



# WADS News

The magazine of Watford & District Synagogue  
**ISSUE Fifteen** Autumn 2010 Rosh Hashanah 5771

## Gordons and Grants get on their bikes

Melanie Silver & Helen Gordon

Pictured from l – r are James and Danielle Gordon, accompanied by their parents Elliott and Helen Gordon, who took part in the Norwood Junior Bike Ride with the Grant family on June 6<sup>th</sup> 2010. In total over £500 was raised for the charity.

Both families successfully completed the 10mile cross country course through the fields and forests of Haberdashers' Askes school. It was a sweltering day and the going was very difficult at times, but with



## Recognised by Wads



Members of Wads who receive this years special recognition for their contribution to Wads are:  
Michael Brett - Chatan Torah  
Anthony Slome - Chatan Bereshit  
Esther Levy - Eshet chayil  
Bonny Newman - Eshet Chayil.

Michael joined Wads in 2000. He has been married to Rachel for 29 years and they have two boys Adam and Gideon. Michael is self-employed, owning an Electrical Contracting & Engineering company based in Abbots Langley, carrying out domestic and commercial electrical work.

Michael has done a considerable amount of electrical and consultancy work for the Shul since he became a member and enjoyed helping to ensure the smooth running of the facilities.

Michael told Wads News, "I was thrilled to learn of my Honour and look forward to celebrating this special day with my family and friends."



Anthony Slome and his family joined WADS from the Northwood Community at the end of 2004. He and his family's initial impressions of the Community have lasted and been substantiated over the past five years. Having had two family events - his daughter Chantal's Batmitzvah in 2006 and son Jamie's Barmitzvah this year and through appointment to the Board of Management he has found the friendly informal family atmosphere at Wads has always permeated through.



Anthony tells Wads News, "It was therefore a lovely surprise to be given the honour of Chatan Bereshit, which I must say pleasantly rounds off this special and busy year for our family."



Esther Levy and Wads Chairman husband Brian have been members of Wads since 2001. They've been involved with the Shul since the start.

One of Esther & Brian's outstanding events was the Malava Malka in 2008, when the Chief Rabbi and Lady Sacks were Guest of Honour. Esther has also been involved in the Adult Education Programme and she is currently the Welfare Convener for WADS. For the past 7 years, Esther

determination and the promise of an ice cream at the end, they all succeeded. The youngest member of the team, Danielle Gordon (aged just 7) said "even though I found it very hard, I loved doing it lots, especially to help raise money for charity".

Mum Helen says, "The ten mile off-road course was tough going but we stuck together. Danielle found it particularly difficult cycling over the bumpy ground. It took 2½ hours but we got round as a family. I know their Grandma and Papa would have been so proud of them."

Well done to James and Danielle Gordon and Lily and Jack Grant.



has been doing voluntary work for Jewish Care, in the Princess Alexandra Home in Stanmore.

Esther tells Wads News, "I was very thrilled and excited to be given this honour, and look forward to enjoying it with my family and friends at WADS."

Bonnie Newman, husband Stephen, sons Joel and Alex joined Wads in 1988 after the boys joined the Wads kindergarten. Bonnie was in charge of the Cheder under Rabbis Roselaar and Rosten and has been co chair of the Ladies Guild along side Elaine Shoop. Bonnie has worked on the Fundraising committee and trained Wads very own Youth Choir for their first performance in front of the Chief Rabbi.

Bonnie is deeply honoured to have been recognised by the Shul.



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#### Dear Readers

Once again it's been my pleasure to put together your Rosh Hashanah edition of Wads News.

It's been quite a hectic few months for Wads. Members continue to be as active as ever and I often get emails from members travelling to far flung corners of the globe either on business or for pleasure. And then there's been members busy

cycling and running for charity not to mention running for Parliament too! You can read about Watford's newest MP in our Q&A feature on page 12.

Julie Woolf has grabbed the baton for the Fundraising committee and is already off and running with it. Don't just read about planned events on page 11 but remember to book them too and support her hard working team.

I'm delighted to report that we've had a fantastic response from advertisers and again the magazine has been completely self funding without any extra support necessary from shul funds. Should you get in touch with any advertisers then please do let them know where you saw their ad.

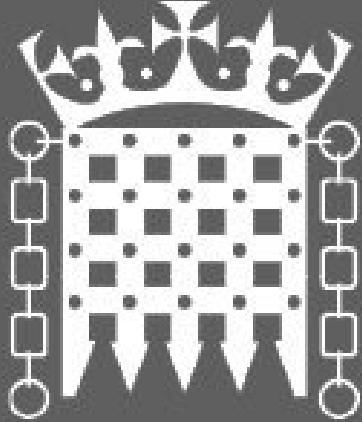
Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this edition.

Happy reading,

Sam Stuart

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# Richard Harrington

MP for Watford

Wishes everyone at  
Watford Synagogue  
a Happy New Year

Tel: 0207 219 7180 / 01923 296790  
[richard.harrington.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:richard.harrington.mp@parliament.uk)

# Welcome!

We're delighted to welcome the following new members to our community:

Lindsay and Medad Batsir, James and Tanya Crown, Dan and Natasha Kingsley, Jeremy Horne,  
Beatrice Moss, Judith and Anthony Sherman

## *Wads cares*

First of all apologies for any omissions made below. We wish a hearty Mazeltof to ALL our members who have celebrated a special birthday, anniversary, family simcha, a new baby or a new grandchild. Our thoughts are with the families who have lost a loved one. Wads Care is there to help all our members.

There are many people, unfortunately, within our community, who are ill. Some are being looked after in Nursing Homes, some are waiting to have operations; some may be recovering from treatment. Our thoughts are with them and their families and we wish them all well.

**We are very anxious that the WADS Welfare Committee keeps in touch with the news. We can help in many ways. What we really need is for you to let us know of the joys and sorrows that happen within our Synagogue, without this contact we can't know what is happening, so please get in touch with the Welfare Committee: Esther Levy 0208 954 0819 and Margaret Mindell 01923 331796.**



NORWOOD OLD SCHOLARS ASSOCIATION

### **Were you at the Jewish Orphanage West Norwood?**

If so would you like to meet some of your old friends, renew old friendships?

The Norwood old scholars association will be only too pleased to help by sending you our newsletter. (It's free!)

The aim of our association is to help those who went to Norwood to keep in touch with each other and to support some who are in need of our help.

If you would like more information please write or email me at:

Jack Matthews  
16 Hamilton Avenue  
Barkingside  
Essex IG6 1AE

Email: jackmatthews@talktalk.net

Jack Matthews (Secretary)

## *Births*

Mazeltof on the births:

Child to Zac and Kelly Citron  
Grandchild to Suzanne and Brian Citron  
Grandson to Andy Gale  
Grandchild to Annie and Peter Keen  
Granddaughter to Rochelle and Alan Marco  
Grandson to Sara Sugarman  
Daughter to Nicola and Damon Zeid

## *Engagements*

Mazeltof to:

Ruth Keen, daughter of Annie and Peter  
Joe Hildebrand, son of Hilary and Rick  
Richard Lewis, son of Sue and Lee  
Darryl Manning, son of Joan and Geoffrey

## *Get Well Soon*

Sending best wishes for good health and a speedy recovery to:

Alexis Corzberg  
Ray Gold  
Lindsay Gordon  
Marion Levine  
Di Roberts  
Jeremy Roberts  
Barbara Stanton  
Michelle Wagman

## *Condolences*

Our sincere condolences go to:

The Family of Isaac Blackman  
Alexis Corzberg on losing her Mother  
Glenn Daif-Bums on losing their Mother  
Angela Silvester on losing her Mother

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## New Year Greetings

**Apple.** With best wishes to all in the community for a happy, healthy and fulfilling New Year.

**Black.** Jilly would like to wish a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year to all of her friends at Wads.

**Fisher.** Alan, Cheryl and Hannah wish Rabbi Levine, Rochel and the children, together with family and the Watford community a happy and healthy New Year.

**Fox.** Claire, Simon, James, Oliver and Adam wish Rabbi Levine, Rochel, the boys and all at Wads a healthy, happy and sweet New Year. Shana Tova.

**Freed.** Barry and Gill wish Rabbi Levine and family along with the congregation a happy and healthy New Year.

**Goldberg.** Eileen and Stuart, together with Stephanie, Lilach, Ian & Emily, wish Rabbi Levine, Rochel, their family and everyone in the community a happy, peaceful and prosperous year ahead.

**Gordon.** Helen, Elliott, James, Danielle and Millie Graham wish rabbi, WADS community, friends and family a very happy, healthy and peaceful New Year.

**Gordon.** Lindsay & Michael together with Emma, Maya, Yaniv, Adam and Dana wish Rabbi Levine, Rochel and family and all the community shana tova and k'siva vechasima tova.

**Jacob.** Ronnie and Philippa wish the Rabbi, his family and all the Wads congregation a happy New Year and well over the fast.

**Kays.** Miriam and family wish a happy, healthy and peaceful year to all my dear friends in Watford.

**Levy.** Esther and Brian wish Stephanie and Stuart, Rabbi Levine, Rochel and the boys, and all their friends in the community a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year and an easy fast.

**Lewis.** Sue and Leigh wish their family and friends and all of the community a happy and healthy New Year and well over the fast.

**Linton.** Carolyn and Paul, together with their family, wish the community a happy and healthy New Year.

**Marcus.** Glenda, Mike, Daniel and Zara wish everyone a happy New Year and well over the Fast.

**Marks.** Betty and Eddie wish their extended family, as well as all their friends in the Watford community, a very happy and healthy New Year.

**Mindell.** Margaret and David wish all members of Wads a happy and healthy 5771.

**Myers.** Loraine would like to wish her children and grandchildren and all her dear friends in Watford including Rabbi & Rochel and their boys a very happy & healthy New Year. May the coming year be peaceful for us all.

**Newman.** Stephen, Bonny, Joel & Alex wish the community a happy & healthy New Year and well over the fast.

**Pearl.** Renée, Stephen and Adrian wish Rabbi Levine, Rochel & family and all our friends a healthy, happy and peaceful New Year.

**Roberts.** Ellard, Di, Laura and Jeremy wish all members and friends a happy and healthy New Year and well over the Fast.

**Shoob.** Elaine and Melvyn wish all their good friends in the community a very happy and healthy New Year.

**Silverman.** Carolyn and David wish everyone in the community a happy and healthy New Year.

**Solomon.** Paulette and Allan wish all their friends in the Community a happy New Year, with Peace and Security for all of us, as well as for the people of Israel.

**Stanley.** Jacky and Tony wish Rabbi & Mrs Levine and family and all members of Wads a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year.

**Taylor.** Daphne would like to wish Rabbi Levine, Rochel & boys, together with everyone at Watford shul a very healthy and happy New Year.

**Walters.** Susie and Clive wish their family and friends in the community a happy and healthy New Year and well over the fast.

**Witkover.** Aviva, Adam, Shannon and Libby would like to wish all their family, friends and the WADS community a very happy and healthy New Year and well over the Fast.

**Woolf.** Julie, Richard, Natasha and Adam wishing all our family and friends a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year. Remembering with love those no longer with us.

**28th Watford Brownies** The Leaders and Watford Brownies would like to wish Rabbi, Rochel and their sons together with the community a very happy and healthy New Year.

## Sam Stuart

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## Rosh Hashanah 5771

# Rabbi Ephraim Levine

The single most important event of the year was certainly the General Election that took place in May. And as in previous years, we asked the same question: how should we judge the candidates? Should we base our opinions on what they say today, or should we look into their political history? There's a lot to find out – you can look for things like financial morality, kept promises, perhaps even some prior experience. Or how about like a Shidduch - when parents are researching an eligible young man for their daughter, should they dig into the boy's younger years to find out what kind of person he really is, or should they just be content with seeing how he is today? What do you think? Is it really necessary to find out every move these people made years and years ago? As always, we must look into the Torah to see how to deal with such a dilemma.

On Rosh Hashanah we read the story of the birth of Yitzchak. This story reminds us that it was on this day that Sarah was remembered and that Rosh Hashanah is an especially opportune time to have prayers and requests granted as Sarah's was granted on this day. But there is more. In addition to the story of Yitzchak's birth we read about Avraham sending away his wife Hagar and son Yishmael with only a small jug of water. Of course the water ran out and Yishmael nearly died of thirst in the desert. Why do we read this non complimentary story about Avraham on Rosh Hashanah?

The Talmud describes an argument that took place in heaven as Yishmael was lying unconscious under a bush in the desert. G-d wanted to make a miracle for Yishmael and save his life by creating a spring of water nearby. The angels argued that this boy must not be saved because he was destined to cause trouble for Yitzchak, and his children were destined to persecute Yitzchak's children. But G-d answered them with a question, 'Is he righteous now or is he evil now. I will judge him as he is now.'

Therefore, the Gemara concludes, *Rabbi Yitzchak said, 'We only judge a person by his actions today, as the verse says, 'and G-d hearkened to the lad's as he was there.'* And this is why we read this portion on Rosh Hashanah the Day of Judgment. It serves as a reminder for us to turn to G-d and ask that He judge us as we are today – not by our past and not by our future. We have made mistakes in the past, and we will certainly make mistakes in the future, but now our sincerity and regret is real and true. So, 'please G-d, judge us according to how we are standing before You now.'

And in fact, this is how we naturally judge other people, even politicians and political parties. By any election, most people decide who they are going to vote for long before Election Day. There are those who thoroughly know the platforms of the various parties, but the fact is that very few people are actually interested in the philosophies or moral beliefs of the main players. Most people have the attitude that 'It makes no difference to me what the party's philosophy is and I don't care what the party leaders or MPs have to say. I only care about what they do.'

This is a pretty practical way of judging MPs, political parties or anyone else for that matter. This rule applies in Judaism too where we avoid judging others. In the run up to the High Holy Days, let us be quick to heal old rifts and reawaken lost friendships. Let us remember that as a nation of people, we are strong when we are 'with one heart'. Let's not be quick to jump to pass judgments. Rather keep in mind the traditional saying, 'judge others favorably and G-d will do the same for you'.

Together with Rochel and the boys, I wish you and your family an easy ticket into the coming year and may we only join together in peace, health, and happiness.

Rabbi Ephraim and Rochel.

*office* of the  
**CHIEF RABBI**

## CHIEF RABBI'S ROSH HASHANAH MESSAGE

This year, Israel needs our prayers.

One of the enduring features of Jewish spirituality is that we relate to God as a people, not simply as individuals in search of salvation. It was as a people that our ancestors were rescued from Egypt, as a people that they made a covenant with God, and as a people that we have lived out our destiny ever since.

Once a year, on Yom Kippur, the High Priest would seek forgiveness for the entire people. And though we have not had a Temple for almost 2000 years, still we confess together. We say "We have sinned," not "I have sinned." The same is true for other prayers. When we pray for people who are ill, we ask that the sufferer be healed "along with others in Israel who are sick." When we comfort mourners, we say, "May God comfort you together with the other mourners of Zion and Jerusalem." Our destinies are interlinked. A tragedy for one is a tragedy for all. As the sages said, "All Israel are responsible for one another."

The eternal symbol -- and today the living reality -- of that collective existence is the land and the state of Israel. In the 4000 years since the days of Abraham and Sarah, it is the only place where Jews have ever had the chance to construct a society according to our own principles and beliefs, to govern ourselves, defend ourselves, and live a collective life.

Israel is built into the very idea of teshuvah, which means not "repentance" but "return." All the prophets who experienced or foresaw exile, saw the Jewish return to the land as an essential accompaniment to the Jewish return to the faith. Our connection to the land is more than merely political. It is written in to the very terms of Judaism as a faith, the West's oldest faith.

Since the day it was born, 62 years ago, Israel has been under assault. Hardly a year has passed without war or the threat of war, terror or the threat of terror. But today its very legitimacy – its right to be, and to defend itself – is under attack. Israel has become the Jew among the nations, an international pariah, charged, as Jews were charged in the Middle Ages, with demonic crimes and wild accusations. It is hard not to see this as the continuation, in a new form, of an ancient and terrible history about which the world once said, "Never again."

Israel needs our prayers. It has achieved great things. It has rescued threatened Jews across the world. It has turned Hebrew, the language of the Bible, into a living tongue. It has built centres of Jewish learning unparalleled since the days of the Mishnah. Today we can say, with the prophet, "From Zion shall go forth Torah, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem." Born a mere three years after the Jewish people walked through the valley of the shadow of death, it represents a momentous affirmation of life.

Please, in the days and weeks ahead, hold Israel in your prayers. Its people are our people. Its land is the only land Jews have known as home in the sense given by the poet Robert Frost: "the place where, when you have to go there, they have to let you in." In the coming year may God bless the people of Israel in the land of Israel with security, tranquillity and peace, and may He write us all in the Book of Life.

*Bebirkat ketivah vechirimah torah*



Chief Rabbi Lord Sacks  
Rosh Hashanah 5771

# Fundraising

## Julie Woolf

Yes you read the headline correctly, the WADS Fundraising Committee has been reformed, rejuvenated and is ready for action; well kind of anyway! Several months back an email went out to all members, imploring them to come forward and join the committee. Predictably I was inundated with respondents who were delighted that fundraising was going to happen and had lots of ideas but went to great length to tell me why they couldn't possibly participate. So from that we had our first committee meeting with 3 attendees. It's not the quantity but the quality that counts, and in this instance the quality was superb! By our second meeting we had grown exponentially to 4 attendees and the future looks bright.

Seriously though, we are up and running but we do need some more active committee members. I know how busy we all are nowadays, however, this involves one meeting a month and putting on 2 or 3 events a year. Please join us, we really need your help and would love to see some new faces that perhaps have not been involved before. If you would like to join us please email me on [jandrwoolf@aol.com](mailto:jandrwoolf@aol.com), or call me on 01923 231705 in the evening.

Our first event is going to be a **Car Treasure Hunt**; you are no longer allowed to call them Car Rallies! This is on **Sunday, 3 October from 2.00-4.00pm**. Cost is £6.00 per head to include a tea.

Please put the date in your diary, rally your friends and book your place by emailing [laurence.maykels@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:laurence.maykels@tiscali.co.uk), or calling Eileen Goldberg on 01442 259028. Under 8s are free. This should be a fun event, that all the family can participate in, or adults only, whichever you prefer. Please support us and make our first event a huge success. There will be prizes for the winning car that gets the most clues correctly. It is not a timed event, so Porsche or bicycle will make no difference!

The next event will be a **Supper Quiz**, this will take place on **Sunday, 28 November, 7.30pm** at the shul. Watford Shul Supper Quizzes are always great evenings and should not be missed. Start putting together a table and again, bookings can be made to [jandrwoolf@aol.com](mailto:jandrwoolf@aol.com), or Eileen Goldberg on 01442 259028. Cost is £15.00 per head to include supper. There will be prizes to be won. Please come along and exercise your brain.

We are considering several events for next year including a **Bingo Evening**, and **An Evening With Richard Harrington** to name a few.

Some of you will recall when Watford shul used to run a **100 Club**, or you may have come across this method of fundraising via another group. We are looking to run this for 2011. The price per entrant has not been fixed yet but could be £50. This entitles you to a year's membership of the 100 Club, which as the name implies, has 100 members. Each month there will be a prize draw and cash prizes can be won, say £25.00 per month first prize and £15.00 per month second prize, with a quarterly draw of £50.00 to be won. However, we have not finalised the details yet. The chances of winning are much more favourable than the lottery, and you stand a good chance of winning something. The draw will be made by an independent person. To register your interest please email Peter Benardout on [pmb9@sky.com](mailto:pmb9@sky.com), this will ensure you are offered the opportunity of joining early

on. Entrants are limited to 100 and you can own more than one entry, which enhances your winning potential. So book early to avoid the yomtov rush!

My final plea, if anyone is still reading this far, is for decent raffle prizes. These must be brand new, in pristine condition and preferably of a reasonable value. That is no recycled prizes from previous events! Please if anyone has anything worthy to donate, or their company would be prepared to donate something let me know, and if needs be we can arrange collection. If anybody feels they could take on the role of approaching companies for gifts either by letter, or going into shops etc., your help would be invaluable. Please contact me by email to donate or help, or call me.

I hope you will all help us to put WADS Fundraising back on the map again. If nothing else please attend the events and bring friends and family with you.

Happy New Year and well over the fast from WADS Fundraising Committee.

[jandrwoolf@aol.com](mailto:jandrwoolf@aol.com) 01923 231705

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# Richard Harrington

## Q&A

Melanie Silver

On 6 May 2010, Watford's electorate confounded political pundits and bookmakers alike by seeing off the sitting Labour MP and voting in the little known Tory candidate, instead of the Lib Dem favourite.

Watford's new MP Richard Harrington was born in Leeds in 1957, the eldest son of a shopkeeper. He worked in the family shop at weekends and school holidays from the age of 10, which instilled in him the values of hard work and enterprise. After leaving Leeds Grammar School in 1975, Richard was awarded a scholarship to Oxford University to study Law. Before standing for Parliament, Richard had a successful business career in property development and finance.

He now lives in Swiss Cottage with his wife of 26 years, Jessie, and their two teenage sons, James and Daniel. As well as owning a property in Watford and joining the shul last year, Richard's links to the town date back to the start of his career when he worked at Trewins department store (now John Lewis). Richard's parents moved to the area over 20 years ago and his mother still lives locally.

As for the rest of the family, Jessie tutors children from deprived areas in the East End, their eldest son James is at university reading Politics and Daniel is busy studying for his GCSEs.

On 25 May, Richard was the first of the new influx of MPs to make his maiden speech in which he highlighted what he describes as "the shame that is the huge rise in youth unemployment in Watford".

*WADS* New caught up with Richard a week after he'd been elected to discover his views on Judaism and Israel.

### What does being Jewish mean to you?

I'm not frum in any sense but am extremely proud of my heritage. I particularly like the whole Jewish rigmarole – all the rituals of Chanukah and Pesach – and enjoyed the WADS communal Seder last year. Although I'm halachically Jewish – in fact, we've traced my father's family back to 1657 – Watford is the first Orthodox shul I've ever belonged to. My wife Jessie is Sephardi and we've always been members of Progressive shuls up until now.

### You're a former chairman of Conservative Friends of Israel. What are your feelings towards the country?

Unfortunately, I had to resign from that position when I ran as an MP as I didn't have the necessary time to devote to the role. But I've travelled extensively throughout Israel and Gaza and am very much in favour of a two state solution. The ordinary people of Gaza want peace just as much as we do – the blame rests on the leaders of both sides.

### What are your views on the Gaza war? Does Israel have the right to defend itself?

I'm sad about the loss of life on both sides and am very sorry that it came to war. But at the end of the day every country has the right, and indeed the duty, to defend itself.

### Would you pass Tebbit's 'cricket test'?

Definitely! I see myself as British first but can still be a strong supporter of Israel.

### Do you think enough is being done to tackle rising anti-Semitism?

This will be controversial I know but I think that while there is anti-Semitism, the scale of it has been hugely over-exaggerated. I'm not complacent – we need to be vigilant – but I don't think it helps the cause of anti-racism to overstate the extent of it.

### Do you think that it often masquerades as anti-Israel sentiment?

Yes, there is a lot of anti-Israel feeling in this country. But while some of it is undoubtedly anti-Semitic, I think it's wrong of people to automatically cry "anti-Semitism" whenever



## A Youth View

A new column for younger members to give us their perspective on life.

Natasha Woolf

someone criticises Israel.

**Have you ever experienced anti-Semitism personally?**

No, although I have experienced a lot of anti-Israel sentiment.

**What's your position on faith schools?**

Personally, I wouldn't send my children to a faith school because I believe there's plenty of opportunity for Jewish education in the home and it's important to equip children to be able to mix with everyone and anyone. Having said that, I agree with the right of parents to have access to faith schools – whether Christian, Jewish or Muslim – as long as they follow the national curriculum.

**What is your view on the law of universal jurisdiction that puts visiting Israeli politicians and military figures at risk of arrest?**

I think it's an absolutely absurd situation. I can do no better than to say the new Foreign Minister William Hague is committed to removing this ridiculous law that treats Israel politicians as war criminals.

**What do you think of the Lib/Con coalition?**

It won't surprise you when I say it's not what we all wanted originally but I'm prepared to give it a go in the interests of the country. I think everyone would agree we need stability. It won't work if it leads to politicians wrangling among themselves but I'm very positive about it and think it was the best course of action in the circumstances.

**How have you found the people of Watford you've met so far?**

I have to say Rabbi Levine has been lovely, very welcoming towards me. As for the wider population, I've met some jolly decent people.

**Has your Jewishness been a problem for Watford's Muslim population?**

Not at all, I've generally found them to be quite tolerant. When they talk to me they quickly understand I'm a moderate when it comes to Israel. What's more, they recognise we both have shared family values and a small business background.

**Finally, what are your priorities now you're in office?**

Firstly, I think it's important to set up a vibrant office in Watford that local people can walk into to raise their problems. That involves a lot of work and I'm currently recruiting two local people to help me. From what I've seen so far, most issues seem to relate to difficulties cutting through bureaucracy and me and my team have access to a lot of channels and services that enable us to help them with that. I want people to know that I'm here to help all Watford constituents with their problems, regardless of their politics.

As an aspiring Journalist I have started writing a blog on the Watford Observer website in order to gain some important Journalistic experience. I hope this will be the first of many for Wads News.

I started 'blogging' in January after asking for work experience at the Watford Observer. The editor told me he couldn't offer anything as there isn't enough space but, he could give me a blog. As prior to this, I hadn't had much writing experience, I decided to take the opportunity with open arms.

I was given no real limitations as what to write as long as it was my own insight so I started with a subject close to my heart (and stress levels); A levels and school generally. Since then I have covered a variety of topics including Katie Price's marriage to Alex Reid, and deeper philosophical subjects such as the problems of evil and suffering. I write as and when I feel I have something appropriate to talk about, or as and when a specific event happens. From time to time I get e-mails from editors if they especially like a blog that I have done, and I get feedback on spelling and grammar which is always helpful.

It has already given me vital experience into the world of Journalism and a small taste of what it is like to be a Journalist. Furthermore, it has certainly fuelled my passion for writing and my ambition of becoming a Journalist.

You can find it by visiting: [www.watfordobserver.co.uk/blogshome/](http://www.watfordobserver.co.uk/blogshome/) then clicking on "Natasha Woolf".



# Watford Observer

# BP and the Business Year

Daniel Greenberg, honorary consultant to JABE,  
Jewish Association for Business Ethics.

Among the lessons to be learned from the main business story of the last year, the Gulf of Mexico oil spill, Jewish business ethics have something to contribute. In a world increasingly dominated by legalities and litigation, BP might have relied on the rules of the American Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund, according to which their liability for damages (as distinct from restoration work) would have been limited to \$75 million. But in fact, at an early stage BP announced that they were not intending to rely on this legal limitation of liability, but would establish a fund to compensate anyone harmed by the disaster, a fund whose assets currently total \$20 billion.

Of course, it is not unreasonably cynical to speculate that this massive gesture may have owed more to commercial and political pressures and realities than to ethical commitment; but it does reflect Jewish ethical teaching.

The one feature of Jewish business law that is at most striking variance with secular commercial law throughout the modern world is the complete absence of the concept of limited liability. In Britain, the development of limited liability companies began with the need to finance industrial growth, and they have become a feature of the commercial world taken for granted by the entire business community. But while limitation of liability is the norm for the secular commercial world, with the courts prepared to "pierce the corporate veil" and impose personal liability on directors only in very limited circumstances, the halachic presumption is the reverse, with limitation of liability only being permitted as a rare exception.

The notion of liability and responsibility is the essence of Jewish business ethics and, indeed, of the Jewish world-attitude generally. Judaism encourages entrepreneurial endeavour; but the more my activities take me into areas that affect other people's lives, the more I am required to accept responsibility for their lives, and to ensure that I do not do more harm than good for those with whom I come into contact.



The spiritual stock-taking which Jews undertake on Rosh Hashanah, in regard to our business and other activities of the previous year, includes checking that if we have inadvertently harmed others in the course of our activities, we have also done everything possible – and not just everything convenient or required by secular commercial law – to put things right.

JABE is a registered educational charity that aims to raise standards of honesty, integrity and social responsibility through:

Educating young people about moral dilemmas they will face in the workplace through our highly acclaimed 'Money & Morals' school programme.

Seminars & educational events for business people and professionals

Thought provoking publications on key moral issues  
*For further information please contact JABE on 0208 905 4048, e-mail: [info@jabe.org](mailto:info@jabe.org), [www.jabe.org](http://www.jabe.org)*

# Board of Deputies

## Allan Solomon (Deputy for Watford)

*The Board of Deputies of British Jews exists to promote and defend the religious rights and civil liberties of British Jewry. As the community's democratically elected cross-communal organisation, the Board connects with government, media and wider society, providing a unique means through which all British Jews can be heard and represented.*

The above is the mission statement of the Board of Deputies and, to judge from recent events, this represents an increasingly onerous task. The change of government was some cause for optimism on the part of the Board, and it seems that the question of **Universal Jurisdiction** may be resolved. This is the process whereby Israelis are threatened with possible arrest should they visit the UK, and Foreign Secretary Hague has promised to expedite its repeal, saying in May "The situation is unsatisfactory [and] indefensible. It is absolutely my intention to act speedily."

*In the following I give only a selection of areas in which the Board faces an uphill struggle to defend Jewish rights.*

### Anti-Semitism

In my last report I noted that the Community Security Trust (CST) recorded more anti-Semitic incidents in 2009 than in any other year since records began 26 years ago. Since then the situation has not improved. Recently (August, 2010) Israel's President Peres singled out anti-Semitism in the UK for special mention. Undoubtedly the biased reporting by the UK media on Israel encourages this, for example the one-sided reporting on the Flotilla incident. The Board works with the CST to protect the community from the more violent manifestations.

### EU shechita ban

New EU regulations require kosher meat to be labelled as "meat

from slaughter without stunning" and it seems only a matter of time before the question of banning shechita altogether, as already occurs in many countries, is discussed. Ex-Board president Henry Grunwald is already on the case. Note that even such labelling would cause a massive increase in the price of Kosher meat, because the non-kosher market, which takes the 70 per cent of shechita-slaughtered meat not permitted to Jewish consumers, might be deterred by the labelling..

### Israel

As ever, Israel is central to our concerns, not least for the ramifications on our own security in the UK of perceptions of events in the Middle East, as reported by UK media. The Goldstone Report on the Gaza war, the deaths on the Turkish boat in the Gaza flotilla, and even PM Cameron's remarks while in Turkey where he described Gaza as a 'prison camp', have their repercussions. Like it or not, our well-being as Jews in the UK is bound up with what happens in the Middle East, and the Board has shown some backbone here, *vide* the robust response to the recent Methodist decision to boycott Israeli products. The ultimate anti-Israel action was the Brighton judgment directing a jury to exonerate defendants from criminal damage against a factory on the grounds that the shipments may have been intended for Israel. This is an area which shows the vulnerability of the UK Jewish community itself, which could be legally victimized if they "seem" to be supporters of Israel.

In spite of these somewhat pessimistic trends, one must be comforted to know that the Board of Deputies stands firmly behind our community as the staunchest defender we have, and I am proud to continue to work for you within that body.

# Shechita and the European Parliament

## Henry Grunwald QC OBE – Chairman, Shechita UK



Many of you will have already heard that the European Parliament recently voted on an amendment to an EU Regulation which will require meat and meat products derived from animals that have been slaughtered by shechita, to be labeled as 'meat from slaughter without stunning'.

Few people realise how much of such meat is actually sold into the non-kosher market because of the number of animals slaughtered which upon inspection, are later found to be 'treif'. Opponents of Shechita across Europe hope that if meat is labelled in this way, the market value of the *treif* product will drop sharply costing kosher-producing abattoirs a huge amount of money. That would in turn, drive the price of Kosher

meat up to a level which many in our community will simply not be able to afford.

The millions of tonnes of meat from animals which are not properly stunned or cruelly re-stunned by secular methods will not be required to be labelled. Shechita UK contends that labelling religiously and humanely slaughtered meat products in isolation is discrimination, and is designed to deter potential buyers.

If cruelty to animals is an honest and proper concern of any consumer then any labelling of meat and meat products, if introduced, should in fairness be applied to all methods of slaughter used, which may include stunning by electrocution, captive-bolt or gassing. Consumers should also be entitled to

Cont....



# Living, Learning and Caring

## Jeremy Jacobs, Chief Executive, United Synagogue

It's been quite a year...

The Jewish community faces many challenges. We see anti-Semitism on the rise across Europe, in New Zealand shechita has been outlawed and in the world's press Israel is vilified. Closer to home our students face increasing anti-Zionist sentiments on campus, the JFS case has seen dramatic changes to Jewish schools' admissions, and legislative changes continue to bring new requirements regarding (amongst other things) disability, equality, VAT and CRB checking. And yet, life goes on for every one of our local communities.

Week in, week out, thousands of members continue to live a Jewish life enriched by their belonging to the US. Ours is a very special community living an authentic, inclusive and contemporary Jewish life. My commitment as Chief Executive of the US is to ensure that our members have access to the greatest possible benefit from their membership.

Taking the lead from the Chief Rabbi, quoting the second *mishna* in Ethics of the Fathers, the work of the US is built on the foundations of *Torah, Avodah* and *Gemilut Chasadim*. In practice this translates into an enormous wealth of opportunities some of which you will be familiar with, and others which are new. Here are some examples of the latter:

Our "Living and learning" programme is an inspiring new strategic approach to Jewish education and living Judaism that links communities, schools and homes. As this new initiative gets under way, new activities and events will offer stimulating opportunities to engage all our members with our vibrant Jewish heritage. A guide to the festivals of *Tishrei*, new children's service resources for children and parents, programmes for

newlyweds, explanatory videos – these are just a taste of what is to come.

US Chesed is working on a growing number of initiatives under the umbrellas of *Project Chesed* and *US Community Cares*. The determination that members of our community must care for one another lies at the very heart of the US. As a result of this, the work of US Chesed touches thousands of people who are profoundly affected by this work and it is something of which we can be justifiably proud.

Letting our members know what is on offer to them is crucial – especially for those less involved. This is why we are working to improve our member communications. Look out for our new publication *You & US* which in addition to its New Year printed edition will come to life as an online resource giving every member access to news and views of interest as well as articles and features to do with all areas of US activity. There will also be room for comment, feedback and debate – so if you feel strongly about something, here's how you can share your thoughts with a (world)wide audience.

Everything we do is focussed on servicing our communities and meeting members' needs and aspirations. Our professional team, trustees and council, our Rabbonim and lay-leaders – all are working together to ensure we go from strength to strength: Living, learning and caring.

Finally may I take this opportunity of wishing you all a healthy, happy and peaceful new year.

...cont

## Shechita UK

know whether the meat came from an animal that had been mis-stunned or re-stunned before it was slaughtered, if an informed choice is the true intent of this amendment. According to Compassion for World Farming (no supporter of Shechita), 9% of all meat slaughtered using conventional stunning in Europe is "mis-stunned" by the captive-bolt or electricity, causing additional and unnecessary pain and stress to animals. Research by the British Veterinary Association showed that 59% of sheep are mis-stunned, but the Regulation does not require labelling to indicate this. And Shechita accounts for only 0.037% of all animals slaughtered in Europe. The inequity of this Regulation is staggering.

Since Jews originated meat labelling centuries ago with the Kashrus hechsher, we cannot oppose the concept - but labelling must be fair, honest and non-discriminatory. The EU amendment singles out religious methods to the exclusion of other slaughter methods.

Shechita UK has already successfully stemmed the tide of anti Shechita legislation that could so easily have been disastrous for Jews in the UK, but its resources are limited and we need to engage the wider community to assist in the effort to protect Shechita in the UK and across Europe.

Shechita UK has in place a professionally managed lobbying campaign of European Governments but we need your help to ensure that British MEPs are fully aware of the strength of feeling that exists on this issue in the Jewish community. You can contribute to the campaign by visiting [www.shechitauk.org](http://www.shechitauk.org), downloading all the relevant information or the template letter and urging your MEP to vote against amendment #205.

**Henry Grunwald QC OBE – Chairman, Shechita UK**

# Princess Alexandra Home, Stanmore

Esther Levy

*Annual Fete  
Sunday 20th June*

On a refreshingly cool summer's day, the Grounds of the Princess Alexandra Home, in Stanmore, were again open to welcome about 1100 visitors to their Annual Fete.

The fete was opened by both Denise Phillips, the well known chef and cookery expert, and the Mayor of Harrow. As always, the entertainment was superb. There was music from the JLGB Band, Israeli dancing and singing by pupils of Moriah School in Pinner, singers from Immanuel College in Bushey, face painting, a bouncy castle and the local Fire Brigade showed the children how a fire engine operates. Together with several fantastic stalls and a wonderful barbecue, the atmosphere was fantastic.

Following true to form, the Fete was a resounding success and raised the princely sum of £14,000, all of which, the Residents will benefit from, in the Home.

Many thanks to all our friends from WADS who came to support this worthwhile cause.

*Strawberry Fayre  
Sunday 18th July*

On a warm summer's afternoon, the Princess Alexandra Fundraising Committee held a Strawberry Fayre in the grounds of the Princess Alexandra Home, in Stanmore.

Our own Laura Roberts excelled herself doing the fantastic face painting for all the children, and music was provided by the talented 15 year old musician, Louis Herszaft, who attends Hasmonean School.

A beautiful strawberry tea was enjoyed by all the visitors, and I am delighted to say that we raised £1,100 for the Home.

Many thanks to everyone for supporting us.

## 28th Watford Brownies

Lorraine Myers,

### B is for Brownie Pack holiday

We are looking forward to our annual pack holiday in August when our friends from Stanmore pack will join us at the campsite near Letchworth. For many of the girls this is their first experience of being away from home and we soon all become one big family. The days are planned so that the girls enjoy various activities and crafts together with lots of fun.

### R is for the right way

We try hard to instil in all our Brownies the essential Guiding ethos of 'Helping other people'. We always hope that by the end of the 3 years in the Pack, and before going up to Guides, that the girls will understand exactly what that means.

### O is for outings

We always try to enjoy a couple of outings during our year. This year we joined up with all the other Brownie Packs from the District and participated in games and activities at the local campsite. We also visited the local Fire station where after an interesting evening and learning a great deal they all came home with their badge. To celebrate Yom H'atzmut we took the girls swimming where we also had the unusual experience of enrolling some girls in the pool. We are looking forward to taking the girls to see Peter Pan at the St Albans theatre for Chanukah.

### W is for why

The girls are constantly asking us questions as to how to gain badges. Nowadays the Brownies are interested in gaining a wide knowledge and take the opportunity to do so through doing badges ranging from Hostess to World issues.

### N is for Names

Don't forget to register your daughter's name with us in plenty of time. We have 24 girls in the pack and space is limited.

### I is for interesting

We try very hard to make each meeting interesting and entertaining. We also try to bring out the best in each girl and are delighted when in time, each girl develops her skills to the best of her ability. Encouragement plays a vital part in our role as leaders. This was evident when we celebrated the Guiding Centenary this year when we put on a play.

### E is for enjoyment

Just listen outside our Brownie room each Tuesday and take a peep at the smile on their faces - that says it all. They are all so happy and without doubt enjoy what we do with them.

### S is for Sixer and Seconder.

As the girls get older they are given a greater role within their group. The 'Sixer's and Seconders' are given more responsibility which is classed as an honour to hold the position. The one part they all enjoy is being able to enrol future Brownies.

Please contact Loraine Myers on 07989 029031 for a place in the pack.

# Polite Request

Regretfully there has recently been some criticism concerning children's behaviour. We do aim to make everyone coming to WADS feel welcome, from the youngest to the most mature member, but we must strive to balance this with decorum during services.

We therefore suggest that if the children in your care are being loud or disruptive while congregants are praying, they should be taken

downstairs where they can play. A particularly sensitive time during the service is when Kaddish is recited. We are sure you will understand that congregants should be entitled to a respectful quiet in the Shul and not be distracted by anyone making an unnecessary noise or movements through the hall.

We are pleased to say that plans are underway to expand our Children's Services to give our youngsters an

opportunity to develop their Jewish learning in a fun, informal environment and to enhance their experience at Shul. These services will occur whilst the upstairs services are being held.

If you would like to discuss this message, or have any constructive ideas to offer, please contact the Chairman, Brian Levy.

# Sharing Responsibility

Above all, the purpose of CST, the Community Security Trust, is to ensure that any member of our community is able to lead the Jewish life that they choose. CST is part of our community, so it can only succeed if our community takes its share of responsibility.

Sharing responsibility means a whole range of things. It means contacting your local CST and asking what role you can play with our local security teams. It means understanding why we do security and co-operating with our local teams.

Sharing responsibility also means keeping a sense of perspective about where things stand. Anti-Semitism should not define our lives as British Jews, not now and not ever.

Today, our community is largely able to express its Jewishness in whatever way it wishes. That can be religious, cultural, political, charitable, sporting or whatever sort of Jewish life you do, or do not, wish to have. Our community is, on the whole, successful and well integrated into the rest of society.

We have come a very long way indeed since the newly arrived immigrant generations of the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

However, we often see rises in anti-Semitic incident levels when Jews or Israel are in the news. These are mainly directed against the most vulnerable and visible parts of our community, whether it is people, property or community groups.

In recent years, the threat of terrorism is something that all of our society has come to understand and find a way of living with. The fact that these terrorists have also targeted Jews is what underpins all of CST's work.

We sincerely hope that CST's efforts help our community to feel

confident that someone is standing up in defence of its rights. We take responsibility for the physical security of the community; and provide a professional and confidential reporting service for the minority of people who are unfortunate to suffer anti-Semitic hatred.

It is not CST's wish to tell individuals how they should feel about the situation. How you react to all of this is up to you. Some people regard it as unimportant, but others feel real fear and are deeply concerned for their own, or for their children's, wellbeing.

Because of our work with the victims of anti-Semitic crime, CST regards its work as being about people's physical and emotional well-being, not about statistics. It is the human aspect that makes us all the more determined to work against anti-Semitism; and against the fear that anti-Semitism causes.

We want to deter those who wish to harm our community, and we work with politicians, police and others in ensuring that our community's concerns are understood, heard and acted upon.

CST, however, can only be as strong as the community that we serve. We rely upon the community for our volunteer personnel and for co-operation with our work: whether that is in schools, synagogues, community events and rallies, or wherever.

In total, we secure over 1,000 events each and every year, across the community. In the last two years we have installed security upgrades at hundreds of communal buildings, including shatter-proofing for windows. We do not charge the community for our services and rely upon charitable donations for our running costs.

**All of this relies upon partnership between CST and our Jewish community. We want you to join us in that partnership.**

## Then call CST

**London 020 8457 9999**

Emergency 24hr pager 07659 101 668

**Manchester 0161 792 6666**

Emergency 24hr number 0800 980 0668

**[www.thecst.org.uk](http://www.thecst.org.uk)**

Community Security Trust registered charity number: 1042391

This page has been sponsored by Helen, Elliott, James and Danielle Gordon. Looking forward to a successful year for WADS Youth and Community



**IN AN EMERGENCY  
ALWAYS DIAL 999**

## Fun Run for Shannon

Shannon Witkover, WADS member and Watford 28th Brownie, decided to take part in the Bushey Under 10's Girl's Fun Run and raise some money for Norwood. The day, Sunday 4th July, was a perfect day to run. Shannon tell Wads News, "It was sunny and I felt really excited before it all began. I ran 0.75 of a mile and I came 35th out of 121 girls which I thought was pretty good for a first time effort."



**camp simcha**

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All of Camp Simcha's services are provided free of charge to families from all sectors of the Jewish community. If you know of a child or family who could benefit from Camp Simcha, please do not hesitate to call us on

**020 8202 9297.**



To support the work of Camp Simcha, please send donations to "Camp Simcha" The House, 12 Queens Road, London, NW4 2TH, or contact us on office@campsimcha.org.uk

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## CANCER DOESN'T CARE

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We provide comprehensive support services for cancer patients, their families and friends nationally. For more information or to speak to someone in confidence please call our telephone helpline on 0808 808 4567 or visit our website at [www.chaicancercare.org](http://www.chaicancercare.org)

Chai Lifeline Cancer Care  
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20th anniversary year  
**chai cancer care**  
together we can cope

# A visit to hell on earth

## Melanie Silver

For the past 14 years I have earned my living as a professional writer, yet this is the hardest article I have ever had to write. It's a personal account of one of the most emotional days of my life. Yesterday I was among a group of 21 Watford Synagogue members who visited Auschwitz, the largest and possibly the most notorious Nazi death camp of all, for the first time.

As the departure date drew closer, I began to feel some trepidation about the trip – what I would see, how it would affect me and whether it would simply be case of 'preaching to the converted'. On the day our small group met up at the unearthly hour of 4.45am at Stansted Airport to catch the 6.10am flight to Krakow, once the capital of Poland.

On arrival, we boarded a coach for the short journey to Auschwitz, accompanied by our group leader, Rabbi Barry Marcus of the Central Synagogue. He explained that what we refer to as 'Auschwitz' is actually a complex consisting of three main camps – Auschwitz I, Auschwitz II (also known as Auschwitz-Birkenau) and Auschwitz-Monowitz – the IG Farben factory that manufactured the Zyklon B gas tablets. Auschwitz is, in fact, what the Germans renamed the Polish town of Oswiecim, which like most other towns in Poland had a thriving, well integrated Jewish community up until the war.



Block 5 exhibits physical evidence of the Nazi's crimes: suitcases and belongings seized from the victims, hair shaved for making nets, textiles and stuffing mattresses, piles of artificial limbs, spectacles piled to the ceiling and thousands of shoes - all badly worn from their wearers' years of suffering and deprivation in the ghettos of Europe.

Next, we moved on to Auschwitz-Birkenau. If you've seen the film Schindler's List you'll be familiar with this death camp. While the actions of the main characters were dramatised, our guide - who has made it his business to speak to survivors who return to the camp - assured me that its depiction of the horrors of camp life is extremely accurate.

I could not have prepared for the impact this camp would have on me. We first climbed up several storeys to the top of the watchtower to get an overview of the site. Seeing its sheer scale, spreading as far as the eye could see and dotted with barracks so familiar from films I had seen, I recalled Rabbi Marcus's chilling words. "This place was built with one aim in mind – to kill every single Jew in Europe."

### **Murder on an industrial scale**

The system was a model of ruthless German efficiency. To prevent panic or resistance, victims were told they needed to shower and delouse before they could be put to work. They were herded into an undressing area and then forced, naked, into an adjoining gas chamber, whose purpose was disguised with fake showerheads.



Around 1,000 people could be crammed in at a time. Once the poison gas pellet was dropped through a shaft in the ceiling it would take between three and 20 minutes to die – depending on how close to the gas outlet people were standing.

The dead bodies were shovelled into 15 large crematorium ovens in an area next to the gas chamber. These ovens could hold up to three corpses each (depending on the size of the bodies), meaning 45 to 75 bodies could be burned at once. The victims' ashes were initially disposed of in the local Sola and Vistula rivers - until villagers living downstream complained about the ash floating on their water.

This streamlined process allowed the Nazis to systematically murder over 20,000 people daily – a death toll equivalent to that of seven 9/11s every single day.

I pored over a wall plastered with innocuous family photos – babies lying on fur rugs, smiling newlyweds raising a glass of wine oblivious to what lay ahead of them, families enjoying a picnic in the countryside, holiday snaps.

We often talk about "the six million", turning those who died into a statistic, a number so enormous it's hard to comprehend. But seeing these photos, selected as precious possessions by those who thought they were packing for a new life, brought home to me, more than anything, that these Jews – our extended family - were not just faceless victims but distinct individuals with their own families, dreams, personalities, talents and flaws. Real people, just like you and me.

Rabbi Marcus spoke powerfully as we attempted to absorb what we had seen. We then said kaddish for all those who died in the Nazi concentration camps and stood in silent reflection. Marking the end of the minute's silence, Rabbi Marcus blew the shofar, a sound of hope and freedom.

### **A new perspective**

Today, everything seems different. As I eat my breakfast toast, I remember how the starving Jews of Auschwitz were so desperate for even the most meagre scrap to eat, they stripped the very ground they walked on of every blade of grass. Being one who feels the cold, I wrap myself in layers of warm clothes then realise how lucky I am to be able to perform this simple act I take for granted.

In his talk Rabbi Marcus pointed out, "The Holocaust was not just a crime against the Jews, it was a crime against humanity". As the famous poem (below) by the Protestant Pastor Martin Niemöller so graphically illustrates, yesterday they came for the Jews – tomorrow it could be any group that's considered different.

Before my trip to Auschwitz-Birkenau I'd read books and seen films. I knew what happened there. But now I have seen this purpose-built



death factory for myself, walked along the railway lines that brought hundreds of thousands of men, women and children to their deaths simply because they were Jews, I *feel* what happened there. This crime against humanity feels intensely personal and very painful.

I have returned home determined to tell the world – the young, the ignorant, the deniers – about the industrial-scale killings that were committed there daily. As the philosopher George Santayana said, “Those who cannot learn from history are destined to repeat it.” The deaths of six million fellow Jews, including over a million innocent babies and children, must not be in vain.

All photos courtesy of Laura Roberts

**Derech Learning Centre**

**NORTHWOOD, PINNER, RUISLIP AND WATFORD SYNAGOGUES WITH MORIAH SCHOOL**

**united synagogue**

**NOVEMBER 21<sup>ST</sup> 2010**

**GREAT LAST YEAR, BETTER THIS**

**SESSION 1**

Rabbi Anthony Kuperf  
*The message of Chanukah in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*

Dr Simon Cooper, PhD  
*Idiots Guide to Jewish Philosophy*

Philip Skelker, MA  
*Do Jewish Schools prepare their students for life in Britain today?*

Rosalind Preston OBE  
*Jewish Women in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Any change?*

Light Lunch with Entertainment by Stewart Curtis – Klezmer music!

**SESSION 2**

Denise Phillips  
*Cooking for winter - demo*

Aviva Braatold, MA  
*Where Words Fall, Music Speaks  
Music Therapy and its uses*

Bernard Benaroch  
*Sofar Demo and have-a-go*

Doreen Samuels  
*Maccabi Millionaire Quiz*

Keynote after lunch  
**Rabbi Hanoch Teller**  
Author and International Speaker  
*The Only Obstacle to Happiness*

**9.45am-3.30pm**  
£18 for adults, £15 for over 60's.  
Children under 16 £5 including childcare if desired.  
[derech@northwoodus.org](mailto:derech@northwoodus.org) to book. **BOOK NOW!**

## Time Table for High Holydays and Festival Services

Children's Services on both days of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur will start at 11.00 am

### Wednesday 8th Sept - Erev Rosh Hashanah

Yom Tov begins - Light Candles .....	7.17p.m.
Mincha/Ma'ariv .....	7.15p.m.

### Thursday 9th Sept - Rosh Hashanah 1st day

Shacharit .....	9.00a.m.
Reading of the Law .....	10.30a.m.
Sermon .....	11.00a.m.
Shofar .....	11.15a.m.
Musaph .....	11.30a.m.
Tashlich (Bridge in Cassiobury Park) .....	4.00p.m.
Mincha/Maariv .....	7.30p.m.
Light Candles after .....	8.17p.m.

### Friday 10th Sept - Rosh Hashanah 2nd day

Shacharit .....	9.00a.m.
Reading of the Law .....	10.30a.m.
Sermon .....	11.00a.m.
Shofar .....	11.15a.m.
Musaph .....	11.30a.m.
Light candles before .....	7.09p.m.
Mincha/Maariv/Kabbalat Shabbat .....	7.30p.m.

### Shabbat 11th Sept - Shabbat Shuva

Shacharit .....	9.45a.m.
Shabbat ends .....	8.16p.m.

### Sunday 12th Sept - Fast of Gedaliah

Fast begins .....	4.47a.m.
Fast Ends .....	8.04p.m.
Friday 17th Sept - Erev Yom Kippur/Kol Nidre	
Fast begins - Light Candles .....	6.56p.m.
Kol Nidre Service .....	7.00p.m.
Sermon .....	7.15p.m.

### Shabbat 18th Sept - Yom Kippur

Shacharit .....	9.45a.m.
Reading of the Law .....	12.15p.m.
Sermon & Yizkor .....	12.45p.m.
Musaph .....	1.30p.m.
Break .....	3.15p.m.
Shiur .....	4.30p.m.
Mincha .....	5.30p.m.
Sermon .....	6.30p.m.
Ne'ilah .....	6.45p.m.
Ma'ariv .....	7.55p.m.
Fast ends .....	7.55p.m.

### Wednesday 22nd Sept - Erev Succot

Yom Tov begins - Light Candles .....	6.45p.m.
Mincha/Ma'ariv .....	7.00p.m.

### Thursday 23rd Sept - 1st day Succot

Shacharit .....	9.45a.m.
Mincha/Ma'ariv .....	7.00p.m.
Light Candles after .....	7.44p.m.

### Friday 24th Sept - 2nd day Succot

Shacharit .....	9.45a.m.
Light Candles before .....	6.36p.m.
Mincha/Ma'ariv .....	7.00p.m.

### Shabbat 25th Sept - Chol Hamoed Succot

Shacharit .....	9.45a.m.
Shabbat Ends .....	7.42p.m.

### Wednesday 29th Sept - Erev Shemini Atzeret

Yom Tov begins - Light Candles .....	6.29p.m.
Mincha/Ma'ariv .....	6.30p.m.

### Thursday 30th Sept - Shemini Atzeret

Shacharit (Yizkor) .....	9.45a.m.
Light Candles after .....	7.27p.m.
Mincha, Ma'ariv and Hakkafot .....	6.30p.m.
Service ends .....	8.30p.m.

### Friday 1st Oct - Simchat Torah

Shacharit .....	9.45a.m.
Light Candles before .....	6.23p.m.
Mincha/Ma'ariv/Kabbalat Shabbat .....	6.30p.m.

ALL TIMES ARE BRITISH SUMMER TIME

# WANTED AT WADS

## Camp Simcha Volunteer Synagogue Ambassador



### Role

- To raise awareness of Camp Simcha (through all aspects of synagogue life)
- To be the eyes and ears for Camp Simcha in your community
- To ensure members know that you are there as a referral point for those individuals who need to access the charity
- To ensure an updated poster /flyer is on the synagogue notice board
- To maintain regular contact with the Camp Simcha office and to advise them of opportunities to speak at shul events
- To liaise regularly with the synagogue office
- To attend two regional meetings and one training seminar in the year
- To get a regular mention of Camp Simcha on materials going out through the Synagogue, via weekly newsletter,

web sites emails, synagogue magazine etc

- To consider creative initiatives for promoting Camp Simcha during fun times in the synagogue calendar e.g. Simchat Torah, Chanukah, Purim
- To arrange for a Camp Simcha speaker to come during the year to speak at Care/Welfare Groups, Youth Groups, Cheder, Education Programmes etc
- To liaise regularly with the synagogue office
- To visit user groups in the synagogue and promote/mention Camp Simcha and handout flyers, promotional materials etc
- To arrange to speak with the Rabbi, Administrator, and Board during the year

This person IS NOT A FUND RAISER but is someone who acts as a liaison between the shul and Camp Simcha.

They should obviously have empathy with the Camp Simcha aims and need to know what goes on in the Watford community.

If you are interested in taking on this role or have any questions then please contact Rabbi Levine.



## A word from your Wardens Ellard Roberts and Tony Nairn

Well, hello to all members and friends. Having written these reports for around 15 years now, it's not easy to try and write something different.

Many of you will be in Shul over the High Holydays but we are here every Friday night and Shabbat over the course of the year. Of course, we're here when you have Yahrzeit and we'll normally call you up the Shabbat before your Yahrzeit, especially if we know in advance. On that point, if you don't fill in your form or the Secretary doesn't have your date, then it would be difficult to help. If you know your dates and the Shul hasn't been previously informed you, then please let Carolyn know so she can add your details to our computer lists.

We would love to see some more of our members on a regular Friday night or Shabbat. Services on Fridays start at 8p.m. and normally include a 'Question and Answer session' with the Rabbi. Normally the Service takes around 45 minutes and for our pre Bar/Bat mitzvah there is the opportunity to come up to the bimah and have some wine over Kiddush.

Shabbat mornings we start at 9.45a.m, and again we would be pleased to welcome you whether you're coming for a Yahrzeit or just to be part of the community. If you struggle with following, then we operate a buddy scheme where regulars are happy to help you follow the Service. Shabbat service is always followed by a Kiddush.

Incidentally, if you have a reason to celebrate at the Shul, whether it's a Birthday or an anniversary or the birth of a child or even Grandchild, then we would be delighted to celebrate with you.

We are your friendly Shul but we really can't do it without you. Come along, join in with whatever you want.

Let me finish by wishing all our Members and Friends a Happy and Healthy New Year and well over the Fast.

All the best

# Educating Your Child for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

Here in the UK we teach children the 3 (R's) Reading, wRiting and aRithmetic but in the USA they teach a 4<sup>th</sup> Robotics.

Robotics is the future and HG Education™ teaches children aged 6 and upwards control based technology which is taught as part of the National Curriculum using a toy of the past but updated to the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

The toy is made by LEGO® and is called LEGO Mindstorm NXT.

Every year 100,000 of children take part in a competition known as First LEGO League if you like "Sports for the mind" as the person who set up the initial competition.

At HG Education™ we offer different services for different age ranges.

We run LEGO Workshops ½ day and whole day events for years 3 -6 and recently have taught at Rosh Pinah, Sinai, Pardes House, Torah Termimah and Torah Vodas schools. We also run regular LEGO Robotics After School Clubs at some of the schools mentioned above.

Educating children this way allows children to have lots of fun playing whilst learning. Some of subjects taught using this technology are Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths. It can also be used to teach parts of Design and Technology, PE and Geography.

HG Education™ is committed to providing to teaching children aged 6 – 16 in the use of Robotics through any of the above mentioned programs.

In September 2010 we will be launching 3 new services. LEGO Home Party based around the Tupperware concept whereby we will come to your house and show pocket money LEGO for you to buy. Robotics for girls a 12 week program

exclusively for girls and Corporate Team Building through the use of LEGO Robotics

For further information please contact Howard Grahame on 0800 4118 999 or 07973 211 112 or visit our website [www.hg-education.com](http://www.hg-education.com). To see some of our videos please visit [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) and search for hgceducation.

La Shana Tova

# Denise Phillips

## Traditional Tzimmes

Sliced carrots look like coins – tzimmes is eaten at any festival, but particularly Rosh Hashanah so that we are blessed with a prosperous New Year. I looked up the word for ‘tzimmes’ and it means to make a fuss over someone or something. It is the sense of the word that gives this dish its name, a lot of things mixed together.

On Rosh Hashanah we often use carrots as they symbolize our hope that we increase our good deeds in the coming year.

Tzimmes recipes vary considerably but all of them are sweet and contain the vital ingredient of carrots. My traditional recipe is made with kneidelach.

I have suggested adding apricots, sultanas or dates but in my grandmother's recipe she would only use apricots. The honey stock softens the dried fruits and for me this is delicious part!

Preparation Time: 20 minutes Cooking Time: 55 minutes  
Serves: 6 people

### Ingredients

1 onion – peeled and roughly chopped  
675g carrots – sliced  
1 ½ litres vegetable or chicken stock  
2 tablespoons honey  
2 tablespoons vegetable oil - for frying  
2 tablespoons lemon juice  
1 teaspoon cinnamon

300g dried apricots/ sultanas/ dates

For the Dumplings

225g Rakusens medium matzo meal

2 tablespoons chicken fat or margarine

1 egg

Chicken stock/soup to bind

Salt and freshly ground black pepper

Garnish: Extra cinnamon – optional

### Method

- 1) For the dumplings: Mix together the matzo meal, salt and pepper until the mixture is like fine breadcrumbs.
- 2) Add the egg and enough chicken stock or soup to make a pliable dough. Roll into walnut size balls. Chill for 15 minutes.
- 3) Heat the vegetable oil in a large saucepan. Sauté the onion for 2 minutes. Add the carrots and sauté for a further 5 minutes.
- 4) Add the stock, honey, cinnamon, lemon juice and chosen dried fruit. Season with salt and freshly ground black pepper.
- 5) Add the dumplings to the tzimmes.
- 6) Simmer for 45 minutes.

To serve the stylish way: Dust with a little extra cinnamon just before serving.

To store, cover with cling film or place in an airtight container for up to 3 days.



## Honey and Sesame Glazed Chicken with Appled Rice

This chicken recipe captures all the flavours for a sweet and happy New Year. It can be prepared in advance and reheated.

Preparation Time: 15 minutes Cooking Time: 30 minutes  
Serves 6

### Ingredients

For the chicken  
6 Chicken breasts – fillets, skinned and boned  
6 tablespoon sesame oil  
4 tablespoons clear honey  
200ml Chicken stock

For the Appled Rice  
300g Long grain rice  
600ml Chicken stock  
100ml fresh apple juice  
6 spring onions – trimmed and roughly chopped  
2 tablespoons – olive oil  
2 tablespoons vegetable margarine  
1 green apple – cored and roughly chopped  
1 red apple - cored and roughly chopped  
50g raisins or sultanas  
Salt and freshly ground black pepper

For the garnish  
3 tablespoons – sesame seeds  
6 sprigs – flat leaf parsley

### Method

1) Pre-heat the oven to 400°F/ 200 C / Gas mark 6.

2) Score the chicken breasts – this helps the chicken to absorb the cooking flavours and gives the meat a stylish look! Place in a shallow oven-proof dish.

3) Pour the sesame oil, honey and hot chicken stock over the chicken breasts.

- 4) Place in the pre-heated oven and cook for 20 minutes covered.
- 5) Heat the olive oil and margarine in a large saucepan.
- 6) Sauté the spring onions for 2 minutes or until softened.
- 7) Add the rice, chicken stock, apple juice and raisins.
- 8) Simmer with the lid on the saucepan for 15 minutes.
- 9) Stir in the chopped apple and season well with salt and freshly ground black pepper.
- 10) Continue cooking for a further 5 minutes.

To serve the stylish way

- 1) Toast the sesame seeds in a dry frying pan until just golden. (If they burn they will taste bitter so watch them carefully while you are cooking.)
- 2) Place a generous helping of appled rice onto a warmed plate, slice the chicken breast at an angle and fan on top. Spoon a tablespoon of the sesame and honey stock over each portion. Sprinkle with toasted sesame seeds and garnish with parsley.
- 3) Serve at once.

Makes: 1 loaf

## Apple & Prune Tea Bread

This is a delicious fruit tea loaf that is perfect over Yom Tov ~ when extra friends and family arrive for an informal gathering. It is also ideal when breaking the fast with a cup of tea. Packed with fruit and sweetened with honey, you will want to make this again and again as it becomes a great family favourite.

Granny Smith apples are a favourite of mine as they are crisp, juicy and do not oxidise as fast as other apples.

Preparation Time: 15 minutes

Cooking Time: 1 hour 20 minutes

### Ingredients

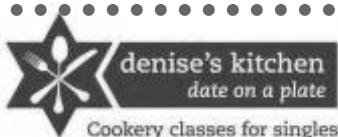
4 eating apples eg Granny Smith – peeled, cored and thinly slice  
 1 tablespoon – vegetable oil- to grease the tin  
 100g ready to eat pitted prunes – roughly chopped  
 50g dried apricots – roughly chopped  
 150g light brown muscovado sugar  
 100g margarine

125g clear honey  
 300g Self raising flour  
 1 teaspoon baking powder  
 1 teaspoon cinnamon  
 2 large eggs

Glaze: 1 tablespoon honey - warmed

### Method

- 1) Line and grease a 1.2 litre loaf tin.
- 2) Place the margarine, honey and sugar in a saucepan and heat until melted. Transfer to a large mixing bowl.
- 3) Pre- heat the oven to 180 C/ 350 F.
- 4) Add the prunes, apricots, apples, flour, baking powder, cinnamon and eggs to the mixing bowl. Combine well.
- 5) Transfer to the prepared loaf tin.
- 6) Bake for 1 hour – 1 ¼ hours or until firm and a skewer inserted into the centre comes out clean.
- 7) Leave to cool in the tin. Glaze with a little warmed honey over the top.



### DATE ON A PLATE

This is a really successful format for meeting new people – six men & six women learn to cook a three-course meal, and then eat it!

Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Age: 30 – 45
Sunday 3rd Oct	Age: 28 – 38
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Age: 40- 55
Sunday 31 <sup>st</sup> Oct	Age: 30 - 45
Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Age: 28 - 38
Sunday 14 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Age: 40 - 50
Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Age: 30 - 45
Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Age: 28 - 38



### LEARN TO COOK - THE STYLISH WAY

Join Denise Phillips for a fun "hands-on" class, presented in my trademark simple but stylish manner. Enhance your love of food and add to your cooking repertoire.:

Thursday 2 Sept	Cooking For Yom Tov
Wed 6 Oct	New Ways with Salmon
Thurs 7 or Sun 10 Oct	Ashkenazi Favourites
Wed 17 Sun 21 Nov	Chinese Feast
Sun 5 Dec	Winter Entertaining
Wed 8 Dec	Sephardi Favourites
Thurs 9 Dec	Gourmet Vegetarian

Venue : Northwood. Times : Weekdays 10am –1.30pm.  
 Sunday : 6pm-10pm

Cost : £60 including three course meal and all ingredients  
 More info : [www.jewishcookery.com](http://www.jewishcookery.com) or  
[denise@jewishcookery.com](mailto:denise@jewishcookery.com)  
 Or phone Denise on 01923 836 456

## Youth Aliyah Child Rescue warmly invites you to BROKEN GLASS

by Arthur Miller, with Sir Antony Sher  
 Tricycle Theatre, Kilburn High Road,  
 London NW6  
 7JR



New York - November 1938.  
 Phillip and Sylvia Gellburg are a Jewish married couple living in New York. Phillip works at a Wall Street bank where he is involved with foreclosing. Sylvia suddenly becomes partially paralysed from the waist down after reading about the events of Kristallnacht in the newspaper.

Broken Glass is an Olivier award-winning drama where the themes of guilt, personal tragedy and love intertwine and start to unravel. **Wednesday 13th October 2010**

7.30 pm Reception/ Play 8:00 pm  
 £ 33.00 / £30.00 concession (Ticket + Reception)  
 please call 020 8371 1580 or e-mail [eva@youthaliyah.org.uk](mailto:eva@youthaliyah.org.uk) for tickets  
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# Wads Pesach Picnic Photo Gallery

On a typical British Bank Holiday in April, Wads members and friends met up to eat and play at the Aquadrome, Rickmansworth





**Come and enjoy our unique menu in  
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**Had a busy week and can't  
face cooking for shabbat?  
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