunthorpe DN16 3JA

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