Sukkat Shalom Edinburgh Liberal Jewish Community (SCIO)
Scottish Charity No. SC035678

Trustees' Annual Report and Accounts, 1st September 2024 – 31st August 2025

While we continued with our "standard activities" during the period September 2024 – August 2025, arguably the main point of note is that during the first six months of 2025 our Rabbi, Mark Solomon, was given sabbatical leave. During this time, most services were led by lay readers, which we believe demonstrates the resilience of the community.

Overall, our activities remain broadly unchanged:

- As is our standard practice, we held at least one Shabbat service each week, and quite often we held services on both a Friday evening and Saturday morning. Sometimes these were Zoom services, sometimes in-person and, for services led by our Rabbi, Mark Solomon, they were often hybrid i.e., in-person but also broadcast on Zoom. As noted above, the majority of services in the first half of 2025 were led by lay readers (members of the community) although we did take the opportunity to invite several Rabbis to lead services during this period. The feedback from our members was that they enjoyed having different Rabbis lead the services, each in their own different way. Even when Rabbi Mark wasn't on sabbatical, our services were led by both Rabbi Mark and lay readers
- We also held services for Jewish festivals, again mostly led by Rabbi Mark when he was with us, but some by visiting Rabbis and others by lay leaders
- Rabbi Mark continued to lead weekly on-line discussion groups while the weekly torah-study group, led by one of our members, continues to thrive and has now been joined by a monthly study group looking at the books of the Prophets. Our Exploring Judaism classes for those interested in converting continue to be held by Rabbi Mark
- As has always been the case, in addition to his regular activities, Rabbi Mark continues to provide support to us both as a community and to individual members
- Our religion school (cheder) met on average every other week on a Saturday morning at St Mark's Unitarian Church, where we also hold our Saturday morning services. It continues to be a positive aspect that cheder children join the service for at least part of the time

- We have continued to send out, electronically, our 'weekly reminders' to members and other interested parties who have asked to receive our communications, and our newsletter, Etrog, is now fully re-established and issued every 3 months
- As noted in last year's report, we now have a part-time administrator. The benefits of this continue to be recognised, with many routine and indeed non-routine tasks being done by our administrator
- We have updated our website so that it is more user friendly and the platform on which it is hosted is much more secure
- Although not related to our activities, it should be noted that Liberal Judaism, to whom we were affiliated, and the Movement for Reform Judaism, have come together to form a new organisation, The Movement for Progressive Judaism (MPJ). We are now affiliated to the MPJ

More details about our activities are available in the reports that were presented to members at the AGM on 22nd February 2026 and are available on our website at AGM – Sukkat Shalom

Trustees elected at the AGM of 22rd February 2026

Jennifer Andriacchi, Sue Bard, Jonathan Broadie, Marjory Broadie, Oliver Davidson-Richards, Helen Ford, Leo Kaminski, Barrie Levine, Samara Leibner, Maurice Naftalin, Gillian Raab, Helen Searle, Nick Silk, Han Smith

Signed on behalf of the trustees by:

Gillian Raab (secretary) Date: 28th May 2026

Nick Silk (trustee) Date: 28th May 2026