



September – October 2018

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**Sukkat  
Shalom**  
Edinburgh Liberal  
Jewish Community

**Scottish Charity  
Number  
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## High holydays approaching

As most of you will be aware, Rosh Hashanah 5779 will be with us on Sunday/Monday 9/10th September. Members and those in the study group should all have received their tickets by post, or will do so soon. Some members will also have been asked to perform mitzvot on Rosh Hashanah or Yom Kippur. If your letter contained such a request please email your reply as detailed in the letter. Non-members should email [contact@eljc.org](mailto:contact@eljc.org) to ensure that a ticket is set aside for them. For security reasons we do not publicise the venues of our High Holyday services, but you will be informed when you arrange to get a ticket.



Rabbi Mark will be leading the Rosh Hashanah services and everyone is invited to join us afterwards for kiddush, apples and honey; and for lunch after the morning service. No need to bring anything except contributions of **your favourite honey cake** or round sweet **festival challot**, which will be most welcome.

**Shanah Tovah, and a sweet year to come, from all at Sukkat Shalom**

## Diary

September 2018			
Fri 7	6pm	Kabbalat Shabbat service	<a href="#">Marchmont St Giles</a>
Sun 9	7pm	Erev Rosh Hashanah service	For details of all our High Holyday services see article below.
Mon 10	11am	Rosh Hashanah service	
Fri 14	7pm	Erev Shabbat Shuvah	<a href="#">St. Marks Unitarian Church</a>
Tue 18	7pm	Kol Nidrei service	For details of all our High Holyday services see article below.
Wed 19	11am	Yom Kippur service	
Fri 21	6pm	Kabbalat Shabbat service, led by Rabbi Mark Solomon	<a href="#">Marchmont St Giles</a>
Sat 22	3pm	Tea and Talmud	<a href="#">St. Marks Unitarian Church</a>
Sun 23	4pm	Decorating the succah	<a href="#">Christ Church Morningside</a>

Sun 23	7pm	Erev Succot service, led by Rabbi Mark Solomon	<a href="#">Christ Church Morningside</a>
Sat 29	11am	Shabbat Succot service	<a href="#">Christ Church Morningside</a>
Sun 30	6:30pm	Erev Simchat Torah service	<a href="#">St. Marks Unitarian Church</a>
<b>October 2018</b>			
Fri 5	6pm	Kabbalat Shabbat service	<a href="#">Marchmont St Giles</a>
Fri 12	7pm	Erev Shabbat service	<a href="#">St. Marks Unitarian Church</a>
Fri 19	6pm	Kabbalat Shabbat service	<a href="#">Marchmont St Giles</a>
Sat 27	11am	Shabbat service, led by Rabbi Mark Solomon	<a href="#">St. Marks Unitarian Church</a>
Sat 27	3pm	Tea and Talmud	<a href="#">St. Marks Unitarian Church</a>
Sat 27	6:30pm	Sukkat Shalom fundraiser	<a href="#">St. Marks Unitarian Church</a>
Sun 28	4pm	Philosophy discussion group	<a href="#">St. Marks Unitarian Church</a>

## Words from the Chair

We are approaching the new year of 5779 — a time for reflection. To mark this special time, Nick gives us not one, but two Words from the Chair. Nick's first Word was prompted by his first-ever attendance at a Liberal Judaism Biennial. Two other Sukkat Shalom members, Maurice Naftalin and Sue Bard, were also attending for the first time. As this event had such an impact on all of them, we've added snapshots of their impressions too.

### WORD ONE    Do you believe in God?

I don't know about you, but this isn't a question that I ever thought I would be asking in my Word from the Chair. One of the things I remember thinking when I took over from Norman as Chair some 18 months ago was that the content of the WFTC would change somewhat. Norman often discussed the religious aspects of Judaism. I was pretty confident that I wouldn't be following in his footsteps. So, what is it that has prompted this change? You might be thinking that it's perhaps because we have Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur fast approaching, but that's not the reason. It's actually as a result of attending the Liberal Judaism Biennial in Solihull a couple of months ago.

The format of the Biennial was that we had communal events, such as Shabbat services and Havdalah, and of course meals. Then there were a range of breakout sessions, which lasted for 90 minutes or so, and the sessions had a range of themes, from Liberal Jewish theology,

to the draft siddur, to music in Judaism and much more. This was the first Liberal Judaism Biennial I have been to, and I would absolutely recommend it as a great weekend. Anyway, back to the matter in hand. I attended four of these breakout sessions, all of them on different topics, and in three of them there was much discussion on the nature, and indeed the existence, of God. OK, maybe that's not so surprising given we were at a Jewish event, be it a Liberal Judaism one or any other branch of Judaism.

What was perhaps a bit more surprising was the number of Rabbis who said, whether outright or implied, that they didn't believe in God. (Again a slight aside; I can remember when, as a teenager, I was at a discussion during Yom Kippur when the Rabbi said that it was OK not to believe in God. At the time I was really shocked. I'm not these days, and I'm sure that I was told that Judaism has the highest number of agnostics of any religion.) What really surprised me though was the reluctance of many Rabbis to use the word God.

Those of you who have used the new draft siddur will have seen examples of this. Some of what I would call familiar words, such as 'creator', are used, and other less familiar ones, such as 'wellspring of life', are also used. During the discussions at these sessions at the Biennial, more than one Rabbi said that they don't like using the word God because of all the implications the name (I use this term deliberately, this being one of the names God is called) has with it – masculine, powerful, angry, omnipotent. As I say, this did surprise me. On several occasions the discussion then moved on to what we do believe in, and often it was not God as the omnipotent power of the Bible, but maybe as the creator and sustainer of the Universe, as the 'spark of nature' and suchlike. And yet, while there was frequently this belief in the 'sustainer of the Universe' there was, in my opinion anyway, a great reluctance to use the word God.

The more I thought about this, the more difficult I found this to accept. Judaism has many words for God, which reflect her/his different aspects. And maybe I've got it wrong, but I don't know that Judaism says that God is... well I don't know what Judaism says God is. I know we talk about God being merciful, and just, and kind. And also that God is the creator and the sustainer of life. And certainly Liberal Judaism doesn't accept that the bible was written by God. So we talk about God's characteristics, but we don't say 'he is a man' or 'she is a woman'. God is both unknowing and God.

So why, given all the above, was there a reluctance to use the word God? I'm still not sure I fully understand. I remember when we helped with the campaign to legalise same-sex marriage in Scotland. thinking "couldn't we use a different term to marriage to describe a same-sex 'union'?". But it was felt important to use the word marriage to make the relationships

equally valid, and in essence the term marriage was redefined, to be a union between two people. Why then does the word God have to be discarded when God has always been a mystery. If different people understand God in different ways, hasn't that always been the case?

You may be wondering what I understand by God. I don't honestly know. But my trip to the Biennial got me thinking, that's for sure. And it confirmed, for me anyway, that I do indeed believe in God, whoever or whatever she or he is.

## WORD TWO Tikkun Olam

In my second Word from the Chair, I want to focus on two topics that I think are really important for Sukkat Shalom in its relationship to the wider world.

The first is our Kol Nidrei appeal. As you know we have an appeal each year, and each year we nominate charities to which we will give our donations. I can still remember discussing the Kol Nidrei appeal not long after we had set up our community, and part of the discussion was whether some of the Kol Nidrei appeal money should be reserved for Sukkat Shalom. It was a pretty quick discussion, since, as I recall, it was unanimous that all the donations we collect from the appeal should go to our nominated charities. It was then we also decided that each year we would support non-local as well as local charities and non-Jewish as well as Jewish ones. That has continued ever since and I think it says something about our community that this is what we do. It's because all the money we collect goes to charity and because we are committed to supporting a range of charities that I think that it's really important that we promote the Kol Nidrei appeal and collect as much money as we can.

Unfortunately, over the last two or three years, the amount we have collected has decreased significantly. In round terms, we collected about £4,000 three years ago, whereas last year it was about £2,000. I know that donations to charity have gone down in general over the last few years, and I know that we all have our own 'favourite charities' that we donate to. But what I would ask is that, this year, you consider giving a bit more to our Kol Nidrei appeal. As well as being good for the charities concerned, I think it says something about our community if we are able to raise a significant amount of money, none of which directly benefits us. You'll find details of the charities we'll be supporting this year elsewhere in the newsletter, and we have resolved to make it easier for all of us to give donations – we'll be putting 'donation envelopes' on seats for Kol Nidrei itself or, if you prefer, you can use the 'PayPal donation' button on the website, even if you don't have a PayPal account (but please remember to give the instruction

to the treasurer that you are donating to the appeal). All it then needs is for us to make the donations. Can I urge you to do so this year?

My second topic is that of refugee support. If you remember, about 18 months ago when the possibility of sponsoring refugees from Syria was first proposed by the UK government, we started to raise money in the hope that we would be able to participate in the sponsorship scheme. While we did raise quite a bit of money, it became apparent that the sponsorship programme involved much more than we as a community were able to provide. We had to give up on our hope of sponsoring, and the money we raised was donated to a charity working with refugees. At the time, I was very keen that we as a community tried to do something to support refugees – we as Jews have been in that position all too often – and during the Liberal Judaism Biennial I had the opportunity to attend a session on supporting refugees.

To cut a long story short, we have established contact with a group who are well on their way to actually sponsoring a refugee family and we have asked if there is anything we could do to help. We've said that we are only a small community, but if there is anything we could do, then please let us know. As you would expect, the answer is that there is something we can do. The request for help covers a number of areas:

- Become involved with the 'core team' who are doing the main co-ordination
- Help the family learn English; the specific request is for someone who has ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) certification
- Befriending the family; the family are likely to live in the Fountainbridge / Dalry / Gorgie / Chesser area, so if you live in that general area, even better
- Help the family with 'on the ground reality' once they have arrived

In much the same way that our Kol Nidrei appeal says something about us, I think that committing to help support a refugee family would also say something about us too. Can you help? I really hope so. If you would like to offer help, or even just want to know more, please speak to me or get in touch with me via [contact@eljic.org](mailto:contact@eljic.org). I don't know about you, but sometimes I feel that something like this can feel a bit daunting. I'm really hoping that there will be a good number of us who want to volunteer, and so we offer to help as a community as well as individuals. Please do get in touch.

To conclude, I wish you a sweet New Year and well over the Fast. **Nick Silk**

## The LJ Biennial July 2018: two other views

Like Nick this was my first experience of an LJ Biennial – or indeed of any LJ general get-together and it gave me my first real sense of being part of the Liberal Judaism movement. Like Nick, I found myself having a much more ‘religious’ experience than I’d anticipated, attending three intriguing theology workshops and surprised to discover there is a rabbi living on the Isle of Skye. The other highlights for me were the array of services over the course of the weekend, from Erev Shabbat Britannia, featuring Friday night liturgy composed by British Progressive Jews (and the chance to be in its choir - perpendicular learning ascent for me), to the Shabbat Morning Service led by Rabbis Elli Tikvah Sarah and Lea Muhlstein using the new draft siddur, to Havdalah in the garden led by the young people participating in the youth programme to the five Sunday morning Shacharit options – my choice being the ‘contemplative, reflective and meditative’ service. If I had to choose one highlight, it was the fast-paced, thought-provoking, at times hilarious and truly inspirational session ‘In the Student Lounge- what do student rabbis talk about when nobody is listening?’ Led by Leo Baeck’s student rabbis, it left me full of optimism about the future of Liberal Judaism.

### ***Sue Bard***

I’ve avoided the Biennial for years: I realise now that I’ve been imagining – without actually thinking about it – that it would be two days in the company of the stuffy conformist community that I knew as a child. That idea didn’t survive actually being there for more than a few minutes! Certainly some sessions were more enjoyable than others, but none was remotely boring or conventional. Outstanding for me was the session organised by the student rabbis, irresistibly titled “What Do Student Rabbis Talk About When Nobody is Listening?”. It turned out that lots of people wanted to listen to that! And not only to listen – they chose three topics: why does conversion automatically come with a ticket of admission to Israel; how do we feel about circumcision; and whether Liberal Jews need to “believe in God” – that brought us into dialogue with each other in different ways for each. And it turned out that our fellow Liberal Jews were a lot of fun to talk to, had interesting things to say, and weren’t remotely stuffy or conformist at all! Biennial Weekend 2020? – I’m sold already!

### ***Maurice Naftalin***

## The LJ Banner completed

In our last Etrog we wrote about the panel that our Cheder made as Sukkat Shalom's contribution to the new LJ Banner. You can see it again here, on display at the LJ Biennial, as part of the whole.



## Kol Nidrei Appeal

Our Kol Nidrei Appeal is one of the ways in which we try to recognise our various responsibilities for Tikkun Olam – that is, for the wider world. Each year we choose to support a range of charities that between them represent local, international, Jewish and non-Jewish causes. Every penny contributed goes to our designated charities.

*Here are our charities for this year:*

**Meketa**, founded in 2013, is a British charity that supports the remaining Jewish community in Gondar, Ethiopia. These are people of Jewish origin who have been unable to emigrate to Israel, many because they lack the matrilineal credentials, and who are living in great poverty. Meketa works with the community creating subsistence level businesses, encouraging children and young people in their education and sponsoring further education and training to enable this community to become more independent and self-reliant. Meketa has no staff in the UK and their trustees receive no remuneration or expenses: all the money raised goes to Ethiopia to fund their work there. [.https://www.meketa.org.uk](https://www.meketa.org.uk)





**Edinburgh Direct Aid (EDA)** founded in 1992 to counter ethnic cleansing in former Yugoslavia, supports the victims of warfare and natural disasters. Since 2013 its main activity has been helping the approximately 90,000 Syrian refugees who have fled over the border to the remote Lebanese town of Aarsal, working in partnership with a Syrian organisation, Civil East Assembly (CEA), to do so. EDA provides humanitarian aid – clothes, shoes, school equipment, textile workshop equipment etc. – that’s collected, sorted and packed in Edinburgh and it supports education, employment and building programmes in Aarsal. EDA is an all-volunteer charity: no-one is paid except local staff in destination countries. <https://www.edinburghdirectaid.org/>



**Jewish Care Scotland (JCS)** is the only charity with a specific remit to support Jewish people throughout Scotland, for whom it provides a wide range of professional and volunteer care and support services for people experiencing short-term or enduring difficulties. Much, but not all of their work concerns the needs of older people and all their work is informed by respect for Jewish values and practices. This year they will be celebrating their 160th anniversary.



**You can donate to our Kol Nidrei appeal in the following ways.**

Donations by cheque should be made payable to ‘Sukkat Shalom, Edinburgh’ and sent to: The Treasurer, ELJC c/o 10, Ainslie Place, EH3 6AS.

Bank transfer to: Sukkat Shalom; sort code 301301; account 00974077. Please reference as KN Appeal.

PayPal: go to our website <http://www.eljc.org/make-a-payment>. Please add "KN Appeal" as an instruction to the treasurer.

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## Book your break-fast meal now!

Wednesday 19 September, arrive 7.30pm for 7.45pm. At Zucca, 15 – 17 Grindlay St. EH3 9AX

After the last service on Yom Kippur, we have arranged a booking at Zucca, a friendly Italian restaurant. There is a meat-free and seafood-free menu with choices for each course at only £22 per head, payable on the night. Zucca is next to the Lyceum Theatre, just a few minutes walk from St Mark's and is accessible both from the street and (if you need lift access to the first floor, where we will be) directly from the Lyceum. This restaurant is fully wheelchair-accessible.

To book your place please leave a message on our community phone: 0131 777 8024 or email [contact@eljic.org](mailto:contact@eljic.org) as soon as possible and definitely **by Wednesday 12 September**.

## Weekend of 26–28 OCTOBER 2018

### Scotland's Jewish Gathering:

For the first time, all Jewish Communities and individuals from around Scotland, from Arran to Edinburgh, from Glasgow to Inverness, are invited to share their experiences and challenges during this exciting and fun weekend in late October. There will be lots of music and singing, and opportunities to schmooze. There will be distinguished speakers, workshops and fantastic food.

Presenters include Justice Secretary **Humza Yousaf** and **Marion Carlton** of Calderwood Lodge. Pianist **Phil Alexander of Moshe's Bagel and Salsa Celtica**, will be organising a jam session for all those who enjoy playing from throughout Scotland. Workshops will include not only Social Action, Woman's Aid and Mental Health themes, but also how do we make shul services more interesting. There will also be separate programme just for children (kids go free to the gathering)

Our Rabbi **Mark Solomon** will be there and taking part in panel discussions. There will be a Q&A session for a panel of diverse community chairs and lots, lots more. Please click on the link to see the Outline Programme: [tinyurl.com/gatheringsjleaflet](http://tinyurl.com/gatheringsjleaflet) and to book your place. Early bird bookings finish at the end of September. Students are free

Most events will be taking place in the premises of Edinburgh Hebrew Congregation, 4a Salisbury Road, EH16 5AB, but our Shabbat morning service for that weekend will be at St Mark's, as usual ([see map](#)), and our Community Fundraiser, which we have been planning for months, will be an alternative entertainment on the Saturday evening, that we hope all friends of Sukkat Shalom will support. Here is the information about it:

### Sukkat Shalom Fundraising Event Saturday 27th October



We are bringing together a variety of acts for all the family plus lots of fun ways to win prizes. Bring plenty of change! Please bring along food and drink to share, suitable for a buffet-style evening meal (no meat or shellfish please).

Tickets will be available at our events over the next few weeks, or from members of Council. Alternatively, you'll be able to pay at the door – but if you plan to do that, please let Ricky know that you're coming (mobile 07962 076017; e-mail [rickyhogg7@gmail.com](mailto:rickyhogg7@gmail.com)) so that we can plan for numbers.

This is a community funding event. £10 per person, children free.

See you there!!

## Thanks to Rebekah

Many thanks to Rebekah Gronowski for her untiring work over many years of maintaining our web site and Facebook pages. She has been a wonderful support to the community in this

and in many other ways and now deserves a well-earned rest. Happily we have volunteers who will take over from her after the Holydays. Becky Gilhooley for the web site and Helen Ford for the Facebook page.

## Autumn Lit Programme

The programme of the Jewish Literary Society for 5779 has now been finalised. Here are details of the first three meetings and dates and topics for the later ones. Unless stated otherwise, 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.**

### Opening of the season 4 November 2018

#### **Keith Kahn-Harris (Leo Baeck College), 'Antisemitisms and divisions over Israel in Diaspora Jewish communities: The exploitation of Jewish difference'**

Divisions over Israel have become an increasingly significant feature of Diaspora Jewish communities in recent years, leading at times to serious and bitter conflicts. These divisions have begun to be recognised outside Jewish communities as well, and in some cases have been leveraged by those accused of antisemitism to provide 'alibis' for their words and deeds. All but the most extreme antisemites can find sections of Jewish opinion that will indemnify them, In this talk I will give some examples of this emerging phenomenon on both the political left and right, in order to demonstrate that the controversy over antisemitism in the Labour Party is part of a much broader phenomenon.

**Keith Kahn-Harris** is a senior lecturer at Leo Baeck College, an associate lecturer at Birkbeck College and runs the European Jewish Research Archive at the Institute for Jewish Policy Research. His books include: *Denial: The Unspeakable Truth* (2018) *Uncivil War: The Israel Conflict in the Jewish Community* (2014), *Judaism: All That Matters* (2012) and (with Ben Gidley) *Turbulent Times: The British Jewish Community Today*.

#### **25 November: Nasar Meer, 'Antisemitism and Islamophobia: comparisons and connections'**

In this talk, Nasar Meer will argue that antisemitism and Islamophobia should not be isolated from either each other or from other forms of racial discrimination. To this end, and in addition to 'comparing', we also need to 'connect' more than is presently the case. Conceptually this means drawing upon social and political repertoires of racialisation (or race-making) to illustrate the conceptual and empirical relationships between antisemitism, Islamophobia and other forms of racism.

**Nasar Meer** is Professor of Race, Identity and Citizenship in the School of Social and Political Sciences at the University of Edinburgh. His recent publications in this area include: (2013) 'Race, Culture and Difference in the Study of Antisemitism and Islamophobia', *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, 36 (3), 385-398. (2013) 'Semantics, Scales and Solidarities', *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, 36 (3), 500-515. A short blog on the theme is available here: Challenging Antisemitism and Islamophobia together: <http://www.publicspirit.org.uk/assets/Meer-Challenging-Antisemitism-and-Islamophobia-Together.pdf>.

### **9 December: Alf (Lord) Dubs, 'The refugee crisis and the human rights response'**

Lord Dubs will discuss UK policies on child refugees, the EU situation, movement across the Mediterranean, source countries (especially in the Middle East), and wider global issues. He will also consider the international response to refugee and migration flows, and what might be the responsibilities of the international community. He will look at the way the migration issue is being exploited by far-right political parties.

**Alf Dubs** arrived in the UK in 1939 on a *Kindertransport* from Prague. He was educated at the London School of Economics and worked as a local government officer before entering politics, serving as MP for Battersea, 1979 to 1987. He was CEO of the Refugee Council from 1988 until 1995, entering the House of Lords in 1994 as a Labour Working Peer and becoming a Minister in the Northern Ireland Office, 1997 to 1999. He has campaigned on behalf of unaccompanied child refugees, and still continues in this activity.

### **2019**

**20 January: Frank Dabba Smith, 'On Jews in the development of photography'**

**10 February: David Rosenberg, 'London's Radical Jewish East End – an illustrated talk'**

**24 February: Phil Alexander, 'From Vitebsk to Glasgow: A tale of two cantors'**

**10 March: Annie Perez, 'Holy fathers, virtuous wives, and apostate sons: Zionism, conversion, and the question of who is a Jew'**

**7 April: Brendan McGeever, 'The Bolsheviks and antisemitism in the Russian Revolution'**

**29 April: Svetlana Pogodina, 'Tradition then and now: The practice of namegiving in Jewish Russian-speaking communities of Latvia, Russia and Transnistria'**

## **Visiting Windows for Peace in Tel Aviv**

*In our last Etrog, we wrote about the organisation Windows for Peace (WIP), explaining how since 1991, WIP has brought together young Palestinians from both sides of the Green Line*

*and young Israeli Jews in long-term educational programmes designed to promote mutual understanding and to make a lasting change to attitudes, perceptions and behaviours. This work has been supported here in Edinburgh, where Judy Sischy played a key role in raising funds for and helping organise successful summer schools in 2008 and 2010.*

*Since our last edition of Etrog came out, Judy has returned from visiting the indefatigable founder and director of WIP, Rutie Atsmon and writes this account of her visit, painting a vivid picture of the continuing energy and determination of Windows operating in an increasingly difficult political environment.*

After an interesting and enjoyable week with friends in the north of Israel, I spent the last two days with Rutie Atsmon in Tel Aviv. The time with Rutie was very special and, as you can imagine, the only pause in conversation during our hours together was when we slept. Rutie took me on an evening walking tour of 'her' Tel Aviv, round the immigrant areas, greeting friends and supporters.



The decision taken by Windows to relinquish the offices and create a small office in Rutie's flat, which is located in central Tel Aviv, had troubled me but times were difficult and the rent had become an increasing burden. However, I was pleasantly surprised to find the efficient way in which Rutie had re-arranged her home to create a working office - room 1 with tables, chairs and computers and room 2 a store for the mountains of paperwork and records held by Windows - soon to be digitised.

I arrived in time to meet one of the six or seven interns from all over the world who are doing excellent work for Windows. Despite the need to reduce in size and their very minimal budget, Windows continues to be active on all fronts: setting up the teacher-training programme, translation work on Arabic, occasional tours of Tel Aviv/Jaffa, research, and reviving the core work of Windows, the youth programmes.

At present there is one journalist group for young girls in high school (to focus on women's rights), from the three key areas of the Windows triangle - Israeli Jews (Tel Aviv), '48 Palestinians (Galilee) and Palestinians from the West Bank (Bet Ummar). Another group is for Windows graduates set up as a theatre group. Both groups are preparing to spend two weeks in Germany in August before continuing throughout next activity year. Another group of graduates will travel towards the end of September for two weeks in France to meet French active youth and learn about the EU work. Rutie and a Windows Board member have been

invited to Lyon in October to give a workshop on their teacher- training programme [www.windowsteachertraining.org](http://www.windowsteachertraining.org)

A serious difficulty is recruiting schools to take part in the teacher-training programme as it is seen as politically sensitive by both those on the right and the left. Similarly, it is increasingly hard to attract Israeli youth to the programme, given the growing objection to meeting Palestinians and the complex conflicts at the present time within Israel. Rutie



is deeply disturbed by the move of Israeli society further to the right in political, religious and equality/women's rights issues. Much of Windows communications is done cautiously and under cover.

We spent a moving hour looking up some of the Windows groups that came to Edinburgh in 2008 and 2010 as teenagers. They are now young adults with their own careers, varying from law to ballet to fashion design, in Israel and the West Bank. Many of the Israelis are activists, protesting at inequalities and unfair treatment. Rutie feels that when we see the youth who came to Edinburgh from the West Bank flourishing, it is partly due to the influence of their participation in Windows and in particular in the Edinburgh experience. It is a wonderful organisation.

You can find much more information about WfP on their website: <http://www.windowsteachertraining.org>

**Judy Sischy**

## 1. Edinburgh Interfaith Association (EIFA) Peace Service

The annual Peace Service will be held from 7.00 pm – 8.00pm on Thursday 20 September at St Mary's Episcopal Cathedral, Palmerston Place, EH12 5AW. Everyone is welcome.



### Interfaith art competition

To celebrate Scottish Interfaith Week 2018 which is taking place from 11th - 18th November, Interfaith Scotland is looking for budding artists to take part in our 'Connecting Generations' competition. There is a top prize of £50 and winning entries will have their work displayed at the launch of Scottish Interfaith Week taking place at the Town House, Aberdeen on 12th

November 2018. Entries are open to individuals and groups of all ages. You do not need to be part of a faith group to enter this competition. The deadline for entries is Monday 22nd October.

The competition is open to individuals and groups and you can submit many types of art: drawing or painting, photo montage, poem, video or animation, piece of writing, song, music or drama. For more details email [admin@interfaithscotland.org](mailto:admin@interfaithscotland.org).

## Annual BBQ at Nick and Kate's

In the midst of the best summer this century, we managed to pick the one day of incessant rain for our BBQ. However, this did not deter us and we had a really lovely day with super-abundant and delicious food and drink. It was good to welcome Phil and Wanda back from Brazil and thanks once again to Nick and Kate for their warm hospitality that made the weather irrelevant.



## Service at Newstead

We had a wonderful service that packed out Newstead Village Hall on 25th August, and we all enjoyed the splendid lunch that Sukkat Shalom member Isobel King prepared for us. The weather was wonderful, and some of us went on a ramble to circumnavigate the Roman fort of trimontium, trying to make out the outline of what was once a Roman amphitheatre.

Isobel has sent this message to the community:

*"Thank you for making yesterday so special. It was great to see so many of you and to be able to share the service and a meal with you all."*



*Also, a very big thank-you to everyone for your generosity. When Joanna and I emptied the collecting box there was £90. A very happy branch treasurer carried it off this morning to bank it tomorrow! This will be a tremendous contribution to funds for Arthritis Research. Please pass on our grateful thanks to all who came. See you here again in two years' time, I hope. If August suits best then so be it that Newstead is the recipient of festival 'refugees'!! Same time, same place in 2020!*

*Greetings to all and best wishes for the coming festivals."*

## Five Stars for EHC's Pop-Up Kosher Diner

Back for the second year running, the Kosher Diner at Salisbury Road was open for lunch every Tuesday in August providing a great service for visiting festival-goers and locals in search of kosher food. The menu included chicken soup with lokshen and kneidlach, hot salt beef sandwiches, potato latkes, falafel and fried gefilte fish. The cafe was buzzing when we visited, with guests from London, the Bahamas and the US as well as locals. The general consensus was 'delicious' and 'please open for more days next year.'

Here is Jonathan Danzig watching over the chicken soup and the Nagler family from London enjoying their meal.



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## Sukkat Shalom Contacts

### Community Phone – 0131 777 8024

This phone number sends voicemail to members of the Contact Team

To reach the Care Team, call the Community Phone or email [care@eljc.org](mailto:care@eljc.org)

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Membership: Gillian Raab

**Scottish Charity SC035678**