



est 2004

January 2015 Tevet–Sh'vat 5775

9	Erev Shabbat CC	7.00
10	Cheder MSG	3.30
16	Kabbalat Shabbat MSG	6.15
17	Cheder <i>Note times!</i> MSG	2.30–4.45
23	Erev Shabbat Supper and songs CC	7.00
24	Shabbat Morning Service CC	11.00
	Tea and Talmud CC	3.00
25	Philosophy Reading Group CC	4.00
30	Kabbalat Shabbat MSG	6.15

February 2015

6	Tu BiSh'vat Seder Please bring a non-meat dish to share, see p. 6 MSG	6.30
7	Cheder MSG	3.30
13	Erev Shabbat CC	7.00

לולב lulav

vol II
issue 1

From the Edinburgh Liberal Jewish Community

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Venues

CC	Columcille Centre 2 Newbattle Terrace	MSG	Marchmont St Giles 1a Kilgraston Road
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Community Phone This phone number sends voicemail to members the **Contact Team** 0131 777 8024

Urgent Support Only for use in emergency; alerts the whole Welfare Team 0131 208 1447

Email Contact Email the **Contact Team** and the **Lulav Team** via the webpage at contact.eljc.org

Website www.eljc.org

<i>Chair</i>	Norman Crane	<i>Treasurer</i>	Gillian Raab
<i>Lulav Editor</i>	Catherine Lyons	<i>Membership</i>	Sharon Goldwater



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Scottish Charity SC035678

Word from the Chair

So here we are again at the cusp of the year looking like the Roman god Janus both backwards to the past year and forwards to the coming year. For Sukkat Shalom the event that over the past year clearly stands out is the celebration of our tenth year as a community. The occasion was marked with due ceremony, pleasure, and enjoyment, and was one which, literally, is never to be repeated. The occasion served as the culminating point of the first phase of the Community's existence. Looking back at the Community's origins and early life one recognises a sense of warmth which, dare I say it, the founding members look back on with nostalgia. They were a small closely knit community who not only prayed together but also enjoyed a range of other activities in each other's company.

Looking forward at a now much larger Community what will the next ten years bring, what direction shall the Community take? Clearly it is all of us, the members of the Community, who will determine what shape the Community will take since it is our Community. To this end please may I ask that you start things off by responding to the consultation, with your ideas and suggestions, to be found on page 3. Please take note that our AGM will take place on **Sunday 1 March**. Proceedings will include focus groups to identify our priorities for the coming year, and will take account of the consultation.

It is possible but in no way at all predictable that developments put forward by Edinburgh Jewish Dialogue might have some bearing on activities sponsored by Sukkat Shalom on its own. At the present moment no concrete proposals have been put forward, and any that might be in the future will be subject to a thorough consultation process.

To look back once more at 2014: there is another project which was, just, brought to a successful conclusion at the very end of the year. The decorative element of the Portable Ark was completed and then installed at the end of December at Columcille. Its normal storage space is on the left hand side of the stage. It was used for the first time at Columcille at the Shabbat morning service on 27 December. It was moved to the centre of the stage for the service, roughly where the table on which the Sefer Torah used to be placed would be, when not in use during the service. This is a distance of about twenty feet and is easy enough to manage, although two people are needed to accomplish the manoeuvre on health and safety grounds, as they say.

I have included this somewhat detailed description of the physical arrangements because, regrettably, there were only a handful of people present at this auspicious occasion. I count myself very fortunate to have been there. According to the rota I was down to lead the service that morning. For me, using the Ark greatly enhanced the feel of the service. I felt this particularly at the moment when the Sefer Torah had just been put back into the Ark. The sight of the Scroll upright in its proper place helped me greatly in focusing on the words of the service at this point. I experienced a sense of connection with the synagogues in which I have performed the same function in the past. I hope and pray that in the future all members of the Community will come to enjoy this sense of heightened experience.

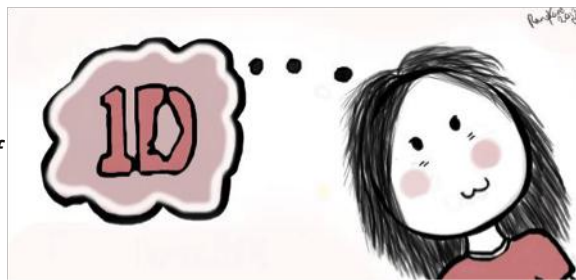
I will finish by conveying our best wishes to Phil Wadler and to Ruzena Wood, who have been in hospital over the turn of the year.

Norman Crane



Tenth Birthday Consultation

You could be forgiven for thinking that the girl in the picture is thinking about One Direction. Actually, she's a member of our community and she's got our tenth birthday on her mind! She's been hearing about recent discussions in the community Council about the future of Sukkat Shalom.



What set us talking? The reason was summed up in a message from Maurice Naftalin, our founding chair, to the 10th birthday event. He celebrated 'an extraordinary decade of growing and working together', but added that 'our problems now are the welcome problems that come with growth and increased diversity'.

Ten years ago we were a small group of only a few families, who all knew one another well. We worked together to develop activities and [Our Purpose and Values](#).

Now that we have more than a hundred members, the community needs to think again about the range of services and events that we should offer. Some of the things we used to do (hill walks and trips, modern Hebrew conversation classes) have even fallen away. Should we revive them? Or try some new things? And we need to have more people, especially new members, involved in running the Community.

To help us find new directions we are planning to hold a community consultation very early in 2015. We want to know what Community could do for you! Can you help with the consultation? Do you have ideas about what we should be doing? Please get in touch via [Tenth Birthday Consultation](#).

Gillian Raab



Miriam steals the Show!

In last month's issue, we featured Miriam Vickers' etchings, on display at the Royal Scottish Academy. On 14 December, Miriam guided a group of us round the exhibitions and showed us her work. The galleries were brimming with work in many styles and media, and each new room was a delight to explore in Miriam's knowledgeable company. Miriam's prize-winning etching, *View from the Croft*, is bottom left in this photo of Miriam taken by Joe Goldblatt.

Catherine Lyons

Last chance for the Kol Nidre Appeal

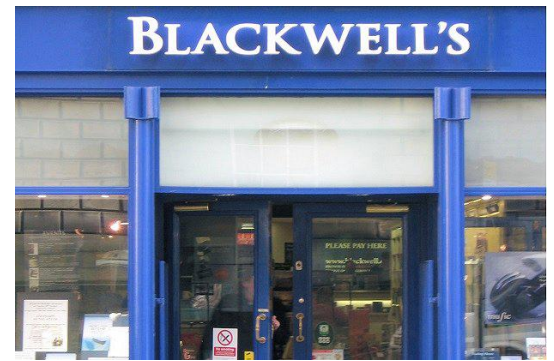
Thanks to everyone who has sent in generous contributions. The total collected so far is still a bit below our last year's total and our highest ever collection. The November and December newsletters had details of the charities we will be donating to. So if you have not donated please send in your donation now, either by posting a cheque to Gillian Raab, 10 Ainslie Place, Edinburgh EH3 6AS or paying directly into our account. Help us to match our previous totals. We plan to close the appeal and send off to the charities by the end of January.

Gillian Raab, Treasurer

Sue Lieberman's Book Launch at Blackwell's

After Genocide: How Ordinary Jews Face the Holocaust will be launched on Wednesday **21 January 2015**, 6.30, at Blackwells in Edinburgh. Free tickets to the event are available in person from the front desk at Blackwell's Bookshop, by phoning 0131 622 8218 or emailing events.edinburgh@blackwell.co.uk.

A conversation with Sue about the book featured in [the November issue of Lulav](#).



Cheder Chanukah Party

A photo album from Rebecca Wober, Nancy Lynner, and Gillian Raab.



Keeping the Memory Alive: Ela Weissberger, a survivor of Theresienstadt, to address Holocaust Commemoration in Edinburgh

Ela Weissberger is a survivor of Theresienstadt. Seventy years ago, she performed in the opera *Brundibár* as the cat, and is one of the last surviving members of the cast.

Brundibár is an opera for children written by Hans Krása. As it was going into production in 1941, Krása, and almost all the stage crew, musicians, and singers — adults and children — were being transported to Theresienstadt. Krása and the producer František Zelenka reconstructed the opera in the camp, and it was performed 55 times.

Performances were expropriated by the Nazis as propaganda. A special performance of *Brundibár* took place for Red Cross inspectors who visited the camp.



The opera was also filmed for a Nazi propaganda film. After filming, the cast were sent to Auschwitz, and very few survived.

Now 83, Ela, the 'cat with the yellow star', continues to talk about her experience of the Holocaust. Ela is one of two guest speakers at this year's Holocaust Memorial Event organised by the Edinburgh InterFaith Association. Irena Winfield, from Armenia, will give testimony of her family's experience of the 1915 Armenian genocide.

The event will take place at Boroughmuir High School, Viewforth, Edinburgh EH10 4LR, on **28 January** at 6.45. RSVP as soon as you can to sakina@eifa.org.uk and please advise of any requirements regarding access or communication.



The original cast of *Brundibár*.
Ela Weissberger, as the cat, is dressed in black in the front row, right of centre.

Night Will Fall: revisiting Hitchcock's German Concentration Camps Factual Survey

In 1945, Sidney Bernstein (who later founded Granada Television) worked for the Ministry of Information. He commissioned Alfred Hitchcock to make a film from the filmreels arriving from British, American, and Soviet troops as they liberated the camps. But *German Concentration Camps Factual Survey* was deemed too shocking to show. Director André Singer's documentary about the film, *Night Will Fall*, including the film itself, will **be screened by Channel 4** at 9.00 on 24 January.

Tu BiSh'vat: looking forward to the blossoming of the year

Nick Silk

Tu bi-sh'vat falls on Wednesday 4 February this year and so on the erev Shabbat two days later, Friday **6 February**, we'll be holding our Tu bi-Sh'vat seder. The seder will be at Marchmont St Giles, at 6.30.

The focus of Tu bi-Sh'vat, the 'new year for trees', is on nature, the environment, and our stewardship of the earth, and it's a really nice way, in the middle of winter, to remind ourselves of the beauty of our world and our responsibility for it.

The format of the seder will be the same as in previous years. We'll use the Tu bi-sh'vat haggadah edited by Rabbi Mark, and we'll eat a variety of fruits and nuts. We'll finish with supper, so as always please bring a non-meat dish to share.



Orchard in Blossom (Plum Trees), Vincent van Gogh, April 1888, National Gallery of Scotland (Wikimedia Commons)

Equal Marriage is Now a Reality in Scotland

Rebekah Gronowski

1 January 2015 was great day for so many people! Nicole Sturgeon has been a keen supporter of equal marriage. As Scotland's First Minister, she sent congratulations to all getting married and also to those who have converted their Civil Partnerships to Marriages.

She published a wonderful message ([available on Youtube](#)) to mark the date of the first same-sex marriage ceremonies in Scotland. News and photos of the first marriages to take place are published by the [Equality Network](#). Couples with Civil Partnership Certificates have already been able to change their statuses to "Marriage Certificates" since 16 December.

We, in our Community, have been supporters and campaigners for Equal Marriage for many years and are proud to support LGBTQ and Equal Marriage in Scotland. We congratulate all those who are now celebrating being married — Mazel Tov! Our own [Equalities Group](#) on Facebook has now been revived, for all members who are interested.



Limmud Returns to Scotland — book now!

Booking is now open for Limmud Day in Glasgow, **8 March**. As usual, a bus will be running from Edinburgh. Full details are at the [Limmud website](#).

Jennifer Underwood will be driving over and is offering a lift to anyone unable to take the bus or who would prefer to go by car. Use contact.eljc.org to contact Jennifer.



Paul McPhail and his partner Bruce are planning a charity Burns Night supper on the **24 January** at Roslin Masonic Hall. This is to raise funds for Kinship Advice and Advocacy Provision (KAAP). They have kindly extended this invitation to the community so it would be lovely if lots of us could go along and support them. See *Paul's article below to know more about KAAP.*

Tickets are £15 for adults, £10 for children and under 5's are free of charge.

Food Haggis, Neeps and Tatties (veggie options available)

Times 7pm–Midnight

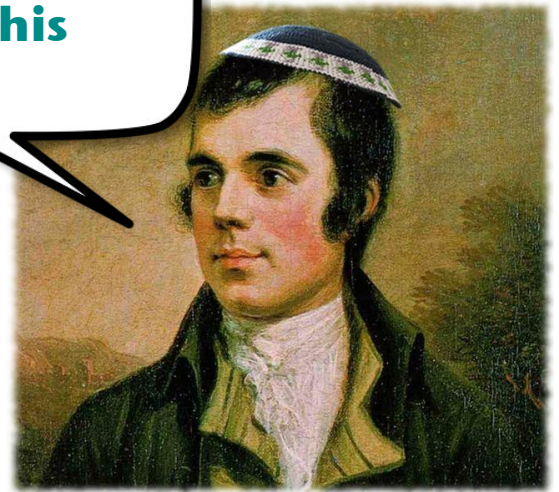
There is a bar on the premises selling inexpensive alcohol and soft drinks.

Local buses run until late but there will also be a mini-bus from the City centre. If you would like a seat on this, please mention this when you book tickets. (Spaces are limited)

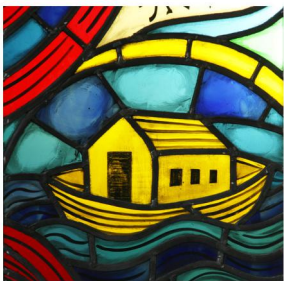
Rabbi Mark will be singing, and there will be a raffle, games, Address to the Haggis, and Burns poems. All in all, it's shaping up to be a jolly and informal night for a very good cause!

To book tickets, please contact Paul using either kaap.scio@mail.com or 07468425057 to find out how to pay.

**Burns Supper?
We are off to
Roslin this
year!**



Jennifer Underwood



Forthcoming Events in Glasgow

Eileen Carroll, chair of Glasgow Reform Synagogue, has written to invite us to their Holocaust memorial service and to their Burns supper, both on **24 January**.

Nick Silk is coordinating with Eileen to organise a joint event for our communities later this year.

GRS Ark, detail (Photo: Philip Kraven)

Kinship Advice and Advocacy Provision

Kinship Advice and Advocacy Provision was founded in August 2013 by Bruce Ballantyne and Paul McPhail. The charity has been created to fill a significant gap in the services and support available to Kinship Carers and Children in Kinship care placements.

Paul McPhail

Kinship Carers are Family and Friends, or a person that has a previous connection to the child, hence the name Kinship. Kinship care is an alternative to formal foster care, however there are some huge differences in the type and level of support provided to the carers and the children.



There are three main types of Kinship Care Placement: Formal, Informal, and Private arrangements. There is involvement of Social Work and the Children's Hearing system in the Formal Placement; this is primarily to place the children. In general the support stops after the child is placed, and social work supervision is usually the legal minimum; whereas, if the child were placed in foster care, there would be a significant support package for the child and a separate package for the carer. Social work involvement in the informal placement is limited to initial placement and, as there is no court or hearing involvement, usually social work have no further contact after this time. There are no outside agencies involved in the private arrangements, leaving the carer and child at the mercy of the parents or other people wanting to care for the child. Kinship care in Scotland is a post code Lottery with regard to the levels of financial support, social work support, counseling services, training, and educational support available to the child and the carers. Having been Kinship Carers for 15 Years, Bruce and I decided to start a charity to help fill the gap in the services available. In our first year we have provided advocacy services and support to over 150 families throughout Scotland.

There are in excess of 9000 children in formal Kinship Care Placements in Scotland, with an estimated 16000 further private and informal arrangements. The children in Kinship Care can have a huge range of issues, including: neglect (emotional, physical and developmental), abuse (violence, sexual abuse, and occasionally forced prostitution), behavioural issues (attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, attachment disorder, autism, asperger's, fetal alcohol syndrome, global development delay, and any combination of these.

This is Adam

Adam is 17 years old. He lives in isolation, has no friends because of his issues, is not allowed to go out on his own and is supervised at school. Before going into Kinship Care, Adam's life was one of neglect, emotional abuse and, finally, sexual abuse.

Today, Adam is counselled by the Lighthouse Project at Barnardos, a service that is not free. Although the local authority pays for a one-hour session once a week, that is all the help Adam has. His carers are on a low income and, although they work hard to support Adam, are unable to pay the extra needed to help him lead a normal life or learn the social skills he so desperately needs.



KAAP can help by providing a specially supervised youth group that keeps the children safe. We are also exploring the possibility of a pilot mentoring service that would help children like Adam get out of the house more often. Last, but by no means least, if funding were available, we would also pay for additional counselling.

In 2015 it is our goal to have a network of shops raising funds to pay for advocacy workers and support workers, working from the shops as local contact points for carers and children alike. The Scottish Government give no funding to KAAP, nor do Westminster. KAAP is purely funded by donations and grants from the Tudor Trust, the Robertson Trust and general fundraising by volunteers.

For further information please visit our website www.kaap-info.org or contact us on kaap.scio@mail.com.