



## **ROSH HASHANA & YOM KIPPUR SERVICES 5780**

**Dear Potters Bar Shul Members,**

We wish you all a healthy and peaceful New Year. This year, we are hiring part of the Wyllyotts site for the services for Rosh Hashanah mornings and all of Yom Kippur.

Please refer to the forthcoming Newsletter for the times and locations of all services, including Children's Services.

Do please note that food and drink must not be brought into services. There will be Kiddush following the main Rosh Hashana services (both days).

### ***GENERAL SECURITY***

We have taken security advice from the local police and the CST because the venue is open to the public whilst we are there, thus making security a more complex issue. Please refer to "Seating for Non-Members" below.

Please enter and leave all locations promptly. Do **not** congregate outside the Theatre building or near the road.

Please comply with announcements made by security personnel who are there to protect you and your family.

### ***SEATING FOR NON-MEMBERS***

We heartily welcome non-members and members' guests at our services **but please remember that, for security reasons, we do need their names in advance**. We will have a list of non-members with reserved seats and anyone who is not on our list will **not** be admitted unless there is someone present who is prepared to vouch for them.

Please help us to keep the community safe by completing the slip below, to reserve guests' seats in advance, and returning it by post as soon as possible.

### ***DRESS CODE***

We request that, in view of the solemnity of the High Holy Day Services, the Congregation should dress accordingly. We ask that women do not wear trousers or dress immodestly and that married women have their hair covered. On Yom Kippur, it is customary for the Congregation to wear non-leather footwear.

Many thanks, very best wishes and Chag Sameach from your Shul Council.

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Please return to **PB&BPS, c/o 30 St Vincents Way, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 2RT**

Please reserve..... seats for the following guests (listed overleaf).

As a donation, I enclose a cheque for £ ..... (£10 per adult) made payable to "Potters Bar United Synagogue".

Name of member applying.....



Shana Tova!



Rosh HaShana  
5780

Newsletter

## Just what are we?

Rabbi Adam S Hill

There is an ongoing discussion in world Jewry as to “Who is a Jew?” We, as part of the traditional mainstream Jewish world, understand that to be considered Jewish you have to have been born to a Jewish mother or have converted via a recognised Orthodox Bet Din. The research to establish credentials is fascinating on one hand but can be heartbreaking on the other.



Others accept those with a Jewish father or allow for conversion without the same stipulations as our Batei Din.

Yet others will look at the commitment of living in Israel compared to the perhaps easier option of Diaspora life.

A further claim is that if any of those who would do us harm consider us Jewish then this is sufficient to be thought of as valid.

This then looks at what it takes to be a member of “the Club”.

But “What is a Jew?” is a question that is even more difficult to establish.

Are we a nation, a people, a creed, a theology, a theocracy, a religion, a tribe (generic Spurs supporters) or what?

Do you lose your claim to Jewishness by not being involved with any particular aspect?

We join together as one – the Jews who think that Judaism is to pray as a Jew, to perform Mitzvot, to eat gefulte fish, to listen to klezmer or to speak Yiddish. We unite with those whose connection is to help those in need, those who visit Israel, those who wear a Hamsa, Magen David or Chai pendant and those who take pride that there are Jews doing the things that they opt out of.



In other words, we are complex but the divisions do not mean that there should be separation.

My preferred definition of who is a good Jew is that this is the person who is aiming to be a better Jew.

In all aspects of life, there should be continuing development. The artist who does not learn new techniques or the baker who does not cultivate new recipes, the doctor who does not research or the athlete who does not train – they stagnate.

Previous achievements and abilities are theirs – but in the past. Their present and future depend on building on what has been and not, to look at a festival soon to be upon us, to rest under our laurels.

To be a Jew is to promote education – not just academic, not solely within a Jewish context. Learning, questioning and making relevant



for the sake of improvement. But how many feel that they know the Jewish view on a subject based on

what they understood as a child or adolescent not having furthered their Jewish education since. Due to this many view Judaism through puerile eyes and neglect to be informed and hopefully inspired by engaging with Judaism as an adult.

To be a Jew is to care about others – especially those in need. There are so many ways that “members of the club” help anyone and everyone, anywhere and everywhere, that it would be spurious to give examples. Anyone who claims that Jews are insular and only take care of their own or are miserly and fail the needy is woefully ignorant.

Our State of Israel also is involved with humanitarian work – even with those who consider themselves our enemies, even with those who physically attack us and put innocent citizen’s lives in peril.

To be a Jew is to seek justice – for all. We believe in society, we believe in good, we

believe that it takes humanity to help humans and determination to challenge those who put other interests first.

You might have noticed that, so far, I have not included any of those “Jewish” items. Beliefs,



prayers, traditions, laws, observances or our relationship to G-dliness.

That is because the aspect of us being a people, a defined part of world society is of such great value.

However, we would not have arrived at that point if it were not for the fact that we are a faith. Our Torah teaching and seeking to keep Mitzvot have informed not only our community as to how to be a good person but also have informed much of the world.

There are challenges. There are those who, in seeking power, money and land, have brought religion into disrepute. There are those who do not involve themselves with the question of how to make a good society based on our relationship with G-dliness as they place the blame for man’s inhumanity to man as the fault of observance rather than accept that the burden of free will leaves us all culpable when society goes wrong.

On Rosh HaShana we celebrate the creation, the start of the human endeavour and the opportunity to review who we are and, most importantly, what we are.

A Jew is a person who takes this challenge and demands the best of themselves and the world around us. Be involved – help motivate the world towards good. And whilst you’re about it spend some time with your community as we can achieve more together.

Wishing all a good and better New Year  
Rabbi Adam, Shosh and Family Hill.

## The Chief Rabbi's Rosh Hashanah Message 5780

On 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2019, something extraordinary happened in Turkey; something which provides an insight into how each of us might successfully navigate a society which feels more divided and despondent than it has for many years.

*"These are times of disharmony, which many of us never believed we would see."*

Increasingly, when faced with a major problem, public figures discover that they find acclaim by apportioning blame. Immediate, oversimplified solutions are promised and their impassioned rhetoric alone can be enough to generate widespread public support. Over time, those holding an opposing view feel compelled to resort to many of the same tactics in order to be heard and society becomes polarised. Those who might be cast as an obstacle to the success of one side or another are scapegoated. Before long, people become defined by their perceived 'allegiances' and a destructive culture of demonisation of 'the other' sets in.

Today, we call this populism. Its impact is felt across the globe, from here in the UK, right across Europe, the United States and even in Israel. These are times of disharmony, which many of us never believed we would see.

Citizens in every country are prompted to make a choice: Will we do the easy thing? Will we sit back and allow ourselves to be swept up by the dangerous currents of hostility to 'the other'? Or, can we find a port somewhere in the storm where we can remain considered and temperate; where we can be discerning about truth and justice within our fragile world?

The signs thus far have been less than encouraging, but earlier this year a Turkish man, Ates Ilyas Bassoy, provided a flicker of light in the darkness.

Mr Bassoy had observed how actor, Robert De Niro had publicly insulted President Donald Trump at a high profile awards ceremony the previous year. His expletive-ridden remarks were greeted by a standing ovation, but they also served to motivate and embolden the President's supporters. Not surprisingly, anger generated yet more anger. Mr Bassoy concluded that a more effective strategy would be one of what he called 'radical love' - to meet aggression with peace, insults with praise and hatred with love. To most, it sounded like a naïve – if honourable – approach, but he was provided with an opportunity to prove it could work when he became the campaign manager for a virtually unknown district mayor, Ekrem Imamoglu. Mr Imamoglu was to stand for Mayor of Istanbul against the might of President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's powerful party regime. Bassoy described his campaign strategy as having two simple rules: Ignore Erdogan and love those who love Erdogan.

*"...the port in the storm is not in fact beyond our reach, nor is it something that we must wait for others to*

Few people believed that his candidate stood any chance. After all, Istanbul had long been a stronghold of the ruling AKP party and President Erdogan had a large base of support in the Turkish capital. Astonishingly, on 23<sup>rd</sup> June this year, against all the odds, Ekrem Imamoglu was elected mayor of Istanbul, striking a blow for civility, selflessness and decency.

. . . . cont.

The lesson of this most unlikely political earthquake is that the port in the storm is not in fact beyond our reach, nor is it something that we must wait for others to provide. On the contrary, the answer is and has always been right under our noses.

Our societies can take a lesson from our Torah tradition:

דרכיה דרכי נעם וכל נתיבותיה שלום

“The Torah’s ways are pleasant and all its paths are peace.” (Proverbs 3:17)

*"It is within our power to break free from the cycle of polarisation."*

It is within our power to break free from the cycle of polarisation. It begins by modelling what Rav Kook, the first Chief Rabbi of the Holy Land, referred to as 'Ahavat Chinam' – causeless love: making time to give of ourselves to others with no expectation of reward or reciprocity.

Our Sages taught: We become truly wise by learning from every person. We become truly mighty by conquering our own negative inclinations. We become truly honourable by honouring others and we become truly heroic by turning enemies into friends.

A highlight of our Yom Kippur services is the repetitive chanting of the 13 attributes of Hashem’s mercy. The Talmud explains that we do so in order to inspire us to emulate the ways of the Almighty: just as He is merciful, so too should we be merciful; just as He is kind, so too should we be kind. (Shabbat 133b).

Over the High Holy Day period, when we lower our heads for viduy (confession), we will admit to the sins of sneering, impertinence and obduracy; of disrespect, hard-heartedness and insincerity; of deception, tale-bearing and baseless hatred. Are these not among the most transgressed sins of the social media generation? In these times, when decency is no longer the norm and humility is mistaken for weakness, Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur inspire us to buck the trend and to change ourselves so deeply that those around us cannot fail to be influenced by it. This is how the seeds for real global change are sown.

Valerie and I extend our heartfelt wishes to you all for a happy, peaceful and fulfilling New Year.



**Chief Rabbi Ephraim Mirvis**  
September 2019 • Tishrei 5780



# Chairman's Message

Dr Alan Ferris

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## Welcome to Wylyotts. Will we be here next year?

As you know, the Golf Club closed earlier this year. The community have benefitted from the facilities at the Golf Club for many years, and it was a sad loss to Potters Bar when it closed. We were fortunate to find the Wylyotts Theatre to host our services, as we couldn't find any other venue in central Potters Bar that was both available and big enough.

We are still looking for premises that we could call a shul, for the High Holydays and also for regular services each week. We failed to get backing for buying the former police station, the British Legion and the Green Man pub when these came on the market. At present, the Scout hall is being rebuilt and may be suitable but we don't know if they will have enough money to complete it by next year.

Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur are a time when we look at ourselves, to consider what we did last year and what we can do better next year. As a community, we have tried to do more and I'm pleased to remind you about the Afternoon Tea and Chat sessions, hosted in the homes of a few members, and the Current Events Group hosted by Aubrey and Elaine.

We have a website at [www.PottersBarShul.org.uk](http://www.PottersBarShul.org.uk) and we have a presence on Facebook. An emailed Weekly Briefing has started, to increase contact with our community. We have some more talks from guest speakers in the diary and, of course, there are the Supper Quiz, the Bingo Evening, the Communal Seder, the Challah Bake and a number of religious and Israeli celebrations that we put on throughout the year. We'd like to do more.

What we lack is support from the majority of the members. As in all synagogues, there is a hardcore of people who attend services / social events / have security training but in Potters Bar, that hardcore numbers a very few people. An even smaller number of people set up and run these events.

It's Rosh Hashanah, a time for self-improvement, for reflection on what we did last year and what we can do better in the coming year. We need more involvement from members, we need **you** to come forward help keep the community going.

Where will we be next year? Where will YOU be next year?

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Registered Charity No. 242552



## President of the United Synagogue's Rosh Hashanah message Tishrei 5780, September 2019

Suppose you were alive in 1885 and were approached by an aspiring entrepreneur who had developed the world's most efficient horse carriage. Would you have invested?

It would have been wise not to, since one year later, another inventor by the name of Karl Benz would patent what is now considered the first automobile. Innovations can be revolutionary in nature: the automobile, the phonograph, the internet.

Others are evolutionary: better engines for cars, better sound systems for the phonograph and the World Wide Web for the internet. I was reminded of this as we approach 2020 and are getting ready to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the United Synagogue with open top bus tours, a gala dinner, burying a time capsule and a series of heritage talks and walks.

A decade before Karl Benz, another innovation took place that was no less revolutionary for Jewish communal life.

Back in 1870 five Ashkenazi shuls in London decided that they were stronger together. The Great, The Hambro, The New, Central and Bayswater all joined forces to become the United Synagogue. Instead of duplicating resources, they worked together for the good of the community. This was a revolutionary idea.

Since then, the United Synagogue has evolved further. Further communities have joined, including a growing number of regional communities and new Jewish areas. Recent innovations include the creation of a Women's Officer to ensure our communities are inclusive and welcoming. ShabbatUK provides a focal point for communities to engage members across the spectrum.

There is much to celebrate as we approach our 150th birthday. 1,167 new members joined last year. We established a multi academy trust to support Jewish schools. More than 700 young people took part in a Tribe residential programme this year. We launched two volunteer-run asylum seeker drop-in centres in Hendon and Woodford Forest United Synagogues. A National Lottery Heritage Fund grant will transform Willesden cemetery into a heritage and educational site. But it is time for us to evolve again to address the challenges we face.

How can we ensure our children and grandchildren have the same love of yiddishkeit that we do? What can we do to support people with disabilities and non-traditional families? How can we attract young people and young married couples to our communities?

Change is not easy. My fellow Trustees and I will support our communities, lay leaders, Rabbis and Rebbetzins to come up with ideas to do just that. Innovation applies to us as individuals, too. At Rosh Hashanah we consider the evolution of our own Jewish development. How can we take one step forward on our Jewish journey? Might we attend one of our wonderful community services, learn Hebrew or volunteer to help people in need?

The Talmud teaches "אי אפשר לבית המדרש בלא חידוש" – "It's not possible for there to be a House of Study without innovation" (Chagiga 3a). 1,500 years later, this message remains as urgent as ever. **Shana tova.**

**Michael Goldstein**  
President, United Synagogue

**President:** Michael Goldstein

**Treasurer:** Maxwell Nisner

**Trustees:** Andrew Eder, Claire Lemer, Fleurise Lewis, Leonie Lewis, Doreen Samuels, Barry Shaw, Saul Taylor

**Chief Executive:** Steven Wilson

# 150 not out

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*As the United Synagogue approaches its 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary next year, historian Elkan Levy takes a look back at the organisation's rich history.*

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The United Synagogue (US) was formed in 1870 by the union of three major Ashkenazi synagogues in the City of London (The Great, The Hambro', and The New), and two branch synagogues (the Central and Bayswater). The vision of Lionel Louis Cohen and Chief Rabbi Nathan Marcus Adler was to unify and strengthen London Jewry. The Jewish United Synagogues Act of 1870 was the result. The US is still the only Jewish religious body established by an act of secular legislature.

The organisation grew rapidly and expanded to the suburbs as the community moved. The appointment of Rabbi J H Hertz as Chief Rabbi in 1913 and the outbreak of the First World War produced both support and opposition for the emerging Zionist movement. Chaplaincy for the Armed Forces largely came from the Ministers of the United Synagogue.

The development of suburbia in the interwar period led to the growth of many important communities, and membership of the US was perceived as a step in the acculturation of those whose parents and grandparents had been part of the great immigration from Russia.

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The Second World War brought renewed problems. Evacuation from London produced small wartime communities. Many ministers served as chaplains, and their place was taken temporarily by those who had escaped from Europe.

In rapid post-war expansion, 40 new congregations joined the United Synagogue in the 25 years from 1945.

When J H Hertz died in 1946 he was succeeded by Rabbi Israel Brodie, only the second Chief Rabbi to have been born in England. Educated at Oxford, Brodie had served a community in Melbourne Australia, acted as a chaplain in both World Wars, been taken off the beaches of Dunkirk, and concluded the war as a Lt Colonel and the Senior Jewish Chaplain. He was succeeded in due course by Rabbi Immanuel Jakobovits and then Rabbi Jonathan Sacks, who have raised the status of the Chief Rabbinate within British society and have made it into one of the Great Offices of State.

Today the United Synagogue remains one of the most influential religious bodies. Its structure has enabled new congregations to grow and old congregations to downsize gently with their assets used to support other communities.

The Chief Rabbinate, today headed by Chief Rabbi Ephraim Mirvis, developed from the rabbinate of the Great Synagogue has proved a unifying force, restraining internal argument and break up. The London Beth Din together with its attendant Kashrut division has an international reach.

The Burial Society has established standards of dignity and care at the most vulnerable stage of life. The Singer's Prayer book (today in its most recent green-coloured edition) settled customs of prayer and the dignity of tefillot (services). Improvements in the status and conditions of the Rabbinate have spread to other Jewish communities that look to the US for a lead in so many different fields.

As the United Synagogue celebrates its 150th anniversary in 2020, we have so much to be proud of: vibrant communities led by dynamic Rabbinic teams and lay leaders, Tribe and Young US providing high-quality young people's programmes, support for our Jewish schools, high-quality educational publications and hundreds of volunteers supporting vulnerable members and beyond. It is the people both behind the scenes and in the public eye, who have created a vigorous and innovative force raising the standards of Judaism for its members and for the whole community to help ensure that the US continues to be at the forefront of British Jewish Life.

Kol Hakavod!

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Elkan D Levy was President of the United Synagogue from 1996 to 1999

**Photo:** The Great Synagogue in 1809 (from Ackerman's *Microcosm of London*)

## Community Afternoon Coffee and Chat

Helena Ferris

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These sessions have been going for over a year and usually attract around a dozen people.

We are very informal and meet in people's homes about once a month. Anyone who is around is most welcome to pop in.

Most teas are on a Monday but we are happy to move to other days if people want so please let me know if you are interested in coming but would prefer a different day of the week. We can also arrange lifts for local people who are housebound.

Occasionally, we have had speakers such as the people from NatWest bank telling us how to avoid scammers and what to do if you are caught out. Fire Prevention Officers came to a recent meeting and spoke about safety, preventing fires and also about the work they do.

We would like more speakers so please let me know if you have an idea or contact details of someone who will speak for free and is not selling anything.

Please look out for the emailed flyer which gives details of each session. For those not using email please let me know so I can ask for you to have a copy posted to you.

For more information please contact me on 01707 651801



## **NEW YEAR GREETINGS 5780/2019**

- ANSELL** Frances and Stuart, together with Charlotte, David and Jack, wish family and friends in the Community a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year.
- AZIZOLLAH** Joe and Elaine and family wish Rabbi Hill and family and the Community a happy and healthy new year and well over the fast.
- CARTER** Sylvie and Barry send their sincerest good wishes to all their friends in the Community for a happy, healthy, peaceful New Year and well over the Fast.
- FERRIS** Helena and Alan wish all their family and friends in the Community a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year.
- GINSBERG** Linda and Malcolm and family extend best wishes to the Potters Bar Community for a happy and healthy 5779.
- HOOKER** Juliette, Michael, Charlotte and James wish their family, Rabbi Hill and family and the Community a peaceful, happy and very healthy New Year and well over the Fast.
- KREEGER** Linda, Lionel, Neil and Joanne send their best wishes to all members of the Community for a year of good health and much happiness.
- LANNING** Ruth and Howard and family wish everyone a very happy and healthy New Year.
- PETERS** Eve and Michael wish all their friends and members of the Community all the very best and a great New Year.
- RADOM** Michelle, Simon, Jacob and Rebecca wish everyone in the Community a healthy and happy New Year ahead and well over the Fast.
- STONE** Irene and Albert wish their family and all their friends in the Community a very healthy and happy New Year.
- TEMPLE** Jennifer, Michael and Adrian wish the entire Community a happy and healthy New Year and well over the Fast.
- WOOLF** Leesa, Richard & Anaële, Hannah and Myrtle Holman wish everyone a happy and healthy New Year in England & France. May we all share good health, joy and happiness in the coming year.

**לשנה טובה תכתבו ותחתמו**

## Community News - Rosh HaShannah 5780 - 2019

### Special Birthday:

- ✧ Mazel Tov on their special birthdays to Gerry Bloohn, Sylvia Carter, Helen Chadwick, Anne Konskier, Alan Segenfield & Aubrey Tray

### Engagement:

- ✧ Mazel Tov to all of the Woolf family on Richard's engagement to Anaële

### Wedding Anniversaries:

- ✧ Mazel Tov to Elaine & Aubrey Tray on their Golden Wedding Anniversary

### Mazeltov:

- ✧ Mazel Tov to Irene & Albert Stone on moving to their new home

### New Member:

- ✧ Welcome to new member Michele Miller

### Condolence:

- ✧ Condolences to the family of Mr Edward Lebe on their sad loss

### Stone Setting:

- ✧ The Stone Setting for Michael Stern will take place on Sunday 15 December 2019 at 11.00 am at Bushey New Cemetery

Good luck to those starting new schools, university or new jobs over the next few months

## Remember

**If you have a Simcha or a special date to celebrate  
then why not Sponsor a Kiddush on a Shabbat morning  
and share it with the community**

### Dates to Remember

- ✧ Bingo Evening - Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2019
- ✧ Chanukah - 23<sup>rd</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> December 2019
- ✧ Annual Supper Quiz - TBC
- ✧ Purim - 10<sup>th</sup> March 2020
- ✧ Pesach - 8<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> April 2020
- ✧ Communal Second Seder - Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2020

# SINGERS & SONGWRITERS OF JEWISH NEW YORK

Aubrey Tray

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We are fortunate to have a raft of Jewish celebrities, famed for their various combinations of singing, songwriting and film making, mostly now aged in their seventies and who originate from New York. They have given so much pleasure to the world and hopefully, their music will go on for many years to come.

Let's list them; Barbra Streisand, Neil Diamond, Barry Manilow, Billy Joel, Bette Midler, Carole King, Simon & Garfunkel, Neil Sedaka.

Collectively they are a phenomenon because, of those younger than this age group, I struggle to come up with even one recording artist of similar standing that I can identify as a product of Jewish New York.

The internet holds vast amounts of discography and other info on all of these talented celebrities, so I will limit this piece to some lesser-known facts you may find interesting:-

## BARBRA STREISAND

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Her first name is in fact Barbara but, in her early life, the rebellious Ms Streisand wanted to mark herself out as 'different' and dropped an 'a' to become Barbra.

She cannot read or write music,

Streisand began her education at the Jewish Orthodox Yeshiva at Brooklyn when she was just five years old.

Streisand owns many dogs. Her love for one, Samantha, was so strong she had her cloned.

Streisand was awarded the French Legion of Honour (the highest decoration in France) by Nicolas Sarkozy.

## NEIL DIAMOND

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He habitually wore glitzy shirts on stage so the audience could see him without binoculars. He had a dedicated fashion designer to create them.

For a while, he was a classmate of Barbra Streisand at the Erasmus Hall High School in Brooklyn.

He won The Golden Raspberry Award of 1980 in worst actor category for his role in The Jazz Singer. (The

Razzies, as they are affectionately known, are a parody award show, to honour under-achievement). Interestingly, he was nominated for the Golden Globe Award in that year for best actor in the same role, although he didn't win it.

In his early years he was an ace at fencing and was part of a team that was represented nationally, in the States.

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## **BARRY MANILOW**

Like Neil Sedaka, he studied music at the prestigious Juilliard Performing Arts School.

In his early career he made a living by writing and singing advertising jingles for big name companies like MacDonalds, Kentucky Fried Chicken and Pepsi.

Although Manilow wrote many successful songs including 'Copacabana', his three greatest hits, 'Mandy', 'I Write the Songs', and 'Can't Live Without You' were not written by him.

Manilow worked in tandem with Bette Midler from 1971 to 1975 working as her pianist in gay bars in New York.

A judge from Arizona who attended one of his concerts in 1993 filed a suit against Manilow claiming the music was so loud it left him with permanent screeching in his ears. The suit was settled after Manilow agreed to donate a substantial sum to the American Tinnitus Association.

## **BILLY JOEL**

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His grandfather and father were refugees from Germany during the Nazi period. He has a much younger half-brother who is British by birth and is a renowned classical orchestra conductor in mainland Europe. The amazing story of three generations of the Joel family is worthy of being immortalized in a Steven Spielberg film. (Perhaps more on this another time.)

Although of 100% Jewish heritage, he was baptized as a Catholic, and now professes to be an atheist.

He has been married four times.

## **BETTE MIDLER**

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I have made an exception for her to be included in this group. Born and raised in Hawaii, but it was in New York, the birth city of her parents, that she made her mark.

The larger than life persona that is Bette Midler is actually physically diminutive at only five foot one inch in height.

Her first acting role on Broadway was as one of the daughters of Tevye in Fiddler on the Roof.

She is a campaigner on Green issues and part of a coalition that has saved neglected plots of land in New York from commercial development and converted them to parkland.

She shows up at US military bases and serves meals to personnel prior to their deployment.

## **CAROLE KING**

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She married Gerry Goffin (an aspiring fellow Jewish New Yorker songwriter) when she was still seventeen. Very soon after, they welcomed the birth of a daughter. They had phenomenal success in their early years together writing the biggest hits for American and British pop stars, but Carole also had her own hit records including her biggest hit 'It Might As Well Rain Until September'.

Neil Sedaka whom she dated, dedicated his big hit 'Oh Carol' to her. In response Carole returned the favour by recording 'Oh Neil'. It bombed!

Carole King married four times.

## **SIMON & GARFUNKEL**

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Paul Simon & Art Garfunkel began their duo under the name 'Tom & Jerry'.

Stardom did not come quickly. Between 1957 and 1964 they combined solo careers with non-musical college enrolment but coming together occasionally as a duo. By 1966 they were riding high.

They had a reputation for falling out with each other.

Art Garfunkel was an avid walker. He walked across Japan and over a 14 year span he walked the breadth of the States from New York to the Pacific coast of Washington state taking 40 separate excursions to

complete the task.

Paul Simon was a major benefactor in providing medically equipped buses for children in the States living in areas poorly served in health care.

### NEIL SEDAKA:

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His surname is a derivative of the Hebrew word 'Tsedakah' meaning 'Charity'.

Neil has an unusually high tenor voice which has not changed over his entire career.

Neil has made recordings in many languages; Yiddish, Hebrew, Spanish, German. He made one recording in Japanese, but it was the English versions of his biggest hits that went to the number one spot in their pop charts.

He has been married to his wife for 57 years.

### MY GRATITUDE

Finally, as gratitude to all these artists, the lyrics conveyed in the Abba song 'Thank You For The Music' sum up my appreciation for the years of pleasure given to us all as follows:-

*'So I say, thank you for the music, the songs I'm singing,*

*Thanks for all the joys they're bringing,*

*Who can live without it, I ask in all honesty, what would life be,*

*Without a song or dance, what are we?*

*So I say, thank you for the music, for giving it to me.'*

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## Apple and Honey Cake

8 oz (225g)      Margarine, softened, plus extra for greasing

1 lb (450g)      Bramley apples

Finely grated zest and juice of 1 lemon

8 oz (225g)      caster sugar

3                  large eggs

8 oz (225g)      self-raising flour

2 tsp              baking powder

1 oz (25g)        ground almonds

1 tbsp demerara sugar  
4 tbsp runny honey

Preheat the oven to 180°C/fan160°C/gas 4. Grease a deep 23-24cm springform cake tin and line with baking paper. Peel, core and cut the apples into 1cm pieces, and toss with the lemon juice.

Cream together the marg, caster sugar and lemon zest in a bowl until pale and fluffy. Beat in the eggs, 1 at a time, adding a little flour each time to keep the mixture smooth.

Sift the remaining flour and the baking powder into the bowl and fold in with the ground almonds. Drain the apple pieces well, then stir into the mixture.

Spoon into the prepared cake tin, lightly level the top and sprinkle with the demerara sugar. Bake in the oven for 1 hour or until well-risen, brown and a skewer inserted into the centre of the cake comes out clean. If the cake starts to look a little too brown, cover with a sheet of baking paper after about 45 minutes.

Leave to cool in the tin for 10 minutes. Drizzle with honey. Remove the cake from the tin and place on a serving plate.



## BEHIND THE SCENES AT THE UNITED SYNAGOGUE BURIAL SOCIETY

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The Burial Society is responsible for funerals at a number of cemeteries, Bushey (Old and New), Waltham Abbey, Willesden, East Ham and Sheffield. As well as these, they maintain the grounds at a number of disused cemeteries and arrange for these to be opened on request should someone wish to visit. The Burial Society has in excess of 70 members of staff employed to ensure that funerals and stone settings, tombstones are cleaned and repaired as requested and all our grounds are maintained in as best a condition as possible.

Burials commenced in Bushey New Cemetery in September 2018. We are very proud of this site, which has attracted architectural accolades for its design. We anticipate that all burials at Bushey, excluding those where a reserve has been pre-arranged at Bushey Old, will be at Bushey New in the very near future. We carry out around 870 funerals per year and nearly the same amount of stone settings.

The vast majority of those buried were members, the remainder being non-members, for whom a charge for burial is made. Included in the non-members were a small number of charity funerals, the United Synagogue is renowned for burying halachically Jewish people who have sadly passed away with no resources and in some cases no family.

The Burial Society will only arrange for someone whose proof of halachic identity has been proven. In the case of members, this is established on their joining the United Synagogue, for non-members we work with the Beth Din to obtain all the relevant facts. It could be as simple as a birth certificate proving that their mother was buried in one of our cemeteries, or it could be harder to establish, working sometimes with foreign Beth Din.

As everyone is aware, people are living to greater ages, in 2018 almost 65% of those we buried were aged 85 and over.

Approximately 50% of our burials are in reserved plots. These are either reserved at a low cost by the surviving spouse at the time of the first passing or can be reserved in advance in a selected position – if you wish to do this, please contact the Burial Society and we will assist and advise you of relevant costs.

Provided you subscribe to the funeral expense scheme, there will be no cost attached to a funeral. The main exceptions to this include transport to Bushey or Waltham Abbey from outside the M25 area or costs incurred should a person pass away somewhere without mortuary facilities when the offices are shut for Shabbat or Yom Tov and an independent firm of undertakers is asked to safely keep your loved one until the Burial Society can collect them. Details of these undertakers should they be required are on the website, <https://www.theus.org.uk/arrangingaburial>.

However at all times, despite the need for a Jewish person to be buried as soon as possible, we have to abide by the law of the United Kingdom. We are also very mindful of health and safety requirements.







## PROTECTING JEWISH LIFE IN THE UK

Our goal at CST is to protect you. We want to ensure that you, your family, friends and community can lead the Jewish life of your choice.

We know that these are difficult times, with the terrorist threat and the overall political situation causing deep concern to British Jews. Our staff and volunteers promise to always do everything that we can to protect the community.

CST exists to facilitate Jewish life, not to publicise antisemitism. We will always be honest about how things stand, without spreading panic or fear; and by placing antisemitism in the wider context of the positive reality that is normal, daily Jewish life. That normal positive Jewish life may not make the news, but we should keep it in mind when we look at how things now stand.

This year and last year we have seen appalling terrorist attacks against places of worship, including synagogues in the USA. After these tragedies, it has been truly humbling to be repeatedly thanked for keeping the UK Jewish community as safe as possible, but really it shows exactly why CST does its work, and why we need the total partnership of our whole community. We thank you for supporting our security measures and ask that you report any suspicious or offensive behaviour to our security teams.

Finally, our warmest wishes for a happy Rosh Hashanah.

Please consider volunteering for CST or donating to us. We are a charity and we cannot do our work without your help. For more information, visit [www.cst.org.uk](http://www.cst.org.uk) In an emergency, call the Police and then call our 24-hour National Emergency Number 0800 032 3263.

- [www.cst.org.uk](http://www.cst.org.uk)
- Community Security Trust [@CST\\_UK](https://twitter.com/CST_UK) [CSTmedia](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSTmedia)
- National Emergency Number (24-hour) **0800 032 3263**  
London (Head Office) **020 8457 9999**  
Manchester (Northern Regional Office) **0161 792 6666**



Community Security Trust is a registered charity in England and Wales (1042391) and Scotland (SC043612)

On the 25<sup>th</sup> October I am flying to Israel to join Norwood on The Yam I'Yam Hike, an 8 day challenge.

Norwood is the largest Jewish charity in the UK supporting vulnerable children and their families, children with special educational needs and people with learning disabilities and autism.

<https://www.norwood.org.uk/pages/what-we-do/>

<https://www.norwood.org.uk/pages/challenges/israel-trek/>

The **Yam I'Yam Hike** (Sea to Sea) is one of the most popular hiking trails in Israel literally crossing the country from west to east, from the Mediterranean Sea to the Sea of Galilee, crossing some of Israel's most beautiful scenery in the Western Galilee and Upper Galilee regions. The Yam I'Yam Sea to Sea hike is a total of 89km starting at sea level, climbing to 1,200 meters, and then descending to 400 meters.

We will be climbing Mt Meron. This climb will take a few hours and includes rest stops at some beautiful viewing points of the upper Galil and over the Golan towards Mt Hermon. Once we reach the summit of Mt Meron (+1,200m) we start our long descent down to the Kineret (-210m).

This is a challenging event and involves long walking days of up to 8 hours. A reasonable level of fitness is required and a good level of endurance with an ability to sustain the level of effort required over a period of days. There will be both ascents and descents and the use of metal handrails, a metal ladder and metal hand and footholds.

<https://www.touristisrael.com/yam-lyam-hike/5621/>

On the advice of Norwood challenge manager Julie, I am upping my training and now when you see me walking the streets of Potters Bar you will notice my backpack. If you need some potatoes, carrots or a bag of rice please stop me, make a donation and you can have them.

On the 27th May, Hannah and I climbed Croagh Patrick in Ireland. It was good training for me but, more importantly, my friend who has wanted to make the pilgrimage and climb this mountain for many years achieved her goal.



<http://www.croagh-patrick.com/>

If you would like to make a donation to help my fundraising please visit my virgin money page <https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/LeesaWoolf>

Thank you

Leesa Woolf



## An evening of learning and inspiration for women in the lead up to Rosh Hashana & Yom Kippur

Join us on **Sunday September 22nd** and hear from world renowned educators and presenters. Whether through text, art, yoga, music or more, come along and prepare yourself for Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur.



**Dr Adina Shmidman**  
Director, The Women's Initiative Department, OU



**Jacqueline Feldman**  
Ma'ayan and Rebbetzen, Bushey United Synagogue



**Talya Rose**  
Yoga teacher and Assistant Rebbetzen, Mill Hill Synagogue



**Yael Leibowitz**  
Renowned scholar and educator



**Dr Hadassah Fromson**  
Community Rebbetzen, Golders Green Synagogue



**Lauren Levin**  
Yoetzet Halacha and Director of Education, South Hampstead Synagogue



**Chava Erlanger**  
Artist

6pm - Dinner

7pm - 10pm - Sessions

**LIMITED PLACES AVAILABLE.**

Early bird tickets (before 2nd September): £15

Tickets after 2nd September: £20

Ticket price includes buffet dinner and refreshments

Location in NW3.

**Book Now: [chiefrabbi.org/neshama](http://chiefrabbi.org/neshama)**

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**CHIEF RABBI**

# Save the Dates



## Community Coffee and Chat

Please join us for our monthly get together, coffee/tea and chat.

Our next gathering is **Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2019**. We meet from 3.30 until about 5.

These are very informal and we welcome all ages who happen to be free. We also love to see non-members who are friends of friends. Lifts can be arranged for those who live locally and have difficulty getting around.

## Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2019

### Bingo Evening

Our ever-popular Bingo Evening is back! Great fun; hilarious caller and edible prizes! Please do come and join us.



## Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2020

### Supper Quiz



Are you and your friends ready for the challenge?  
Join us for supper and a great quiz night.

For more information on either event contact

[Events@pottersbarshul.org.uk](mailto:Events@pottersbarshul.org.uk)

Or phone Linda Kreeger on 01707 647825

# YOM TOV TIMETABLE 5780

All services at Sunnybank unless otherwise indicated

## Shabbat Nitsavim

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<b>Friday 27 September</b>	
Shabbat starts	6.33 pm
Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat	6.30 pm
<b>Saturday 28 September</b>	
Shacharit	9.30 am
Shabbat ends	7.32 pm

## Rosh HaShana 5780

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<b>Sunday 29 September</b>	
1 <sup>st</sup> Day starts <i>light candles by</i>	6.29 pm
Mincha/Ma'ariv @ Sunnybank	6.30 pm
<b>Monday 30 September</b>	
Shacharit @ Wyllyotts	9.00 am
Mincha/Ma'ariv @ Sunnybank	6.30 pm
2 <sup>nd</sup> Day starts <i>light candles after</i>	7.27 pm
<b>Tuesday 1 October</b>	
Shacharit @ Wyllyotts	9.00 am
Yom Tov ends	7.25 pm

## Fast of Gedaliah

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<b>Wednesday 2 October</b>	
Fast starts	5.24 am
Fast ends	7.17 pm

## Shabbat VaYeilech - Shuva

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<b>Friday 4 October</b>	
Shabbat starts	6.17 pm
Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat	6.15 pm
<b>Saturday 5 October</b>	
Shacharit	9.30 am
Shabbat ends	7.16 pm

## Yom Kippur

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<b>Tuesday 8 October</b>	
Fast & Yom Tov starts <i>light candles by</i>	6.08 pm
Kol Nidrei @ Wyllyotts	6.15 pm
<b>Wednesday 9 October</b>	
Shacharit @ Wyllyotts	9.00 am
Yizkor	12.30 pm
Ne'ilah	5.30 pm
Yom Tov and Fast end	7.07 pm

## Shabbat Ha'azinu

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<b>Friday 11 October</b>	
Shabbat starts	6.02 pm
Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat	6.00 pm
<b>Saturday 12 October</b>	
Shacharit	9.30 am
Shabbat ends	7.01 pm

## Succot

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<b>Sunday 13 October</b>	
1 <sup>st</sup> Day starts <i>light candles by</i>	5.57 pm
Mincha/Ma'ariv	6.00 pm
<b>Monday 14 October</b>	
Shacharit	9.30 am
Mincha/Ma'ariv	6.00 pm
2 <sup>nd</sup> Day starts <i>light candles after</i>	6.57 pm
<b>Tuesday 15 October</b>	
Shacharit	9.30 am
Yom Tov ends	6.55 pm

## Shabbat Chol HaMoed

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<b>Friday 18 October</b>	
Shabbat starts	5.46 pm
Mincha/Ma'ariv	5.45 pm
<b>Saturday 19 October</b>	
Shacharit	9.30 am
Shabbat ends	6.46 pm

## Shmini Atseret/Simchat Torah

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<b>Sunday 20 October</b>	
Yom Tov starts <i>light candles by</i>	5.42 pm
Mincha/Ma'ariv	5.45 pm
<b>Monday 21 October</b>	
Shacharit	9.30 am
Mincha	5.45 pm
Simchat Torah starts <i>light candles after</i>	6.42 pm
Ma'ariv with Hakafot	7.00 pm
<b>Tuesday 22 October</b>	
Shacharit with Hakafot	9.30 am
Yom Tov ends	6.40 pm

## Shabbat Bereishit

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<b>Friday 25 October</b>	
Shabbat starts	5.32 pm
Kabbalat Shabbat	6.00 pm
<b>Saturday 26 October</b>	
Shacharit	9.30 am
Shabbat ends	6.33 pm



**Potters Bar and Brookmans Park Synagogue**  
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