

Sukkat Shalom

Edinburgh Liberal Jewish Community

Registered Charity No SC035678

Sukkat Shalom is a constituent of liberal judaism

April 2008

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EVENTS & SERVICES

Date Friday 4th April
Event Erev Shabbat Service
Venue Columcille Centre,
Newbattle Terrace
Time 7pm

The service will be followed by a family supper. Please bring a non-meat dish to share.

Date Saturday 19th April
Event Shabbat Service
Venue Columcille Centre,
Newbattle Terrace
Time 11 am

Our Shabbat service will be led by student Rabbi Tanya Sakhnovich, who will also be leading our Passover seder in the evening

Date Saturday 19th April
Event Community Passover Seder
Venue Columcille Centre,
Newbattle Terrace
Time 7pm

Join us -- and student Rabbi Tanya Sakhnovich -- for our seder, the first night of Passover. Want to get involved? We still need volunteers. See p. 6 for details.

Date Friday 2nd May
Event Erev Shabbat Service
Venue Columcille Centre,
Newbattle Terrace
Time 7pm

30th-31st May sees the return of 'tent' to Edinburgh on Friday evening and an family outdoor event on Saturday afternoon. See p. 2 for more details.

EVENTS & SERVICES

More on Our Visitors (and a Ceilidh)

Over the weekend of 16-18 May we will be having some visitors from Rabbi Mark's synagogue in London, LJS, come to visit us. This weekend is also one when Mark is up, so as well as having our regular Shabbat service on the Saturday (17 May), we will be having a chavurah supper on Friday evening (16 May). We also mentioned that we would be having a social event; plans are nearly finalised for a ceilidh on the Saturday night (we have a band, just need to confirm the venue!) so put the date in your diary and we'll let you know the venue in next month's newsletter. Note that, as we will be having a live band, we will need to make a charge for this event.

Attention Young Adults

tent will be coming to Edinburgh for an erev Shabbat get together on 30th May. Venue still TBA If you are interested then please contact Ricky on RickyHogg7@aol.com or 07962076017.

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Yiddish Film Season at the Filmhouse Continues

Have 't had your fill of great Yiddish film yet? There are two more films coming up at the Filmhouse.

***Yiddle with His Fiddle* (1936)**

Sunday, 6th April

A classic folk comedy and the most commercially successful musical in the history of the Yiddish cinema, *Yiddle With His Fiddle* is a charming film about wandering Klezmer musicians, starring Molly Picon, consummate comedienne of Yiddish theatre, vaudeville and film.

The film will be introduced by Ellen Galford from the Edinburgh Jewish Literary Society.

***Long is the Road* (1948)**

Sunday, 13th April

Written by Israel Becker, this is the first feature film to represent the Holocaust from a Jewish perspective. Mixing neorealist and expressionist styles, the film follows a Polish Jew and his family from pre-war Warsaw through Auschwitz and the DP camps.

The film will be introduced by Heather Valencia of the Edinburgh Jewish Literary Society.

See any three or more films in this season and get 15% off!

www.filmhousecinema.com/seasons/yiddish-cinema/

Sukkat Shalom - Meetings of the Council

If anyone in the Community has an item or issue which they would like to be discussed by the Council, or would like to attend the next Council meeting, please get in touch with one of our Council members . The next meeting will be 9th April.

Family Away Day to North Berwick Saturday 31st May

With input from student Rabbi Anna Gerrard we are planning a great outing in May centred around the children and the Cheder.

The 'Event' will be a creative and musical Shabbat experience for all the family. Embracing the elements, we'll scale the heights of the prayer mountain and find out what Judaism has to say about being in the great outdoors!

After consultation within the Community, we have decided that we would like the outing to be relaxed and informal with the focus on the children (although we encourage everyone to become involved and hope that there will be a healthy attendance from the adults!). We will be ending the afternoon with a trip for some fish and chips.

Sounds good already doesn't it!! We will have more details of the event (ie - times, transport, venue, theme etc.) for the Sukkat Shalom May newsletter and will prepare a indoor contingency plan should the weather not be on our side that day; Clare and I would be happy to host the event in our house in Haddington.

At this stage, I would appreciate some indication of interest so if you would like to come along, please call me on 07962 076017 or email RickyHogg7@aol.com.

Ricky Hogg

Yom Ha'atzmaut

The UJIA will be organising Yom Ha'atzmaut celebrations in Glasgow on May 8th at the Carmichael Hall/ Eastwood theatre in Giffnock (5.30 - 9.30pm). It is to be a young people and family event with a variety show.

A Yom Ha'atzmaut service will also be held at the Edinburgh Hebrew Congregation on Salisbury Road at 7:30 on 7th May. It will be followed by an Israeli buffet and entertainment programme. For more information or to book a place at dinner, contact Jackie Taylor at 01324 612126.

In Memoriam
Steve Engleman (10th October
1942- 18th February 2008)

Steve Engleman (Yisrael ben Chaim) was buried in Dean Cemetery on 21st Feb 2008, with the help of Edinburgh's Sukkat Shalom community and Rabbi Mark Solomon. Steve had been clear in his wishes for a Jewish burial and would have been proud to occupy this first plot in the Liberal Jewish community's lovely burial grounds. He also would have been gratified by the large, multi-generational turn-out from the community for his service, his burial and evening prayers that night, each led with grace, beauty and simplicity by Rabbi Mark.

Biography

Steve was born in Brooklyn, New York on 10th October 1942 to Rebecca Sarah (nee Goldstein) and Herman Joseph Engleman - a much-loved son and a younger brother to Louise Iris. Both Rebecca and Herman were born in New York of Ashkenazi immigrants, fleeing persecution in Eastern Europe at the turn of the 20th century, and Rebecca especially transmitted this family history to her grandchildren in later times.

As a child, Steve took religious study and academic achievement seriously. He started work in part time jobs at 8 years old, a subject of much-loved family stories. His natural promise in mathematical skills won him a place at the elite but public Brooklyn Technical High School, and from there he studied Economics at Cornell University and later took up post-graduate studies in this subject at the Berkeley campus of the University of California.

Steve had strong socialist commitments and in Berkeley he combined his post-graduate studies in Labour Economics with recruitment and representation for trade-union organisations, in particular with lumberjacks working in the Northwest of the USA and British Columbia. It was through trade-union activities that he met his wife, Kathie, with whom he enjoyed a

devoted 41- year relationship till his death. They met in 1967 and married in December 1970. Although he'd married out of the Jewish community, Kathie and her young daughter Heather were accepted, welcomed and loved by Steve's family. Transatlantic family visits were an annual event until Louise died in 1993 and his parents Rebecca (2000) and Herman (2001) passed on.

Steve completed his PhD at Berkeley in 1971, at a time when his radical politics were not acceptable to the establishment. To continue his academic career and fulfill his and Kathie's interest in travel and adventure, Steve took up a temporary 2-year lectureship in the Dept of Political Economy at the University of Glasgow in 1971. This temporary post would mark the start of the permanent immigration to Scotland for Steve and his family.

Steve and Kathie's first child, Daniel Seth died as a young baby in 1975, but Hannah Margaret's birth in 1977 permitted Steve to become an adoring father who took great pride in Hannah's achievements as well as those of Heather.

Steve's academic interests began to move from industrial relations to health service issues at the end of his service at the University of Glasgow (c.1975). It was at the Dept of Community Medicine (Usher Institute), Edinburgh that in 1978 he took up a Senior Lectureship in Health Economics and moved his family east to Edinburgh's Morningside.

Steve's work at the Usher Institute included teaching economics to doctors on the Master of Public Health programme. Former students speak highly of his abilities as a teacher and his accessibility and willingness to engage supportively with them. He maintained contact with many students following the course – indeed he was enjoying regular group lunch meetings well into his final illness. Former colleagues also found him stimulating and valued his collaborative and supportive

style of working.

Steve's role at the Usher Institute also included management consultancy to Lothian Health Board. Health Economics was at that time a relatively new field and Steve soon established himself as someone who could offer useful insights into public health planning and management issues from the perspective of an economist. He acted at various times as a Specialist Adviser to the House of Commons Select Committees on Social Services, Health and Scottish Affairs and the European Office of the World Health Organisation and other health care agencies in Europe.

Steve's sabbatical term at the University of Padova's Institute of Public Hygiene in 1986 provided a warm introduction to Italian culture for his family and laid the basis for enduring friendships and many memorable holidays in Italy.

In 1988, Steve found his consultancy skills in increasing demand and took the decision to leave university teaching and become an independent consultant. His work was always focused on the objectives of public rather than private agencies and he acted as an adviser to the Scottish Blood Transfusion Service and consultant to Audit Scotland and the Social Work Services Inspectorate. More recently he was a member of The Health Technology Board for Scotland. Addressing complex issues of human resources and health care delivery, he was respected by colleagues for his ability to offer analysis and to provide effective help and support to the organisations and the people within them.

Steve also found time for a wide range of other activities. He had since his youth an abiding enjoyment of international folk dancing, particularly Balkan and Greek, and attended classes/groups and weekend workshops in other parts of the UK. He also enjoyed horse-racing, not only

visiting race meetings around Scotland but also diligently studying form and employing his mathematical acumen to the extent that he turned a small profit. (As an economist, he would have to admit, however, that his hourly rate for this pursuit was not taken into account in his careful betting-record spreadsheet.)


Although Steve's later years were plagued by ill-health, his determination and positive outlook enabled him to continue his many activities. He was a haemodialysis patient for several years following the diagnosis of kidney cancer in 1997, receiving a successful kidney transplant in 2001. He served for some time on the committee of the South East Scotland Kidney Patients' Association.

Steve was an enthusiastic participant in the Edinburgh Jewish Literary Society and had been serving as its Secretary at the time of his death. His ties to his Jewish roots were strengthened through this contact and reaffirmed by his decision to become part of the Edinburgh Liberal Jewish Community and to serve on its council.

Following surgery and radiotherapy for brain tumours in October 2007, Steve never fully regained his strength and was admitted to Marie Curie Fairmile Hospice two weeks before dying there on 18th February. His final days were free of pain and much enriched for his family and for him by visits from many friends from both within and outwith the Edinburgh Jewish community.

He is also survived by his grandson Joe (15) and granddaughter Catriona (11.)

Kathie Engleman



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To Learn and To Teach

A Leo Baeck College Workshop will be held at the Montague Centre on Monday, 19th May, from 11:30-3:30.

This one-day workshop will enable you to:


- select texts to study individually or with a group
- locate and understand materials and commentaries
- from a range of sources
- plan a text based study session
- develop facilitation skills, whatever your level of Jewish knowledge

The workshop will be led by Gaby Ruppin and Janet Berenson from Leo Baeck College. This will be of particular interest to those who wish to run text study groups in their communities or explore texts, increase their own knowledge and learn about facilitating groups. Hebrew skills are not required.

The cost of the workshop is £15 for affiliated members and includes lunch. Concessions are available. For more information or to register, see the Liberal Judaism website or call Judy Thwaites on 0207 631 9824.

Advice on Building an Ark

Ealing Liberal Synagogue is looking for advice and assistance about building an ark that could also be used to store their Torah scrolls when they are not in use. Their insurers require something that is fireproof as well as secure against burglary. If anyone could help with this, could you please contact Arnold Aarons, aarons@brostow.freeserve.co.uk.



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Liberal Judaism Social Action Day

The Social Action Day will be held at the Midlands Centre for Liberal Judaism, Birmingham Progressive Synagogue on Sunday 13 July 2008 from 11 to 4.30pm. This will be a day of film, workshops, speakers and discussion. There will also be speakers on Darfur and a keynote speaker on international development. For more information, please email socialaction@liberaljudaism.org.

Israel Tour and Kayitz Netzer

Israel Tour (16 July – 12 August 2008) is the ultimate rite of passage for 16-year-old Jewish youth looking for the adventure of a lifetime. Explore a beautiful country from north to south and east to west, and take in experiences like camel-riding, desert hikes and floating in the dead sea. And for 17-year-olds, Kayitz Netzer (17-28 August 2008) presents the ultimate three-city getaway, along the educational journey from Prague to Berlin via Budapest. Enjoy the independence of being on holiday with your friends and open your eyes to centuries of European Jewish history. Brochures for both trips are available to download at www.liberaljudaism.org (click on LJY-Netzer) or in hard copy by emailing office@ljynetzer.org.

Last call for Machaneh Aviv

4-9 April 2008 – ages 8-15. LJY-Netzer's spring camp is back at Norman Court school for another year of fun. Along with the sports, arts, drama, dancing, discos, great food and usual things that make LJY-Netzer camps so great we will be exploring Israel – 60 decades in 60 years. Make sure you don't miss out on the action this spring. Brochures are on the website at www.liberaljudaism.org click on 'LJY-Netzer' or email office@ljynetzer.org.

Sinkers or Floaters?

Along with the great cut or tear debate for challah, opinion is divided about matzah balls -- should they be sinkers or floaters?

What causes the difference? According to Joni Schockett, it's a matter of the ratio of eggs to matzah meal and the amount of air whipped into the eggs. Too much oil added to the mix will make them sink, as will removing the cover while they cook. You can read more about this and see her recipe at www.myjewishlearning.com.

My husband has another theory, which is that the amount of handling affects the weight of the matzah balls. This probably explains why he and I use the same recipe, and his are light and airy while mine have their own gravitational field and sink to the bottom of the soup like stones. Here's the Nadelhaft-Long family matzah ball soup recipe, which is clearly designed to produce floaters, but in the right hands creates some lovely sinkers!

Chicken stock

Simmer, for one hour, chicken parts, one onion, carrots, celery, parsley and peppercorns, skimming off fat. Strain (with a paper-towel lined strainer) and refrigerate to skim off remaining fat.

Chicken soup with matzah balls

Chicken stock

4 tablespoons margerine, soft

3 eggs

About 1 cup (US measure) matzoh meal

Sale, to taste -- about ½ tsp

Mash the margerine with a fork, adding eggs one at a time. Add matzoh meal until firm enough to form into balls about 1" across. Bring chicken stock to boil. Add matzah balls. Cook at simmer at least 10-12 minutes, until balls come to surface and puff up.

Kristi Long

Matzoh balls anyone?

Yes; it's that time of year again! Our **seder** will take place **on the first night of Pesach: Saturday 19 April, at Columcille.**

This year it will be led by Tanya Sakhnovich, a rabbinical student from Belarus.

We still need volunteers for cooking and non-cooking tasks!

Currently these cooking tasks for our seder are still open: baked salmon, vegetarian main dishes, side dishes, vegetarian soup broth, 50 boiled eggs, fruit for 50, charoset, and desserts.

We also will need more folks to set up beforehand, and to clean up after it's over. Send your form into Nancy Warren and check off how you'd like to help.

To get your seder tickets, send Nancy Warren the form that accompanied the previous newsletter and membership forms.

To contact the seder team by email: info@eljic.org

Nancy Lynner

Edinburgh Women's Interfaith Group

Wednesday 30th April , 7.00 p.m. (date and venue t.b.c.) The topic is 'Marriage and Divorce in Islam', and we are hoping to be able to include the issue of Agunot in the discussion following.

Rebekah

ELJC Support Group
07904 813162

Purim At Sukkat Shalom

This year's Purimspiel featured some new additions to the usual cast of characters. Daleks, Cybermen, and the Tardis all made their appearance in a Dr Who-themed performance.



Mordechai and Esther discuss the value of the sonic yad.



If Haman got any closer to the King, he might be an unwanted lapdog!



A big song and dance number finished the show.



Looks like everyone had a good evening, and enjoyed the nosh.

This year's Purimspiel was written by Rohan Berry Crickmar, Robert Waang and Philip Wadler and directed by Philip Wadler.

Narrator	Joe Naftalin
The Doctor/Mordechai	Daniel Naftalin
Rose/Esther	Eva Vierbovska
King Ahasueras	Philip Wadler
Haman	Maurice Naftalin
Vashti	Kristi Long
Revellers/Cyberman/ Daleks	Rohan Green, Leora Wadler, Adam Wadler
Songs & stage support	Nancy Lynner
Dance & photography	Joe Goldblatt
Other support	Sam Goldblatt

Donation Sought -- Lockable Cabinet

We have been told that we can have some storage space at Columcille, where we can store prayer books, wine etc. and not have to schlep them around all the time. We have been advised that a lockable cabinet would be best, so does anyone have one they would like to donate? I've been asked about dimensions, but when I was last at the top of the stairs where I was told we could have the cabinet, it was a case of making space as opposed to there being any specific dimensions! I would have thought that something like a wide-ish filing cabinet with three drawers would be about the right size. If you think you have something suitable you'd like to donate, please get in touch with Nick.

Wedding Bells for Marc Michaels

Members of the community may remember Marc Michaels, the scribe who found and repaired our Torah scroll. We thought everyone might be interested in the following news item, which appeared recently (27/02/08) in the *Jewish Chronicle*

Gordon Barclay

Avielah Barclay tells how she found love with a fellow scribe

'Talk about a match made in heaven. Avielah Barclay — thought to be the first female scribe in more than 250 years — moved to London from Canada last week and is preparing to marry her British-based fiancé, fellow-scribe Marc Michaels. How did they meet? Scribing, of course. Miss Barclay first came across Mr Michaels while looking for someone to teach her the scribing laws. But 10 years passed before they actually started dating "By that point I was a certified scribe and was contacting Marc as a colleague. I saw an article he had written in a magazine and emailed to congratulate

him." They are due to marry in April in Ilford, Essex. Miss Barclay, 39, tells People: "It is really nice as Marc and I can talk shop. Scribing is very technical, making it hard to talk to other people about." Miss Barclay had wanted to be a scribe since a young age, but faced a considerable obstacle— she was not born Jewish. She completed an Orthodox conversion in 2003 but struggled to get people to teach her. She eventually moved to Jerusalem, where she completed her training as a soferet (.female scribe). She is currently repairing a Sefer Torah. '

Roy Hyams

We were very much saddened to hear of Roy's death. He had been a member of our community in the past, and was always very supportive of us. His family wish to thank members of Sukkat Shalom who helped to make the arrangements for the funeral, and those who attended.

May his memory be for a blessing.

Celebration Of the life of Steve Engleman

Advance notice

Steve's wife and daughters are planning a celebration of his life at which all friends will be welcome. This will be held at 2pm on Saturday, 10th May 2008 at St. Mark's Unitarian Church, Castle Terrace, Edinburgh.

Kathie Engleman

Many thanks to all who contributed this month. Items for publication are welcomed, as are responses to items published. The deadline for the next newsletter will be Friday, 25th April. Please email all contributions to newsletter@eljc.org.