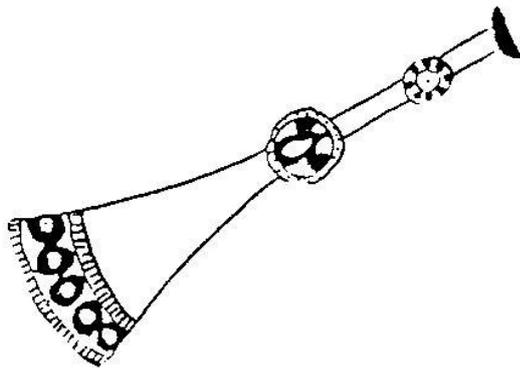
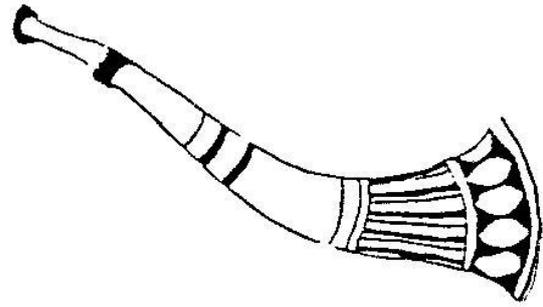


Shofar
Shalom



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



Celebrating 250 years of Jewish life in Hull 1766 - 2016





CHAIR'S REPORT

Sivan/Tammuz 5776
June/July 2016

Arrangements for the events marking the 250th year of the Hull Jewish Community have now been confirmed and details of these events can be found on page 5. There are two separate talks covering the 'Jews of Hull' and I would encourage you to attend.

We have a busy few weeks ahead of us starting with Chris Lilley's Admission to the Faith ceremony during the Erev Shabbat Service on Friday 10 June 2016. This will be followed by our Shavuot Service and Kiddush which is taking place on Sunday 12 June 2016 and, as usual, the Kiddush will consist of a range of dairy foodstuffs. Further detail on both events can be found on page 3. Interestingly, I found some 'snippets' about Shavuot and these can be found on page 8.

Our defibrillator training morning on Sunday 5 June was well attended, with 13 of us taking part. The session was carried out by Andy Harbert, whose company provides professional First Aid and Health & Safety training nationwide. Most of us had a go at resuscitating "Annie", even Aimi, but unfortunately, due to his 'bad knees', Henry was unable to practise using the defibrillator. I'd like to thank Andy for providing us with the training and to Audrey, Ann and Aimi for preparing the very well received bagel brunch. The defibrillator will be located in the corridor leading to the Shul hall and will be easily accessible at all times. Due to the number of trained users, there will always be at least one user in attendance at all our events.



I'd like to remind you again about our forthcoming Annual General Meeting (AGM), which is an important part of the Shul's administration. This will be held after the Friday Night Service on 17 June 2016 starting at 8.00pm. The nomination form for Council positions can be found on page 11.

The MRJ have developed a 12 months training programme for potential Service leaders which involves on-line tutorials, a number of residential Shabbats for practical experience and other mentor-led practical opportunities, including field trips. If you are interested in the programme, I do have more details.

Alternatively, I was thinking of running a couple of Service leader's workshops to try to expand our current team of Lay Readers. Once ready, you would take part of Friday Night Services with an experienced Lay Reader until you felt able to 'go it alone' Again, please contact me if you are interested.

Finally, please don't forget to come to our Friday Night and Shabbat Morning Services. Dates and times of these Services can be found on page 10.

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL



ADMISSION TO THE FAITH CEREMONY

We are delighted to announce that following his successful conversion to Judaism, Chris Lilley will be carrying out his admission to the faith ceremony during the **Friday Night Service** on **10 June 2016**.

This a very special occasion for Chris and his family and he would like to share it with all members of the community.



SHAVUOT SERVICE

This year's Shavuot Service and celebrations will be taking place on **Sunday** morning, **12 June 2016**, starting at **10.30am**.

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



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 take place on **Friday 17 June**, 2016, starting at **8.00pm** prompt.

If you are a full member of the Shul, you have a right to vote, so why don't you come and exercise this right. As this will be following the Friday Night Service. Please make every effort to attend.



HULL JEWISH COMMUNITY CARE (HJCC)

Following the recent success of the April meeting of the Friendly Circle, HJCC have great pleasure in inviting the community to another of their Friendly Circle afternoon teas on **Thursday 23 June 2016** at **2.00pm**. The event is taking place at the **Ne've Shalom Synagogue** and as usual, there will be a "sumptuous repast", after which, there will be entertainment.

For further details or to request a lift, please contact Harold Flasher, Chairman of HJCC, on (01482) 65537 or 07766 416 605, (or indeed, any member of the committee).

SYNAGOGUE COUNCIL MEETING - 29 APRIL 2016

Present - Ian Sugarman (Chair), Joanne Kearsley (Secretary), Tony Sevilla-Harland (Treasurer), Ann Sevilla-Harland, Elaine Winetroube, Andy Harbert, Audrey Sugarman, Henry Goldstone, and Philip O'Driscoll

Business

Andy confirmed that he was waiting for a quote for the checking and the 'signing off' of the fire extinguishers in the Shul hall and corridor. Grizdale Graphics had confirmed that they would maintain the Shul's website free of charge. Although the domain name would remain the same, hullreform.co.uk has been bought in case the website address has to change.

The Chair reported that the Purim Service held on Wednesday 23 March 2016 had been well attended and that it had been a very funny evening primarily due to the various members of the congregation who helped in the reading of the Megillah Esther, by actually voicing the characters.

The Communal Seder on Friday 22 April had been attended by 28 members and friends and had been a really good night and enjoyed by everyone. The Chair thanked Sarita Robinson and John Friend for taking the Seder Service and Ann Bush and her helpers for organising the evening and preparing the delicious food.

The Treasurer reported the Shul currently had a slight surplus owing to some additional income and the legacy from Les Rosenberg. The Gift Aid money had been received too late to be included into the financial year-end accounts. Regarding the year-end accounts, he informed the Council that the total of the subscriptions received had left a shortfall in the budget. The Chair pointed out that if the Gift Aid money had been included, then the Shul would have broken even, or even made a surplus, as the Gift Aid money was part of the regular yearly income.

The Council was then informed that the additional income was not guaranteed next year and there would almost certainly be a shortfall. The Treasurer then proposed increasing the subscriptions to bring the Shul more in line with other Shuls. The Chair felt that that this was not possible unless you compared our Shul to Shuls of a similar size with no Rabbi.

The Chair confirmed that the Shavuot Service and Kiddush would be held on Sunday 12 June 2016 at 10.30am and that this year's AGM would be held on Friday 17 June 2016, following the Erev Shabbat Service

There would be a Chagigah event held in Nottingham on 24-26 June 2016. Michael and Maria Guillas would be representing Hull at the Adult Social Care sessions, whilst Andy and Phil would be attending the Community Leadership session. Other members, such as Suzanne, Aimi and Sarita will also be there.

Regarding the request for a student Rabbi for this year's High Holy Days, it was felt by some of the Council that the cost would be prohibitive in light of the Treasurer's report. Following a brief discussion, the Council voted 6-3 to not take a student Rabbi. Andy then offered to sponsor the student's Rabbi's costs to save the Shul any extra expense. The Chair thanked Andy for his very generous and amazing offer and it was then agreed to take the student Rabbi.

Date of next meeting – Shul AGM, Friday 17 June 2016

THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF JEWISH SETTLEMENT IN THE CITY OF KINGSTON UPON HULL

The following 250th Anniversary events are open to everyone and have been organised on behalf of the Hull Jewish Representative Council. Invitations, in the form of a Celebratory Brochure, to a Service, being held on behalf of the Hull Jewish Representative Council, on Sunday 26 June 2016 have already been sent out.



Sunday 4 September 2016 - European Days of Jewish Culture & Heritage

This event will include a PowerPoint presentation and discussion on 250 years of Jewish life in Hull. David Lewis will be showing many photographs from the Archive of people and places.

Pryme Street Synagogue (time to be confirmed)

Monday 10 October 2016 – The Jews of Hull

David Lewis will give a talk entitled “The Jews of Hull” to the Hull Civic Society.

The Royal Station Hotel at 7.30pm

Sunday 26 February/ Sunday 5 March 2017 – Celebratory Luncheon

To conclude the year of events marking the 250th year of the Hull Jewish Community, a Celebratory Luncheon is being held in the presence of the Chief Rabbi and other Civic guests.

To make this a special nostalgic occasion, past residents of the Hull Jewish Community are being contacted and invited to attend

Pryme Street Synagogue (date and time to be confirmed)



Celebrating 250 years of Jewish life in Hull 1766 - 2016



A LITTLE BIT OF HUMOUR

Ever since the firm he worked for went bankrupt, Benny had been looking for a job. Many months pass without success but then, one day, Benny rushes back home to his wife Hannah with a big smile on his face.

"Darling," he says to her, "I've at last found a job."

"Mazeltov," says Hannah. "So what's the job like?"

"It's a four days a week job," replies Benny, "and includes 7 weeks paid holiday each year. Overtime is at double-rate, and the job comes with a small company car."

At first, Hannah can't help smiling at this news, but then she gets serious and says to him, "That's sounds great, darling, but what's the catch? There must be a catch somewhere."

"No, there's no catch," replies Benny. "You start tomorrow."

THE PROBLEM OF ANTI-SEMITISM FOR THE NON-JEWISH UK POPULATION

Over the past weeks there has been a lot of talk of anti-semitism within some of the political parties. Unfortunately, there is a tendency amongst the non-Jewish UK population to perceive British Jews and pro-Zionists as one and the same. The following article covering this confusion was sent to us by our roving reporter, Jackie Lukes.



Just when a forest fire was raging in the Labour Party about anti-semitism, I was invited to do Peer Observation of teaching in a university's History Department - and the topic happened to be anti-semitism. Who wouldn't be curious to hear student views, in the year when Oxford University's Labour Club chairman resigned over the issue and the National Union of Students elected an outspoken new President?

The year-long History course covered the topic in depth and breadth (almost too thoroughly - ouch!) moving from ancient, medieval and early modern European anti-semitism to the Holocaust, its origins and development, and lastly to the part observed by me: anti-semitism since the Holocaust.

Splendidly provocative questions had been posed to the students for their essays, along with copious reading. To what extent is the new anti-semitism, political as distinct from religious, exaggerated? Is it valid to speak of a Holocaust industry? How far is Islamic anti-semitism new and how far does it draw on older sources? Hardest of all, and the topic for a seminar I attended: is criticism of Israel 'anti-semitism in disguise'?

Everything impressed me as scrupulous and truth-seeking - the lecturer's careful planning and organization, including freedom for the students to read and debate and work things out for themselves (much better than telling, which would be counter-productive) and the students' amazingly hard work, reading so much and writing so thoughtfully: I heard every essay. It was a mixed group of boys and girls from different backgrounds, all English, in their late teens/early 20s. As the course was chosen, not compulsory, they must have been interested and engaged.

Yet one thing bothered me, a puzzle I can't untangle and the reason I'm doing this Roving Reporter report. It was the language used in the seminar discussion. The students said Zionists when they meant Jews. One of them tentatively addressed the difficulty saying it was hard to talk aloud about all this as it seemed Politically Incorrect, anti-semitic, to use the word Jews.

Why do some people see it as the other way round? Lord Levy said to BBC2 Newsnight the same week: "There can be criticism of the State of Israel, but anti-semitism - using the word 'Zionist' as another form of anti-semitism - frankly can no longer be tolerated." Rabbi Julia Neuberger told the programme: "It has to be legitimate to criticize Israel, but when 'Zionist' is used instead of the word Jew, that is not about Israel, that is about Jews." She called this "conflation" of words a "particular kind of anti-semitism".

Zionism, anti-semitism and racism used to be clear concepts, but now seem muddled up together on both or all sides of the debate. Those students, sincere, sensitive, innocent of prejudice, were stuck in a well-intentioned linguistic minefield - what's the way out?

HULL DOES LIMMUD - UPDATE

The following up-date was sent to us by Heather Harris, who along with Sarita Robinson, is co-chairing the working group to create a Limmud event during the City's Year of Culture in 2017.

Co-Chairs Heather Harris and Sarita Robinson have been hard at work putting together an application for a grant for this event from the Hull 2017 Creative Communities Fund. Here are some highlights from the submission :



- In many cases Jewish men, women and children found refuge in Hull from oppression, whether in Tsarist Russia or Hitler's Germany.
- Members of the Jewish community have played a very important role in the social, cultural and political life in our city. In local government, Jewish councillors such as Benno and Louis Pearlman, Lawrence Science and Sir Leo Schultz improved the lives of their fellow citizens.
- Benjamin Jacobs designed many of Hull's most handsome Victorian buildings. Businesses from jewellers to dry-cleaners were brought to Hull by members of the Jewish community.

In our year as City Of Culture how can we not showcase, share and celebrate all of the culture which has arrived in Hull across three centuries of Jewish immigration? We have planned the timing of our event to be within the theme "Roots and Routes" as the story of the Jews Of Hull so clearly demonstrates the city as a place of migration and transitions. We plan to create a 'Day Limmud' for the first time ever in Hull on Sunday 14 May 2017.

Limmud comes from the Hebrew word "to learn". An anticipated 100 participants will come together in an informal, vibrant atmosphere to be inspired and learn about Jewish culture, history and place within our great city. We want to offer a choice of experiences and types of participation so envision 3 options in each of our 4 timeslots, blending culture, community, philosophy, history, geography, society and the arts.

By way of example, we may invite Dr Nicholas Evans to present on Jewish Immigration into Hull, Professor Howard Cuckle to inform us about Notable Hull Jews, Paul Lever to weave the story of Hull Jewish Trader, Professor John Friend to explain the current themes within Hull Interfaith and Clarissa Hyman (author of The Jewish Kitchen) to tempt us with her renowned recipes for fish! All of our topics and themes will by design interweave Hull and Jewish culture from earliest times to present day. Most uniquely, what is expected to be a very popular activity will be a Jewish History walking tour.

We respectfully seek part-funding from the Creative Communities Programme to subsidise ticket cost, allow us to hire an appropriate and fully accessible city centre venue, provide strictly kosher catering and ensure the highest levels of security.

Our Hull Day Limmud project is a sincere outreach through which we hope people's spirits, hearts and minds will be touched. We would love people in Hull and surrounding areas from all backgrounds to come and learn more about this section of Hull's society that is not well known, and that tells a compelling story of immigration and settling successfully within a country through the unique lens of our city. We believe our event's underlying themes and messages are important as well as current, relevant and uplifting. Throughout we will be promoting inclusivity, leaving a legacy of new understanding and challenging perceptions of the 'outsider'.

ASK THE RABBI



AskTheRabbi.org responds to the following Shavuot-themed questions:

“Why is it a custom to have a dairy meal (especially cheesecake!) on Shavuot, unlike on other Jewish Festivals?”

It is customary to eat dairy foods on Shavuot, possibly as one component in re-enacting the Sinai experience.

Having just received the laws about kosher food at Sinai, the Jewish people had no choice but to limit themselves to dairy or plant-based foods. They could not eat meat right after Sinai since that would require kosher slaughter, salting and other preparations before it could be eaten. So all they were left with was dairy food - like delicious cheesecake!

“Why is the Book of Ruth read on Shavuot?”

One explanation is that Ruth's tremendous self-sacrifice in abandoning her country, her wealth and her comfort in order to become part of the Jewish people is a lesson to us all about priorities in life.

Another reason is that on Shavuot we all look upon ourselves as converts to Judaism. When the Jewish people came to Mt. Sinai, they unconditionally accepted the entire Torah and God's sovereignty. They purified themselves, the men were circumcised and the entire people entered into a covenant with God. Each of these steps is repeated by every convert to Judaism.

A third reason is that Ruth's great-grandson was King David, who was born on Shavuot (and 70 years later, died on Shavuot). The Messiah will ultimately trace his lineage to King David.

“Is there any special mitzvah to be fulfilled on Shavuot like there are on other Jewish Festivals, such as eating matzah on Passover?”

Shavuot is the anniversary of the Revelation on Mount Sinai, when God communicated the Torah to the entire Jewish people and in so doing, revealed to them their national mission and purpose. In our prayers, Shavuot is referred to as *Zman Matan Torateinu*, the time of the Giving of our Torah.

Unlike all the other holidays, no particular mitzvah is associated with Shavuot: On Passover, we eat matzah, on Sukkot we dwell in a sukkah and on Rosh Hashanah we blow the shofar, but no specific commandment is related to the giving of the Torah. Shavuot celebrates the totality of Torah. The Torah is all encompassing, it sanctifies and elevates every aspect of life; therefore it cannot be encapsulated in any single ritual, or any one experience.

On all festivals, the spiritual light that originally encompassed the world on the first occasion of that festival (for instance, the very first Passover) flows again every year at that same time. This increased spirituality is available to us if we are attuned to it.

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

Rosza Lusztig	14 June 2016	Cissie Silver	11 July 2016
Gerald Godfrey	19 June 2016	Edgar Bennett	11 July 2016
Annie Brookner	22 June 2016	Berta Rose	12 July 2016
Ada Bransky	24 June 2016	Janet Sugarman	13 July 2016
Stuart Rosenthal	27 June 2016	Immanuel Godfrey	13 July 2016
Harold Harris	30 June 2016	Phillip Waytzman	14 July 2016
Leah Stetinski	30 June 2016	Jim Smith	26 July 2016
Jeannette Sevilla	3 July 2016	Tessa Pliener	1 Aug. 2016
Les Rosenberg	4 July 2016	Becky Furman	3 Aug. 2016
Issac Maniloff	6 July 2016	Bert Goldstone	7 Aug. 2016
Abby Furman	7 July 2016	Solly Bermitz	7 Aug. 2016
Jennie Harris	11 July 2016	Ann Greenstone	7 Aug. 2016

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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FORTHCOMING SERVICES AND EVENTS

Date	Time	Leader	Refreshment Rota
Friday 10 June (Admission to Faith Ceremony)	7.00pm	Peter Altoft	Joanne Kearsley Deborah Wrapson
Sunday 12 June (Shavuot Service and Kiddush)	10.30am	Ian Sugarman	Ann Bush Audrey Sugarman
Friday 17 June	7.00pm	John Friend	Veronika Keczkas Jackie Lukes
Friday 17 June (Synagogue AGM)	8.00pm	Ian Sugarman	N/A
Thursday 23 June (Friendly Circle)	2.00pm	Audrey Sugarman	Ladies Committee
Friday 24 June	7.00pm	Sarita Robinson	Ann Bush Deborah Wrapson
Sunday 26 June (250th Anniversary Service)	2.30pm	Pryme Street Synagogue	N/A
Friday 1 July	7.00pm	Tony Sevilla-Harland	Ann Sevilla-Harland Joanne Kearsley
Shabbat 2 July	10.30am	Ian Sugarman John Friend	Marija Guilas Gillian Smith
Shabbat 3 July (Torah Workshop)	12.15pm	Tony Sevilla-Harland	N/A
Friday 8 July	7.00pm	Aimi Sugarman	Audrey Sugarman Ann Bush
Friday 15 July	7.00pm	Geoff Annis	Lesley Annis Jannette Dubb
Friday 22 July	7.00pm	Peter Altoft	Joanne Kearsley Deborah Wrapson
Friday 29 July	7.00pm	John Friend	Veronika Keczkas Jackie Lukes
Friday 5 August	7.00pm	Sarita Robinson	Ann Bush Deborah Wrapson
Shabbat 6 August	10.30am	Ian Sugarman Tony Sevilla-Harland	Marija Guilas Gillian Smith
Shabbat 6 August (Torah Workshop)	12.15pm	Tony Sevilla-Harland	N/A
Friday 12 August	7.00pm	Geoff Annis	Lesley Annis Jannette Dubb
Friday 19 August	7.00pm	Aimi Sugarman	Audrey Sugarman Ann Bush

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 on **Friday 17 June, 2016** in the Synagogue Hall, Great Gutter Lane, Willerby HU10 6DP at **8.00pm prompt**. All nominations must be received by the Synagogue Secretary no later than midnight, Friday 10 June, 2016, 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:	Ann Sevilla-Harland
Secretary:	Joanne Kearsley
Treasurer:	Tony Sevilla-Harland
Senior Warden:	Andy Harbert
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 or at [**joannekearsley@yahoo.co.uk**](mailto:joannekearsley@yahoo.co.uk)

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 Ann Sevilla-Harland on (01652 688362)

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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 on 01724 340506
or at joannekearsley@yahoo.co.uk

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