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**WATFORD SYNAGOGUE WELCOMES NEW YOUTH LEADER**

Watford Synagogue gave an enthusiastic welcome to its first ‘homegrown’ youth leader, 17 year old Scott Michaels. With funding support from Tribe, Scott will lead activities for the post bar/batmitzvah age group while completing his A Levels at Yavneh College, Borehamwood.

Scott, who lives with his family in Watford, was inspired to become a youth leader after going on the Tribe Israel Tour in the summer of 2012. He explains, “Ever since that trip I have wanted to become a youth director for Tribe so when the chance came to lead at my own shul – Watford – it was too good an opportunity to miss.”

Scott has already helped organise the shul’s Chanukah and Purim parties, a successful outing to the Snow Centre in Hemel Hempstead, and a bowling event. As for future plans, he is looking into arranging a summer barbecue, paintballing, a talent contest and more.

Talking about his ambitious plans, Scott says, “I aim to ensure there are regular events for Watford’s youth of all ages at which everyone has a great time. I also want to bring the youth closer to the rest of the community and seek out future leaders among the kids – but all while having loads of fun.”

**Caption**: 021: Watford Shul’s new youth leader Scott Michaels pictured with Helen Gordon, Watford’s board member responsible for youth.

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