

December 2012 /  
January / February 2013

Number 50

# Kehillah North London Newsletter



## Kehillah events....

- **Baby welcoming Ceremony**  
Krisztina Kovacs and Jeremy Rubel extend a warm invitation to the community to welcome their new baby Tamara Simone Rubel on **Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> December** after the service.

- **Advanced Singing Course**  
Rebekka Wedell will teach a 4 week singing course "Advanced singing for liturgical leaders" in January 2013 – details & application form on page 3

- **Community discussion**  
"Talking with our children about the Holocaust" **10am on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> January**. Timed to fall two weeks before national Holocaust Memorial Day, this discussion is about supporting each other to talk about this subject with the children in our lives. Open to all.

- **Tu b'Shvat Seder**  
Join us on **Friday 25<sup>th</sup> January** at 7pm for a Seder with fruits for body and soul, marking the new year for trees and the beginning of the annual cycle of growth.

- **Hebrew for Beginners & Advanced**  
Rabbi Shulamit will be running 4 week Beginner and Advanced Hebrew evening courses from **February 26<sup>th</sup> to March 19<sup>th</sup>** ~ times to be confirmed.

- **Additional Shabbat Service**  
Everyone welcome on **9<sup>th</sup> February** for our next reflective and peaceful Shabbat experience. Led by Claire and Joanna, and others from our Ba'al Tefillah group. Tea and coffee, Space for Reflection / reading a meditation together, A meditative approach to the Shabbat Morning Service *NB: no children's activities this day*

- **Our Year of Music!**  
Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> February is our **Community Music Day** ~ we hope you can come and join the fun! See page 5 for details

- **PURIM Party**  
Come and celebrate! 2pm on **Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> February**—see pg 5

See our website at [www.nlpjc.org.uk](http://www.nlpjc.org.uk)



Community member Dan Largin, 16, represented the Jewish community at the special 'Courage and Faith' multi-faith service in celebration of the Paralympics in August. The Cathedral was full with athletes, and a children's hearing impaired choir performed.

Dan, who is also a pupil at JFS, read a psalm, along with young people representing other London faith communities. He was thrilled by the demonstration of wheel chair basketball, played under the roof of St Paul's Cathedral.

The service was led by Reverend Jason Rendell and there were readings by, amongst others, the young mayor of Tower Hamlets - Nahimul Islam, and representatives from the London Buddhist Centre and the London Sri Mahalakshimi Temple.



## Chanukah Party

**Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> December**  
**3pm – 6pm**



### We've got something for everyone!

Creative activities, chanukkiot making,  
Dreidel games, songs and music making.  
Rabbi Shulamit will run a parallel study session  
~ more details on the community email thread soon...

Please bring your own Chanukkiot to light in the evening and latkes or some other vegetarian food contribution too.

**Venue: The Community Rooms**

Cost to non-members: £5 per family £3 concs

  
liberal judaism

Kehillah North London (NLPJC) is a constituent congregation of Liberal

# If People Know Only One Word of Hebrew

If people know only one word of Hebrew, they are likely to know the word *Shalom*. Yet, ask what this simple word means, and they are likely to say, "hello" "goodbye" or "peace". These answers are correct, but only partly so. The word *shalom*, has aspects of meaning that are closer to our English world 'whole' or 'complete'. *Shalom*, then, is a state of completeness, or integration. A bringing together of many separate parts into a final and complete whole.

The words '*shalom*' and 'peace' are very much on our minds at this point. There is an inevitable gap from the time these words leave my desk and reach your hands, but sadly I expect that by the time you read this, Israel and her Palestinian neighbours will still be locked in conflict.

The conflict, too reaches us here, even inside our community, as we struggle to find ways to integrate and hear the different understandings of the situation. We too become locked in a meaningless and senseless conflict, although we are lucky to be living here in peace, and are not at risk of our lives. I see a struggle, both within individuals and across the Jewish community as a whole, to make sense of the complexity without getting stuck in polarised conflict.

It is hard to live out a lifelong connection to Israel, to live with this potent reality of the Jewish people

and our shared destiny, hard to love Israel while at the same time to insist that Israel's leaders must do their part to bring about a swift end to this phase of the conflict. It is hard, but necessary. It is hard to get to grips with the complexity of Palestinian history, and politics, to insist that they too must succeed in the political aspects of this conflict, and to do everything in their power to bring about a swift end to this stage of the conflict. Hard, but necessary. It is most difficult, also, to do everything we can to create productive, resilient relationships with diaspora Muslim, Christian and Palestinian or Arab communities here in the UK, who agree that conflict is so very easy to escalate, and much more difficult to bring to an end. Hard, but ultimately very necessary.

Unfortunately the loudest voices belong to those who always insist on one side being right and the other being wrong. Real *shalom*, real integration, is born out of the integrity that comes from seeing that in this real life or death struggle, both sides must have enduring rights. Love for Israel should also insist on real integration, real understanding, of both histories, of both perspectives. This is *shalom*.

Rabbi Shulamit Ambalu



## Kehillah Members News

**A warm welcome to new members:**

- ❖ Cath Goldstein & Sam Silverlock, Wren & Jocelyn
- ❖ Suzanne Crouch & Doron Meyassed
- ❖ Brendan Riley
- ❖ Rebecca Hammond & Caroline Thackeray

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**Mazel Tov** to Krisztina Kovacs and Jeremy Rubel on the birth of their baby daughter Tamara Simone Rubel (photo bottom left, "dans les fleurs!") on 14<sup>th</sup> October. The community is invited to her special baby naming ceremony at the 15<sup>th</sup> December service

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### Our 100 club winners

- ❖ Hannah Forbes (August)
  - ❖ Carry Gorney (September)
  - ❖ Gill Levy (October)
  - ❖ Davina Good (November)
- It's never too late to join! Email Julia at [nljpc@liberaljudaism.org](mailto:nljpc@liberaljudaism.org) for details

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*In the event of the death of a Kehillah member, please contact the Funeral Directors Martin Broads on 020 8445 2797 and Rabbi Shulamit Ambalu on 020 7403 3779.*

## HHD CHARITY APPEAL

Many thanks to all of you who have, once again, donated so generously to this year's appeal. This year we have collected £1,651 to divide between our 2 chosen charities: North London Action for the Homeless and Kehillah North London

## Thinking of joining us?

- Why not do it now ~ our new membership year starts in January.
- You can contact our administrator, Julia Chalfen, at [nljpc@liberaljudaism.org](mailto:nljpc@liberaljudaism.org) for a membership pack or phone Rabbi Shulamit Ambalu on 020 7403 3779 to discuss membership options.



Kehillah North London

Advanced Singing for Liturgical Leading with Rebekka Wedell

Tuesday evenings ~ 8pm to 9.30pm
January 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th

This 4 week course is designed for those who are just beginning or have recently begun to lead Shabbat services within Liberal congregations, and is open to those who have completed the Ba'al Tefillah course with Liberal Judaism. It will focus on the liturgy of the Shabbat morning service.

Although you may know many of the liturgical melodies, there are particular challenges that arise, when taking on the role of leading the sung prayers with little or no experience of leading congregational singing.

How is sung prayer different from spoken prayer? What happens when we sing our prayers?

The course will address the following areas:

- How to hold the tune when others around are not;
How to find the 'right' starting note, so that the tune is neither too high nor too low for oneself or others who are singing
How to keep the tempo, the sense of rhythm and mood of the tune

There will be Vocal exercises and the opportunity for some 121 voice-work, as part of developing confidence in and understanding of your own voice and vocal range.

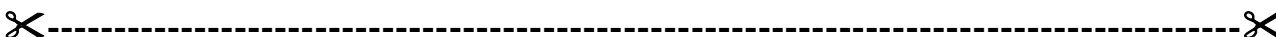
Rebekka Wedell has been leading and teaching liturgical song both at Beit Klal Yisrael and Kehillah North London (formerly NLPJC) for the past 20 years. Liturgical training has included the JMI Cantorial Summer Schools with Cantor Josee Woolf.

Table with 5 columns: Cost for 4 week course, Members of Kehillah, Members Concessions, Non-Members, Non-members Concessions. Rows show costs: £40 per term, £20 per term, £60 per term, £30 per term.

Please book in advance for these classes so we have an idea of numbers

Venue: The Community Rooms, Spensley Walk, Stoke Newington Church St, London N16 9ES
email: nlpjc@liberaljudaism.org website: www.nlpjc.org.uk

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Advanced Singing Course ~ January 2013

Name.....
Address.....
Telephone..... E-mail.....
I am a member/non-member (please circle) I am waged/concession (please circle)
I enclose a cheque made out to NLPJC for £ .....

Please return by 30th December with payment to NLPJC, PO Box 42702, London N19 5WR



## The Community in Pictures

Celebrating Sukkot outside in our beautiful community Sukkah (*top left & right*).

Michael Lomotey (*left*) and Joanna Ryam oversee the proud unveiling of our wonderful new ark at Rosh Hashanah.

Huong Falush's Vietnamese Cookery Workshop on a Friday evening in November was a great success (*below left & right*). "After we prepared the food we had a lovely meal together and Robin [Samson] led the singing. It was a really happy Friday night Shabbat." Jackie Richards  
Thank you Huong!



# Community Music Day

2013 is our year of music!



We start our year of music with a community music day on **Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> February**. Sing, play with other instrumentalists, listen and learn. From wordless chanting to chanting the Torah. With workshops led by Kehillah members and outside guests, for all ages.

We will begin after the service with a bring and share lunch, and make music from 2-6pm. Everyone welcome



## Purim Party

Come and celebrate

**Sunday 24th February 2pm - 5pm**  
at the Community Rooms.

A reading, a scroll, creative activities, music and the chance to boo and stamp your feet ~ and lots of dressing up please!

So come along and have some fun ~adults and children.

Please bring veggie snacks to share.

Non-members: £5 per family / £3 concs

## Farewell!

At the end of December I will sadly be leaving my post as Kehillah administrator after 9 years. I took up the position in 2003, not long after the birth of the new community following the closure of the North London Progressive Synagogue.

I have taken such pleasure in watching, and being part of the community's growth and firm establishment. But now it is time for me to move on. We are just in the process of formalising the appointment of my successor and she will be introduced to you very soon.



I will miss you all, and wish you and the community *Kol Tuv* (all good wishes) for the future.

Julia Chalfen

## Kehillah North London 'Who's Who'

All officers and chair can be contacted at [nlpic@liberaljudaism.org](mailto:nlpic@liberaljudaism.org) or by post to PO Box 42702 London N19 5WR

**Rabbi** : Rabbi Shulamit Ambal  
**Chair** : Claire Helman  
**Hon. Secretary** : Liz Reiner  
**Treasurer** : Hannah Forbes  
**Education Chair** : Leila Baker  
**Cheder Teacher** : *appointment in process*  
**Cheder / Jewish Studies Teacher**: Rachel Epton  
**Hebrew Teacher** : Vicky Millan  
**Volunteer Creche Worker** : Anna Sklair  
**Parent Representative**: Leila Baker  
**Prayers & Spirituality Co-ordinator**: Maria Egan  
**Senior Warden**: Joanna Ryam  
**Administrator** : Julia Chalfen  
**Fund-raising Coordinator**: Sue Lukes  
**Membership Secretary** : Jackie Richards  
**Marketing & Promotion**: Claire Helman  
**Social Action Co-ordinator**: Dan Ozarow  
**Befriending Co-ordinator**: Sheila Melzak  
**Vacant Posts**:  
Youth; Intergenerational

Advertisements contained in the Kehillah Newsletter are the sole responsibility of the persons that post the advertisement. Kehillah does not make any guarantee as to the accuracy, completeness, truthfulness or reliability of such advertisements.

Kehillah Newsletter is edited by Julia Chalfen. The deadline for the Mar/April/May issue is 15<sup>th</sup> February. Please send articles for publication to Julia at: [nlpic@liberaljudaism.org](mailto:nlpic@liberaljudaism.org)

If you are a member of Kehillah North London and are interested in joining one of the groups, or would like to fill one of the vacant roles, we would be delighted to hear from you.

## LJ Youth Movement

LJY-Netzer is the youth movement of Liberal Judaism. We run a host of events around the country throughout the year for young people between 8 and 23 years old. Our events mix fun, games, community, social action and informal education.

Our events range from day events, youth clubs, overnight events and longer camps. The events are often age specific or have age divisions on the larger events, including a spring camp (**Machaneh Aviv**) and our amazing summer camp (**Machaneh Kadimah**)

The movement is run by a team of professionals, called Movement Workers, based at the Montagu Centre in Central London and a huge team of volunteers who help us run nationwide events.

LJY-Netzer is an ideological youth movement. This means we have a set of values that guide everything that we do. There are four main pillars of our ideology: Liberal Judaism, Progressive Zionism, Tikkun Olam (Social Action) and Youth Empowerment. Our ideology shapes how we run our movement and events, ensuring that all aspects of the ideology are covered on each event.

## 2013 Spring term events

### January

**Wed 2—Sat 5 Veidah**

**Galim & Bogrim groups (ages 15 to 23)**

Veidah is LJY-Netzer's senior decision making body. Anything can be brought as a motion and there will be a spot to discuss and vote on them. This is your chance to shape LJY-Netzer into the movement you want! For more information please contact Robin:

[robin@liberaljudaism.org](mailto:robin@liberaljudaism.org)

### February

In February there will be more weekends for **Plagim (ages 7 to 11)** and **Yamim (ages 11-15)**. For more information email Sam or

Anna: [samc@liberaljudaism.org](mailto:samc@liberaljudaism.org)

[anna@liberaljudaism.org](mailto:anna@liberaljudaism.org)

### March

In March we will be planning a repeat of last year's Third Night Seder at Ravenswood Village, a centre for adults with learning difficulties. Last year 25 of us went down to Ravenswood in a minibus to run a creative and informal Seder told through music and actions. The exact date has not been finalized yet – check the LJ website for updates [www.liberaljudaism.org](http://www.liberaljudaism.org)

### April

**Tues 2 – Sun 7 Machaneh Aviv**

**Machaneh Aviv**, LJY-Netzer's fantastic 6 day spring camp will be back at Cottesmore School in Sussex. Expect singing, informal education, sport, arts and crafts and more fun than we can even write in words! For more information email Sam or Anna:

[samc@liberaljudaism.org](mailto:samc@liberaljudaism.org)

[anna@liberaljudaism.org](mailto:anna@liberaljudaism.org)

*Please note: financial assistance can be applied for, for those who need it.*

# Kehillah events calendar

## December 2012 – February 2013

Most events are held at *the Community Rooms adjacent to St. Mary's Church, Spensley Walk, Stoke Newington Church Street, London N16 9ES*, unless otherwise stated

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Venue</u>
Saturday 1 <sup>st</sup> Dec	10am / 10am 10.40am / 10.50am 11am	Torah Breakfast / Children's Hebrew Kol b'yachad service for children / Cheder & crèche Shabbat Service	
Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup> Dec	3pm	CHANUKAH PARTY at the Community Rooms <i>(see front page)</i>	
Saturday 15 <sup>th</sup> Dec	10am / 10am 10.40am / 10.50am 11am	Torah Breakfast / Children's Hebrew Kol b'yachad service for children / Cheder <i>(no crèche/toys available)</i> Shabbat Service Followed by Special Kiddush & Welcoming Ceremony for Tamara Rubel <i>(see front page)</i>	
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Tuesdays in January 8 <sup>th</sup> , 15 <sup>th</sup> , 22 <sup>nd</sup> , 29 <sup>th</sup>	8pm	Singing Course with Rebekka Wedell <i>(see page 3)</i>	
Saturday 5 <sup>th</sup> Jan	10am 11am	Torah Breakfast Shabbat Service	
Saturday 19 <sup>th</sup> Jan	10am  10am 10.40am / 10.50am 11am 1pm	Community discussion "Talking to our children about the Holocaust" <i>(see page 1)</i> Children's Hebrew Kol b'yachad service for children / Cheder & crèche Shabbat Service Pot Luck Lunch	
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> Jan	7pm	TU B'SHVAT SEDER <i>(see front page)</i>	
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Tuesdays in February <i>(this 4 week course will continue into March)</i> 26 <sup>th</sup>	7pm / 8pm <i>(tbc)</i>	Beginners & Advanced Hebrew Course <i>(details coming soon...)</i>	
Saturday 2 <sup>nd</sup> Feb	10am / 10am 10.40am / 10.50am 11am	Torah Breakfast / Children's Hebrew Kol b'yachad service for children / Cheder & crèche Shabbat Service	
Saturday 9 <sup>th</sup> Feb	10am/10.20am/11am	Coffee / Meditative Space / Additional Shabbat service <i>(see front pg)</i>	
Saturday 16 <sup>th</sup> Feb	10am / 10am 10.40am / 10.50am 11am 1pm 2pm-6pm	Torah Breakfast / Children's Hebrew Kol b'yachad service for children / Cheder <i>(no crèche / toys available)</i> Shabbat Service followed by Pot Luck Lunch COMMUNITY MUSIC DAY <i>(see page 5)</i>	
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> Feb	7.15pm / 8pm	Erev Shabbat Service & Pot Luck Supper	
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup> Feb	2pm	PURIM PARTY <i>(see page 5)</i>	

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY.....

Pesach 2<sup>nd</sup> night Seder ~ Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March at 6.30pm

**Contact us at:**

**Kehillah North London (NLPJC), PO Box 42702, London N19 5WR.**

**Call Rabbi Shulamit Ambalu on 020 7403 3779**

**email [nlpjc@liberaljudaism.org](mailto:nlpjc@liberaljudaism.org) or visit our website [www.nlpjc.org.uk](http://www.nlpjc.org.uk)**