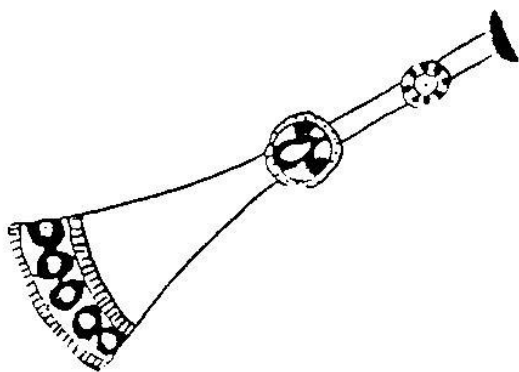
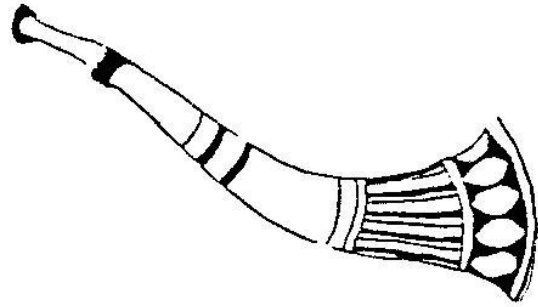


Shofar
Shalom



The Official newsletter of the Hull Reform Synagogue



CHAIR'S REPORT

Cheshvan/Kislev 5778
November/December 2017

Shalom. I hope you are all keeping well and prepared for the winter months ahead.

This year's Simchat Torah honours went to Ian Sugarman and Malcolm Rosenberg. We had around 22 members attending the service and I was sorry not to be there, but I was working away all week in a very dull Bedford. Aimi sourced this year's wonderful Kiddush and I understand there was not much food left. Thank you all for your continued support and a special thanks to Aimi, who should seriously consider branching out into catering.

On Thursday evening, 16 November 2017, we are delighted to welcome Robin Moss, the Director of Strategy for the UJIA, who will be presenting a talk to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the signing of the Balfour Declaration. As this is a communal event organised by the Hull Jewish Representative Council, all members and friends of the Hull Jewish community are invited to attend. Dave Eastburn will be providing refreshments following the presentation. The event starts at 7.45pm in our Shul hall.

A big thank you to all those who donated to this year's High Holy Day appeal on behalf of MRJ. The last date for any further donations is 24 November 2017 and please send any monies directly to our Treasurer, Aimi. This year's Chanukah Service will be held Friday 15 December 2017 at 7.00pm and I understand another splendid Kiddush will be on offer following the Service.

Following on from the success of the last film showing at Ne've Shalom, we are planning another film showing to be held Sunday 21 January 2018 at 2.30pm further details to follow shortly. We are also planning a first aid / Defibrillator training session update within the next few months. The actual date of the training has yet to be confirmed.

Mazel Tov to Malcolm on conducting his first Friday night service at Ne've Shalom. You are now on the service rota! Finally, please don't forget to come to our Friday Night services at 7.00pm and Shabbat Morning Services at 10.30am on the first Saturday of each month.

SYNAGOGUE COUNCIL

Chairman:	Andy Harbert (Shul Management)	07736 397858
Vice Chairman:	Phil O'Driscoll (Projects)	07903 578490
Secretary:	Joanne Kearsley (Administration)	01724 340506
Treasurer:	Aimi Sugarman (Financial)	07507 891608
Senior Warden:	Audrey Sugarman (Services and Mitzvot)	01482 563835
Council Members:	Henry Goldstone (Security/Plaques)	01482 667258
	Malcolm Rosenberg (Asst. Treasurer)	01482 846712
	Elaine Winetroube (Telephone)	01482 571035
Co-opted Members:	Jim Lightowler (Building Maintenance)	01482 654663
	Chris Lilley (General)	07972 563194
Life President:	Ian Sugarman	01482 835864

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL



THANK YOU ALL

Dear Ne've Shalom

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who attended my special birthday Kiddush and for all the cards and well wishes. It was a lovely night and wonderful food made and organised by Audrey and Gillian. Thanks everyone.

Also, people have been asking me if I am giving up blowing the Shofar on Rosh Hashanah. Well the answer is NO. I simply want an understudy in case anything should happen on the big day. I am very aware of my mum's age and the distance I have to travel to Shul and, as a safeguard, I would feel happy if there was someone to stand in for me just in case. Unless of course I should get the sack!!!

With best wishes

Joanne Kearsley
29 Copse Road.

HEADSTONE CONSECRATION



The headstone, in loving memory of the late **Ron Harris** (Olav Ha'shalom), will be consecrated on **Sunday 19 November 2017** at the Ella Street Cemetery.

The Service will commence at **12 noon** and all the community is invited. Refreshments will be available at the Pryme Street Shul following the service.



CHANUKAH SERVICE AND CHANUKAH KIDDUSH

This year, we are holding our Chanukah Service, and a very special Chanukah Kiddush, on **Friday 15 December 2017** starting at **7.00pm**.

As this is also the fourth night of Chanukah, we will be lighting our giant Chanukiah and sampling Chanukah-style food such as fried fish balls, latkes and donuts. Everyone is welcome to come along.



RECEIVING THE SHOFAR SHALOM ELECTRONICALLY

In these current environmentally friendly times, we are offering all members the opportunity to receive the *Shofar Shalom* directly to them by e-mail. If you do wish to receive your *Shofar Shalom* electronically, please contact Ian Sugarman on ian@isa.karoo.co.uk who will add you to the electronic mailing list.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

THE BALFOUR CENTENARY PRESENTATION

Foreign Office,
November 2nd, 1917.

Dear Lord Rothschild,

I have much pleasure in conveying to you, on behalf of His Majesty's Government, the following declaration of sympathy with Jewish Zionist aspirations which has been submitted to, and approved by, the Cabinet

"His Majesty's Government view with favour the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people, and will use their best endeavours to facilitate the achievement of this object, it being clearly understood that nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine, or the rights and political status enjoyed by Jews in any other country"

I should be grateful if you would bring this declaration to the knowledge of the Zionist Federation.



To commemorate the 100th anniversary of the signing of the Balfour Declaration, there will be a presentation entitled, "Balfour to Independence: a Tale of Two Declarations" on **Thursday 16 November 2017** at the **Ne've Shalom Synagogue**.

The speaker will be Robin Moss, who is the Director of Strategy for UJIA, and the event starts at **7.45pm**.

Following the presentation, Dave Eastburn Catering will be providing the refreshments.

Please make every effort to attend this talk outlining this important landmark event in the creation of the State of Israel. As this is a communal event, members and friends from the Hull Jewish Community are all invited.

HULL JEWISH COMMUNITY CARE (HJCC)



Following the success of the recent social event, HJCC have great pleasure in inviting the community to another of their Friendly Circle afternoon teas on **Thursday 23 November 2017 at 2.00pm**. The event is taking place at the **Ne've Shalom Synagogue** and there will be entertainment and refreshments as usual, so put the date in your diary. If you have any friends who may not see this announcement, please would you keep them informed, as it really will be a shame for them to miss out.

For further details or to request a lift to this events, please contact Harold Flasher, Chairman of HJCC, on (01482) 655 537 or 07766 416 605, (or indeed, any member of the committee).

OPEN FRIDAY NIGHT SERVICE



Following the huge success of the previous Open Friday Night Service, the next one will take place on **Friday 23 February 2018** starting at **7.00pm**. What makes this Service different from the normal Friday Night service is the running commentary from those leading the Service explaining the nature of the prayers being recited, their background, origin and the traditional rituals being observed.

Please feel free to invite guests, both Jewish and non-Jewish to this interesting event,

SYNAGOGUE COUNCIL MEETING

27 October 2017

Present - Andy Harbert (Chair), Joanne Kearsley (Secretary), Aimi Sugarman (Treasurer), Phil O'Driscoll, Audrey Sugarman, Henry Goldstone, Malcolm Rosenberg, Jim Lightowler, Elaine Winetroube and Ian Sugarman (Hon. Life President).

Business

Ian reported that the HJCC had refused the request for a water boiler, as it needed to be fixed and plumbed-in thus making it a fixture of the building. The Chair responded that he had found a removable water boiler for the kitchen costing £383.00, the details of which he would forward to Harold Flasher for the HJCC to consider. The Chair further reported that the catering for the Balfour Declaration presentation being held in the Shul would be provided by David Eastburn and funded by the HJRC. It is expected that approximately 100 people would attend. Joanne reported that after her request for an understudy Shofar Blower, Phil and Gill Drummond have offered to learn and a class would be held sometime next spring

The Chair thanked all the Lay Readers and members who contributed to the smooth running of the High Holy Day services. He also thanked those who helped build the Sukkah in the rain. The Simchat Torah service was not well attended this year, but a great night was had by all who were present. Aimi was thanked for the catering. The Kiddush for Joanne's special birthday was very well attended. The food was excellent and the evening was enjoyed by all. About 80 people, including a coach of visitors from Leeds, had attended the Friendly Circle at Pryme Street. It had been a very enjoyable afternoon and lots of new friendships had been made.

The Chair reported that the Northern Chagigah would be taking place on 3-5 November 2017 in York. The AJEX Annual Service of Remembrance would be taking place at the Pryme Street Synagogue on Sunday 12 November 2017 at 2.30pm. The Chair has been asked to light a remembrance candle. The Balfour Declaration presentation would be taking place on Thursday 16 November 2017 at 7.45pm at Ne've Shalom. The stone setting for Ronnie Harris would be held at the Ella Street cemetery on 19 November 2017 at 12 noon, followed by refreshments at Pryme Street. This year's Chanukah service would be held on Friday 15 December 2017 at 7.00pm and the next RSY sleepover would take place on 23-24 March 2018.

The Council agreed that after a very successful and enjoyable High Holy Days services, the Shul's Lay readers would again conduct the Services next year. MRJ would be informed.

After the success of the recent film show, the Council agreed to organise another film show on Sunday 21 January 2018. It was suggested that "The Zoo Keeper's Wife" be the film shown. The Council also agreed to organise the next Open Friday Night Service for 23 February 2018.

An article in 'The Watchman', written by Michael Bott, was judged to be inaccurate, inappropriate and possibly inflammatory, as it stated that members of Ne've Shalom were not willing to mix socially with members of the Pryme Street Shul. Following a brief discussion, the Chair asked the Secretary to request that 'The Watchman' either prints a retraction or a more positive article.

Date of next Council meeting – Friday 15 December 2017

HOW DO YOU SPELL IT? CHANUKKAH, HANUKA, CHANUKA...?

The following article by Allen S. Maller first appeared in the December 2009 edition of the Jewish magazine.

The five boys and girls sitting at the table waited eagerly for the last question. This was the final round of the citywide spelling contest. These five boys and girls had



spelled their way through almost an hour of increasingly difficult words. In the previous round they had all successfully spelled antisestablishmentarianism. They couldn't imagine any harder words than the ones they already had successfully spelled.

The five of them were the best spellers in the city. They knew all the spelling rules, and all of them read a great many books. What word could the judges ask that would be so hard to spell, that only one of the five would come up as the winner?

One of the four judges stood up, looked at each one of the children very carefully, and said, "How do you spell the name of the Jewish holiday that celebrates the victory of the Maccabees in their fight for religious freedom and Jewish independence?"

Each one of the children wrote a different spelling: Chanukah, Channukah, Hanukah, Hannukkah and Hanuka.

The judges looked puzzled. First, they began to whisper to one another. Then they began to argue. After a few minutes they started shouting at one another. Finally, one of them stood up and said, "If we can't agree among ourselves, we will have to call an expert. The best person to get would be a rabbi. Which rabbi shall we ask?"

One of the five boys called out, "I'll get my rabbi." The girl next to him jumped up and said, "Oh, no, I'll get my rabbi. I'm sure he will come."

Two of the other children who were also Jewish ran off to call their rabbis, and the remaining boy, who was Catholic, decided to go and call his priest.

An hour later, four rabbis and a priest had gathered together with the judges. "Why are there so many different ways to spell Chanukah?" asked one of the judges.

The first rabbi replied, "The Jewish religion does not have a list of specific things that every Jew has to believe about God. Jews believe that there are several different ways of thinking about God. If we have more than one way to think about God, who is very important, why should we have only one way to spell Hanukkah, which is much less important than God? However, in my opinion, the best spelling would be one that has eight letters in it, since there are eight days to Hannukah."

The judges looked very puzzled. "Can a Jew do anything he wants to do?" asked one of the judges. "Doesn't Judaism stand for anything?"

The second rabbi answered, "Of course Judaism has principles and standards. We believe in freedom, but that doesn't mean that everybody can do anything they want. Every Jew should pay attention to the teachings of the Torah and our tradition; to the teachings of your rabbi; and to what the majority of the people in your community are doing. But within the teachings of Torah and tradition, there are many honest differences and opinions.

For example, 2,000 years ago there was a debate between two learned rabbis. Hillel said that you should light the Hanukah candles starting with one candle on the first day, and adding an additional candle each day until all eight candles are lit.

Shamai, however, taught that you should light eight candles on the first night of Channuka, and then one candle less each night until there was only one left on the eighth night. Shamai believed that just as the oil diminished from day to day, so too should the light of the candles become smaller each day.



Place right to left; *Kindle* left to right

Hillel, on the other hand, felt that the Jewish struggle to survive, in spite of the many attempts of our enemies to destroy us, was in itself the miracle, and that the longer we survive, the greater the miracle becomes. Therefore, the light should increase each day, as the miracle of Jewish survival becomes greater.”

At this point the third rabbi spoke up, “Actually, there are many different ways of doing things, and many different reasons for what we do. Sometimes the differences are due to a different way of thinking about things, as in the case of Hillel and Shamai. Sometimes the differences are due to local custom. For example, in the United States, Jews eat bagels and lox, while in Israel Jews eat falafel in pita bread. Jews from Europe do not eat rice during Passover, but Jews from North Africa and the Middle East do eat rice. So how you spell Hanuka is just a matter of custom. I think all the spellings are correct, and the contest is a tie.”

Suddenly the priest spoke up, “The story of the Maccabees is not found in the Jewish Bible because their fight for freedom occurred after the Jewish Bible was written. The Book of Maccabees can be found in the Catholic Bible. So, although I am not a scholar of Hebrew, I think I’m entitled to an opinion on the spelling of Chanukkah.”

“If the story of Hanukah is found in the Catholic Bible,” asked the head judge, “why don’t you celebrate Hanuka in your church? After all, if the Maccabees had not won their fight for freedom against those who wanted to force the Jews to copy everybody else and stop being different, the Jews would all have disappeared. If the Jews had disappeared, then Christianity’s leader would not have been born as a Jew. And without him, there wouldn’t be any Christian religion at all. In fact, without Hanukah, no matter how you spell it, there wouldn’t be any Christmas!”

“That’s true,” said the priest. “There wouldn’t be any Christmas if there wasn’t any Chanukah, but we can’t celebrate Channukkah because it’s not a Christian Holiday. Indeed, we don’t even celebrate Shabbat, and that’s one of the Ten Commandments. Ours is a different religion, with its own holidays and beliefs.”

“All this is very interesting,” said the head judge. “I have learned that Jews have more than one way of thinking about God, that Jews have different interpretations and customs, and that the Book of Maccabees is to be found in the Catholic Bible. What I haven’t learned is HOW DO YOU SPELL CHANUKKAH? Isn’t there any answer that is correct?”

“Yes there is,” said the fourth rabbi. “There is one correct spelling, and that is חנוכה. The only correct spelling is the Hebrew way.

All attempts to translate, or transliterate Hebrew words into English letters lose something in the transition. It is sort of like kissing a girl through a handkerchief. You can do it, but it doesn't feel the same."

"OK," said the judges, "we will give first prize to whichever of the boys and girls can spell Hannukkah in Hebrew."

As it turned out only one boy and one girl could spell חנוכה in Hebrew and so they were declared the winners. But, everyone, including the judges, learned a little bit about why there are so many different ways to spell Hanukkah, and why Hebrew is the best way.

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 PRAYER FOR THE STATE OF ISRAEL ON THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BALFOUR DECLARATION



As Senior Rabbi to the Movement for Reform Judaism (MRJ), Laura is a familiar face – and voice – in the media. She is a regular contributor to BBC Radio 4's 'Thought for the Day' and makes regular appearances on other programmes.



The following prayer by Rabbi Laura Janner-Klausner was first published on 26 October 2017 on the MRJ website.

We are the proud inheritors of the intimate connection of our tradition and heritage with the Land of Israel. We celebrate today the Balfour Declaration and those who brought it about, who opened a new chapter in this relationship that we benefit from today. Those who paved the way for us hoped that establishing a home for the Jewish people in the land of Israel would bring refuge from violence and strife. May we work towards establishing peace and security for Israel and its neighbours today.

Those who envisioned a future Jewish state believed it would become a cultural and religious centre for all of k'lal yisrael, the community of Israel. May we do our part in strengthening Israel as a thriving Jewish homeland, welcoming those from all traditions and backgrounds.

Those who worked to bring about the Declaration of Independence enshrined that nothing should be done to "prejudice the civil and religious rights" of other peoples in the land. May we promote the rights of all people living in Israel and the territories under its control, fostering mutual respect and understanding.

Harachaman, may the all-merciful continue to bless the State of Israel and all who live there. May the spirit of the pioneers whose work led to the Balfour Declaration live on in us as we continue to build and strengthen Israel and realise the vision of the prophets, for Israel to be an or l'goyim, a light to the nations.

Let us say, Amen.

THE RABBI'S NEW CAR

In the religious area of London, a Rabbi left the pulpit to open up a business. After working very hard for several years and finally making some money, he decided to purchase a new car. Upon entering the local new car dealer, he was quickly spotted by the salesman.

"Have I got a car for you!" he exclaimed, unable to conceal his delight at finding an obviously religious man. The Rabbi turned business man, dressed in a dark suit, sporting a long beard, looked at the sales man in apprehension.

"What do you mean?"

"Ah ha," the salesman said rubbing his hands together. "Let me show you the latest technological advance. A British car with Israeli designed computerised digital commands."

"W-What's that?" the Rabbi asked hesitatingly.

"Come right here and let me show you. You will never believe your eyes." The salesman opened the door of the new and shiny SUV. "Please sit down and I will show you.

"A one of a kind, I tell you. You won't believe your eyes. You see this car has no pedals. That's right no accelerator and no brake pedal."

"B-But how do you stop and start?"

"Ah, that's the beauty of this, with the Israeli computerised technology all you have to do is to speak and the digital processor will convert your voice into an electronic signal that tells the motor what to do."

"I don't believe it."

"Watch, it's true. This was programmed for the religious consumer. To start, just say 'Baruch HaShem' (Hebrew: Thank G-d). As the salesman spoke those words the car began to drive.

The Rabbi, was taken back, "Wow, I don't believe it! How do you stop the car?"

"That's no problem, all you have to say is 'Shema Yisroel' (the prayer declaring the unity of G-d) and the car will stop." As the salesman spoke those words, the car rolled to a halt. It's as easy as can be just say 'Baruch HaShem' to start and when you want to stop just say 'Shema Yisroel'. "

Well The Rabbi was very impressed and bought the car on the spot. Entering the car he said the magic words, 'Baruch HaShem' and the car was soon heading out and on to the local highway. Soon the Rabbi had left the city behind and was looking at the beautiful country scenery. As the car continued, the Rabbi failed to notice a sign saying that the road is closed. As the car continued it went up onto a half completed bridge.

"Oh no! We are going to crash!". Instinctively his feet searched in vain for the brake pedal, but there was none to be found. "What do I say, WHAT DO I SAY!!!" Panicking he could not remember what the salesman had told him. His mind was a blank and the car was approaching the end of the unfinished bridge, together with a majestic plunge into a ravine, hundreds of feet below.

"This is the end!" the Rabbi thought. And preparing for death he began to declare the unity of G-d, "Shema Yisroel!" he said, and in a moment the car screeched to a stop with half of the car resting in a tilted manner, precariously over the bridge.

The Rabbi, soaked with perspiration, removed his trembling hand from his forehead, and looked at the miracle and exclaimed with deep feeling 'BARUCH HASHEM!'

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

Janos Lusztig	18 Nov. 2017	Valerie Shields	4 Dec. 2017
Richard Friend	24 Nov. 2017	Herman Goldstein	6 Dec. 2017
Hugo Sprinz	25 Nov. 2017	Leah Winetroube	8 Dec. 2017
Lynn Shields	25 Nov. 2017	Rebecca Bookner	8 Dec. 2017
Jack Bermitz	26 Nov. 2017	Geoff Annis	8 Dec. 2017
Frances Godfrey	27 Nov. 2017	Ruby Bermitz	10 Dec. 2017
Julius Dubb	28 Nov. 2017	Moishe Furman	12 Dec. 2017
Lothar Seewald	28 Nov. 2017	Ellis Rock	15 Dec. 2017
Jean Cooper	29 Nov. 2017	Morris Samuel Levy	15 Dec. 2017
Leon Rosenthal	29 Nov. 2017	Sarah Bush	17 Dec. 2017
Aubrey Sadofsky	29 Nov. 2017	Joan Sadofsky	17 Dec. 2017

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
Thursday 16 November (Balfour Declaration Event)	7.45pm	Hull Jewish Rep. Council	Dave Eastburn Catering
Friday 17 November	7.00pm	Aimi Sugarman	Lesley Annis Ann Bush
Friday 24 November	7.00pm	Phil O'Driscoll Andy Harbert	Helen Jackman Christine Joseph-Jay
Friday 1 December	7.00pm	Malcolm Rosenberg	Joanne Kearsley Veronika Keczkcs
Shabbat 2 December	10.30am	Ian Sugarman Tony Sevilla-Harland	Audrey Sugarman Gillian Smith
Shabbat 2 December (Torah Workshop)	12.15pm	Tony Sevilla-Harland	N/A
Friday 8 December	7.00pm	Mark Huntington	Jackie Lukes Audrey Sugarman
Friday 15 December (Chanukah Service and Kiddush)	7.00pm	Sarita Robinson	Aimi Sugarman Elaine Winetroube
Friday 15 December (Council Meeting)	8.00pm	Andy Harbert	N/A
Friday 22 December	7.00pm	Tony Sevilla-Harland	Ann Sevilla-Harland Deborah Wrapson
Friday 29 December	7.00pm	Malcolm Rosenberg	Andy Harbert Gill Drummond
Friday 5 January	7.00pm	Aimi Sugarman	Veronika Keczkcs Ann Bush
Shabbat 7 January	10.30am	Ian Sugarman Tony Sevilla-Harland	Audrey Sugarman Gillian Smith
Shabbat 7 January (Torah Workshop)	12.15pm	Tony Sevilla-Harland	N/A
Friday 12 January	7.00pm	Phil O'Driscoll Andy Harbert	Helen Jackman Christine Joseph-Jay
Friday 19 January	7.00pm	Ian Sugarman	Audrey Sugarman Elaine Winetroube
Sunday 21 January (Free Film Show)	2.30pm	Andy Harbert	Aimi Sugarman
Friday 26 January	7.00pm	Mark Huntington	Jackie Lukes Veronika Keczkcs
Friday 2 February	7.00pm	Sarita Robinson	Lesley Annis 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.

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 Audrey Sugarman on (01482 563835)



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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.