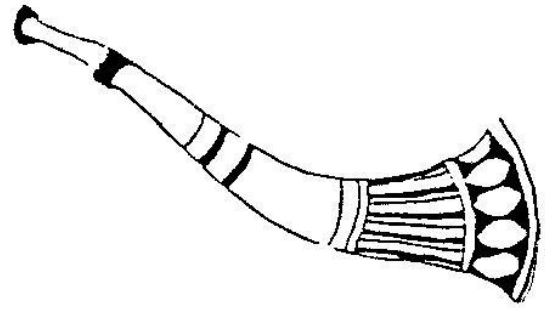
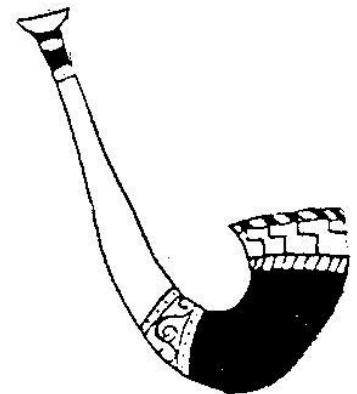
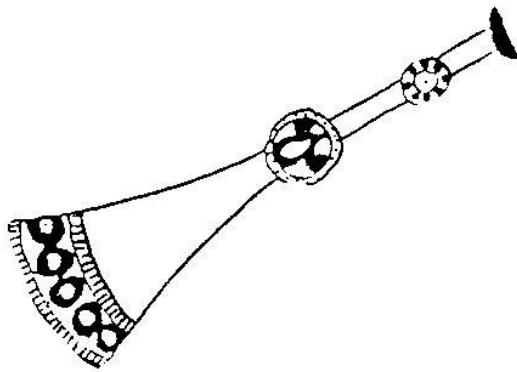


Shofar Shalom



COVID-19 EDITION



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



CHAIR'S REPORT

Ellul 5780
August/September 2020

Shalom. How are we only a month away from Rosh Hashanah? The Council has had many discussions about High Holy Days and we are pleased to announce that Finchey Synagogue has kindly agreed to host Hull Reform Synagogue online for the High Holy Days. They have offered our members to either participate in the services or simply join the services on Zoom or watch them by live streaming on their website/ facebook. Full details on the Services and the machzorim to be used are on page 4.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, we are having to modify our arrangements for Sukkot and Simchat Torah. For Sukkot, we are planning to build our Sukkah on Friday 2nd October 2020 at 5pm. This will immediately be followed by an outdoor Erev Sukkot Service. Further details can be found on page 3.

We are still going ahead with the Simchat Torah honours, but this will extend into next year when we can hold the ceremony and Service in the Shul as a Community. The Council unanimously voted for Elaine Winetroube and Veronika Keczkas to receive the honour of being Chatan Torah and Chatan B'reshet Elaine has been an integral part of the Council for many years and both Elaine and Veronika have been tremendously supportive of the Synagogue. We would like to recognise this and thank them both for their ongoing support and wonderful dedication to the Council and Synagogue.

As you are aware, before lockdown the Council had advertised for a position of the caretaker. I am now delighted to report that following her successful interview, we have appointed Laura Rhodes to that position. It came apparent at her interview that Laura had far more to offer, so as well as her caretaking duties, Laura will be assisting with catering, events organising, treasurer assisting duties and general administration. However, the Council felt it appropriate to keep the gardener and cleaner as the Council felt that they continue to do a very good job.

The Council hope you will all give Laura a tremendously warm welcome and hopefully you will have the pleasure of meeting her at the outdoor Sukkot service and also when the Synagogue can re-open its doors.

SYNAGOGUE COUNCIL

Chairman:	Andy Harbert (Shul Management)	07736 397858
Vice Chairman:	Aimi Sugarman (Projects)	07507 891608
Acting Secretary:	Helen Jackman (Administration)	07884 432329
Acting Treasurer:	Aimi Sugarman (Legal/Finance)	07507 891608
Acting Senior Warden:	Ian Sugarman (Services)	01482 835864
Council Members:	Elaine Winetroube	07707 796774
	Tim Harris	07900 494225
Life President	Ian Sugarman (Honorary)	01482 835864

TASHLICH CEREMONY



All members of the Community are invited to attend the Tashlich Ceremony on **Sunday 20th September 2020** at **11.00am**.

To carry out this custom, we will meeting at the **Hessle Foreshore Car Park**, next to the Humber Bridge towers at **10.45am**. Due to the COVID-19 restrictions, please wear a face mask and adhere to 2 metre rule. Pens and rice paper will be provided.

Tashlich comes from the Hebrew word meaning "to cast," referring to the intent to cast away our sins via this meaningful and ancient Jewish custom common to all Jewish Communities. Traditionally bread was used, but in modern day, environmental practices recommend rice paper. Therefore, we intend to write our 'sins' on small pieces of rice paper and cast them into the river. Please make every effort to attend this spiritual experience.

SUKKAH BUILDING AND SERVICE

Every year, we build our temporary Sukkah in the porch of the Shul building which we then decorate with foliage, fruit and vegetables. Once built we use the Sukkah for the Kiddushim which take place after the Services during the festival of Sukkot.

Due to the current restriction on Shul Services, this year we will building the Sukkah on **Friday 2nd October 2020** at **5pm**, which will be followed by a socially distanced, short outdoor Erev Sukkot Service (weather permitting)



Everyone is welcome to come along and help. Any donations of fruit and/or vegetables will be gratefully received.



PAYMENT OF SUBSCRIPTIONS 2020/21

The Acting Treasurer has now sent the new subscription letters. The full membership and friend fee will remain the same as last year.

The optional burial insurance fee will also remain the same as last year.

Subscriptions can be paid in one lump sum or by standing order, but subscriptions need to be **paid in full by 31 March 2021**. For more advice on how to pay, please contact Aimi.

HIGH HOLY DAY AND FESTIVAL SERVICES 5781

As we are not holding our own Services this year, Finchley Synagogue has kindly agreed to host Hull Reform Synagogue online for the High Holy Days.

All of Movement for Reform Judaism (MRJ) machzorim are now available online at <https://www.reformjudaism.org.uk/high-holy-days-2020-5781/>.



For Rosh Hashanah, we will be using the draft machzor that many communities have seen for a few years now. For Kol Nidre and Yom Kippur we will be using a new draft machzor, whilst our current machzor, "Days of Awe" will be used for the rest of Yom Kippur. For those services using a draft machzor, MRJ have provided a page guide to tell you where to find each part of the service in your own copy of Days of Awe so you can easily take part in the services. All are available both as a flipping book and as single page scrolling. Please see the details below for the online Services over the High Holy Days and Festivals.

Date	Time	Leader	Location
Friday 18 th September 2020 Erev Rosh Hashanah Service (1)	6.30pm	Finchley Synagogue (Hosting Ne've Shalom)	Shul 1 details Meeting ID:6861340661 Password: siddur Or call 0203 481 5240, when asked to enter the meeting ID, please enter 686 134 0661# the password is 544982#
Erev Rosh Hashanah Seder Service	6.30pm		Shul 2 details Meeting ID: TBC Password: TBC
Saturday 19 th September 2020 Rosh Hashanah Service (1)	10.00am	Finchley Synagogue (Hosting Ne've Shalom)	Shul 1
Saturday 19 th September 2020 Rosh Hashanah Service (1)	9.30am	Movement for Reform Judaism - Family Service	Meeting ID: 85657351354 Password: N/A
Saturday 19 th September 2020 Erev Rosh Hashanah Service (2)	6.00pm	Finchley Synagogue (Hosting Ne've Shalom)	(Shul 1)
Sunday 20 th September 2020 Rosh Hashanah service (2)	10.00am	Finchley Synagogue (Hosting Ne've Shalom)	Shul 1
Study groups	11.00am		Shul 2
Sunday 27th September 2020 Fast Start	6.30pm	N/A	N/A
Sunday 27 th September 2020 Kol Nidre Service	7pm – 10pm	Finchley Synagogue (Hosting Ne've Shalom)	Shul 1

Monday 28 th September 2020 Yom Kippur Mussaf Service B'yachad Study session Mincha Yizkor Ne'ilah Fast Ends and Havdallah	10.30am 12.45pm 2.00pm 3.00pm 4.00pm 5.30pm 6.30pm 7.35pm	Finchley Synagogue (Hosting Ne've Shalom)	Shul 1
Monday 28 th September 2020 Yom Kippur Family Service Study Session Meditative Mincha Service	9.30am 2.00pm 3.30pm	Movement for Reform Judaism	Meeting ID: 85657351354 Password: N/A
Friday 2 nd October 2020 Erev Sukkot Service	6.30pm	Finchley Synagogue (Hosting Ne've Shalom)	Shul 1
Saturday 3 rd October 2020 Sukkah Service	10.30pm	Finchley Synagogue (Hosting Ne've Shalom)	Shul 1
Friday 9 th October 2020 Erev Simchat Torah Service	6.30pm	Finchley Synagogue (Hosting Ne've Shalom)	Shul 1
Friday 9 th October 2020 Simchat Torah Community wide quiz	8.00pm	Finchley Synagogue (Hosting Ne've Shalom)	Shul 1
Saturday 10 th October 2020 Simchat Torah Service	10.30pm	Finchley Synagogue (Hosting Ne've Shalom)	Shul 1

All Finchley Synagogue and Movement for Reform Judaism services are available to watch via zoom, on their websites or live on their facebook pages. Please check their websites for the most up to date zoom information as these are subject to change.

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION TELEPHONE BUDDY SCHEME

During lockdown, members of the Royal British Legion Branch in Willerby, Kirkella and Anlaby have taken part in the Telephone Buddy Scheme run by the Legion which helps to keep contact with those Branch Members and beneficiaries who are isolated or living alone – which is even more important right now!

The scheme has been very successful, with their Branch President Dennis Woolons appearing in the press and on local TV and radio whilst Committee Member Debbie O'Loughlin was part of the national campaign promoting the service.

They would like to extend this scheme to members and friends of Hull Reform Synagogue. If you know of anyone who might benefit from a friendly phone call, do let us know by calling Mrs Elizabeth Spivey on 01482 502595 or email Willerby.Secretary@RBL.Community



A BIG HELLO FROM LAURA



Hello! My name is Laura Rhodes and you may have seen me and my husband Mark, at the Shul over the past 5 years. Although I am not affiliated with any religion, I very much enjoy the community spirit that being at the Shul brings me and I have appreciated how much you have all welcomed me.

In my personal life, I have assisted charities such as Raise the Roof, for the homeless in Hull and CAA which is the Campaign Against Anti-Semitism. This work was helping the charity prepare crime packs to send to the Crown Prosecution Service, who then use the evidence to take anti-Semites to Court! My working background is Legal and Administration, which I have worked in for nearly 10 years. For some time, I have wanted to focus on helping a charity.

My role within the Shul will be varied, as I want to make your experience there as easy as possible! I will be taking on jobs such as the caretaking, catering, administration, and all other general enquiries. As the Shul has been closed now for some time, it has given me the opportunity to get some jobs done. This has included making the building COVID-19 secure, tidying and organising the kitchen and classroom, redoing the notice boards, and a full and much needed redecoration of the kitchen, classroom and toilets.

If you have anything you need help with, please contact me on the Shul's new telephone number 07895269462 or my email address laura_kathy@hotmail.co.uk.

ROSH HASHANAH AND YOM KIPPUR



The origins of Rosh Hashanah are found in the Bible. The Book of Leviticus (23:24-25) declares:

"In the seventh month, on the first day of the month, you shall observe a day of rest, a memorial proclaimed with the blowing of the shofar. This day will be a holy convocation."

Although this day eventually became Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year, it was not originally known as such.

In ancient times, there were four different New Years on the Jewish calendar. Each had a distinct significance:

- The first of the Hebrew month of Nisan, the New Year of Kings, was the date used to calculate the number of years a given king had reigned.
- The first of the Hebrew month of Elul, the Hebrew month preceding Rosh Hashanah during which one engages in self-reflection and evaluation in preparation for the High Holidays. Traditionally, the shofar is blown each day during the month. It was also the new year for tithing of cattle, a time when one of every ten cattle was marked and offered as a sacrifice to God.

- The first of the Hebrew month of Tishri, the seventh month on the Hebrew calendar; Rosh Hashanah falls on the first day of this month. It was also the agricultural new year, or the New Year of the Years.
- The 15th of the Hebrew month of Shevat, known as Tu B'Shevat was the New Year of the Trees.

Although the Torah refers to Nisan as the first month of the Jewish year, the first day of the month of Tishri emerged as what we now know as Rosh Hashanah. The Babylonians, among whom the Jews lived, marked a “Day of Judgment” each year. They believed that on that day, a convocation of their deities assembled in the temple of the god Marduk. These gods, they held, renewed the world and judged each human being, inscribing the fate of every individual on the tablet of destiny.

The legend was a powerful one, and Jews most likely borrowed elements from it in shaping Rosh Hashanah. The meeting of many deities evolved into a belief that the one God judged every Jew on that day, immediately inscribing the completely righteous in the Book of Life and consigning the completely wicked to a sad fate. Those “in between,” however, had 10 days, concluding on Yom Kippur, in which to repent before the Book of Life was sealed for the New Year.

In addition to the biblical “holy convocation” and the transformed Babylonian “Day of Judgment,” the first of Tishri was also associated with the anniversary of the creation of the world, *Yom Harat Olam*. For these three compelling reasons, the first day of the seventh month ultimately became the “official” Jewish New Year.

It was not until about the second century C.E. that the holiday acquired the name Rosh Hashanah, which first appeared in the Mishnah. Before then, however, the day had many other designations. The oldest name, found in the Torah (Numbers 29:1) is Yom T'ruah (Day of Sounding the Shofar).

Two other names, undoubtedly reflecting Babylonian influence, were Yom Ha'Zikaron (Day of Remembrance) and Yom Ha'Din (“Day of Judgment”). While those terms are still preserved in the liturgy and rabbinic literature, Jews all over the world today usually refer to Rosh Hashanah as the Jewish New Year.

The Shanahtini – A Rosh Hashanah cocktail

This is an opportunity to enjoy the traditional holiday nosh of apples, honey, and pomegranate seeds in a new way. Just blend together:

- 2 Granny Smith apples
- 1 ½ oz vodka or gin
- ¾ oz apple liqueur
- ½ oz strained lemon juice
- 12 oz honey
- 2 cinnamon sticks
- 1 tsp whole cloves
- 1 tsp nutmeg
- 8 oz water

Then serve with pomegranate seeds.



A quick honey cake

If you want to make a quick honey cake, combine a standard gingerbread cake mix with some of the main ingredients in honey cake - coffee and honey. To make your cake you will need:

$\frac{3}{4}$ cup warm coffee (or $\frac{3}{4}$ cup water with 1 teaspoon instant espresso)

$\frac{1}{4}$ cup honey

14½ ounce box gingerbread mix

eggs, as needed in mix

oil or margarine as needed in mix.



Yom Kippur Customs and Rituals

Tradition teaches that on Rosh Hashanah, the Book of Life is written, and on Yom Kippur, our decree for the New Year is sealed. We are taught that by doing *T'shuvah*, (the concept of repentance and new beginnings, which is a continuous theme throughout the High Holy Days), *T'filah*, (prayer) and *Tzedakah*, (refers to charity or charitable giving and can also be translated as "righteous giving"), we can temper that decree.

As a result, much of the Yom Kippur liturgy and the rituals for all of the *Yamim Nora-im* ("Days of Awe") are aimed at achieving this goal. For example, one of the greetings for this day is "*G'mar chatimah tovah*," "May you be sealed [in the Book of Life] for a good year ahead."



Yom Kippur

Beginning at sundown prior to Kol Nidre, it is customary to begin some of the ritual practices of Yom Kippur. Therefore, a family meal, known as *se'udah mafseket* (the concluding meal before the fast) customarily is eaten before sundown, with the candle lighting happening at the end of the meal. This process is a way to mark the entrance of Yom Kippur into the home and, with that blessing, the fast begins.

The Erev Yom Kippur service is called Kol Nidre, meaning "all vows," and refers to the special liturgical formulation chanted solely on Yom Kippur, during the evening service at the beginning of the holiday. It is a legal formula for the annulment of vows, which dates back many centuries. The practice of reciting Kol Nidre probably began in about the 9th century C.E. Recited in a mix of Hebrew and Aramaic, the vernacular language of the time, Kol Nidre cancels and annuls all unintended vows made to God during the previous year.

Customarily, Kol Nidre is repeated three times. In some congregations, these repetitions may include chanting, an instrumental rendition of the haunting melody played on a violin, viola, or cello, or even a spoken reading of the text. The threefold repetition most likely derives from the ancient practice of reciting all official proclamations three times. During Kol Nidre, the congregation stands together in silence, and in some congregations, the Torah scrolls are held by leaders of the community.

Yom Kippur is a day when we focus on our spiritual well-being and setting our physical requirements aside helps us focus on that important work. There are a number of practices that are traditionally prohibited on Yom Kippur. These include eating and drinking, wearing leather, bathing and shaving, anointing ourselves with oils or lotions and having sexual relations. The most familiar custom, however is fasting, i.e. not eating or drinking.

Fasting originally was seen as fulfilling the biblical commandment to “practice self-denial.” The Yom Kippur fast enables us, for at least one day each year, to ignore our physical desires, focusing instead on our spiritual needs. Throughout the day, we concentrate on prayer, repentance, and self-improvement before returning to our usual daily routine after the holiday.

Customarily, all people from age 13 must fast (in some communities, girls begin at age 12 and boys at age 13). The fast encompasses a full 25-hour period, beginning after the Erev Yom Kippur meal and extending to the following evening. During this time, no eating or drinking is permitted.

Judaism has a deep reverence for life, and though the Yom Kippur fast is of great importance, it is never allowed to jeopardize health. Those too ill to fast (or to fast fully) are prohibited from doing so. Those who need to take medication are allowed, as are pregnant women or women who have just given birth. Some Jews wear white on Yom Kippur. Because white is a symbol of purity and Yom Kippur is a day when we undertake a spiritual cleansing, it is an appropriate colour for the occasion. Others interpret white as representative of the white shroud in which Jews are buried, symbolizing our mortality and reminding us of the need for humility and repentance.

By reciting prayers in a synagogue on Yom Kippur, we atone for transgressions against God. For wrongs committed against other people, however, it has become customary to seek out friends and relatives whom we have wronged during the year and to ask their forgiveness before Yom Kippur begins. The holiday is a time when families should be at peace and gives us a yearly opportunity to put aside past hurts and create a new beginning.

It also is customary on Yom Kippur to perpetuate the memory of loved ones. To do so, many Jews visit the cemetery the day before Yom Kippur and kindle a 25 hour Yahrzeit candle in memory of loved ones who have died. The Yahrzeit candle is lit prior to the lighting of the holiday candles. During the Middle Ages, this custom was seen as a means of atonement for the dead. Today, however, it is a beautiful expression of tribute and remembrance.



The Days of Awe are about more than confessing our sins. They are an opportunity to envision what our lives and our communities could be like if we each become a little more caring with each passing year.

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.

THE MONTH OF ELUL

In 2016 MRJ published Elul thoughts, one for each day, on the theme of 'Terror, Trauma and Tragedy'. Twenty-three Reform and Liberal rabbis have tried to provide answers that acknowledge the pain, anger and confusion that can arise, but which also offer ways forward and hope for the future. Sadly, this is probably particularly appropriate for many of us this year.

The book costs £9.99 but is available to Reform Judaism community members at a discount price of £5.00 (if sent, p&p is an extra £1.80). To order a copy, please contact Marcia Singer: marcia.singer@rjuk.org

"WHERE DID I GO WRONG?"

A man is having a problem with his son and goes to see his rabbi. "I sent him to Hebrew School and gave him a very expensive Bar Mitzvah," says the man, "and now he tells me he's decided to be a Christian! Rabbi, where did I go wrong?"

"Funny you should come to me," said the Rabbi. "I also brought my boy up in the faith and gave him a fancy Bar Mitzvah. Then one day he, too, tells me he's decided to become a Christian."

"So what did you do?" asked the man.

"I turned to G-d for the answer" replied the Rabbi.

"And what did he say?" pressed the man. "

G-d said, 'Funny you should come to me...! "

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

Sam Peysner	4 Sep. 2020	Wolfe Harris	10 Oct. 2020
Isaac Brookner	5 Sep. 2020	Charlotte Mautner	11 Oct. 2020
David Sugarman	12 Sep. 2020	Leah Furman	11 Oct. 2020
Dr Max Adler	14 Sep. 2020	Rita Kelly	16 Oct. 2020
Geoffrey Levy	16 Sep. 2020	Annette Segal	16 Oct. 2020
Rebecca Waytzman	16 Sep. 2020	Aubrey Silver	17 Oct. 2020
Elic Bermitz	22 Sep. 2020	Dora Rose	19 Oct. 2020
Doreen Lurie-King	22 Sep. 2020	Lee Winetroube	20 Oct. 2020
Louis Shields	26 Sep. 2020	Maurice Segal	20 Oct. 2020
Parents of Max and Annelies Adler	Yom Kippur	Harry Bransky	22 Oct. 2020
Helen Goldstone	30 Sep. 2020	Harold Bermitz	23 Oct. 2020
Iris Pearce	9 Oct. 2020	Chaim Raphael	23 Oct. 2020
Harry Levy	10 Oct. 2020	Israel Bermitz	27 Oct. 2020
		Boris Furman	27 Oct. 2020

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.