

Sukkat Shalom

March 2012

Edinburgh Liberal Jewish Community

Scottish Charity No SC035678

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Events and Services

Date **Friday 2 March 2012**

Event Kabbalat Shabbat Service followed by a chavurah supper. **See p 5 for details**

Venue Marchmont St Giles, 1a Kilgraston Road

Time 6:15pm

Date **Wednesday 7 March 2012**

Event Purim service and megillah reading, followed by Purimspiel with the Edinburgh Hebrew Congregation. **See p 3 for details**

Venue Marchmont St Giles, 1a Kilgraston Road

Time 6pm

Date **Friday 9 March 2012**

Event Erev Shabbat Service led by Rabbi Mark Solomon

Venue Columcille Centre, Newbattle Terrace

Time 7pm

Date **Saturday 10 March 2012**

Event Shabbat service with Dundee Hebrew Congregation, led by Rabbi Mark Solomon, followed by lunch (provided by the Dundee Congregation) and discussion. **See p 6**

Venue Dundee Hebrew Congregation, 5 St. Mary St, Dundee

Time 11am

ELJC support line

0131 208 1447



Use this number if you have an emergency and really need to speak to someone. It goes to one of our members. Otherwise please leave a message on the community phone and we will respond as soon as possible.

Date **Sunday 11 March 2012**

Event Choosing Judaism

Venue Usual location

Time 10:30am

Event Spinoza Reading Group

Venue Marchmont St Giles, 1a Kilgraston Road

Time 4pm

Date **Friday 16 March 2012**

Event Kabbalat Shabbat Service with Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland and his wife as our guests.

Followed by a shared meal. Please bring a savoury dish to share **See p 7 for details**

Venue Marchmont St Giles, 1a Kilgraston Road

Time 6:15pm

Date **Saturday 24 March 2012**

Event Shabbat morning service

Venue Columcille Centre, 2 Newbattle Tce

Time 11am

Date **Friday 30 March 2012**

Event Kabbalat Shabbat service

Venue Marchmont St Giles, 1a Kilgraston Road

Time 6:15pm

Deadline for copy for April 2012 newsletter: 24 March 2012

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Future Dates

Our regular schedule is as follows:

Our **Erev Shabbat service** will be on the **SECOND** Friday of each calendar month and our **Shabbat morning service** on the Saturday after the **FOURTH** Friday.

These services take place in the **Columcille Centre, 2 Newbattle Terrace.**

Jewish Calendar

Festivals begin on the evening before the day listed.

Purim	8.3.2012
Pesach	7.-14.4.2012
Shavuot	27.-28.5.2012
9 Av	29.7.2012
Rosh Hashanah 5773	17.9.-18.9.2012
Yom Kippur	26.9.2012

On the Web

Israel Human Rights Trip

There's been progress with the planning for this trip. There's now a page on the website for it (look for "Israel Human Rights Trip" on the main menu). Although the content there is now mainly from the January newsletter piece, there will soon be a concrete proposal for an itinerary. Please let Maurice Naftalin know (webmaster@eljc.org) if you would like to be informed when the page is updated.

Rabbi Mark at the Scottish Parliament

Our Rabbi was invited to the Equal Marriage Reception, at the Scottish Parliament on 31/1/12. You can read the address he gave on our web site under "Articles and Talks".

Letters from Jerusalem

Some people may remember Anat Kamenka Algazi, who emigrated to Israel in 2007. She has sent the newsletter some interesting and idiosyncratic pieces covering aspects of life in modern Israel including, among other topics: the religious-secular divide, the Occupation, the army, education, the political system, how to deal with the Israeli bureaucracy, music, and pigeon racing. You can read these letters on the website under "Articles and Talks". There are only a couple there now; the rest will be added

Chairman's Word - the AGM

The AGM took place on February 19th and we were pleased with the attendance and the lively debate. The reports for the past year, the financial report and the minutes of the AGM are now all on our web site under the Organisation menu. You will need to be a registered user with a password in order to read the reports and minutes, but it is really easy to get a password, if you don't have one, and even easier to get a new one if you have forgotten yours. All the details are there, but I will summarise and comment on some of the important points.

The financial report showed that we had run at a deficit this year, but this was adequately covered by our reserves. Despite this we accepted our treasurer's proposal to maintain the subscription at its current level of £200 per adult, because we recognize that these are not easy times for many of our members. But we also urged those of you who could manage to contribute more to add a donation to your subscription. Our new treasurer (see below) will be sending out subscription letters shortly.

Jonathan Broadie, our treasurer for the seven years since we became an independent community, stood down at the AGM but will be remaining on the Council. Claudette Hudes, seen here with husband Robert as the back couple in this hot air balloon, was



elected as our new treasurer. We are all very grateful to Claudette for taking on this important role in the community.

Two members of the Council stood down at the AGM, Kristi

Long who has been a Council member since 2008 and Nancy Warren, our secretary for the past three years. They were warmly thanked for their efforts for the community. Two new members were elected and welcomed, Catherine Lyons who has served before and Rebecca Wober who will be new to this role.

Other roles in the community don't require formal election, and in some cases don't even require the person to be a member of Council. We are

Chairman's Word continued..

very pleased to have the following volunteers to carry out tasks for us in the coming year. Helen Ford will take over the role of minutes' secretary, Nancy Warren has agreed to continue to mail out letters and Louis Mendelssohn will join the team who answer phone and email messages. Anna Duncan-Nitzan has agreed to be our Interfaith representative. Eva Wiseman will continue as membership secretary, Maurice Naftalin as webmaster and Maureen Mackinnon as catering organiser. Hannah Holtschneider is currently on maternity leave from the job of preparing this monthly newsletter and Kat Angus has stepped into her shoes. We hope Hannah will be able to take over again soon.

Could you be our birthday girl or boy?

One role we have failed to fill is for someone to keep track of our birthdays and Yahrzheits. It should be an easy job requiring only a few hours a month and liaison with others about things like dates for possible kiddushim.

This year's membership report included an analysis of how numbers of members have changed over the years since we became an independent community. Our numbers have almost doubled over these seven years. But another interesting aspect is how much movement there has been, in and out of Scotland and how many of us have origins elsewhere. We are wandering Jews, not only by having no permanent premises, but also by being a very mobile community. This underlines the importance of our providing community support for people who may have little or no immediate family here.

The meeting concluded with a discussion about the possibility of our finding more settled premises. It was agreed that the issues raised would be discussed by the Council during the year. We will let members know when these discussions will take place. Meanwhile, it would be helpful if any members who would like to attend the Council meeting where we discuss them would let me know (chair@eljc.org or leave a message on the Community phone) so we can be sure to let you know.

I would like to conclude this report by thanking everyone who has helped during the year and looking forward to working with others in the year to come.

Gillian Raab

Purim



On Wednesday 7th March, we will once again have a Purim celebration with Edinburgh Hebrew Congregation. Before we head to Salisbury Road, however, we will have our own Megillah reading, with Rabbi Mark Solomon, at Marchmont St Giles at 6pm.

All are encouraged to come in fancy dress. It will be preceded by a short fancy dress parade. There will be some snacks (hamantashen) and juice available at that time, mainly for children who might not be old enough to stay up for the Purimspiel.

After that we will make our way down the road to the Synagogue for a joint Kiddush which will start at 8pm, then the Purimspiel starting at 8:30pm. We will also be invited to share a Seudah (light meal) at Salisbury Road after the Purimspiel. If you could help with preparing soup etc. for this on Wednesday afternoon please email Chair@eljc.org or leave a message on the community phone.

Pictured are some moments from last year's Purim celebrations! Thanks to Nancy Lynner for another great script. Anyone who wants to participate in the Purimspiel is very welcome to join. Please contact Phil Wadler, wadler@inf.ed.ac.uk.



Our Community Seder for Pesach 5772 Friday 6th April 2012 (first night of Pesach), 6.45 for 7pm

We have a strict limit on spaces this year so please book early. Seats will be allocated on a first come first served basis. Last possible booking date is 29th March.

The seder will be held at Marchmont St Giles Church Centre, 1a Kilgraston Road and will be catered and served by Butterflies Catering. Your ticket includes a three course meal (fish or vegetarian), kiddush wine and soft drinks. You may, if you wish, bring your own table wine to have with the meal. The seder will be led by our Rabbi Mark Solomon using the Liberal Haggadah B'Chol Dor Va'Dor. Members should have received a booking form with their AGM papers. Further details and a booking form can be found on our web site. If you don't have web access or require further information then please leave a message on the community phone (0131 777 8024) and we will get back to you.

See page 9 for some Pesach recipes!

Community Matters

New member

We are delighted to have Anna Duncan-Nitzan as a new member of the Community. Many of you will have been at Anna's admission to Judaism ceremony last year. Her new double-barrelled name indicates that she has now had a civil marriage to Itamar Nitzan (for VISA purposes), but their Jewish wedding will not take place until 1st April. As Anna says she is "a little bit married" now. We wish them all the very best.

Best wishes for a swift recovery

Marianne Laszlo has been unwell with a chest infection that has had to spend some time in the Royal Infirmary. We wish her all the best for a speedy return to good health and to all her usual activities.

Sad news

We are sorry to have to report that David Goldberg from the Edinburgh Hebrew Congregation passed away on Sunday 19th February. He was a well respected member of the community and a good friend to many of us. We wish his family Long Life and May his Memory be a Blessing.

Flora joins cheder team



Flora Levy has joined our cheder team and will be doing musical sessions with the children at some meetings. Here she is with the children at last month's session. She tells us about herself here:

I'm a first year student at Edinburgh University studying English Literature after spending 9 months on LJY-Netzer's gap year programme in Israel. I became involved with LJY (Liberal Judaism's youth movement) relatively late, in that I never went on kadimah (annual summer camp) as a child. My first LJY-Netzer event was Israel Tour at the age of 16, and since then I've pretty much become as involved as I can possibly be. As

I'm too old to be a participant on many events, I and others (many of whom went on camps and events as children) have become the ones leading and running them, both long ones such as the famous two-week summer camp (kadimah), and short weekend events. So when LJY-Netzer is described as a 'youth movement' it literally means that it is run totally by the youth. A lot of what I've done with the cheder - sitting in a circle teaching songs and running very informal education sessions is what LJY-Netzer is all about!

You can find lots more information about LJY-Netzer on our web site <http://www.ljy-netzer.org/>

Community Matters continued..

Kabbalat Shabbat Service 2nd March

This service will be held at our usual time, but it will be followed by an Oneg Shabbat with a shared meal and music from Flora Levy. Everyone, but especially young people, are very welcome to come along and to stay for the Oneg. Please bring along some food and/or drink to share. We can heat things up at the oven in Marchmont St Giles.

Shabbat Service in Dundee Saturday 10th March

We are pleased to have been invited by the Dundee Hebrew Congregation to hold our March Shabbat morning service, to be led by Mark Solomon, in their synagogue. This will be the first time that a Rabbi has conducted a Shabbat service in Dundee since 1956!



Dundee synagogue was completed in 1978 after the shul was constructed by the local authority in the 1970s after the former Dundee shul was demolished to make way for the Wellgate shopping centre. The design, by Iain Imlach, was based on a North African synagogue - that's why it has two arks.

The Dundee Congregation have kindly invited us to share lunch with them after the service. Their kitchen is kosher, so we cannot bring prepared dishes, but contributions of fresh fruit for dessert would be welcomed. After lunch around 2.30pm Rabbi Mark will lead a shiur probably on the topic of Purim.



The synagogue is at 9 St Mary Place, DD1 5RB, a small street next to Didhope Park and just off Lochee Road. See illustration and visit <http://www.scojec.org/communities/dundee/index.html> for a link to a map of the location. If you would like a lift to Dundee, or you would be offer a lift to others, please contact Nick Silk (nick_silk@btinternet.com) who is coordinating transport. It is also very easy to reach Dundee by public transport. Train is the quickest, though buses are also possible. The 9.28am train from Waverley to Dundee would allow you to

connect with the 28 bus in Dundee. See Traveline Scotland <http://www.travelinescotland.com> for details.

Kabbalat Shabbat Service 16th March

We will be having a distinguished visitor to our Kabbalat Shabbat Service on 16th March. The Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, the Right Reverend David Arnott and his wife Rosemary will be joining us for the service and sharing some food with us afterwards. The Moderator is elected for just a one year period and during that time he chairs the Assembly, the highest court of the Church. You can read the biography of the current moderator at

http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/about_us/how_we_are_organised/whos_who/the_moderator_2011-2012.html

We will start at 6.15pm, as usual, but the Moderator will be arriving around 6pm so it would be helpful if as many people as possible could arrive early, or at least in good time. Could you also please bring a SAVOURY dish to share, either a salad or a dish that can be warmed in the oven and/or some drinks to contribute to our shared meal. Judith from Marchmont St Giles, who we know well from catering our seders, will be providing tea coffee and something for dessert to round off the meal.

Events and Announcements

Edinburgh Jewish Literary Society

All meetings start at 8.00pm with tea served at the end of the meeting. The venue is the Marian Oppenheim Hall, Edinburgh Hebrew Congregation, 4 Salisbury Road.

March 11th 2012:

Stephen Bowd: “Jews in early modern travel literature”.

The speaker will explore traveller accounts of Jews and their communities, mostly in Germany and Italy, during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, with a view to establishing whether the travel writing aided greater Christian understanding of Jews or, by making them ‘exotic’, simply strengthened their division.

Bedouin Women of the Negev: Empowerment through Fair Trade

Thursday 8th March: 7.30 pm.

St Andrew's and St. George's West Church, 58 Shandwick Place, Edinburgh.

Hadeel Palestinian Fair Trade Shop welcomes you to a Public meeting with Hanan Alsaneh, Director of Education and Community Building at Lakiya (www.lakiya.org).

Scottish Council of Jewish Communities (SCoJeC)



Four Corners

The latest issue of the ScoJec newsletter, Four Corners (no. 33), is available to collect at our services. You can see our Chanukah party featured, including some biscuits by Kat, our multi-talented temporary newsletter editor. Four corners is also available online at <http://www.scojec.org/4cs/4cs.html>.

Scottish Parliament Consultations

ScoJec responds to consultations from the Scottish Parliament on behalf of the Jewish Community. One such consultation concerns the consultation about the proposed referendum on independence that it has been proposed might be held on Shabbat. Another current consultation concerns the Assisted Suicide bill that is being proposed by Margo MacDonald, following the failure of her End of Life Assistance Bill in the last session. Liberal Judaism does not have a unanimous view on Assisted Suicide. You can read what two rabbis with opposing views have to say on this topic in the November 2009 edition of LJ Today http://www.liberaljudaism.org/images/pdf/ljtoday/LJ_Today_November-December_2009.pdf. The ScoJec consultations and draft responses can be found at http://www.scojec.org/consultations/current_consultations.html

Interfaith Events



Date	Sunday 11th March
Event	“The Middle East and the West: what are the prospects?”
Where	Augustine United Church, George IV Bridge, Edinburgh EH1 1EL
When	6.45 pm (registration) Discussion/Forum: 7 pm - 9 pm.
Speaker:	Prof Hugh Goddard, Director of the HRH Prince Alwaleed bin Talal Centre for the Study of Islam in the Contemporary World, the University of Edinburgh.
Chair:	Nancy Adams.
Panelists:	Rabbi Mark Solomon ; Rev Clarence Musgrave, ex minister of St Andrew's Scots Memorial Church, Jerusalem, 2000-2006; Professor Dabir Tehrani, Honorary Professor at Heriot-Watt University since April 1984.
Cost	£5 on the door on the night.

Interfaith Events (contd)

Date Sunday 11th March
 Event EWIG International Women's Day Event (in partnership with Scottish Inter Faith Council)
 Place St John's Church Hall, Princes Street, (corner of Princes Street and Lothian Road)
 Time 2-5 pm

For these and other events in the Festival of Spirituality and Peace see <http://www.eicsp.org>

Date Wednesday 22nd March
 Event Public talk on Syria and work of UPF
 Place UPF Centre, 1 St Colme St
 Time 10.30 am

There will be a Q&A session afterwards. All welcome. Refreshments will be served.

Date Tuesday 27th March
 Event "Jesus - bridge or gulf between Christianity and Islam?" Prof Mona Siddiqui, OBE
 Place St Cuthbert's Episcopal Church, Westgarth Avenue, Edinburgh EH13 0BD
 Time 7.30 pm

Date Friday 30th March
 Event "What Drives Anti-Muslim Sentiment in 21st C Britain?"
 Place Seminar Room 3, Chrystal Macmillan Building (15a George Sq), University of Edinburgh
 Time 11am -12.30 pm.

The Jewish Community Centre of Krakow

by **Katie-Levy-Forrester**

A few years ago I was working on an International Assignment in Krakow, Poland. For many years I had wondered if there would be any regeneration of Jewish people in Krakow or Poland. I was particularly interested as I was born in Krakow, leaving Poland like many Jewish people in 1968. Since then we lived in different places but settled finally in Scotland where I live today. In 2010 I decided to go back to Krakow and lived within the Jewish community helping, observing and learning how things are. I am very proud of the JCC Krakow. It is a great place. Today I am still involved and taking every opportunity to promote and support the JCC Krakow.



The Jewish Community Center of Krakow (JCC) was officially opened in 2008 by HRH, The Prince of Wales in response to a request made to him during his visit to Krakow in 2002. The center is located in the heart of Kazimierz District, and provides Krakow's growing community with space to meet, study and share ideas in a warm, friendly atmosphere, where everyone is welcome!

All ages are catered for. Jewish children approach and explore their complex identity through a rich range of social events, workshops, Sunday School, baby nursery. Children play, make art projects, practice English and Hebrew and learn about Judaism. The JCC also reaches out to the adult members: a newly established club for Krakow Jews 'The Shmooze' extends warm welcome to individuals and families alike. Regular meetings are designed to encourage discussions, explore often complicated identity issues and bring the



community closer together offering also fun events, outings, concerts, theater, movies with discussion, talks about Judaism and tradition. The JCC Students Club allows young people to socialize and take part in local Jewish Life, while offering a variety of educational seminars, lectures and workshops. It also allows for the informal encounters with Jewish youth from other countries and provides unique opportunity to discuss issues surrounding Jewish identity and to form International friendships.

The older community members are provided with the Senior Club at the

JCC which offers a wide range of social events, education and religious activities. Weekly computer classes, language courses, physiotherapy and gym remain active and fulfilled. The senior club is open every day. What is very important that the community; the children, students, adult and seniors join actively together for Holidays and the Shabbat every week. There is a Shabbat meal every Friday evening.

The JCC is committed to spreading knowledge and information about Jewish history, religion, culture both among its members and the general public. Open lectures, art exhibitions meetings with important figures of Jewish life demonstrate the ongoing contribution and dialogue of the Jewish community to modern society.

There is in-house education offering Hebrew, Yiddish, Russian, Italian, Japanese, Yoga, Israeli dance, Krav Maga, Gym sessions and new courses are added regularly. The JCC offers also a library with over 2000 titles which is open to the general public. The holidays organized by JCC like Rosh Hashanah, Sukkoth, Chanukah, Purim, Pesah are the nicest I have ever been to so far. Krakow's rabbis, from Reform to Orthodox, use the centre to teach classes such as Introduction to Judaism and Hassidism as well as lead conversions classes. The community centre is being supported by a wide range of local and international organizations in an ongoing campaign for tolerance and human rights.

The enthusiastic staff and volunteers are engaged all year round in daily work, supporting and building the Krakow community together with the great figure Jonathan Ornstein the Director of the Centre. Together with the community they have achieved a miracle in 3 years.

In summary the JCC Krakow feels like place where you belong, like a second home if not a first. It is a great and exciting place where everyone is welcome from both the local community and visitors.



Therefore I highly recommend anyone to visit and join. Do look at the web site <http://www.jcckrakow.org>

Pesach Recipes

Hamin/Hameen eggs



Thanks to Helen Sherbourne for this recipe.

These are traditionally made for Shabbat (sometimes cooked with meat) because they can sit in the oven in a sealed container from before Shabbat begins and eaten the next day for breakfast or lunch. They are also associated with Pesach as eggs are often eaten during this festival and many Middle-Eastern (Sephardi) families are accustomed to eating them at this time. (Ref: 'The Book of Jewish Food' by Claudia Roden)

Preparation

- * Collect a large bag of brown onion skins from supermarket or greengrocer.
- * Use a large lidded pan or casserole dish – but be aware that staining from onion skins will occur.
- * Layer onion skins and eggs carefully so that the eggs sit comfortably without knocking against each other. Finish off with a layer of onion skins.
- * Fill pan with cold water to the top and pour in a tablespoon of oil.
- * Slowly bring the water to simmer.
- * Transfer to very cool oven, so that the eggs will continue to simmer gently.
- * Cook overnight if possible (at least 8 hours)
- * Next day, remove eggs with slotted spoon, wash under tap and store in egg boxes. Some may have cracked but that will not affect the flavour.
- * Shell eggs and enjoy with salt, salt water (for Pesach) or even mashed with mayo on Matzah.

Eggs should keep for several days.

Walnut truffle cake - *This recipe is from Dan Lepard and appeared in the Guardian on 17th February, but looks perfect for Pesach indulgence.*

The trick to controlling the soufflé-like rise and fall of flourless chocolate cakes such as this is partly down to temperature: if you can bake it at 140C in a fan oven, the temperature at the centre of the cake is more likely to match the crust, so the rise and fall won't be as dramatic as it might otherwise be. I like to mix up the chocolate varieties for this – the combination of white and dark here gives something close to an intense milk chocolate flavour, for example – but use all milk or dark, as you prefer.

200g walnuts
 150g caster sugar
 25g cocoa
 250g mascarpone
 4 medium eggs
 2 tsp vanilla extract
 200g dark chocolate
 100g white chocolate, or more dark chocolate

Line the base and sides of an 18cm, round cake tin with nonstick paper, and heat the oven to 160C (140C fan-assisted)/320F/gas mark 2½. Grind the walnuts with the sugar and cocoa in a food processor until fine, then beat with the mascarpone, eggs and vanilla. Melt the chocolate, stir this through the mix evenly, then spoon into the prepared tin and smooth the top. Bake for about 75-90 minutes, until the cake has evenly risen and retains just the slightest wobble to the middle – this will ensure it has a soft, slightly melting texture in the centre. Remove from the oven and leave in the tin to cool completely before serving.