

THE EDINBURGH

STAR

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THE MAGAZINE FOR THE EDINBURGH JEWISH COMMUNITY

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FRONT COVER: Emmanuel Levy (1900-1986), Two Rabbis Carrying the Scrolls of the Law, c. 1943, oil on canvas, 75.5 x 60 cm (framed: 89.4 x 73.8 cm). Ben Uri Collection. Reproduced by kind permission of the Emmanuel Levy estate

Emmanuel Levy (1900-1986) was born in Manchester and studied in Paris and at the Manchester School of Art, where he met L.S. Lowry, whom he was to later succeed as art master at Manchester University Department of Architecture. He had six solo exhibitions in Manchester between 1925 and 1963, and lectured at Manchester and Stockport College of Art during the 1950s and 1960s. He also worked for a while as an art critic at the Manchester Evening News.

The Edinburgh Star

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Thank you

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Edward Green
By email [edwardmgreen@me.com]

16 August 2017

Dear Edward

I wanted to write to you to wish you and all your readers well for the Jewish New Year.

September brings the high holy days of the Jewish Calendar, Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. This is a time for reflection, renewal and repentance – remembering the achievements of the past, repentance for any wrongs and renewing plans for a better future.

The Scottish Government welcomes the Scottish Jewish bicentenary this year. We greatly value the important relationships with Scotland's Jewish communities, and appreciate their contribution to our nation's civic life.

On behalf of the Scottish Government and people of Scotland 'Shanah tovah'.

With best wishes

Nicola Sturgeon

NICOLA STURGEON



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THE CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL

Frank Ross

The Rt Hon Lord Provost of the City of Edinburgh

In the year, that we, in the City of Edinburgh, have been able to join with the Jewish Community in the city in celebrating their 200th Anniversary, I send my very sincere greetings for the Festival of New Year, and with my best wishes to all for a good and successful year ahead.

Yours sincerely



**FRANK ROSS
LORD PROVOST**



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The Chief Rabbi's Rosh Hashanah Message 5778 "FINDING UNITY IN COMMUNITY"

As we conclude a year which seems to have been dominated, in no small part, by disunity across the Jewish world, it is increasingly troubling to see some of the vitriol that is now routinely espoused by Jews against one another.

It takes no time at all to find comments on social media about "Chareidi extremist bullies with no grasp of the realities of the modern world" and "heretical leftists who wilfully dilute and undermine the sanctity of Torah at every opportunity." Is this what it has come to?

יעשו כלם אגודה אחת לעשות רצונך בלבב שלם.
"And may the people form a single united bond – to perform Your will with a full heart".

These words, from our Mussaf prayer on Rosh Hashanah, encapsulate our deep and enduring desire for Jewish unity which stretches back, through the annals of history, to the point at which we left Egypt and became a nation for the first time. But, what is the virtue of unity? Don't we have a responsibility to protect what we believe to be right, even if that means division?

There is no question that we do, but what is also certain is that throughout history, disunity has been nothing short of an existential threat to the Jewish people.

The Talmud describes the tense state of conflict in Jerusalem during the years 67-70 CE, throughout which, the Romans laid siege around the walls of our capital city. In Jerusalem, there were storehouses which had provisions to last for 21 years. Yet tragically, when civil war broke out within the city, the storehouses were burned and destroyed. The Romans, who would otherwise have likely lost patience and moved on to fight more pressing battles, were now able to breach the walls and conquer a weakened people.

Chief Rabbi Lord Jakobovits pointed out that 'Sim Shalom', our prayer for peace in the Amidah, includes the words 'Bless us our Father, all of us as one, in the light of Your countenance'. Why, in the context of prayers for peace with our enemies, must we aspire to peace amongst ourselves? Lord Jakobovits explained that if we cannot overcome our differences within, we will never prevail over our enemies without.

The first Chief Rabbi of the Holy Land, Rabbi Kook, would point out that in an orchestra, there are many different instruments which make their own unique sound. Together, under the baton of the conductor, they create beautiful harmony.

May 5778 herald a year in which each one of us can look to parts of our community within which we might ordinarily find very little common ground; those whose instruments possibly make an entirely different sound to ours, but with whom we can offer beautiful harmony to the world.

Valerie and I extend to you all our very best wishes for a happy, fulfilling and peaceful New Year.

Chief Rabbi Ephraim Mirvis
September 2017 • Tishrei 5778



Rosh Hashanah Message

This time of the year is a time of introspection, when we, as individuals and as a community, examine our actions and see how we can improve them.



An important message of these days is the need for unity. This theme is emphasised progressively throughout the festivals of Tishrei. On Rosh Hashanah we are judged individually, 'like a shepherd counting sheep'. By the time we get to Yom Kippur we have achieved a modicum of unity. The confession on that day is in the plural, we stand before G-d and collectively take responsibility for our actions. On Succot, however, we achieve an all embracing unity that extends not only to the Jewish people but all the nations of the world. The differing nature of these days also reinforces this message. Rosh Hashanah is a

day of judgement, Yom Kippur a time of forgiveness, Succot a period of joy. The more we are united the better off we are. This is a message of especial importance for our community at this time. As we contemplate our future it is no good everyone going off and doing their own thing. Rather the various groups and organisations in our community need to co-operate in order to ensure a successful future for Judaism in Edinburgh. Only if we are united will we be able to realise our full potential, and the promise of the future.

May we all be written

לשנה טובה תכתבו

for a good year.

Rabbi David Rose

Editorial

I was delighted to have been asked by Micheline to be guest editor of the Star for this edition. It has been a most rewarding and enjoyable exercise and I am now more understanding of the enormous efforts that go into producing this magazine and to the standard that she and previous editors have achieved.



Our thanks must go to Micheline, our editor, for the incredible way she produces the Star throughout the year and for 17 editions so far that she has produced. With trusty camera, never far from her hand, and a mind that can transpose words so easily to the page, she is to be much admired. Our many thanks.

At this time, I would also like to warmly thank Sidney Caplan who has served as Honorary Treasurer of the Star for over eighteen years. He has stepped down this edition but over his time has helped to guide the publication through sticky financial times, and ensured its survival, no mean feat!

This year, our new Honorary Treasurer, Sylvia Donne, has handled the New Year Greetings insertions, collecting them and the much-needed donations that come with them. Our thanks must go to Arnold Rifkind who has handled them with such aplomb for an amazing forty one years. The New Year Greetings donations form the basis of the financial platform for the Star, and we are grateful to the Community Centre Committee for now allowing us to collect these monies in total, helping to ensure the future of the Star for the coming editions.

We are also most grateful to our new and old advertisers. All of them are known and patronised by one or more of our executive.

And what a year it has been! We are delighted to provide further coverage of our 200th anniversary in this New Year issue, also of this year's highly successful Shalom Festival.

A wonderful Festival Open Day at the Community Hall enjoyed its largest audience ever and there has been a dazzling choice of communal events through the year.

In addition to the usual Festival round-up, I am pleased to introduce "A life in 10 Pictures" with the wonderful Harriet Lyall and "Where are they now?" with two of our most distinguished 'sons' Nick Cosgrove and Rabbi David Mason. I would welcome most gratefully ideas for upcoming editions of the Star and possible articles.

Even with diminishing numbers, a problem with many religious groups within the country, we at the EHC are able to hold our head high. We 'punch well above our weight' and the community is vibrant and active with much to offer their members and visitors. Members of the EHC hold real compassion for their fellow congregant and that is something not found in every community. The Star holds a unique place in being able to illustrate that, for which we should all hold great pride. I hope you will enjoy this edition of the Star and see it as it is. A publication for us to celebrate our Jewish lives in Edinburgh and our concern for and interest in each other.

May I take this opportunity, together with Maryla and our son, Freddie, to wish all our readers a very happy and healthy New Year.

Edward Green

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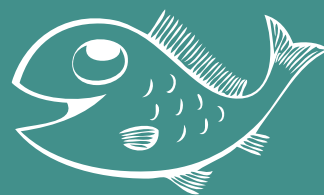
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CHAIRMEN'S MESSAGES

High Holy Day Dreams?

John Danzig, Chairman Edinburgh Hebrew Congregation

I have always been intrigued by our capacity, both individually and collectively, to have personal visions and dreams, particularly at this time of 'renewal'.

I am reminded of the period of the Exodus over 3,000 years ago, when Nachshon ben Aminadav from the Tribe of Judah, as he contemplated the frightening expanse of water, the Sea of Reeds, said 'if the only way to escape....is to go forward, then forward we must go'. The courage to risk failure enables us to grasp opportunities and indeed greatness. By so doing, we are effectively raising the bar and avoiding too little expectations of ourselves. Such individual acts of courage create meaning not only for ourselves but also for others.

And what of renewal? If it means going round in circles, it means we have not learnt anything all year. What is more, to paraphrase

Edison, you can never ever exhaust all possibilities. Generate ideas and eventually you will generate success.

The truth that I learnt during the course of my professional career is that we either progress or regress. You deceive yourself if you think there is a middle ground. Indeed there is a Divine spark in all of us which has endless power to transform. Our job is to recognise it. That is our sweet, sweet message.

May I use this opportunity to wish the readers of this wonderful publication, the Star, not only true renewal for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur but also the courage both to shape and also to implement your personal vision.



Happy New Year

**Nick Silk, Chair, Sukkat Shalom
Edinburgh Liberal Jewish Community**

The High Holydays are a time for personal contemplation. In the lead up to Rosh Hashanah and all the preparation that goes with the High Holydays, I've been reflecting on the last six months since taking over as Chair of Sukkat Shalom.



Ever since we formally established Sukkat Shalom, I have been involved with ensuring the successful running of the services. Whether 'religious matters' is a proper description is open to debate, since much of what I did was concerned with things like making sure the venue was booked, making sure that the siddurim were at the venue and such like. However, it has always been that I have spent most of my time focussing on the services, and I've never really thought much about things like how much the booking of the venue for the service costs etc. Since taking over as Chair, it now matters. Costs have become more of a focus for me. And that has got me thinking.

During Yom Kippur, we spend time reflecting on our personal actions, thinking about what we have done in the past year and how we can make better decisions and perform better in the coming year. Of course, if we were always able to take the right action, we would have reached the messianic age. And while that is surely where we'd all like to be, and while some of our prayers may be directed to such a time, I think that much of the focus of the Yom Kippur services is about smaller steps, and the balance in our lives and actions.

So, it's this idea of balance that links with my thinking about my role of Chair. It is certainly important that we provide services, and that we run our cheder, and collect money for our Kol Nidrei appeal, but we can't do any of this if we don't have a well-run and financially solvent shul. Judaism is, if nothing else, an eminently practical religion. It recognises the practical aspects of everyday life. I remember listening to a sermon some time ago where it was mentioned how there are few examples of hermits within Judaism, as walking away from everyday life isn't something that has a strong tradition in Judaism. We focus on everyday life – and about getting the balance of how we live our lives right.

In the run-up to the High Holydays, may I wish you shana tovah and well over the fast, and I hope that we all have a meaningful day of reflection on Yom Kippur where we can truly and honestly consider the balance within our lives.

Thank you

We are most grateful to our former Chairman, **Raymond Taylor**, who stepped down in June after four years at the helm. Raymond has been the most diligent and hard-working of chairmen and the membership of the EHC owe him a large debt of gratitude for all his efforts and the time given to synagogue affairs. Thank you Raymond.



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Where are they now?

Rabbi David Mason

I write these words now, as a community Rabbi, and someone who feels fondly still of his Edinburgh upbringing. But as a child in Edinburgh, it was one of the last things that I would have thought that I would accomplish in the future. I liked being in Shul, and my Barmitzvah, trained by the then Revd Daniel Sinclair, showed me how enjoyable it was to lead a service, and to layen from the Torah. I loved it, and a number of us used to fight over laying bits of the Torah, although that was only because we were paid £3 per call up. Revd Sinclair clearly laid the seeds for me for a more religious life. But he did more. He showed that you could be someone living in the modern world, and live a life also according to the precepts of the Torah. That model has stuck with me to this very day.

So when I left school, I chose London as a destination and undertook a BSc and MSc at the London School of Economics. I became very engaged in student politics and Chaired the Jewish Society in my first year. But in London I could act on my earlier thoughts of developing greater religiosity and the student Chaplain, a Rabbi Eli Lifschitz was a great help as well. I actually had Rabbinic members of the past of my family, as my mother's grandfather, after whom I was named, was a Rabbi in Germany in the early 19th century. He also embraced the world, and met regularly with local leaders of other faiths, something that has inspired me to build inter faith relations where I have served as a communal Rabbi.

After I left University, I realised that I needed to attend yeshiva, and spend some significant time learning Torah there. I understood more of what to do as Jew, but I couldn't necessarily study the major texts of our religion. I had also begun at University to think of myself as a Jewish educator and maybe even a Rabbi. This was quite a change from the idea of moving into Accountancy or Business and was quite shock for my parents. I remember however, one day coming to Edinburgh and giving a sermon in the Shul, something that moved me greatly. My parents also, saw something real in my path towards becoming a Rabbi.

I spent 7 years in total learning in yeshiva. Two years in a neighbourhood of Jerusalem called Bet HaKerem and 5 years in Efrat just south of Jerusalem. These were wonderful years, made even more wonderful by meeting my wife Elisheva. But I didn't meet her in Israel, rather in Poland. A friend of mine in yeshiva



had become the Director of the Lauder Foundation in Poland and he brought me over there in 1998 to run services for the Yamim Noraim. There I met Elisheva and her family who were running the Foundation Club in Lodz. We have been married for nearly 18 years now, and have four children, Hodaya (13), Netanel (12), Akiva (9) and Amalya (6). The oldest children remember Edinburgh and going there to see Saba and Safta and attending the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. But since 2009, my parents moved down to London and we have not been sadly since. We do make sure though that our children know of their Scottish heritage, and my son Akiva has added Dundee United to his cherished supporting of Arsenal Football Club.

Edinburgh always remains with me. Memories of Chanukah parties when the Shul hall was over the other side of the road; my Cheder teacher Micheline giving me a gold star for saying my brachot; attending Maccabi and JYSG; singing in the Shul choir and never forgetting Barney Hoare's bass voice; visiting the Rabbi's house under the many Rabbis I remember. Edinburgh handed me the baton of my Judaism. I took that baton on, and am now the Rabbi who can so easily impact positively on young people to feel positive about their Judaism just as Rabbi Daniel Sinclair did for me. But the baton will always belong to Edinburgh.



SHANA TOVA FROM CST

CST is Community Security Trust, the charity that provides security for British Jews. We want to take this opportunity to wish all of our community *Shana Tova*, well over the Fast and to ask for your help in our work.

CST is here to facilitate Jewish life at a time when terrorism, extremism and antisemitism can sometimes feel hard to escape from. We literally give our community the chance to play its part in the continuing challenge against those negatives. Above all, we need men and women to step forward and play their part as security volunteers, joining our teams and being trained in self-defence and community protection.

In recent years, CST has spent nearly eleven million pounds on enhancing the security of Jewish communal buildings throughout the UK. CST is also responsible for obtaining and managing Government funding for commercial security guards at Jewish schools, synagogues and other venues.

CST has offices in London, Manchester and Leeds. Over 80 staff and more than 3,000 communal security volunteers work in partnership with synagogues, schools, and community centres to help keep our community safe. Together, we secure over 600 Jewish communal buildings

and approximately 1,000 communal events each year.

CST helps and supports victims of antisemitism, and monitors and records antisemitic activities and incidents. CST is the only UK organisation that records, analyses and publishes nationwide statistics and information about antisemitic incidents and hate crimes. Sadly, the number of antisemitic incidents has grown. During 2016, CST often dealt with over 100 such reports per month and this unhappy trend has continued into 2017.

CST represents British Jewry to Police, Government and media on antisemitism and security. It works in operational partnership with Police and enjoys the full support of Government and Opposition. CST is widely held to be the role model of its type.

All of CST's work is provided free of charge, but we rely upon the partnership and active participation of our entire Jewish community: for our volunteer recruits, for our funding, for reporting, and also for the willing co-operation that underpins every one of our activities throughout UK communities. Please, play your part and join us in our work: you may well find it challenging, but it will certainly be highly rewarding.

 www.cst.org.uk

 Community Security Trust  @CST_UK  CSTmedia

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New Year

Board of Deputies

In my New Year message 12 months ago I wrote that 2016 had been the most tumultuous year



in British political life in living memory. This year has been barely less eventful with a surprise General Election producing an even bigger surprise, resulting in the turbulence of a hung Parliament, coalition negotiations and a shaky start to talks with the EU over the future of the United Kingdom in Europe.

Through this period of political uncertainty the Board of Deputies has represented the Jewish community with a clear and calm voice. We produced our Jewish Manifesto for the election campaign, a document newly updated for 2017 with its detailed advocacy of the policies of interest and concern to UK Jews. We asked politicians to support our 10 Commitments – the policies which we consider crucial on everything from education and religious freedoms to the Middle East. We sent out a copy of the Jewish Manifesto to every prospective parliamentary candidate and received a large and supportive response including video messages from the Prime Minister and the leaders of the next three largest parties.

Our approach to politics is bipartisan. We do not support any single party but we do hold politicians to account. In a year characterised by a shameful upsurge in antisemitism in British politics we continue to call on party leaders to act swiftly to expunge hatred wherever it rears its ugly head. Former Liberal Democrat Leader Tim Farron acted swiftly to expel David Ward, a man with a track record of antisemitic statements. We call on Labour Leader

Jeremy Corbyn to act in a decisive manner during this coming year against the scourge of antisemitism which has plagued his party. And whenever we discover antisemitism in the Conservative and other parties, be in no doubt that we act in a similarly robust manner.

This year, having been thwarted for 12 years, criminal murderers finally managed to claim innocent lives in our country – at Westminster, in Manchester, at London Bridge and Finsbury Park. I am sickened by the extremists who are prepared to kill children to further their depraved views. The attacks by Islamist extremists on concert goers and random pedestrians and the attack on worshippers outside a mosque in north London, lend an urgency to my longstanding commitment to building bridges with Muslim communities. It is vital that we have the relationships that allow us to share sometimes difficult opinions with one another, as well as making joint progress on our issues of common concern. It is crucial to strengthen the moderate centre and marginalise the extremists.

So I have travelled the country speaking to Muslim communities – so far including London, Bradford, Leicester, Leeds and Birmingham. And we don't just exchange pleasantries over tea and biscuits, we go straight for the toughest topics: hate crime, violent extremism and religious values.

This country is not the only one to suffer the tragedy of extremist murder this year. Israel has also lost innocent Jews, Christians and Muslims to terror attacks this year. And of course the difference between Israel and the UK is that Israel has never had respite from those whose mission it is to subvert the democracy of the world's only Jewish state. While the ramming of tourists and commuters on Westminster Bridge made the world's headlines, similar attacks in Israel have often not even warranted a passing mention on the evening news. We at the Board of Deputies stand resolutely behind Israel, whether it is speaking at demonstrations, making the case in the media, challenging BDS or supporting

grassroots advocacy organisations and Christian allies. We leave nobody in any doubt as to our commitment.

While our enemies continue to promote terror and division, we have been unstinting in our desire for peace. This year, we launched the pioneering 'Invest in Peace' programme with church umbrella body Churches Together in Britain and Ireland to support Israelis and Palestinians who reach across the divide for reconciliation. Our first series of events in London in May drew 300 Jews, Christians, Muslims and people of no faith to the cause, and we are already planning the next series of events in Manchester, Leeds and Glasgow for later this year.

At home, we have continued to interact through all levels of government, from desk officers to secretaries of state, and we have worked internationally through our relations with foreign embassies and links with our Jewish partner organisations overseas. Our highly successful series of seminars for local councillors on Jewish issues took us to Manchester and Newcastle/Gateshead this year, with events in Leeds, Birmingham and London to follow in 2018.

We have staunchly defended Jewish schools and Jewish education in both the mainstream and Charedi sectors. Our efforts are also outward looking – the Jewish Living Experience exhibition has travelled around the country and informed thousands of non-Jewish children and adults about our way of life. Our research partnership with the Institute of Jewish Policy Research has borne fruit, with ground-breaking new reports on Jewish schools and patterns of affiliation to the synagogue movements, releasing data that is vital for planning for our community's future.

In 5778 we will continue to represent your interests and wishes as a democratically elected and accountable organisation. May this New Year bring you, your families and all of Am Yisrael health, strength and peace.

Jonathan Arkush, President **13**

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Ben Uri: Past, Present, Future

David Glasser, Chairman

The Jewish National Decorative Art Association (London), “Ben Uri” was founded in 1915 by the Russian émigré artist Lazar Berson in London’s East End in the midst of the First World War to act as a support mechanism for the newly-arrived, Yiddish-speaking *Ostjuden* (central Eastern European artisan immigrants) unable to access the cultural bastions of London’s West End and of assimilated Anglo-Jewry.

The society’s original aim was to celebrate Jewish cultural endeavour, to promote all forms of Jewish decorative art and to build a permanent collection for the benefit of the Jewish ‘masses’. Indeed, the name chosen, after Bezalel Ben Uri, Biblical artist of the Ark of the Covenant, specifically claimed a kinship with the artisan, as well as with the Bezalel School in Jerusalem founded some nine years earlier. Two decades later, as the original émigrés became more prosperous and integrated, the focus shifted from the East End, the lingua franca was no longer Yiddish, and Ben Uri became an important exhibition platform, cultural nexus and repository for works by a second wave of mainly German-speaking émigrés, now fleeing Nazi persecution.

During its formative years, Ben Uri also moved frequently, from the East to the West End, from a number of different galleries to its first permanent premises – a Georgian townhouse at 14 Portman Street, Marble Arch (1943–61) and then to the fourth floor of a synagogue building in Dean Street, Soho (1964–95). There it was awarded museum status, but was served notice in 1995 and forced to close when the site was redeveloped as The Soho Theatre. Ben Uri subsequently became homeless but its spirit was kept alive by a determined and committed leadership. In October 2000, a new Board, inspired by the richness and diversity of the collection, took over responsibility for the museum to create a new future and in 2002 moved to a short lease but fully equipped gallery in St. John’s Wood. Fired by a radical vision and strategic plan to reposition an intensely heritage proud Ben Uri as a fully-engaged mainstream London and British art museum, it implemented far reaching changes and established Art, Identity and Migration as the principal focus.

The Permanent Collection, begun in 1918 with the assistance of Ben Uri’s co-founder, Polish-born jeweller and sculptor Moshe Oved (Edward Goodack (1885–1958), who presented a tranche of works on paper by the then disgraced Pre-Raphaelite Simeon Solomon, and who also facilitated the first group of now very important works by David Bomberg. Today the museum collection comprises some 1300 works by more than 400 artists from almost 40 countries, 67% of whom are émigrés, 27% women, and 33% contemporary. Ranging from late 19th-century painting to 21st-century new media, it forms a distinct visual survey by artists of primarily European-Jewish descent, including Frank Auerbach, David Bomberg, Marc Chagall, Mark Gertler,

George Gross, Leon Kossoff and Chaim Soutine.

More recently, the collection has also widened to embrace émigrés from all backgrounds and ethnicities,

including British-Caribbean born artist Tam Joseph and Turkish-born Güler Ates. The Collection is supported by a dedicated website with a wide range of search functions including artist, technique, country of origin, keyword, materials and techniques, alongside our newly-accessible archive.



Our extensive and prize-winning Learning and Outreach programmes, available to c. 20,000 schools across the UK via the ‘National Education Network’ and ‘The London Grid for Learning’, is supported by specialist school lesson programming tied in to the national curriculum, as well as professional development for teachers, gallery visits, after-school art clubs, family art days and competitions. In addition, we run carefully researched and imaginative Wellbeing programmes including for those with special needs, the elderly, and those with early stages of dementia. External programming is fully part of the wellbeing and educational brief including our touring lecture series and creative art sessions at residential care homes, and art therapy sessions in dementia day-care centres.

In 2015 Ben Uri’s centenary masterpiece exhibition, *Out of Chaos: Ben Uri – 100 Years in London*, held at Somerset House, attracted some 30,000 visitors, leading to a revised and expanded show, *100 for 100: Ben Uri, Past, Present and Future* at Christie’s South Kensington (2016), touring to the Laing Art Gallery, Newcastle (2016–17). In this era of intense political debate around migration, our current exhibition programme and publications, actively reflect the enrichment of British visual culture through the contribution of refugees and immigrants to the UK: this year from Germany and Poland, and next year from the Indian sub-continent.

Our future lies in the quality, diversity and strength of the museum’s growing collection in tandem with innovative and active engagement with our public – nationally and internationally – through all our related activities. These more public engagements sit in parallel with the leading scholarship role Ben Uri has established addressing the lives, careers and contribution immigrant artists have made to 20th and 21st century British life and culture. We aspire and work ceaselessly towards a significant permanent museum and gallery presence on the public side and growing and sharing the Ben Uri Research Unit on the contribution of immigrant artists from all backgrounds to this country. Only then will the museum fulfil its potential and positively impact the largest audiences from the widest communities from home and abroad.



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Representing, Connecting and Supporting Jewish People in Scotland



Micheline Brannan

People used to wonder what SCoJeC does but one of my aims as Chair since 2016 (succeeding Hilary Rifkind who set me a wonderful example) was to change SCoJeC's image. Together with Ephraim Borowski, who has acted as unpaid CEO since SCoJeC was founded in 1999, to respond to Devolution, I have tried to make SCoJeC as active and responsive as possible in reflecting the concerns of the Jewish Community across the country.

An example is Aberdeen, where the tiny Jewish community is faced regularly with antisemitic tropes and conspiracy theories posted online by local Palestinian Solidarity Campaign, which also aims to drive out a legitimate Jewish business from the city, targeting it alone because the products it sells are from Israel. I have visited Aberdeen 4 times to support the local community, and meet with City Council politicians.

Combating antisemitism is a significant part of what we do, and this takes me to many meetings, including the Scottish Alliance against Prejudice and Hate Crime, which brings together NGOs across Scotland. Ephraim and I also attend frequent meetings with Government, the most recent being with the First Minister herself, where we talked about the impact of antisemitism in social media amongst other topics.

But there is another side to SCoJeC's work, and that is the many happy and fulfilling events that are organized by our outreach team. I was privileged last year to take part in recruiting 3 young



L to R: Ephraim Borowski, Micheline Brannan, The Rt Hon Nicola Sturgeon MSP, First Minister of Scotland, Nicola Livingston, co-President of Glasgow Jewish Representative Council, meeting on 9 August 2017

part time staff, all of whom are deeply involved in our events programme. Many Edinburgh folk attended the Fire and Light in the Forest event on Lag B'Omer in Callender Wood, and our Bicentenary History Walks and Talks. By time of going to press you will have had the chance to attend a Klezmer concert by Michael Alpert and Gica Loening in Edinburgh on 6 September. Up and coming is also a Jewish and Islamic Art paper-cutting workshop in Falkirk in November as part of Scottish Interfaith Week.

We are fortunate that the Scottish Government has funded us for 2017-18, to the extent of about half our expenditure, and is minded to do so for another 2 years. By responding regularly to Scottish Government consultations, in a measured, thoughtful and informed way, we contribute more than just a minority

view; and by joining in with initiatives in the wider community, for example welcoming refugees to Scotland, we show active citizenship. The Scottish Jewish community is probably the oldest immigrant group in Scotland and the fact that we have integrated well, while retaining our distinctive culture, creates a model on which other communities can and do build.

We need the continued support of Jewish communities throughout Scotland to carry on our work, both by getting involved and by contributing the £30 levy which is requested each year from EHC members. We are sincerely and deeply grateful to everyone who contributes in whatever way. For more information on the full range of our activities, services and upcoming events see our website www.scojec.org.



The Adler family and others join Scotland-wide celebration of Lag B'Omer at Callendar Wood on Sunday 15 May

My life in 10 pictures

by Harriet Lyall

My parents were James William Lyall and Golda Aronson Lyall. My dad, always called Jim, was born in Larbert, Stirlingshire in 1927. He went into the Navy in 1944 and served on board HMS Sheffield, thus beginning his life-long love affair with all things maritime. My mother was born in Glasgow in 1932 however her parents, Benny and Chava Aronson, moved to Edinburgh shortly thereafter.



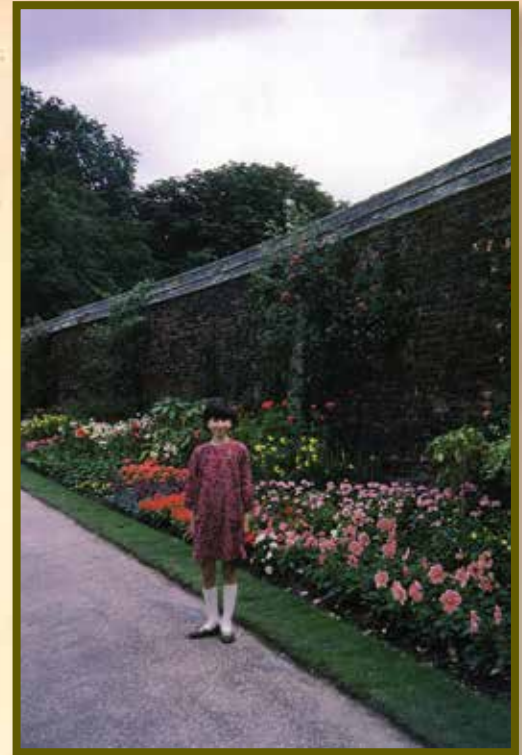
1. Me aged two, in 1960, with my mum Golda, aged 28, in our maisonette in Cumberland Close, Twickenham, London.



2. Above: Golda, Jim and Uncle Joe (Aronson, brother of Golda) and me aged 3, in 1961, in our beautiful garden in Kilmorey Gardens, Isleworth, London



3. Left: Kilmorey Gardens, 1961, on the swing my dad made, attached to the big apple tree. Standing beside me is Grandma Lyall, my dad's mother, Mary Jane, nee Campbell.



4. Above: Me aged 10 in 1968 at Hampton Court Palace, where my Auntie Bessie was a housekeeper. The dress, in the fashionable kaftan style of that era, was made by my mum



5. Graduating from Cambridge University, June 1980.

They settled in Marchmont, South Edinburgh, and Golda attended James Gillespie's School, where she excelled academically. She met my dad in 1949, in her first term at Edinburgh University. Both my parents attended Moray House teacher training college and qualified as teachers in 1953, following which they went to London, where they married and I was born in 1958. We moved from London to Linlithgow in 1963 and from there to Bolton, near Manchester in 1969, where

I attended Bolton School and went on to Cambridge University in 1977. My mother taught English and my father lectured in Philosophy, from which careers they both took early retirement in 1982, at which time they returned to Edinburgh, where they had first met. They enjoyed an active and fun-packed retirement, going on many happy holidays and immersing themselves in the cultural life of Edinburgh. Jim died, aged 76, in 2003, while Golda lived on until 2012.



6. Working for Scottish Development Agency, at a trade show in Hanover, Germany in 1987. With me is my colleague Brian Morrison of the Manufacturing Services Division. My job was to represent Scottish companies in the Electronics, Plastics and Precision Engineering sectors.



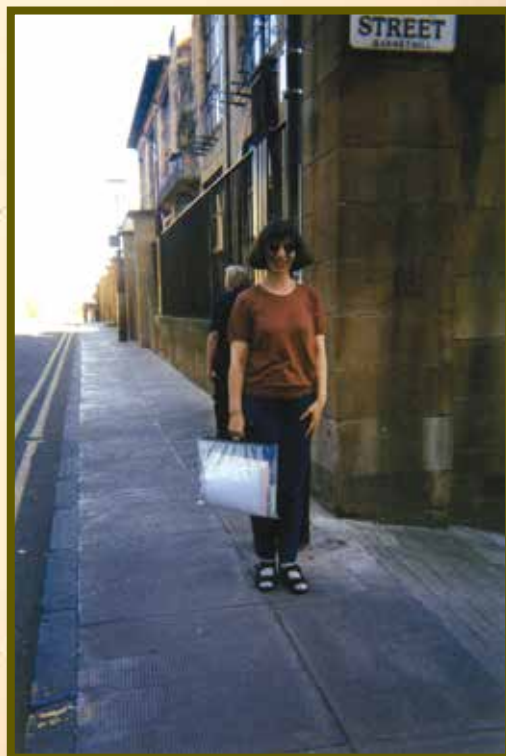
7. Hill-walking at Cape Wrath, in the extreme north west of Scotland, 1997. Behind me is the sea-stack Am Buchaille



8. 1998, my fortieth birthday – on a visit to Scottish Enterprise colleagues in Brussels.



10. May 2014 at the Graduation Ceremony at Edinburgh Theological Seminary (formerly the Free Church College) where I had been studying Biblical Hebrew.



9. On the Summer School Portfolio Course at Glasgow School of Art, 2001

The Importance of our Hearing

Katie and Martin are a husband and wife team who have over 35 years' experience between them. Having worked in the NHS and for some of the world's leading hearing aid manufacturers – they know a lot about ears.

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I'll wait until it gets worse...

Hearing loss is often very gradual and in fact, on average it takes someone with a hearing loss around 10 years to do something about it. And let's face it – nobody particularly wants to wear a hearing aid. But do you want to wait 10 years and miss out on all of those great moments in life?

'People tend to forget about getting their hearing checked, it's a poor third behind eyes and teeth! Hearing loss happens in our ears, but affects many different aspects of our lives. We often hear people saying that they don't want to wear hearing aids as they will make them look old, but hearing aids can be extremely discreet and hearing better keeps people young, socially active and employed for longer as statistics show that people with a hearing loss tend to retire earlier. There is also a lot of discussion around new evidence which shows that untreated hearing loss increases a person's likelihood to develop dementia as they withdraw from social interactions.' Martin Smith, Director and Hearing Aid Audiologist.

What to expect from a hearing assessment at the Edinburgh Hearing Practice

Most hearing centres will measure the quietest sounds that you can hear and based on this will make a recommendation. Although this type of hearing test provides useful information, by no means does it provide a full picture, we hear with our ears but it is our brain that understands speech! With this in mind, we have designed our test protocol to ensure that we measure your exact individual issues.

First and foremost, we will listen to you. Hearing loss is personal and we take the time to listen to your experience.

We recommend that you bring someone with you as they can often provide useful information and support. Our hearing assessments usually take about 90 minutes.

We will ask some medical related questions so that we have a good understanding of your general health and history. Next we will examine your ears. We have the latest technology and can show you images of your ears on a screen if you are interested in seeing exactly what we are looking at. We thoroughly check your ears using state of the art video equipment and keep the images on your records so we can keep track of your ear health.

If your ears are blocked with wax your hearing test will not be accurate. You're in safe hands at the Edinburgh Hearing Practice as we can perform professional ear wax removal.

We take you through a thorough hearing evaluation using the very latest audiometric equipment to record the quietest sounds that you can hear, but also importantly, the way that your brain is able to understand the signal from your ears. This involves testing your speech recognition in both quiet and in the presence of the dreaded background noise.

Where appropriate, we perform tympanometry to check how the middle ear is working (this is a really simple comfortable test, and is nothing to be nervous about).

At each stage we will explain the results really thoroughly to you and make sure that everything is completely clear. Occasionally we may feel that onward referral is required – this is unusual, but you can trust us to always do the right thing. If hearing aids would help, we will discuss all the different solutions that are available to you based on your hearing loss, lifestyle, cosmetic preference and ease of use.

Our care plans are bespoke and suited around your individual needs and preferences. All our hearing aids are available to trial for 30 days at no cost. We believe that the proof is in the pudding!

Maybe it's just wax!

We are experienced in ear care and can provide a professional wax removal service using Microsuction. This is our preferred method of wax removal as it uses a small suction tip to remove wax from the ear without introducing any water. There is also no need to use drops or oil for weeks on end to soften the wax prior to removal. In fact, using olive oil for one or two nights is ample preparation.

Research Update

Hearing loss officially the TOP modifiable dementia risk

Dementia is the greatest global challenge for health and social care in the 21st century: around 50 million people worldwide have dementia and this number is predicted to triple by 2050.

There is a growing body of evidence that links hearing loss to cognitive decline as it denies people a cognitively rich environment and can lead to social isolation and depression.

A study conducted by 24 international experts, was recently published in The Lancet and presented at The Alzheimer's Association International Conference in London which highlighted 9 key risk factors which are potentially modifiable and appear to reduce the risk of developing Alzheimer's disease in later life. According to the international study, one in three cases of dementia could be prevented if more people looked after their brain health throughout life.

The most significant modifiable risk factor was hearing loss in middle age.

This particular report has showed the importance of addressing hearing loss at an earlier age – between 45 and 65.

"Although dementia is diagnosed later in life, the brain changes usually begin to develop years before" lead author Professor Gill Livingston, University College London

"Building a "cognitive reserve" or strengthening the brains networks means it can continue to function in later life despite damage."

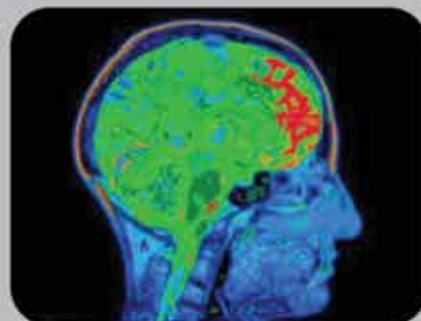
"Acting now will vastly improve life for people with dementia and their families and, in doing so, will transform the future of society."

Nine factors that contribute to the risk of dementia

- Mid-life hearing loss - responsible for 9% of the risk
- Failing to complete secondary education - 8%
- Smoking - 5%
- Failing to seek early treatment for depression - 4%
- Physical inactivity - 3%
- Social isolation - 2%
- High blood pressure - 2%
- Obesity - 1%
- Type 2 diabetes - 1%

These risk factors - which are described as potentially modifiable - add up to 35%.

The other 65% of dementia risk is thought to be potentially non-modifiable.



A recent study by **Which?** revealed a huge variation in customer satisfaction amongst large private hearing aid companies. However independent providers scored best for service, pricing, facilities and overall experience.

At the Edinburgh Hearing Practice, we often see people who have put off doing something about their hearing for a long time. The longer a hearing loss is left the more difficult it is for us to help. Our advice is to get your hearing checked on a regular basis – at least once a year.

So the moral of the story... don't wait 10 years to get your ears checked!



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Where are they now?

Nick Cosgrove

I left Edinburgh at the age of 18 back in 1990 which is a frighteningly long time ago. Although I used to bring my family up to Scotland regularly for Rosh Hashanah, I've actually not been to Edinburgh for getting on for 10 years now which I regret.

The main reason I don't visit is that my Mum and Dad (John and Hazel Cosgrove) now live near me in North West London. Whilst I miss visiting the house I grew up in, in Gordon Terrace, I do treasure having my parents close by. They travel frequently, most regularly to Israel to see my sister Abby who lives in Ra'anana with her four lovely children, two of whom serve in the Israeli Army.

My wife Caroline and I will celebrate our twentieth wedding anniversary later this year. We have three children Juliette 16 who just sat her GCSEs and has been on a tour of Israel, James now 14 and our youngest Charlotte, who turned 5 in August.

Despite absolutely no encouragement on my part, James has become a keen follower of Hibernian Football Club. He has studied the fixture list for this year and is keen to make a pilgrimage to Easter Road. His favourite player is the Israeli goalkeeper Ofer Marciano and I have just invested in the new Hibs strip for his birthday. James is a bit of a chip off the old block. His favourite drink is Barr's Red Kola which, although an important staple of the Edinburgh Hebrew Congregation Kiddush in my day, is rather hard to come by in London. I have found a supplier in North West London if there are any EHC ex pats who also remember this Scottish fizzy pop fondly.

After University I worked in and around the Jewish community. Following in David Kaplan's footsteps I was Chairman of the Union of Jewish Students. I then became Director of Labour Friends of Israel. This was in the run up to the 1997 Labour landslide and it was an exciting time to work in politics, although I soon realised that Westminster wasn't the place for me and decided instead to pursue a career in journalism.

I took a job as a business news researcher at the BBC and spent 12 years rising through the ranks as a producer, reporter and then business presenter on Radio 4, Radio 5 Live and Radio 2. It was great fun and a privilege to work there. I am sure having a (much faded) Edinburgh accent helped me.

After twelve fabulous years at the BBC my job was due to move to Manchester, so in 2010 I joined the company I now work for, Brunswick, as a senior advisor. Brunswick advises

big companies on business-critical issues. I love working there and have an interesting roster of clients including GlaxoSmithKline and Dixons Carphone.

While my home is firmly rooted in London, I do enjoy seeing and hearing of the success of Edinburgh people. Last week alone I read Hugo Rifkind in the Times and heard Alan Rubenstein talking about pensions on the BBC. I always feel proud of these "ex pats".



Caroline, James, Charlotte, Nick and Juliette

Then there are a few of my childhood chums who are now in London. David Mason has earned a fantastic reputation as an excellent rabbi in Muswell Hill and David Kaplan practically runs the United Synagogue. Together they showcase the best of Edinburgh in the Jewish community. Mentioning David Kaplan reminds me of how sad I was recently to attend the shiva of Morris Kaplan who loomed large in my boyhood.

I represent my synagogue, Brondesbury Park at the Board of Deputies of British Jews where I often bump into the likes of Edward Green and Mervyn Smith.

I am very grateful for the upbringing I had in Edinburgh and am proud to have been part of the community.

Although I won't physically be in the Edinburgh shul for Rosh Hashana, I will be there in spirit, remembering the friendly faces of my youth and humming to myself the wonderful tunes of the Edinburgh choir. I will recall the melodious voices; from my cousin Joe Aronson to the bass notes of my father as well of course of the late Barney Hoare, sounds I am certain will stay with me forever.

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UK Holocaust Memorial Foundation

INTERNATIONAL DESIGN COMPETITION



Edward Green

The National Holocaust Memorial and accompanying Learning Centre will stand in the shadow of Westminster, in Victoria Tower Gardens. The striking new structure will honour victims and survivors of Nazi persecution and act as a national voice against hatred in our modern world today.

The UK Holocaust Memorial International Design Competition sought to identify the very best architectural talent to create an emotionally powerful and sensitively designed memorial. Ninety-two teams expressed an interest in the project, with a shortlist of ten invited to submit the concept designs.

Consultation with the public, Holocaust survivors, those working in the field of Holocaust remembrance and education, as well as technical experts will play a crucial role in informing the final decision of the jury which is due the second half of September.

We were privileged to have the travelling exhibition of the innovative and exciting designs at Holyrood in March. This was covered by Star 84. Pictured are two outlines for the proposed structure, submitted by Allied Works (US). Most interestingly they had the following to say about their design.

We stand at a moment of transition – a time when those who lived through the Holocaust and witnessed the atrocities first-hand will no longer be present to provide testimony. Our proposal for the memorial is not an object, but the creation of a sacred place to serve the voices of survivors. It rises from the grounds of Victoria Tower Gardens, woven into the daily life of London. Folding back like a prayer shawl, it holds visitors in an embrace with the spoken word while framing a view to Parliament, underlining our shared accountability. Marked with a poet's blessing, the Memorial and Learning Centre provide a place where all may come to hear the voice of our shared humanity and be inspired to take action against those who would deny it. It is a place to gather, listen, learn and remember – a space for Britain and the entire world



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Jewish Care Scotland

Dr Richard Groden, Chairman

Jewish Care Scotland is a charitable organisation based in the south side of Glasgow that works in partnership with East Renfrewshire Council. We provide social care services for the Jewish community across all 32 Local Authorities.



Please feel free to call by to discuss any concerns you may have or just to meet the social work team.

The services we provide include:

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- Housing assistance

Whether you require one off support or long term care, Jewish Care Scotland can offer assistance.

Our services can be accessed by several different means: self-referral, social work referral, health service referral or court referral. Should you have any issues to discuss please contact the Duty Social Worker on 0141 620 1800 or email admin@jcarescot.org.uk. All calls and emails will be dealt with in confidence. We understand that people are often reluctant to ask for help – especially when they need it most. We invite you all to encourage friends and family who may benefit from our assistance to contact us. Your intervention could make all the difference.

JCS employ a qualified, experienced team who support individuals and families to empower people to live with dignity and choice. At the heart of everything we do is a respect for Jewish culture and beliefs; we act with integrity and are sensitive to the needs of the individual as well as to families and carers.

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- Asylum seekers and refugees
- Mental health issues
- Ethnic minorities
- Young people with enduring illnesses
- Older adults, children and families

From our premises in Giffnock we run a registered Day Care, offering social and lunch clubs from Sunday to Thursday, as well as a kosher foodbank and Befriending service. Alongside our Day Care we provide social work services offering an innovative, person centred approach. We provide flexible and creative care for clients with health, social and financial needs, including the following issues:

JCS will be looking to running a surgery at the Succah in Salisbury Road regularly. This will depend on the response to our Open Day on the 14th September, which will have been by the time this publication comes out but our hope is that the surgery will be held twice a month, on alternate Thursdays. Advice and support will be on hand from Cathy Bell, JCS Director of Social Care, and Barbara Haniford, JCS Social Worker. All enquiries will be dealt with in the strictest of confidence.

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About Edinburgh Jewish Dialogue

Celebrating Jewish Culture

Adrian Harris, Chair

For the past three years Edinburgh Jewish Dialogue (EJD), founded by Professor Joe Goldblatt, Jane Ansell and Janet Mundy, has been coordinating and facilitating a series of meetings, talks and events to consider options for the future of the Jewish community in Edinburgh. This process culminated in the receipt of a grant from the Big Lottery Fund to commission consultant Clive Lawton to study EJD's findings and to carry out further consultation with the wider Jewish community on its hopes and aspirations for the future.



At a packed public meeting in May 2016 Clive presented his report on the prospect of establishing a Jewish Cultural Centre in Edinburgh. Clive's recommendation was overwhelmingly endorsed and enthusiastically embraced by those who were there and by many who were unable to attend and expressed a view after the meeting.

Clive's view, reinforced by his experiences and observations in North America, elsewhere in Europe and indeed in other Jewish communities in the UK, was that a space for Jewish culture provided a unifying, safe space where Jews could come together however they chose to worship or, indeed whether they chose to worship at all. Liberal, Orthodox, unaffiliated, all of these labels could be subsumed in a space where choosing to identify as a Jew was sufficient.

Moreover, at a time when fear of and anxiety about the 'other' is growing and indeed being encouraged in certain quarters, a Jewish Cultural Centre provides the opportunity to share and demystify our culture with the wider community – this is who we are, this is what we do, come in, share and enjoy and tell us who you are and what you do.

At the May 16 meeting people were invited to put their names forward if they wanted to play a role in establishing a Scottish Jewish Cultural Centre (SJCC). As a soon to retire Chief Executive of The Queen's Hall with knowledge of running a cultural venue in our great Festival city, I nervously put my name forward. Perhaps an

even more relevant qualification was that I was an unaffiliated Jew who had lived in Edinburgh for over thirty years looking for a way to express my Jewishness and for whom the Cultural Centre seemed to be the answer. To my surprise, but not to those of you who are familiar with Joe, Jane and Janet's powers of persuasion, I was chosen to chair a refreshed and reinvigorated committee of Edinburgh Jewish Dialogue and take forward the great work that they had initiated.

What have we been doing since May 2016? A lot of it has been 'under the radar' but nonetheless essential.

We have written a Vision Statement for the SJCC which provides us with our guiding principles. You can read it on our Facebook page – www.facebook.com/edinburgh.jewish.dialogue/about.

We have consulted both formally and informally with key organisations as we have sought to establish the facilities and resources we want to see in our SJCC:

- Edinburgh Hebrew Congregation (EHC)
- Edinburgh Liberal Jewish Community (ELJC)
- Edinburgh Jewish Literary Society
- Chabad
- Scottish Jewish Archives Centre
- City of Edinburgh Council
- Scottish Government
- Edinburgh Interfaith Association

This list is not exclusive; new organisations will be added and consultation will be ongoing as the

project develops and grows. In addition to information acquired through the consultation process, EJD's committee has identified resources and facilities that will enable the Scottish Jewish Cultural Centre to play a key role in the wider all year round cultural life of the city and its diverse communities. How wonderful it will be, for example, regularly to present home grown performances similar to "Among Others", the excellent event recently organised by the "Lit" at the Storytelling Centre featuring Phil Alexander and Ellen Galford, as well as providing an Edinburgh outlet for touring work from the Jewish Film Festival or Jewish Book Festival.

We have commissioned Studio DuB architects, Rebecca Wober and Gordon Duffy, to produce an architectural brief that pulls together all the information gleaned from the consultation. This will be shared with our key partners in the project and will also form the basis of discussions with the Scottish Government and the City of Edinburgh Council. The next step will be for Rebecca and Gordon to produce a concept design – what a Scottish Jewish Cultural Centre might look like in all its three-dimensional glory. All of these ideas will be presented at a public meeting in the autumn which the City of Edinburgh Council has kindly agreed to host. After the summer we plan on setting up an electronic newsletter that will keep the wider community informed on developments and new initiatives around the SJCC.

The enthusiasm shown by the Jewish community in Edinburgh and others is further evidenced by the generosity of our founding benefactors:

- Peter and Shirley Bennett
- Jenni Calder (Nee Daiches)
- Lady Caplan & in memory of Lord Caplan
- Mickey and Carole Cowen
- Friends of Sukkat Shalom
- Professor Joe Goldblatt and Nancy Lynner
- Kate Goodwin
- Edward and Maryla Green
- Studio DuB
- Dr Chris Wang
- Zachs-Adam Family and other anonymous donors

Our work has not been restricted to developing ideas around the Cultural Centre. On 27th August we unveiled a plaque in the Usher Hall that marks both our own community's 200th anniversary and links it to the contribution of Jewish artists to the founding of the Edinburgh International Festival 70 years ago. We have produced publicity and marketing materials featuring a number of the wonderful events organisations are presenting to celebrate our 200th anniversary (we are very grateful to Netherlee & Clarkston Charitable Trust for their support with this). In addition, the Big Lottery Fund has awarded funding towards EJD's own family event at Summerhall on 29th October.

Edinburgh Jewish Dialogue looks forward to welcoming you to any or all of these events and to keeping you up to date with progress on our long-term plans.

Usher Hall Plaque Unveiling

Edward Green

Under the direction of Professor Joe Goldblatt, who has been tireless in his efforts to honour Jewish contribution to the Edinburgh International Festival, over a hundred people saw the First Minister unveil a plaque to the memory of Austrian born impresario Rudolph, later to be Sir Rudolph, Bing and conductor Bruno Walter.

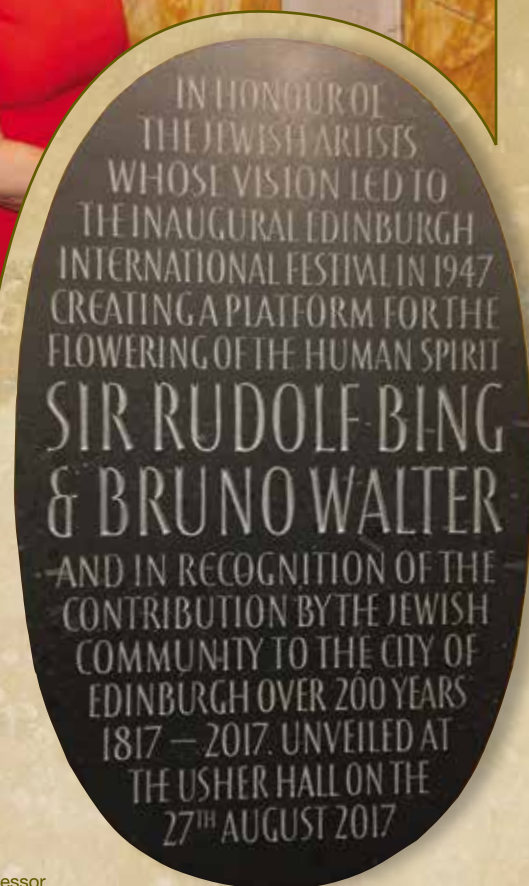
Situated by the Cambridge Loggia at the Usher Hall, the plaque is dedicated to pay tribute to the vision and accomplishment of these men in inaugurating the Festival, and is a wonderful piece of art, larger than I expected, with the most attractive and eye-catching calligraphy.

The tablet also records our 200th anniversary here in Edinburgh and is a most fitting reminder to those who know, and a true testimony to those who don't know, of the Jewish contribution to the City of Edinburgh.

The Lord and Lady Provost honoured us with their presence, as did two former Lord Provosts, Eric Milligan and Donald Wilson, the new Leader of the Council, Adam McVey, Fergus Lineham, Director of the Edinburgh International Festival, their chief executive Shona McCarthy and a host of other Edinburgh dignitaries.



The First Minister, Nicola Sturgeon, unveiling the plaque



Adrian Harris and the First Minister with Professor Joe Goldblatt and his wife Nancy Lynner

YOUR YOUTHFUL *Editorial Board*

GUESS WHO?

The Editor will give a bar of chocolate to anyone who can identify all eight without looking at the answers!



Chabad Edinburgh look back at 10 years of service

Rabbi Pinny & Gitty Weinman

In September 2008, Rabbi Pinny and Gitty Weinman arrived in Edinburgh with their two-month-old son Mendel. Pinny from Manchester, England, while Gitty was from Connecticut in the United States. They had been married for a little over a year and knew virtually no one in Scotland's capital.

I am reminded of the period of the Exodus over 3,000 years ago. The Weinman's mission was a simple one; to set up a Chabad House to serve the communal and the spiritual needs of the Jewish students of the University of Edinburgh as well as the local Jewish population and its many tourists.

After moving into their modest cottage on Kilmaurs Road, the young couple set up a welcome stand at the University of Edinburgh and began inviting students to join them for a festive Rosh Hashana dinner.

Shortly after that, the Weinmans began hosting Friday night Shabbat dinners and holiday programs. The first public Menorah in Scotland was lit at St. Andrews Square and extra tables had to be set up in the kitchen to accommodate the guests for their first Passover Seder.

Rabbi Pinny and Gitty quickly became known for creating a home-away-from-home for the largely expat student Jewish community body, with their warm, non-judgmental approach.

Now, 10-years since that first Rosh Hashanah, Chabad has thrived at their centre on West Preston St. Rosh Hashanah now draws a crowd of over 120 for services and dinner while the Passover Seders attract close to 200.

For Sukkot, Chabad brings a Sukkah Mobile to the streets of Edinburgh while the Menorah lighting on Chanukah attracts hundreds who enjoy celebrating Jewish pride at Harvey Nichols and the Royal Bank of Scotland.

There are weekly Shabbat meals where students come to unwind with friends after a stressful week, while participating in insightful discussions on contemporary Jewish issues.

The large number of Americans make Thanksgiving another popular event, while ongoing study groups for students on Chassidic philosophy are also well attended.

Chabad is also very popular with the local Jewish community offering weekly Torah study classes as well as a variety of children's programs for Jewish holidays and easy to follow Shabbat services.

"We arrived here 10 years ago with just a deep commitment to the Jewish community of Edinburgh," said Gitty Weinman, "We have been humbled by the beautiful community here and the thousands of lives we've been lucky to touch and we remain committed to our mission of providing a home away from home for all who come through our doors."



Gitty and Pinny Weinman and their wonderful children in age order, Mendel, Mushky, Jossi, Moshe, Schneur and Rivka.

"We are proud to be emissaries of the Lubavitcher Rebbe's, one of 5,000 outposts around the world molding the next generation of Jewish leaders," Said Rabbi Pinny Weinman. "Chabad of Edinburgh is funded by alumni, parents of students and local community members. We are extremely grateful for the support that we have received as we look forward to expanding our activities to ensure that the Jewish community of Edinburgh not only survives but thrives."



Young Mendel flying the plane to New York with the help of the Captain!

Out & About

Many congratulations

are due to **Caroline Freedman** who has been made an Honorary Fellow of the University of Edinburgh in recognition of her work with their Veterinary School, The Dick Vet.

Her fellowship follows on to her being awarded the British Empire Medal in the Queen's Honours of 2014 also in recognition of her efforts and magnificent contribution to the school. Always interested in small animals and a great pet lover, she has put her love of her own dogs to help other animals and their owners. Since 2001, she has spearheaded a number of fundraising activities for the hospital, including raising £100,000 for the ultrasound scanner, a vital piece of medical apparatus particularly essential where the patient is unable to 'verbalise' their condition, and was also responsible for the concept and project management of the Dick Vet 2.5 acre garden behind the small animal hospital, a true haven in the city.

The Dick Vet is such an important feature and integral part of Edinburgh; we are especially proud to have one of our members be such a major part of its present day profile and indeed on-going future.



*Move over Baker Boys,
here come
The Fabulous Rosin Girls!*

Judith, Davida, Kate and Rachel photographed this summer

Boris Sores

Often heard in Salisbury Road was the wonderful sound of the tickling of the ivories!

We were blessed to have amongst us for three years, a Lithuanian student by the name of Boris Sores. His magical playing of the piano enthralled all who heard him and following his time at Napier University he is finishing his degree in Aberdeen. With family still in Lithuania, we know we only have him on loan, but I am sure the readers of the Star will want to join in wishing him every success in what looks like a most promising future.



A Literary Society Commemoration of 200 years of Jews in Edinburgh

To commemorate 200 years of Jews being resident in Edinburgh, Hannah Holtschneider organised a walk through some of the local Jewish landmarks of the city. The event was run a number of times with Hannah, Gillian Raab, Elaine Samuel and Michael Adler (pictured here) taking turns at the helm. On this occasion 30 curious participants meandered the trail listening to historical facts and anecdotes so enthralled, that the two hour trail was significantly extended.



Thirty Years of the Scottish Jewish Archives Centre

Harvey L Kaplan, Director

Two anniversaries are being celebrated this year. A number of events are marking the 200th anniversary of an organised Jewish community in Edinburgh – and indeed the beginning of a community infrastructure in Scotland. 2017 also marks the 30th anniversary of the Scottish Jewish Archives Centre, which was officially inaugurated in April 1987 with a lecture by the late Professor David Daiches, author of *Between Two Worlds*.

The Archives Centre has built up a strong reputation as a national resource and the only archive dedicated to an immigrant community in Scotland. A large collection has been amassed that helps illustrate the Jewish experience in Scotland over the past 200 years. This includes records of congregations, religious organisations, education, welfare, Zionism, politics, arts and culture, youth groups, immigration, refugees and other themes. The Centre (SJAC) also has photographs, paintings, sculptures and prints, textiles, ceremonial objects and back issues of community newspapers and magazines, as well as a library and an oral history collection. Personal and family histories are represented in the collections.



The Scottish Jewish Archives would be grateful if readers could identify those in the picture with Rabbi Daiches.



An outstanding and truly evocative picture that is the library of the Scottish Jewish Archives Centre who ask that their pictures are not to be reproduced without permission.

Data and collections held at the Centre have been utilised by *Two Hundred Years of Scottish Jewry – a Demographic and Genealogical Profile* project run by the International Institute of Jewish Genealogy in Jerusalem. Now nearing completion, this project seeks to produce new conclusions about the geographic origins of Scottish Jewry, its dispersal and settlement patterns throughout Scotland, and the changes in its demographic composition over almost two centuries. A new book – *The Jewish Experience in Scotland – from Immigration to Integration* by Dr Kenneth Collins, published by the Archives Centre is based on the research findings.

In 2015 the Archives Centre became partners in *Jewish Lives, Scottish Spaces* a joint research project led by the Universities of Edinburgh and Glasgow, funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council to look at aspects of Jewish migration to Scotland, 1880-1950.

The Archives Centre's current major project, in partnership with Garnethill Synagogue Preservation Trust (GSPT) is to establish a Scottish Jewish Heritage Centre (home to Garnethill Hebrew Congregation and the Archives Centre) incorporating a Scottish Holocaust-era Study Centre to open in late 2018/ early 2019. The Study Centre will be equipped with a digital catalogue and hands-on learning resources, reference materials and research library. A linked interpretative exhibit on the Holocaust-era is being designed for educational and public visitors. This will increase access to SJAC's fast-growing collections on the refugee period, when many came on the Kindertransport, as domestic servants, refugee doctors and as camp survivors.

The Centre will also highlight the architecture and history of Garnethill Synagogue and its congregation. More people will volunteer to help establish and promote three new volunteer-led public services: a weekday guiding service, a school visit service and a weekend events and activities programme.

A Walking Trail will extend the Jewish and Holocaust-era history into Garnethill District. A Heritage Centre Manager will be recruited to coordinate access and activities and help the Archives Centre and GSPT realise their shared ambitions.

Please help the Archives Centre by donating documents, photographs and memorabilia to ensure that your family's experiences are preserved for posterity and can contribute to research and education work. We welcome photographs of your immigrant ancestors, of their shops and of their community life. This year, please give us photos which show how the Edinburgh community is celebrating its 200th anniversary, so that people in the future can look back and appreciate what life was like in 2017!

To find out more about our activities, visit our website at www.sjac.org.uk

To arrange a visit to the Archives Centre, please email us on info@sjac.org.uk

To keep in touch with the Centre and to support our activities going forward, please become a Friend of the Archives Centre and receive our twice-yearly newsletter and emails about our events.

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Something to whet your appetite

Honey & Apples

Joyce Capek

Here are two favourite recipes that are always a hit with our family and friends and will hopefully be enjoyed as much by yours this Rosh Hashana.



Joyce Capek

Orange and Honey Chicken

Ingredients

6 chicken legs
4 tablespoons runny honey
1 pint fresh orange juice
4 tablespoons soy sauce
2 cloves of garlic, crushed
2 tablespoons grated fresh ginger
Salt and pepper
1 tablespoon cornflour
A little chopped parsley for decoration

- In a large bowl mix the orange juice, soy sauce, garlic and ginger.
- Add the chicken pieces and marinate for at least 2 hours (preferably overnight) in the fridge.
- Heat oven to 180 degrees / 170 fan
- Remove chicken from the marinade, draining off as much of the liquid as you can, and season with salt and pepper.
- Place chicken pieces in a roasting dish and drizzle the honey over them.
- Roast for 50 – 60 minutes, depending on size of legs. Halfway through cooking, cover with foil as the honey glaze will make the chicken skin very brown.
- Meanwhile mix the cornflour with a little orange juice or water to make a paste
- Put the marinade in a saucepan, add the cornflour and slowly bring to the boil, stirring until the sauce thickens. (If you think too much of the marinade has been lost during the marinating, top it up with more orange juice).

- Once the chicken pieces are roasted, drain off any fat, then pour the orange sauce over the chicken and return to the oven, uncovered, for a further fifteen minutes.
- Scatter some chopped parsley over the top and serve with rice or potatoes and green vegetables.



Tarte aux Pommes

Even our French friends think this version of apple tart is better than their traditional one!

This makes a 10inch tart. A loose-bottomed fluted tin is best.

Ingredients for the pastry:

10 oz plain flour
5 oz butter or
5 oz hard margarine
2 oz icing sugar
Water

Ingredients for topping:

4 or 5 Bramley apples
4 oz butter or margarine
8 oz caster sugar
2 eggs
2 oz plain flour

Grease the tart tin and set oven to 180°C (170°C fan)

- To make the sweet pastry base, rub in the flour with the butter or margarine, add the icing sugar, then gradually add water to form a soft dough which you will roll out to line the base and sides of the tin. If you use ready-to-roll pastry you may need more than one pack to fit the tart tin.
- Do not bake blind!

To make the topping:

- Peel, core and finely slice 4 or 5 cooking apples. Lay them in tightly overlapping circles on the pastry base.
- In a small saucepan melt 4oz butter or margarine.
- Add 8oz caster sugar and stir until absorbed.
- Add 2 eggs and 2oz flour. Stir quickly

then remove from heat. You don't want scrambled egg!

- Pour this mixture over the apples and bake at 180° (170 fan) for 35-40 minutes. The topping should be just set but not too brown.

When cool, carefully lift the tart out of the tin but leave it on the base as it is likely to fall apart. If you wish, you can freeze the tart on its base, which can be removed by turning the tart upside down once it is frozen.

Bon appétit and have a sweet year!



Best Wishes for a Happy New Year and well over the Fast

Frank and Jackie Abramson
25 Moss Close
Pinner, Middlesex

Susie, Jonathan,
Sam and Ruth Adler

Michael Adler and Sue Fyvel

Ena Amitai
8b Nitza Boulevard
Netanya, Israel

Joe and Margaret Aronson
15 Arden Street
Edinburgh

James and Sally Barker
(nee Cowen), Samuel and Sadie
London

Clarice Been
80 Willifield Way
London

Shirley and Peter Bennett

Barbara and Leslie Bennie

Marcia and Leonard Berger
and Yvonne

Avril and Norman Berger
3 Kirk Park
Edinburgh

Allen and Anna Bloom (nee Brown)
450 Hounslow Avenue
Toronto, Canada

Doreen and Laurence Bowman,
16 Dunsmore Way
Bushey

Micheline, David, Duncan,
Shrutee and Ananya Brannan
31/3 Rattray Grove, Edinburgh

Douglas and Rosalind Brodie
25 Park Crescent
Elstree, Herts

Norma Brodie and family
Flat 3, 4c Mayfield Gardens
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Angela and James Brydon

Christine and Dave Burns

Joyce and Jo Capek
and family

Helen Capitanchik
Flat A 46 Norway Gardens
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Benjamin, James and Zoe

Ian and Rachel Caplan,
Olivia and Daniel

Sandra and Sidney Caplan

Shari, Martin and Hannah
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Nick & Caroline Cosgrove,
Juliette, James and Charlotte

Evelyn and Jack Cowan
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Carole and Mickey Cowen
58 Fountainhall Road
Edinburgh

Joyce Cram

Lesley, John, Samuel, Benjamin
& Jonathan Danzig, East Wing,
Comiston House, 62 Camus Ave

Sylvia and John Donne

Betsy Dorfman

Dov (Bertie) and Elizabeth Dorfman
19/32 Shlomo Hamelech
Netanya, Israel

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Norman Dorfman

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David Ellison
1/10 East Parkside
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Eli, Tiina, Boaz, Hannah and Leo

David, Gillian, Richard
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24 Rechov Shachrai
Jerusalem, Israel

Ruth and David Fluss
49 Parkside Drive
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Martin, Tammy, Jude, Karen and
Jonathan Fransman
41 Morningside Park, Edinburgh

Caroline and Lennie Freedman

Adam and Marla Gamoran
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Einan and Merav Gardi
Omri, Lotem and Shlomit

Judy and Anthony Gilbert
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June Glass

Professor Joe Goldblatt
and Nancy Lynner

Lord Julian Goodman
Newington
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Kate and Ronnie Goodwin
2 Mayfield Gardens
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Edward and Gillian Gordon
55 Rodney Road
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Frances Gordon
14 Woodcock Dell Ave
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Gerald Gordon

Maryla and Edward Green
and Freddie

Rebekah Gronowski

Best Wishes for a Happy New Year and well over the Fast

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Isobel King
Melrose

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Saul, Joshua and Eliora Korn

Ian and Joan Leifer
and family

Kleile (nee Fluss) Lerner
21 Massada Street
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Anita Levinson and family
3 Ross Road,
Edinburgh

Carol, Tom, Maurice
and Benjamin

Emma and Bert Levy

Elaine, Eddy, Sarah and Clare Levy

Brian and Esther Levy (nee
Weisman) 195 Stanmore Hill,
Stanmore, Middlesex

David, Elaine, Daniel and Michael
Litman, Flat 2, Heron's Court
Shenley Hill, Radlett

T.R. Lowrie
11 Greenhill Place
Edinburgh

Sara Lurie and Matthew Shaps

Sharon and Mike Lurie
Kate and Debra
10 Torr Lane, Plymouth

Sheva and Ann Lurie
26 South Lauder Road
Edinburgh

Harriet Lyall
69 (1F1) Merchiston Crescent
harrietyall69@gmail.com

Irene and Philip Mason
and family

Rosa and Clara Massie
Flat 12 Homecairn House
2 Goldenacre Terrace, Edinburgh

David and Anita Mendelssohn
23 Braid Hills Road
Edinburgh

Harold and Esther Mendelssohn

Louis and Karol Mendelssohn

Roy, Meaghan, Archie and Owen
Mendelssohn
Melbourne, Australia

Gershon Mendick

Janet, Rowan,
Grant and Martin

Michele, David, Sarah-Beth and
Katie Neville

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38 Forty Ave. Wembley

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EDINBURGH INTERNATIONAL BOOK FESTIVAL



Sharing a moment in the sun in Charlotte Square following an hour with Howard Jacobson: Betsy Dorfman, Michelle and David Neville

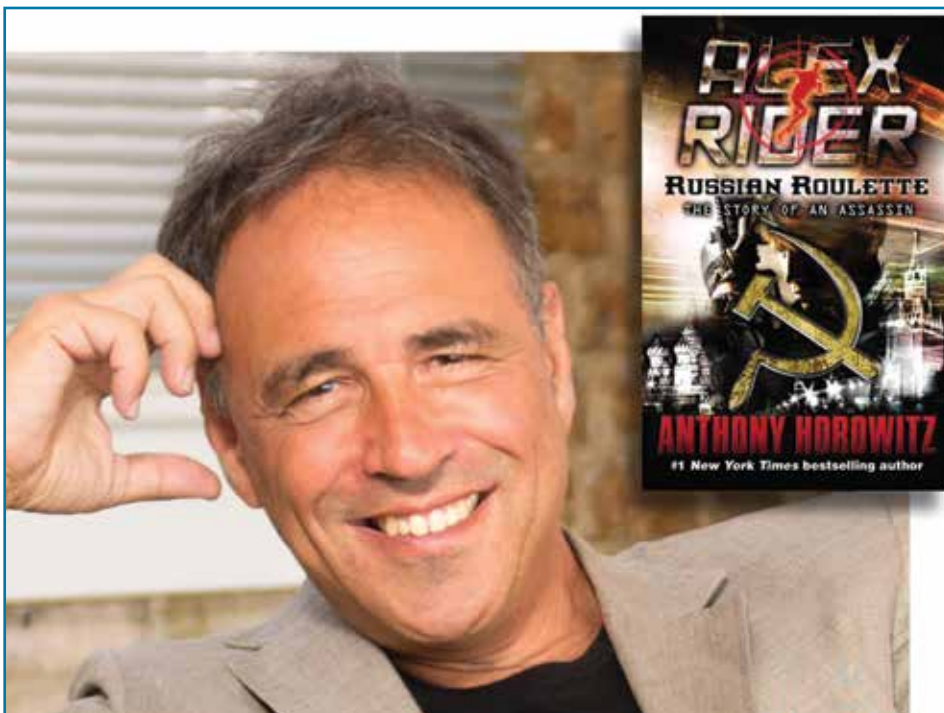
Janet Mundy

I have been to many Edinburgh Book Festival events over the years, but I have never experienced an author as hyperactive as **Anthony Horowitz**.

Perhaps I shouldn't have been surprised as his output is so prolific and varied – books for children (the Alex Rider series), adults (James Bond, Sherlock Holmes sequels and several murder mysteries), scriptwriting for TV (Midsomer Murders and Foyle's War) and, less successfully so far, theatre ("Dinner with Saddam" and others). He leads his life at such a pace that he insisted on dispensing with the usual microphone for audience questions as it caused too many delays, choosing instead to repeat the questions for those who couldn't hear.

He has many stories to tell, not only in writing, and succeeded in squeezing in many entertaining anecdotes during his allotted hour. His rant against theatre critics (he suggested that, unlike TV critics, they judge on the basis of the first night, from which he suggests they should be banned) led to a jokey suggestion that one should be his next (fictional?) murder victim. He admitted that Arthur Conan Doyle, Agatha Christie and Ian Fleming were inspirations for his work, and that many of James Bond's tropes appear in the Alex Rider stories, although the names of his female sidekicks are rather more politically correct – say Sabina Pleasure out loud to get the joke!).

Dialogue and plot are of critical importance to Horowitz, who admits that it's important for him to get on with the story. I suspect that plot is far less crucial to **Paul Auster** who was interviewed at a special Book Festival event to celebrate his 70th birthday, happily coinciding with the anniversary of the first Edinburgh



Anthony Horowitz

International Festival the same year. Auster is a man who chooses his words very carefully, and gives the impression of having all the time in the world to perfect his work. His latest book, 4321, tells the lives of four overlapping characters, all called Archie Ferguson (the surname a corruption of the Yiddish "fargesn") and all with aspirations to be writers, but whose

lives and fates otherwise diverge. Auster claims that none of these characters is autobiographical, but he chose to read a passage from a chapter about Archie Ferguson 4, describing his love of words and his literary influences, which surely reflect the author's own fascination with literature and language.



Paul Auster

An Evening with

Katherine Jenkins

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Shalom Festival

LINKS JEWS, CHRISTIANS AND MUSLIM
ARABS AT EDINBURGH FRINGE

Micheline Brannan

Nigel Goodrich has gone from knowing almost no Jewish people in Scotland, to becoming a household name in a mere three years. Nigel is a man on a mission – to celebrate and put a positive light on Israel. He started by creating the Confederation of Friends of Israel, Scotland (COFIS) in 2015. The Star reported on the launch of Edinburgh Friends of Israel in March 2015 – one of the first of 12 affiliates to take off.

But nothing prepared us for the triumph that was the first International Shalom Festival of 17 August 2016 when over 1000 people set foot in Central Hall at Tollcross for an exhibition and massive concert. Nigel pushed ahead with that vision in the teeth of massive opposition, not least from 120 demonstrators outside who chanted ‘Your tickets are covered in Palestinian blood’ at the tops of their voices. It would not have been surprising if Nigel had rested on his laurels after pulling that off but less than a month later he determined on expanding the Festival to 3 days in 2017. Only problems were no venue and no funds.

Concert halls that seemed suitable turned him down because of security fears. Nothing daunted, Nigel undertook several visits to Israel to identify suitable acts to bring over and to campaign for support. He was led to believe big money was coming from the Israeli Government; this turned into small money and then no money, and by May there was still no venue and nothing in the bank.

Then at the 11th hour, the Lord Provost, Donald Wilson, responded to a direct approach from Edward Green DL, by providing Drummond Community High School as a venue, enabling the Festival to be included in the Fringe programme.

The next challenge was to find funding. After one private donor put in £5K via StandWithUS UK, others began to pledge – but no-one as unstintingly generous as our own Harriet Lyall, who provided nearly half the cost of the whole event. The stage was set to confirm the invitations to performers, speakers and exhibitors from Israel.

The total number to join the event was 40 Israelis. Among the significant visitors were the Incubator Theatre of Jerusalem with their hip hop opera “The City”, a take on American film noir that was cancelled in 2014 because of protesters against the Gaza war disrupting not only the Israeli show but also a dozen other performances at the Underbelly. It was with some trepidation that nine cast and crew members arrived at Edinburgh Airport at 1.00am on Sunday 6 August, to be met by Nigel and Harriet. Soon all the Israelis had arrived and been escorted to their accommodation, not always everything we would have wanted for them given the price and overcrowding of Festival billets – but everyone kept smiling.

Meanwhile at Drummond, the unpretentious school hall was transformed into a ‘souk’. Stalls were laid out along an avenue of olive trees leading to a ‘Bedouin tent’ draped with kilims and carpets. This became the temporary ‘home’ of the white-clad Balha family, Mum Ora, who is Jewish, Dad Ihab, a Muslim Arab, and their three children. They run the Orchard of Abraham’s

Children, a multifaith kindergarten in Jaffa. This was the essence of the Festival, a celebration of peaceful co-existence and building a shared future in Israel and its surrounding territories.

To that end the Festival also hosted the Ahmadiyya Muslim Imam, Muad Odeh, from Haifa, along with Glasgow Ahmadiyyas, making the point that life is safer for Ahmadiyyas in Israel than it was for the unfortunate Assad Shah, murdered Shawlands shopkeeper. The stallholders also included ‘Rockets into Roses’ a project run by Yaron and Sarah Bob, turning debris from rockets fired from the Gaza strip into jewelry and ornaments. Speakers included Sana Shibli, a Bedouin lady from Galilee, who talked about how life is for Arab women in Israel, where they are emancipated and can take a full part in politics and civic society. Cookery demonstrations took place in the nearby demonstration kitchen, featuring shakshuka, burekas and other Middle Eastern delights. EHC member Merav Gardi was one of the ‘celebrity chefs’.

A daily programme of films included the controversial “Disturbing the Peace” which outlines the history of Combatants for Peace, formed by Israeli ex-elite troops and Palestinian militants, who have laid down their weapons to join hands across the divide. All the way from south Hebron came Riyadh Al Halees, who has not been able to enter Israel for 12 years. Supporting him was IDF veteran Maia Hascal, featured in the film. They share a joint commitment to non-violence and a better future.

During the three days Incubator performed their stellar show in the drama studio a total of seven times, without any disruption. Among the VIP visitors were the current Lord Provost, Frank Ross, and his predecessor Donald Wilson. Everyone was proud and grateful to Police Scotland for ensuring the safety of the venue and keeping the few protesters at a distance.

The Festival concluded with a Gala Concert and the presentation of a magnificent Chanukiah to founder and CEO Nigel Goodrich by Irene Naftalin of StandWithUS UK. The Chanukiah was designed and made by David Gerstein, one of Israel’s leading contemporary artists. VIPs at the concert included MSPs Jackson Carlaw and John Mason. A bus from Glasgow swelled the audience. Meski Shibru, an Ethiopian Israeli, started off the entertainment by singing in Amharic and even in Yiddish; she was followed by rock band Jamaya and singer Shiran, who soon had many up dancing.

The evening ended with Hatikvah and shofar blowing by Frank Angell. Planning for next year’s event is already starting so watch this space.

Further details of the Shalom Festival are to be found within Julian Goodman’s Festival Review on the next page.



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Have I Got Jews For You

THE EDINBURGH FESTIVAL FRINGE 2017



Julian Goodman

As the bunting and posters went up, and Edinburgh's festival machinery started running in earnest, there was a definite feeling of optimism and anticipation in the air. Shortly after the launches, it was pointed out to me that some readers were wondering if this article could advise on where they could see the shows covered, to make the review more relevant perhaps. I thought that it might be helpful if I explained how the Fringe works for a lot of performers.

Nearly 20 years ago, we started this article as a retrospective review of the best shows of Jewish and general interest that the Fringe had to offer. This was to compensate for the fact that most people wouldn't get to see a fraction of what was on display. However, a review should indeed make people want to see what they may have missed. A lot of performers preview their shows in London before coming to Edinburgh, but the Fringe, being the largest arts festival in the world, is a showcase for talent, where performers look for opportunities to take their shows on tour elsewhere. After Edinburgh, many go on to do the rest of the fringe circuits round the UK and the world. Others get offers to tour their shows in other theatre circuits. Some of the shows covered here will be available to see elsewhere throughout the next year, but at the time of coverage, despite enquiries, dates and places were not yet known to the performers themselves. I would recommend looking at the Jewish Festivals on offer in London and on tour round the country, as I expect a lot of shows will deserve greater exposure. In the meantime, sit back, relax, and see if anything tickles your fancy. If you are disappointed to have missed something in particular, maybe next year you'll be tempted to join in the grand mêlée that is all part of the Edinburgh experience.



Knock Knock

The first show I went to see was **Knock Knock** at *C Primo*. Written and performed by **Niv Petel** as a one man show, this remarkable piece of drama told the story of an IDF Liaison Officer Ilana, dealing with the bereaved families of fallen soldiers not only conveying the sad news, but at funerals and special occasions such as Yom Hazikaron (Remembrance Day), all the while bringing up her baby son Elad, as a single mother having lost her husband herself. As her son reaches the age of 18, she faces the dilemma of his wanting to join a combat unit for his national service, and being an only child, to join a combat unit, the parents must sign a letter of permission. This was such a moving drama, with the audience discovering the other characters portrayed all through the mother's conversations with them on the telephone, or in person, solely from her half of the conversations. There was a clever use of physical theatre, humour and minimalist sets to tell this moving story from an Israeli perspective, of day to day life for many families, dreading the "Knock Knock" on the door. This was based on a true story of Israel's senior most Bereavement Liaison Officer, who acquiescing to her son's wishes, sadly lost him in the Gaza conflict in 2014. Niv Petel's portrayal of the mother, and by reaction the other characters, was mesmerising, and only three performances in, received a standing ovation from an audience who had mostly just turned up on a whim. At the end of the Fringe, I was pleased to hear that Knock Knock had deservedly won the ThreeWeeks Editor's Award. This was beautifully written, and beautifully performed by a very talented young man.

Over the next few days I was delighted to attend the **Shalom Festival** at *Drummond Community High School*. In previous years, this festival promoting peace and dialogue while showcasing Israeli shows had been disrupted by the pro-Palestinian BDS and the Scottish Palestine Solidarity Campaign (SPSC). However this year, the event was so much better organised and policed, that it was a real pleasure to attend.



The protesters were kept outside the venue's grounds, allowing the participants and public to enjoy the festival without disruption. The protesters were free to make their point while protecting the rights of people who disagreed with them to attend and enjoy the festival without harassment. Having lost the ability to intimidate attendees, the BDS protesters seemed quite minimalistic, chalking messages of hate on the pavement. It was quite heart-warming to see ordinary members of the public pouring water on these messages, erasing them with their feet and altering them to positive messages to show their opposition to this blinkered attitude. I personally thanked the police I encountered for maintaining a comfortable and safe space, and they seemed equally grateful for the appreciation that people were showing them.



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L to R: Gillian Merron, Chief Executive of the Board of Deputies, The Lord Provost, and Nigel Goodrich

There was an official launch of the Festival, attended by politicians, dignitaries, multi-faith groups and well-wishers along with participants.

The main area had stalls from various aspects of Israeli life, Magen David Adom - the main ambulance charity, Stand With Us - Israel Advocacy Group, a Muslim cultural stand displaying the Qu'ran and prophets' connexion with Israel, a stall showing beautiful jewellery made from the rocket shells fired into Israel, and a business specialising in beauty products. Elsewhere in various auditoria there were film shows, exhibitions, discussions and theatrical performances. The festival was spread over three days, allowing for much greater opportunities to sample the variety of cultural exchanges. I arrived early on the first day, where they had so many volunteers finding their feet, not knowing where all the sub venues were, that I told one of the organisers that it was so shambolic, that they had perfectly captured the feeling of being in Israel, and with a grin I wished him a hearty mazeltov and went in search of my first show! By the time I came back, everything was running disappointingly smoothly.



Vicci Stein, Nigel Goodrich, Danielle Bett & Micheline Brannan

One of the shows I went to see was **The City** – A Hip Hop Rap Opera by **Incubator Theatre** from Jerusalem. This was performed entirely as one song from start to finish, but also as a pastiche of the film noire, hard-boiled gumshoe genre, like Sam Spade, telling the story of a private eye solving a murder case in a decaying city. It was full of humour, excellent music from the band, and more clichés than you could shake a stick at. This was the show that was famously shut down in the Fringe by the BDS protesters a few years back, and it was great to see it being performed without any hindrance. The performances were excellent, fully engaging the audience in a fun romp through the trials and tribulations of a jaded detective's search for the truth. It was all the more impressive for having been translated from its original Hebrew into an English performance that gave the impression of being its original language.

On the final day there was special **Gala Concert** in the main auditorium to celebrate the **Shalom Festival**, and to showcase some of the performers. The concert was compered by Hadar Galron, actress and comedienne, who provided much mirth in celebrating the lack of impact the BDS campaign had managed to have on proceedings, with most of her Google searches for BDS coming up with the British Dental Society and British Driving School providing humorous anecdotes to entertain one and all. There were guest speeches from **Ishmael Khaldi** – the first Bedouin diplomat in the Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and **Dan Golan** - Minister for Cultural Affairs at the Israeli Embassy. Both paid very warm tributes to **Nigel Goodrich** - founder of the Confederation of Friends of Israel Scotland, and main organiser of the Shalom Festival. It is thanks to his tireless work, that Friends of Israel groups are springing up all over Scotland, and he is rightly lauded as a great friend of Israel and Jewish communities here in Scotland. The concert proceeded with **The City** cast performing a duet from the opera in both English and then the original Hebrew. **Meski Shibru** gave a heart-warming account of her Aliyah from Ethiopia, and a selection of Ethiopian and Israeli songs. The concert closed with a rousing performance by **Jamaya** – a band from Petach Tikva blending influences from East and West, celebrating the complexities of life in Israel, good and bad. I'd say the **Shalom Festival 2017**

was a resounding success and definitely ended on a high!

My next show was **Reuben Kaye** over at *Assembly Checkpoint*. This was a whirlwind, roller coaster of a show. One of the campest, smuttiest, most outrageous performances I've seen in a while. This Australian tour de force was like Cabaret's Emcee for the 21st Century, and then some! It is always fascinating to me that Jewish performers can always be found in the best burlesque and cabaret shows. Being Jewish in Melbourne played a large part of the narrative of his show, but Reuben was wickedly funny about all aspects of his colourful life and experiences. His interactions with the audience were absolutely accomplished, his attention to detail showed a professionalism rare to see in most Fringe performances, and the sheer talent of his singing voice was joy to listen to along with his talented backing band. He performed his show with so much energy, that having walked in at the end of a long day feeling *oysgematted*, I left feeling bright eyed and bushy-tailed like it was 7 o'clock in the morning. An excellently conceived finale and encore earned an enthusiastic standing ovation from an audience still clamouring for more.

Over at *theSpace @ Jury's Inn* I saw **Danny Lobell** in **Broke as a Joke**. A mixture of stand-up comedy and storytelling, Danny Lobell, a rare breed Scottish-American Jew, took us on his life's journey through expulsions from yeshivahs and schools, to meeting Jackie Mason and hawking his merchandise. There were some genuinely *meshugggeh* adventures with the unlikeliest of characters and extraordinarily bizarre circumstances. His impersonation of Jackie Mason was quite impressive, but his anecdotal performance would benefit so much from him being more relaxed and settling on a particular style of storytelling. I liked his stories, I laughed along in all the right places, I just wanted to like his style more. However, I did just that when he performed in a hall full of Jews at the Festival Open Day. Maybe he was a bit more relaxed.

Talking of which, my next viewing was the **Festival Open Day** at the *Community Centre*. This was the 12th Open Day, with 11 shows on display. First up was **Hear Me Raw** showing at the *Underbelly's Wee Co.* Ella Isaacs performed her show

about a blogger taking us on one woman's journey through healthy living and a cleaner diet, an autobiographical account about how she got into "wellness". The second offering was **I Am Bat-El**. Next was Canadian songstress **Melanie Gall**. Returning with her show about **Piaf and Brel**, she also had a show about **Vera Lynn**, both at the *Space @ Surgeon's Hall*, which after encouraging us all to join in her sing-along I was determined to catch the week after. It was indeed a great tribute to Vera Lynn who celebrated her 100th birthday earlier this year. Song sheets were given out, and we all joined in songs made famous by the Forces' Sweetheart, while Melanie recounted her life story, which was quite remarkable. Apparently, our audience had been the most vocal one. I can't possibly imagine why!

To close the first half **Danny Lobell** gave an excerpt of his show, which as I mentioned seemed so much more self-assured and confident.

At this point there was an interval for refreshments of filled bagels, sandwiches, cakes and hot beverages which the audience devoured with great gusto, while raising the decibel level to normal Jewish standards of deafening, just to catch up on the news.

The second half opened with **Alon Nashman's** show **Kafka and Son**. This was showing at the *Pleasance Courtyard*. Based on Kafka's letter to his father, this piece of theatre was receiving 5 star reviews, but as Alon pointed out, according to the rabbis, this really meant 10 stars!

Another Canadian offering was **Old Stock: A Refugee Love Story**. This was showing at *Summerhall's Canada Hub @ King's Hall*. I was lucky enough to catch this a few nights later, so I shall tell you about the whole show a bit later. At the *Underbelly in Cowgate*, **Floating Tower Theatre** from New York presented **Ami and Tami**, a musical interpretation of Israel's version of Hansel & Gretel. This example of cross cultural musical theatre for children had a delightful excerpt from their show, with Yaga the Witch's waltz, and the children's ensemble performing their cabaret finale, with Lucas who plays Ami leading them in a song about

the singing lice in his hair. It was quite charming.

We then had a sample of **2 Religions 1 Comedy Show** which was showing at *Laughing Horse @ The Pear Tree*. The show was an amalgamation of **Henry Churniavsky's** show **Aaaah The Growing Pains of a Neurotic (Scouse) Jew**, and **Joe Baines' show The Confused Sikh Who Loves Curried Mustard**. It was only here for three days, so we were lucky to catch them at the Open Day.



Rachel Creeger

Niv Petel discussed his play **Knock Knock**, and performed the acapella nursery rhyme *Boi Ima*, which Ilana used to sing to Elad. **Rachel Creeger**, director of *"Mancunian Rhapsody"*, was debuting in her own solo stand-up show **It's No Job For A Nice Jewish Girl** at *Black Market* and the *Waverley Bar*. The spiel read 'With a face that shouts 'Xmas' but a soul that screams 'Hanukkah'', *Rachel Creeger has always felt like she has a foot in two worlds*'. I really enjoyed this show, as I recognised so much of what she was saying about being an orthodox Jew in a highly unorthodox environment, and the struggle to fit in in both worlds. It was very witty, charming and totally engaging, and that had much to do with the interesting life she's lived, but more to do with her refreshing attitude and embracing determination. I look forward to her next offering.

No Open Day would be complete without **Daniel Cainer** serenading the assembled masses, and we were not disappointed. Appearing at the *Underbelly in George Square in the Wee Coo* with **More Gefilte Fish and Chips**, Daniel brought another collection of witty songs to explore the

Jewish condition, and rounded off an excellent Open Day organised as ever by **David Neville**, and catered for by **Michele and her army of helpers**, ensuring that a good time was had by all.

Old Stock: A Refugee Love Story at the *Canada Hub* was a humorously dark folk tale performed by the 2b Theatre Company as a klezmer musical. It tells the story of Romanian refugees arriving in Canada in 1908 at Pier № 2 in Halifax, Nova Scotia, and how Chayim Moscovitch, having lost all his family in the pogroms, falls in love with a fellow refugee Chaya and attempts to woo her. The story is narrated by The Wanderer, played by klezmer musician and singer **Ben Caplan**, and Chayim and Chaya played by members of the klezmer band, **Chris Weatherstone** and **Mary Fay Coady**. The play had warmth and humour but didn't shy away from exploring Jewish teachings on life, death, sex and relationships. The set resembled a transit area full of steamer trunks, chatchkes, and a samovar, and set the tone perfectly. There was a great vibrancy to the musical performances and tenderness in the acting, and despite the hardships in the relationship, it showed how to love after being broken by the horrors of persecution. The play was written by **Hannah Moscovitch** and is based on the history of her paternal family, Chaya and Chayim being her great grandparents. It was beautifully written and brilliantly performed.

Over at the *Gilded Balloon* I went to see another Jewish Melburnian, **Josh Glanc: Manfül**. This was a very funny character based comedy. Dickie Rosenthal was launching Manfül, a body building product aimed at anyone sick of looking in a mirror and seeing a scrawny Jew staring back. His launch teetered from one disaster to another. Brilliant interactions with the audience resulted in one guy being coerced into thumping him several times causing his mouth to bleed, undermining his manliness. The women in the audience were hooting with laughter as he demonstrated how body building pictures were much more attractive than the modern fashion of schmeckle pictures, while inadvertently mixing up the said schmeckle pictures into the display of him as a child at his barmitzvah. He then got the audience member to join him in some wrestling moves which go wrong and

cause another bleed and loss of tooth. He stripped off to reveal his muscly body, but by the end of the launch it is revealed as a foam body suit, but even as a *nebbish* he keeps the audience on his side, but the exploding chicken schnitzel wrap and microphone may have helped. The level of ineptitude shown in this performance takes the skill of a great clown to pull off with such hilarity, what a joyous performance.

The best of the rest of the Fringe included **Jon Pointing: Act Natural** at the *Pleasance Courtyard*. Keen eyed television watchers may recognise Jon Pointing from “*Virgin Games Live A Little*” adverts as *Vlad the Vampire* and the “*Weetabix On The Go - A Proper Breakfast. Bottled.*” advert, but there is a lot more to this talented young performer. He wrote and performed this show with great wit and charm, interacting with the audience as if at an acting workshop, imparting his talent and skills while telling anecdotes of his inspirations. It was very cleverly written, funny, and brilliantly performed.

My final show was totally indulgent, but it was a perfect opportunity to hear the very last performance of **Reuben Weintrop**. OK, **Bud Flanagan** to you! Flanagan recorded the theme song to Dad’s Army, “Who Do You Think You Are Kidding Mr. Hitler” just a couple of weeks before he died, but it’s a real pleasure to listen to any time. At the *Pleasance Dome*, **David Benson** and **Jack Lane** performed **Dad’s Army Radio Hour**, presenting a double bill

of classic episodes of the radio version of the classic sitcom. The day I went it was “My British Buddy” when Capt. Mainwaring manages to receive two black eyes from an American colonel he is trying to welcome to Walmington-on-Sea. “The Day The Balloon Went Up” sees the verger caught in the netting of a runaway barrage balloon. When the Home Guard take over, Capt. Mainwaring and Cpl. Jones find themselves airborne atop the log that the balloon is secured to. David Benson and Jack Lane between them perfectly provided the voices for every character that appears, men and women alike, but every little mannerism was beautifully captured too. This show was performed and warmly received with much love for Britain’s best loved comedy show, and I’m delighted to hear that it will be going on tour next year. I only wish I could have gone back on another day to see “The Deadly Attachment” – “Don’t tell him Pike!” episode.

Well, that’s another year gone by. There was so much on offer that I couldn’t see as much as I would have liked, or write about absolutely everything I did see. However, this is the best of what I did see in my humble opinion. This year, yet again one of my absolute favourites was the first show I saw; setting the bar very high, but it’s a joint award again for two very different shows. My Five Magen Dovid’s go to **Niv Petel’s Knock Knock**, and to **Reuben Kaye** for both providing the highest quality shows I’ve seen this year!



Reuben Kaye

FILM REVIEW



Battle of the Sexes Edward Green

Nearly sixty years ago, I remember very clearly going with the family to see a film on a very wet and windy day. It was the “Battle of the Sexes” and my mother now reminds me that I was very disappointed that there were no soldiers nor fighting!

A few months ago, Maryla and I saw the film at a showing here in Edinburgh. The film is set in Edinburgh and I was bowled over as, although it is not in colour, it has the most wonderful and charming vistas of the city, most of which remains the same as it is today.



The film tells the story of an heir to a Scottish tweed mill, starring Robert Morley, who returns to Edinburgh on the death of his father. He is accompanied by an American efficiency expert played by Constance Cummings. His accountant, brilliantly depicted by Peter Sellers, has other ideas!

We all know that Peter Sellers was Jewish. However, looking at the quintessentially English actor, Robert Morley, who was hamming it up here as a kilted Scot, I wondered whether in fact he was also Jewish. On returning home and with the power of the internet, I was able to ascertain that indeed he was!

The Battle of the Sexes will be shown in the Community Hall on their next film night on Sunday the 26th November.

Obituaries

Morris Kaplan

Hesped given at the funeral of Morris Kaplan by his daughter-in-law Sheryl.

I would like to start by thanking everyone for coming. Morris would have loved the fact that this was a three o'clock 'kick-off'.

Morris Kaplan, Moshe ben Daniel, sadly and unexpectedly passed away yesterday morning. He was a real character, a phrase often overused, but I sincerely believe in this case it is truly fitting.

Morris was born in Glasgow in 1941 to David's grandparents Danny and Esther, he was named after his paternal grandfather, who was a diamond merchant in London. From all accounts he had a very happy childhood and he spent many happy summers in London with his much loved Aunt Lily and Uncle Sonny.

Morris's brother Charles came along in 1950 and they shared a room, where heading footballs became a regular game. Morris was a bright young man and enjoyed his teenage years. Unfortunately his formal education was cut short due to the family's financial struggles. He left school at 16 and trained as a tailor. He worked for the late Pearl Slater of Behar fame, and was always grateful for this opportunity.

In 1967 he married Myrna and moved to Edinburgh, where David was born in 1971. At this time Morris had a shop in the Stockbridge area and after that in Dalry Road, a shop David remembers well. Morris was ahead of his time there as David thinks his was the first shop in Edinburgh to sell football merchandise for fans; and in fact Heart of Midlothian Football Club used his shop "Kays" as their supplier for such items as rosettes and scarves.

Sadly the shop did not survive and he went to work for Arnotts in the Bridges. Life was not easy at the time but it didn't stop them as a family going on annual cruises which they all loved. In fact Morris never really stopped going on cruises. He always came back from them with stories and more stories. According to David he was, of course, the embarrassing father on ship as he always tried to get to play drums with the resident ship band. In truth he was quite a handy drummer and musician, a skill he picked up, he told David, from watching and playing with his older cousins the comedians Mike and Bernie Winters.



Morris's professional career took a major step up when he became the area manager for Imperial tobacco. From there he went out on his own to start a new project, shops in hotels. This was a new venture for hotels and Morris talked Gleneagles and the Caledonian hotels into letting him have a shot at making it work. This all happened at the time of David's Bar Mitzvah and in truth this was a challenging time for them, financially.

However it worked and Morris and his shops flourished across major hotels in Scotland. It was a breakthrough. There are those here today who helped make that happen and I know he would want us to thank you.

He only stopped working quite recently. Morris loved his Edinburgh family and friends although did not always have the make up to show it at times. His warmth, humour and presence were well known and loved. The Edinburgh

Card School became legendary in the community, sadly only Malcolm Cowan and Norman Berger survive now, with Morris's passing some 21 years after his dear cousin Philip Goldberg. Morris led and enjoyed a very full Jewish life. He attended Cheder at Queens Park and went to shul every week at Langside, where he learnt all there was to know about shul. His Uncle Chaim Rifkind was a Gabbai there and his older cousins, Nat and Basil Rifkind, no doubt ensured he behaved himself.

Morris loved shul and being around shul life. He was a weekly regular until his last. He never held high office, mainly because his diplomacy and skills of compromise were not, shall we say, of the highest order! But often what Morris said and believed in, in regard to shul and the community was correct and some years down the line he was often proven correct. In his later years he held the post of Gabbai of the Edinburgh shul, which he thoroughly enjoyed.

Seder nights were particularly special to Morris. His most cherished were the ones held annually at Hilary and Arnold Rifkind's home with the Edinburgh uncles, aunts and cousins.

Morris even managed to get himself to Israel on very few occasions. On the last occasion in 2008, the only time, Morris, Myrna, David and I were in Israel together, David took Morris to the Western Wall on Friday night. He was mesmerised. There was a lovely moment when he asked David what time the service started as he couldn't understand how there were so many services going on at one time. When David told him that they just needed to find a Minyan and join in, Morris chose the Minyan, whose Chazan had the biggest hat!

Morris enjoyed his masonic life when he was active in it, which understandably we don't know much about, but we do know he became Master of Lodge Solomon and we think he had some rank in the Grand Lodge of Scotland but David stands to be corrected on that.

Morris was a fine sportsman in his day, with football and cricket as his main loves. For many years he played for Glasgow Maccabi and for his great love Third Lanark FC. He often talked of growing up on the same street, Albert Avenue, as his footballing hero the late Jimmy Mason, who played for the Thirds and for Scotland. He was thrilled when he met up with his family at a Third Lanark reunion a few years ago, which he attended with his brother Charles.

Sadly Morris's football career ended when he suffered a serious leg break, and I'm afraid his attention to fitness somewhat diminished from there. He did however spend hours playing football in the back garden with David, but since he never let David get the ball, David pursued Rugby.

Later in life, Morris took the unusual step of putting himself forward to become a Director of a senior Football Club. He became a Director of Albion Rovers, Cowdenbeath and latterly Livingston. At various times most of these clubs either finished bottom of their leagues or went into financial administration. David always hoped he would be asked to join the Boards of Celtic or Hibs! At least he saw Livingston get promoted this year and saw Hearts win the Scottish FA Cup three times, twice with David at his side. David recalls that he never saw Morris happier than at the 5-1 cup final win against Hibs.

Morris loved being involved in Scottish football and his face and personality were known in this sphere all across Scotland. His insight into the game, like it was in business, was first class and for many years he was the only Jewish director of senior football club, although he was certainly no Roman Abramovich! Some of his football friends and colleagues are here today and we thank them for making their clubs his home for so many years.

Morris represented Livingston at various occasions including the funeral of Dave Mackay, the legendary Hearts and Spurs player. He was so proud to be there and he said he even shed a wee tear when they played the Hearts song. In fact only a few weeks ago he was telling David all about the time

he saw the late Alex Young score at Hampden against the Thirds in a cup final. It was as if he was still there on the Hampden terracing.

He shared David's interest in family history, and he helped coordinate the Rifkind family reunion in 1999 and he was so happy when David found his long lost first cousin Judy.

Morris and Myrna were always a little 'secret service' not only with their friends but also with David so we are sure there is plenty they did that we have no idea about.

Morris was often portrayed as quite a hard person but he did have a heart. Not many people were aware of his role with the Edinburgh Board of Guardians and he was also part of a Fund that enabled Edinburgh youth to attend Jewish camps and have Jewish experiences that otherwise they could not afford.

Whilst he regretted not being able to pursue his own education, Morris ensured David had every opportunity. He had extreme pride in David's achievements within the Jewish Community and did not stop smiling on the day of David's wedding to me, but that was probably because my dad was paying the bill!

David's mother Myrna, passed away some 6 years ago now after a long battle with cancer. David and I would like to thank Morris's partner Melissa for her care and companionship in these recent years.

Morris adored his grandsons Cameron and Alasdair. He shared our immense joy at their Bris Milahs. He would skype them every Friday before Shabbos and only a few weeks ago it gave us all great pleasure to see Morris in the garden playing football with both boys. In fact, Cameron even mentioned this to us when David shared the sad news with him yesterday. This was the last time we saw Morris. We shared two wonderful sederim with him in our home. He was, as always, in good form and he took real nachus in hearing his eldest grandson sing his Pesach songs.



What has become even more apparent since the sad news broke, is the esteem and warmth in which many friends and colleagues of David's held Morris. Many of David's friends who are here today, knew Morris well and they shared many happy times with his dad over the years. He was always extremely hospitable and Barnton was always the first stop on our annual trips to Blair House.

In conclusion, whilst everyone knew Morris through different walks of life, and can all agree that at times he was a challenge, he was also a great raconteur, a skilled businessman and a proud and devoted Jew.

To parts of Myrna's family, Morris and Myrna were known as the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh.

Sadly this Duke has finally retired.

I shall always be grateful to Morris for the warm and enveloping welcome he gave me when I came to Edinburgh 21 years ago. I was soon to learn what a larger than life character he was with a multitude of interests and friends. He spanned so many groups within the city and was known throughout Edinburgh as much out of the community as within. I regularly met people who asked me "Do you know Morris Kaplan?"

What struck me most about Morris, and what I shall always remember and indeed treasure, was his genuine compassion and concern for other people. He was generous to a fault, giving wherever he could financially, and even more importantly of himself. His mind was always active in thinking out new initiatives for the benefit of those around him. He is and will remain a sad loss to the Edinburgh Hebrew Community.

Edward Green

Clarice Osborne

My Aunt Clarice was born in Glasgow on September the 15th 1929 to Benjamin and Mary Oppenheim. As with both of her older siblings, Freda and Nathan, Clarice was born at home at 23 Camphill Avenue, Glasgow. I remember my mother telling me that there was no advance notice of Clarice's birth. She and Natie simply arrived home from Battlefield Primary school that day to be told that they had a new sister and her name was Clarice.

Very soon after, the Oppenheim family of five decamped to 16 Dalrymple Crescent, Edinburgh where Clarice was to grow up and attend school at James Gillespies. I do not know a huge amount about Clarice's youth in Edinburgh. I do know she, like Freda and Natie, were intimately involved in the youth of the Edinburgh Jewish Community and that, for a period, was a habonim leader.

At the cessation of the wartime hostilities, Clarice was 16 years old and, at 17 when she left school, became apprenticed to Drummond the chemists and druggists in the Grassmarket, and began her training as a pharmacist. Even at that age, she was interested in music and the performing arts and, with Freda, attended as much leisure time theatre as she could. The foundation of the Edinburgh Festival in 1947, presented wonderful opportunities for Clarice to expand what was to become a life long interest in art and culture. At around that time, Clarice and Freda made a holiday excursion to Paris and I know they had a wonderful time even when Freda forgot the train tickets for their departure!

Following the completion of two years' practical apprenticeship at Drummonds, Clarice went on to study for a further two years at Heriot Watt College which she attended with her life long friend and fellow trainee Pharmacist, Joyce Cram.

At around the time of her penultimate year of pharmacy training, her brother Natie's best friend, Berl Osborne, had returned from his time in the army and found that Natie's little sister had grown up into a mature young woman. They became engaged to be married and on the 10th day of October 1950 the marriage took place at the Edinburgh Synagogue. This was some three months after my own parents had been married at the same venue and I suspect that my Grandfather Benny was probably in need of some remedial care by that time having married off both his daughters within three months of each other.

Clarice was 21, a qualified Pharmacist and the young bride now moved south to London where Berl had obtained a position as a general practitioner. Berl's address at that time was listed as 12 Hebden Road, London but the only address I knew was 96 Atkins Road where Berl also had a home surgery which I guess was in addition to the main practice rooms.

Clarice was absolutely devoted to Berl and, following her own mother's character, attended to his every need in addition to being his part time medical secretary intercepting all the phone calls and managing his daily rounds and surgeries.



Yetta and I were packed off to London "unaccompanied" on a British Airways flight from Edinburgh Turnhouse. This was a very exciting time and Clarice, who met us at Heathrow, now had the job of entertaining both of us simultaneously for a week in London. I remember particularly our amazement at the London Underground and the dreadfully steep wooden escalators as we plied our way, every day around the London sights from Clarice's local station which was Clapham Common. We were taken to Brixton shul on shabbas and, having been used to the rather formal greetings at the Edinburgh shul, I remember being appalled at, what I perceived to be the rather over friendly greetings at Brixton. I was told that this was simply London schmooze. I did know, however, about the notorious Brixton Prison which Clarice used as an occasional bargaining weapon to ensure harmonious behaviour between my sister and I.

Clarice and Berl had, at that time, the first of two Welsh Corgis. This one was called Taffy and was quite fearsome when out for walks, attacking all other canines on sight.

Later, Clarice and Berl moved to Dulwich Village. By this time, Clarice had recommenced her Pharmacy career and began working at the Maudesly Hospital where she eventually became chief pharmacist.

I remember one story when Mary and I, before we were married and returning, I think, from a holiday abroad, spent one or two nights at Clarice and Berl's house in Dulwich. We were assigned the guest bedroom together! My mother was apparently not a fan of this rather mischievous approach by her more liberal sister.

Both Clarice and Berl were avid travellers and took many trips abroad. However, they loved Brighton and Hove and eventually bought a lovely flat on the sea front which, when Berl retired, they moved to on a permanent basis. They became completely absorbed in the Brighton and Hove Community and greatly enlarged their circle of friends. We all attended their 40th wedding anniversary which was a grand but very warm affair in Brighton.

Some twenty years ago, they came back to Edinburgh where they could be closer to their family and lifelong childhood friends. They bought a property in Spylaw Road and most of their important furnishing, paintings and ornaments were re-established at their new Edinburgh address. Clarice and Berl's homes whether they were in London, Brighton or Edinburgh always had a particular 'Clarice and Berl feel'. They were always elegant, even delicate, but always with a welcoming warmth.

Although happy to be back in Edinburgh amongst their family and friends, the last two decades probably gave Clarice the

toughest and most stressful time of her life. Soon after their return, she sadly lost her brother Natie. Then a few years later, not only had she to cope personally with Berl's decline and illness, she was having to witness the difficult latter years of her sister, my mother, Freda.

Through all of this, she showed amazing strength and vitality, continuing to enjoy the arts and theatre, maintaining and developing a wide circle of friends who all remained close to her right to the very end. On Berl's passing she determined to develop her bridge skills and although handicapped by hearing difficulties, was out most afternoons and evenings. I could never reach her on the phone!

Her independence was sacrosanct. She continued to drive, attend shul in Salisbury Road every shabbas and continued with her charity work, particularly raising funds to assist and support the Alyn Orthopaedic Hospital for Children and Adolescents in Jerusalem. It is for this work, that so many of the community, out with her family and friends, knew and admired her.

The weekend before her sudden death, Clarice was in great form at my daughter Elizabeth's wedding which we held at home on our farm in Fife. She danced with both myself and her cousin Alan and afterwards told me the day was perfect, the best day out she had had for years. This was a great compliment to Mary and myself, because, as you all know, her standards were extremely high!

That wedding weekend is how I will remember Clarice. Thank you all for attending today.

Harry Riffkin

THE EDINBURGH



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michelinehbrannan@msn.com or 0131 447 0818

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It's a small world

Sylvia Donne

Thanks to the efforts of the Secretary of the Edinburgh Jewish Burial Friendly Society, Judy Gilbert assisting Derek Tobias of Glasgow, the memorial stones at Piershill Cemetery can be viewed on-line. In time, it is hoped that this website will include the older cemeteries at Dalkeith Road and Sciennes Place.

Derek has kindly agreed to manage the updates for the Society. He and his two brothers have carried out similar work for communities in London (Bushey) and Leeds and their work is continuing.

My own personal involvement began some years ago through interest in the genealogy of my maternal Glasgow grandparents, the Langman and Morris (Marzinski) families. A very distant relation of the Langmans, Ada Green from New York, contacted me and from years of research had information going back to the 18th century. Her lifelong hobby / interest is photography and she has now taken pictures of over 30,000 Jewish memorial stones in Europe. Similarly, she has reordered all the stones in Vancouver, Canada.

When we met again in June at the Glasgow Archives, she gave me a list of memorials from cemeteries in British Columbia where records showed a connection to Scotland, Glasgow and Edinburgh mainly.

If anyone has an interest in tracing family in that part of the world and would like more information, please contact me, Sylvia Donne on 0131 447 2947.



Clare Tulloch

The Eden Beauty Cabin

0131 466 2139

07739 115 527

We also remember the following members of the EHC who have passed on since last Rosh Hashanah



*Rachel
Donkman*



*Sinora
Judah*

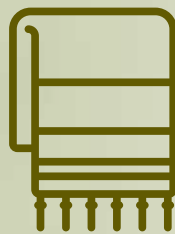
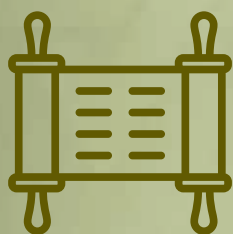


*Jonathan
Kish*



*Marianne
Laszlo*

2017 – 18 Festivals



Rosh Hashanah:	Thursday 21st – Friday 22nd September 2017
Yom Kippur:	Saturday 30th September 2017
Succot:	Thursday 5th – Wednesday 11th October 2017
Shemini Atzeret:	Thursday 12th October 2017
Simchat Torah:	Friday 13th October 2017
Chanukah:	Wednesday 13th – Wednesday 20th December 2017
Tu B'Shvat:	Wednesday 31st January 2018
Purim:	Thursday 1st March 2018
Pesach (Passover):	Saturday 31st March – Saturday 7th April 2018
Yom HaAtzmaut:	Thursday 19th April 2018
Lag B'Omer:	Thursday 3rd May 2018
Shavu'ot:	Sunday 20th – Monday 21st May 2018
Tisha B'Av:	Sunday 22nd July 2018



Forthcoming Events



Edinburgh Jewish Literary Society

Name: Danny Sinclair
Date: 22 October 2017
Title: 'The Role Played by Halakhah in Contemporary Biomedical Law with Special Emphasis on Israeli Legislation and Supreme Court Decisions'

Name: Christina Lodder
Date: 10 December 2017
Title: 'Jewish Artists in the Russian Revolution'

Name: Baron Ilan Zvi
Date: 4 March 2018
Title: On his book 'Obligation in Exile: The Jewish Diaspora, Israel and Critique'

Name: Svbil Sheridan
Date: 11 March 2018
Title: 'There are still Jews in Ethiopia'

Name: Carol Seigel
Date: 29 April 2018
Title: 'How Jewish was Sigmund Freud?'

Name: Jane Goldman
Date: 6 May 2018
Title: On Philip Roth

Please see www.ejls.org for more information

EHC Shul Events

Wed 20th September	Rosh Hashanah meal after evening service
Sat 30th September	Breaking the Fast meal
Shabbat 27th/28th October	ShabbatUK featuring guest speakers Rabbi Dr Danny Sinclair & Debbie Sinclair, with a Communal Dinner on Friday 27th October
Sun 12th November	Remembrance Day Service followed by Afternoon Tea

Edinburgh WIZO

Collection of clothes for the **Glasgow Nearly New Sale** will be on **Monday 6th November**.

Please contact **Sylvia Donne: 0131 447 2947**

Sukkat Shalom

Services

Erev Shabbat service will be on the **SECOND** Friday (7 pm) of each calendar month. **Shabbat morning services** are on the Saturday (11am) after the **FOURTH** Friday. These services take place in:

Columcille Centre, 2 Newbattle Terrace.

Kabbalat Shabbat Services (6.15pm) will be on the **FIRST** and **THIRD** Fridays. These services take place at: Marchmont St Giles, 2a Kilgraston Road.

We also have a Tea and Talmud group – to coincide with Rabbi Mark Solomon's visits, in members' homes, and a Philosophy Discussion Group.

For further information go to our website and follow the link to the diary:

www.eljc.org

CHANUKAH

SAVE THE DATE

Please save the following dates in your diary.

Tuesday 12th December

6.30pm | 1st candle:

Annual public Chanukiah lighting ceremony in St Andrews Square
by kind invitation

of Chabad Edinburgh

Followed by a grand reception
at the Royal Bank of Scotland

Thursday 14th December

6.00pm | 3rd candle:

Chanukiah lighting at
Edinburgh City Chambers
by kind invitation of the
Lord Provost

Sunday 17th December

6.00pm | 6th candle:

Chanukiah lighting at
The Trades Maiden Hospital.
Ashfield, 61 Melville Street
by kind invitation of the Deacon Convenor

More information about these events will be provided nearer the time.

