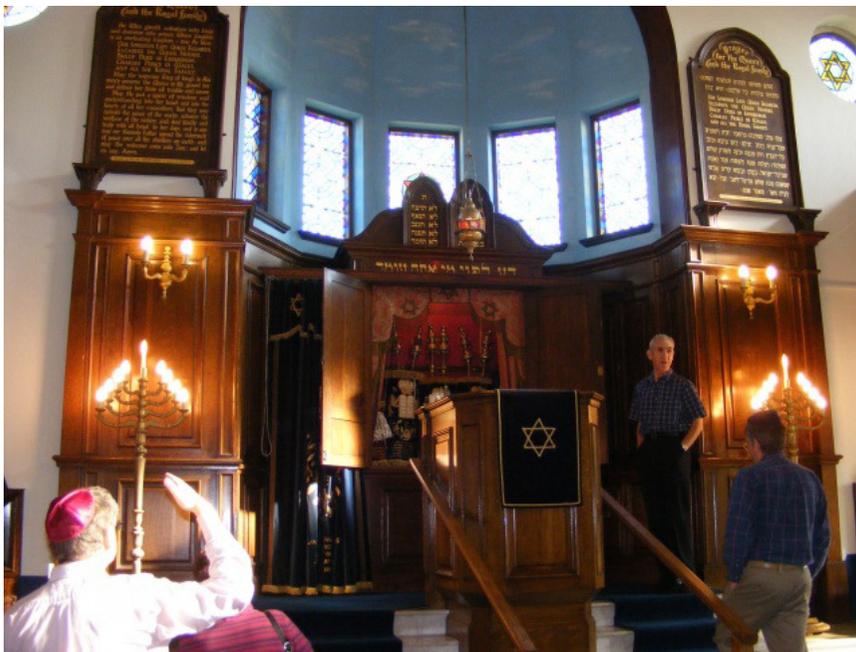




Pictures from the Thanet Synagogue Trail.



# Etz Chaim

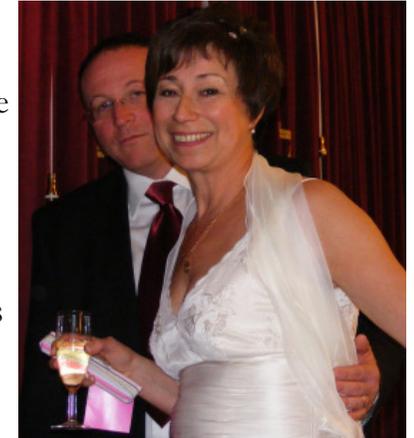
Volume 25  
Issue 4



December 2007  
Kislev 5768

## Mazel Tov to Sally and Michael!

Valued member of the Thanet and District Reform Synagogue Sally Bass married Michael Roth at the Synagogue on 4 November 2007. Sally has long served on the council and edited the Etz Chaim newsletter as well as being a member of the Synagogue choir. We wish Sally and Michael every happiness for the future.



Rabbi Emeritus:  
Community Rabbi:  
Chairman:  
Vice Chairman/Treasurer:  
Honorary Secretary:  
Council Members: H el ene Cohen, Sam Cohen, David Fox, Simon Wolfe,  
Golda Valek (co-opted)

Rabbi Sonny Herman  
Rabbi Cliff Cohen  
Godfrey Fischer  
Ian Smiler  
Eleanor Miller

Thanet & District Reform Synagogue, 293A Margate Rd, Ramsgate, CT12 6TE  
TEL: 01843 851164 - A constituent member of the Movement for Reform Judaism

## Shabbat services and Festivals Calendar

**Saturday 1 December 2007 – Friday 22 March 2008 / Kislev 21 – Adar II 15, 5768**

Kabbalat Shabbat services are held every Friday at 7.30pm (except the Shabbat Suppers – 6.45pm.)

Saturday services are on the first and third Saturday of each month at 10.30am.

Torah breakfasts start at 9.15am, followed by a shorter service at 10.30am. (NB Festival times vary – see below)

*As the calendar is prepared in advance, details shown may be subject to amendment. Call 01843 851164 to check.*

**2007**

### DECEMBER

**Sat 1 Dec/Kislev 21, 9.15/10.30am**

Torah breakfast/service  
Vayeshev

**Tue 4 Dec/Kislev 24**

Chanukah, 1st candle

**Sun 9 Dec/ Kislev 29, 3pm**

Chanukah Party

**Tue 11 Dec/Tevet 2**

Chanukah, 8th candle

**Sat 16 Dec/ Tevet 6, 10.30am**

Vayiggash

**2008**

### JANUARY

**Sat 5 Jan/ Tevet 27, 10.30am**

Blessing for Shevat  
Va'era

**Sat 19 Jan/Tevet 12, 10.30**

Shabbat Shirah  
Beshallah

**Tue 22 Jan/ Shevat 15, 3pm**

Tu B'shvat, New Year for Trees

Tu B'shvat seder followed  
by tea and refreshments

### FEBRUARY

**Sat 2 Feb/Shevat 26, 10.30am**

Blessing for Adar I  
Mishpatim

**Sat 16 Feb/ Adar I 10, 10.30am**

Tetzavveh

**Fri 22 Feb/ Adar I 16, 6.45pm**

Shabbat Supper

### MARCH

**Sat 1 Mar/ Adar I 24, 10.30am**

Blessing for Adar II  
Vayakhel

**Sat 15 Mar/ Adar II 8, 10.30am**

Shabbat Zachor  
Vayikra

**Thu 20 Mar/Adar II 14, 7pm**

Erev Purim

**Fri 21 Mar/ Adar II 15, 10am**

*Purim*



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- **Cleaning the home**
- **Mobility issues**

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**“good old fashioned service”**

### Synagogue shatterproof security

Thanks to a generous grant by the Community Security Trust (CST) many synagogues are having their windows treated to render them shatterproof in the event of an explosion. Whilst Thanet has not been a hotbed of terrorist activity, TDRS, nevertheless, has taken up the offer in the interests of future security. By the time you read this the synagogue windows will have had the special shatterproof coating applied.

On the subject of security, whilst for obvious reasons we ask for mobile phones to be switched off during services, you may have noticed one which is permanently on. The CST also provided this. Only they have the number, which will ring only if there is a security incident we need to know about.

### Robert's on the move again

Those of you who remember and have been following the career and moves of Rabbi Dr Robert Ash, one time member of our community will recall that he has finished his five year stint as rabbi of Newcastle Reform. He was appointed rabbi to the Johannesburg Reform Synagogue and took up his post at the beginning of November. We received a quick email just as he was settling in.

*I've been here ten days now. I'm gradually settling in. Got my office sorted out. I've a little studio flat on the premises, quite spacious and cosy. The weather here is pleasant and getting warm (26 degrees yesterday). Hope to get a car sorted in the next few days so I can be more independent.*

*The congregation are very welcoming and so far things look good. Please give my best wishes to all at Thanet Ref Syn.*

Regards,  
Robert

### Shalom and welcome to Etz Chaim

Because of Sally's recent departure to the other side of the world, myself (Eleanor Miller) and my husband (Graham Miller) are the new editors of the TDRS newsletter. A little bit of background for those of you who don't know us... we are an interfaith household, I am Jewish, and a member of the Shul, and Graham is a Pagan, who has a great deal of expertise in IT and desktop publishing. Luckily he's very happy to support Thanet and District Reform Shul by lending us his knowledge and experience to produce the newsletter. We have two children, Toby (6) and Reuben (3), and Miller offspring number 3 is on the way and due in May 2008.

Following Sally's years of superb newsletter production is a daunting task, but we'll do our best! You will have noticed by now that the newsletter is in a new format. After the price raises by the Post Office, the Synagogue Council realised in a flash of inspiration that producing the newsletter in A5 size would save us quite a lot in postage.

We would like to include recipes in the newsletter, so if you have one you'd like to share, or anything else you'd like to include in the next newsletter, or any comments on the new format, please get in touch (see below).

Best wishes,

Eleanor and Graham Miller.

The articles, letters, advertising and content in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views of the Thanet and District Reform Synagogue or of the Movement for Reform Judaism.

The Editor reserves the right to edit any material accepted for publication.

The deadline for the next issue is 14 February 2008.

All correspondence or articles to:  
Etz Chaim News, 1 Wenderton Cottages, Wenderton Lane,  
Wingham, CT3 1EL or email Eleanor@buyjewishstuff.biz.  
Tel: 01227 722182

**John Helmuth Ullmann 7 June 1926 - 25 September 2007**

*Funeral service eulogy by Jennifer Ullmann-Jones*

John Helmuth Ullmann was born in Sindelfingen 7th June 1926 the son of Bella & Sigmund Ullmann. He was the only son with two sisters. Speaking to his Aunt in America some years ago she described him as a mischievous boy who was always getting into trouble, some things don't change!!! One day he spotted an English registered car in the town and asked the Lady occupant if she had any English stamps. She didn't but took John's address and sent him some.

Some years later when the finger of Nazi oppression was moving south in Germany John's father realised what was likely to happen and wrote to this English lady, Mrs Pigeon and asked if she would take his children to England. She wrote back to say she couldn't take the three but as she had met John she would gladly take him. John came to England via the Red Cross Kinder Transport whilst one sister went to America and the other remained at home. John made his life in England after the war as he had lost 65 relatives as a result of the Holocaust.

He met and married Janet and enjoyed his new family around him. His two daughters Irene & Jennifer, their husbands Mike and Colin, two grandchildren, Katie & Suzanne, and Katie's partner David and Suzanne's husband Patrick and two great grandchildren Danielle and Ryan. As you know Janet passed away 10 years ago after which John found companionship and friendship with Elizabeth.

His life has stretched into many areas of Dover but I will attempt to give you a flavour with this ode.

**Ode to John Ullmann**

John Helmuth Ullmann, Diesel Johnny as he was known  
Has now reached the end of his life, in this his second home  
He had led a very varied life, with many a tale to be told  
I'll tell you his story in these few lines to remember a man so bold.

He came to England in '38, a victim of oppression  
With a name card around his neck and a box his only possession  
He was fostered by Florence Pigeon, a lady of great stance

A seminar for all who say:

**I'M JEWISH, MY PARTNER ISN'T**

The seminar offers you the opportunity to talk about your situation, discuss any issues that you may face and explore the various issues open to you.

It will be led by Rabbi Dr Jonathan Romain and members of Community Outreach.

Sunday 13th January 2008 2.30pm-5.45pm

At the Sternberg Centre, 80 East End Road, Finchley, London N3 2SY.

Entry is for anyone, whether or not you are synagogue members ...and is for both the Jewish and non-Jewish partners alike. There is a charge of £2.50 per person.

You can just turn up on the day, although it helps us gauge numbers if you call in advance: contact us on 01628-671058 or email: [rabbi@maidenheadsynagogue.org.uk](mailto:rabbi@maidenheadsynagogue.org.uk)

**Good wishes to...**

We are sorry to hear that Rabbi Sony Herman has not been very well and sadly could not visit us on the occasion of Sally and Michael's wedding. We wish him a speedy recovery and send him and Lena all our love and many happy returns on his recent birthday.

**Are you in a mixed-faith relationship that you'd like to turn into a Jewish one?**

or

**Is your partner female, doesn't want to convert, but you do want to find other ways of giving your children Jewish status?**

or

**Do you have a non-Jewish partner who would simply like to know more about Judaism without any pressure?**

If you answered 'yes' to any of the above three questions, then contact Rabbi Jonathan Romain (01628-671058 or [rabbi@maidenheadsynagogue.org.uk](mailto:rabbi@maidenheadsynagogue.org.uk)) who will explain new options that are now available.

Reform Judaism values Jewish relationships but knows that every couple must make their own decisions.

Reform Judaism marries the best of tradition with the realities of modernity, which includes helping Jewish individuals who have non-Jewish partners.

Until he joined the army, he led her a merry dance

Because of his language ability, an interpreter he became  
And whilst stationed in Dover, he fell for an army dame  
Janet Matheson was her name, a Scot true to her clan  
She was a radar operative, who Jonny liked to scan

Soon they were married, and set up home in a married quarter  
It wasn't too long before Irene arrived, the first Ullmann daughter  
She was followed soon by a sister John's daughter Jenny  
She is a real chip off the old block, bargaining for every penny.

John left the army and employment he did seek  
He tried his hand at anything and changed from week to week  
He became a baker's rounds man, delivering to the gate  
Because he could not find his way, he was always home very late

He then moved to the ferries, as a steward on the ships  
But very soon he walked the plank for pocketing the tips  
He wanted to write a book about his fellow men  
So he started at the bottom working for Parker pens

He then worked at the gas works, followed by steel erection  
Neither job he did enjoy with any satisfaction  
He wanted a job of his own, one with an important position  
So he started to build with three others Dover Demolition

McGarry, Ullmann, Sedgewick and Hamilton MUSH as they were known  
They each fell by the wayside until John was on his own  
He built up the firm and made his name throughout Dover town  
For always using diesel and knocking buildings down

Until one day he had a clash, with Dover Borough Council

He was using land to store his goods, with typical remission  
He hadn't asked Dover Council for their planning permission  
This fight went on for many a year as the Council wouldn't relent  
Until one day with fines unpaid John was sent down for contempt.

Pentonville was the place to be detained at her Majesty's pleasure  
His family visited every day which was no easy measure  
Not once, but twice, he was locked up, a lesson to be learnt?  
While the goods that caused the problem, were unceremoniously burnt

When the lime kiln was developed he was asked to propose a name for the road.  
He proposed Pentonville Close but that was deemed inappropriate.  
It was called Badger's Rise, even though John would have told you he never saw a badger there the whole time he owned it.  
Football had been John's passion now for many many seasons  
For him to miss a match, there had to be very good reasons

When he reached his retirement age a pension he was due  
You might have seen him at the post office, standing in the queue

John was a local character but not everybody's cup of tea  
He sailed close to the wind at times, but not out at sea  
Whatever he did he thought he was right and carried out with the best intention  
His principles were very strong and his views often in contention

He was a man larger than life whose presence will be greatly missed  
Though the organisations he supported are far too many to list  
But most of all those closest to him, family and friends alike  
Will have their precious memories forever in their sight.

Diesel Johnny, gone but never to be forgotten

### **October - a Busy Inter-faith Month**

*Rabbi Cliff Cohen*

From 12th to 14th October I took part in a Jewish-Christian study weekend in Aylesham. A succession of speakers gave inspiring and thought-provoking insights into the building of bridges, in particular between Jews and Catholics. A revision of Catholic thinking since the war, including several emphatic statements direct from the Vatican that the accusation of deicide is unjustified and false, has opened up new possibilities for dialogue, and on both sides there is a determined effort not to repeat past errors.

I hurried back on the Sunday to join the Margate Moslem community in their celebration of Eide, which marks the end of the Holy month of Ramadan. The purpose, as explained by the Imam, was to eat as much as one could, so a seemingly endless supply of the most delightful food was heaped upon us. MP's, mayors, councillors and other local dignitar-

### **A whole new Jeneration**

*Abridged by the editors from an article in Reform Judaism - contact us if you'd like the full text.*

The Jeneration initiative is backed by The Movement for Reform Judaism and aims to enrich the Jewish lives of all young adults, no matter how they identify themselves.

The Jeneration initiative works on the principle of responding directly to the needs of young adults, rather than an institution laying on programmes and expecting people to come. For example, an Interfaith Trip with 10 Muslims and 10 Jews travelling to Andalusia in January 2008 is the direct outcome of a conversation between a student rabbi and a student at the Muslim College.

Jeneration.org is a portal to Jewish life and a tool for connecting people. A vibrantly-designed, dynamic and cutting edge website, jeneration.org combines social networking with listings of Jewish events in the UK and high quality new Jewish writing. All 'Reform-friendly' Jewish events in the UK can be listed in the 'What's On' section. There is also plenty to entertain people whilst they are online, such as an interactive fridge magnet and live Israeli radio.

Other ideas from young adults which Jeneration is responding to include an Incubator programme, to nurture Jewish social enterprise ideas, a poker tournament and a Late Bar/bat-Mitzvah scheme for those who missed out when they were younger.

Two further staff members have recently been appointed to the Jeneration team: experienced Jewish educator and graduate of Jewish Theological Seminary, Stephanie Schissler and Leo Baeck College student rabbi, Nathan Alfred.

To find out more, visit [www.jeneration.org](http://www.jeneration.org).

*We send our condolences to*

Frances Gallacher on the sad loss of her husband,

**Bill Gallacher,**

to

Rivka Dodds on the sad loss of her brother,

**Manny Webber**

and to

The Ullmann family and Elizabeth Ritchie following the sad loss of

**John Ullmann**

our prayers go to all their families

**Zichronam livrachah,**

**May their memory be for a blessing**

Frances Gallacher would like to pass on her thanks to Rabbi Cohen and the congregation for their kind thoughts at this sad time.

ies were there, and the atmosphere was warm and friendly, especially towards the non-Moslem visitors.

The following Thursday we held the first of the current series of local inter-faith evenings. About 40 people gathered to learn about the Baha'i faith, which has a serenity of which we should be envious. Five more such evenings are planned, and you should receive a flyer with this newsletter if the plan has worked. My hope is that by the end of the series we shall have a formally-constituted inter-faith organisation in Thanet, which can affiliate to the National Inter-faith Council.

Two days later, we were privileged to receive Mohammed Ewas, Imam in Margate, as a guest at our Shabbat service. Mohammed, who came with two of his lay-leaders, spoke to us of the need to live in harmony together and his optimism that this is a popular idea in Thanet.

In our troubled world, where differences in religion are used to justify extremist political actions, and where Judaism, Christianity and Islam all struggle with the embarrassment of a lunatic fringe, it is highly reassuring to see that the extremists do not represent the majority. It justifies the optimism of the moderates among us, and gives credence to our belief that whatever our path to God, adherence to the highest teachings of our faith will ultimately bring peace to the world. As we Jews say, "Ours not to complete the task, we are merely not free to abdicate from it". In Thanet at least, the holy task of living in peace, friendship and understanding with our neighbours is high on the agenda.

### **The Imam's visit for Shabbat**

*Report by Havdallah Club member, Elliot Fox*

On Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> October, I decided to go to the Shabbat service rather than play football for Wood-nesborough U8s in our match against Thanet Colts. The reason for this was that the Imam from the Margate Mosque was visiting and I wanted to meet him since we are learning all about Islam at school. I really enjoyed speaking to him – he was a very friendly man and I learnt lots of new things.

The three I remember most are how to spell Makkah (not Mecca), how to pronounce Mosque (mos-je) and that the crescent moon only became important for Muslims after the Turks introduced it. My brother Nathan came along as well but he was quite shy and didn't want to speak to the Imam. At 11 o'clock, when the service was well underway, I turned to Dad and whispered 'come on Woodies' – that's my football team's nickname.

During the service we learnt a lot about how Judaism and Islam are similar to each other. The Torah story was about Abraham and Sarah and about how God commanded Abraham to circumcise himself and all the males in his family. This is also an important story in the Qu'ran although they use slightly different names. Towards the end of the service we all sang a song about peace, which I know from the Havdallah Club – the word we sang in the song for peace was 'salaam' which is the word Muslims use for peace and the Hebrew Shalom. After the service, we all had grape juice for Kiddush and not wine because Muslims don't drink alcohol. I have written a list of things that compare the religions of Islam, Judaism, Christianity and Hinduism. For example: - Islam: Mosque; Judaism: Synagogue; Christianity: Church and Hinduism: Temple.

It was a great morning and I realized that learning about other people's religions is really good fun and can lead to unexpected results. I say this because when we got back into the car we got a text message from my football coach to say that the Woodies had won 1-0!

The first edition can be accessed by going to [www.reformjudaism.org.uk](http://www.reformjudaism.org.uk) and entering "gesher" in the search box. In addition you will find other news about Israel and the Reform Movement plus how to subscribe to Gesher Chai.

If you'd like to receive these links by email, please contact the editors on [eleanor@buyjewishstuff.biz](mailto:eleanor@buyjewishstuff.biz) and we'll send them straight to you.

You may not have a computer but everyone seems to have a relative or friend who can do the honours. Keep up-to-date with the Reform and Israel's 60th by getting them to subscribe as shown above, of course, letting you see it....

### **Pat on the back**

Casey Goldberg was booked on a cruise departing from Dover after Rosh Hashanah. A request from the USA via the jewishkent website meant that we were able to have a ticket waiting for her on arrival. We obviously made a good impression by not being any different than usual – but it does give you a warm glow!

Dear Friends,

I just wanted to let you know how much I appreciated the warm welcome I was given at your Synagogue on Rosh Hashanah. I never expected to feel so comfortable so quickly in a strange place. It was an experience I won't soon forget. The Rabbi's talk was not only interesting and informative but humorous as well. I passed along some of his remarks to our own Rabbi.

Thank you again and if any of you are ever in Duluth, Minnesota, don't hesitate to call!

Casey Goldberg

### **Tzedakah box**

*Elliot Fox*

A couple of weeks ago, I went with my Dad and my brother Nathan to deliver the non-perishable food collected by members of the synagogue over the last few months. We took it to the East Kent Cyrenian's hostel in King Street, Ramsgate who provide shelter for a number of homeless young people in the area. We were met by Gill (who runs the hostel) and John (one of the residents) and they were delighted to see us. They were really excited about getting all the tins and packets that had been collected. Gill remembered us from a year ago and told us how useful last year's donation had been. This time she asked us for our address so that all the residents could send us a letter to say thank-you.

The Tzedakah box is now back in the synagogue for the next collection of non-perishable items. Over the last year or so we have donated to East Kent Cyrenians and the Scrine Foundation, both local shelters for homeless young people. If you would like to nominate an alternative similar local charity for the next donation, please drop me a note ([davidfox@vfast.co.uk](mailto:davidfox@vfast.co.uk))

### **Gesher Chai - Living Bridge**

This is the Movement for Reform Judaism's new monthly Israel e-newsletter. This newsletter offers a platform for deepening engagement with Israel as it celebrates its 60th anniversary and beyond. We realise that, for Reform Movement members, there is no 'one size fits all' way to engage with Israel, so we will in the coming months report on initiatives which are key to Israel's future as the Jewish democratic state in which we all believe. All the initiatives have been checked and can be vouched for.

### **A word or two...**

*Godfrey Fischer*

At a recent Shabbat service Rabbi Cohen commented on the number of activities we have for what is a relatively small community. And it's true. October saw us enjoying Simchat Torah and the pleasure of giving the honour of Bride and Groom of the Law to Sally Bass and Simon Wolfe. An added pleasure was the number of children with us for the erev Simchat Torah service and joining in the dancing with the Scrolls. (I promise you – they were only given fruit juice!). The Rites and Practices Committee, with Rabbi Cohen, have decided to hold the Torah Service for this festival on the erev next year as this is clearly when we have the better attendance.

Not strictly a social occasion, but the dismantling of the Sukkah had more volunteers than before. My thanks to all who helped. Hazel and I enjoyed a dinner in the Sukkah with friends on one of the evenings during Sukkot. Why don't you try it for next year? When the time comes just let me know which date and we will open up for you.

There must have been around 50 people on the 'Thanet Synagogue Trail' organised by Jewish Kent. What an excellent way to get to know those in the wider Jewish Community. Have you looked at the website [www.jewishkent.org.uk](http://www.jewishkent.org.uk)? Since it was established we have had many a contact and requests about TDRS and some have even resulted in new members.

The shabbat service to which the Imam of the Margate Mosque was well supported by our members and our guests were made very welcome. I am pleased we are in the forefront of religious interfaith activities in Thanet and environs. Rabbi Cohen has been very involved in the second series of interfaith talks. The first one in October about the Bahai faith was most enlighten-

ing. Rabbi Cohen's talk on Judaism followed on Thursday 15th November.

The second Thanet World Food Day at the Winter Gardens had an even better attendance than last year's. It gives the opportunity of local communities to make themselves known, especially if they support the objective of Fair Trade. We decided to have a table there again and had many interested enquirers (especially from schools) about us. We are taking steps to move over to Fair Trade tea and coffee. And for the environment, we are changing our bulbs to low energy long life ones.

A lot of the work in the community seems to fall on the same band of broad shoulders. We always need extra hands, new blood, new ideas. You don't have to be a Council Member to help. Holding a coffee morning is a simple but effective way of getting the community together outside of religious activities and, at the same time, raising funds. We really do need more people to assist in the planning and implementation of social events, from making cakes to serving refreshments. You might even have some new ideas. Perhaps the formal side of religious activity isn't your cup of tea but something secular and still Jewish might be attractive. How about you? As in life, you only get out of it what you put in. Don't be a sleeping member. Give us the benefit of your time and energy.

The order for new siddurim at a special reduced price has now been sent. Thanks to the generosity of members who have purchased copies to be used by the community as a memorial or to commemorate a special event, we will not have to pay for any extra copies. Thank you all very much.

Judaism no stranger to the ever-turning life cycle wheel. And familiarity never takes away the joys and sadness that accompanies it. Since we last went to press we have said a final

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*Within Thy hand I lay my soul  
Both when I sleep and when I wake  
And with my soul my body too,  
My Lord is close I shall not fear*

From Ramsgate it was but another short test of our navigation skills to find our way to the home of the Margate Hebrew Congregation. This impressive brick built synagogue in the Cliftonville area traces its construction back to the heyday of Cliftonville as a place to holiday. We were welcomed by David Gradus on behalf of the congregation and then served with a fine sandwich and more excellent cake lunch organized by Jacqueline Gradus. This shul has a number of interesting features including a splendid ark with seating to suit the chief rabbi. But I was struck by the bimah which incorporates a built-in donation letter box on one side and with steps onto it surmounted by welcoming pineapples which double up as Sefer Torah "bell" holders. So having enjoyed the hospitality of two communities we departed in a mellow mood. Gladdened by this practical demonstration of how Jews of different hue can enjoy each other's company, a short stroll along the cliff top seemed to be just the thing followed by an ice cream in Broadstairs and then home with a short interlude in Ramsgate to admire their Royal Harbour.

My personal thanks go to the organizers and helpers who made this well supported Jewish Kent event such a success. I look forward to the next one and hopefully a few more attendees from Bromley.RS

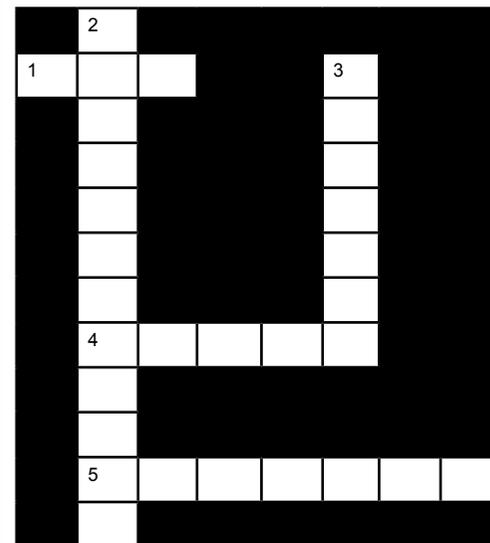
### Outgoing Editor Sally's Sunset

Many of you have asked about the beautiful sunset photograph on the back cover of the September Etz Chaim News. It was taken by Sally and is a view from her living room in Margate. You can just see the wind farm, which is a few miles off the Whitstable/Herne Bay coast. Now that she's in Australia, perhaps we can ask for a sunrise from her new home!

farewell to one member and two persons with connections to our community who died in October. John Ullmann was a kindertransport child who took both TDRS and the Canterbury Jewish Community to his heart. There is a display of some of his books in the synagogue, which are well worth a look. In our early days John provided and paid for the railings in front of the synagogue and the motifs on the windows behind the ark. His parting gift to the synagogue, in his will, is a wonderful £1,000 donation. Frances Gallacher's husband, Bill, was a very private person with an incisive mind. It was always interesting to listen to his views on things Jewish. Rivka Dodd's brother, Manny Webber, passed away as a result of injuries caused by a fracas near his home in Wembley. We send our condolences and prayers to their families.

### Havdallah Club

In case you ever wondered what the children of TDRS get up to on a Saturday, the next few pages show you some examples of their work. First of all there is a crossword from Tessa Derkacz.

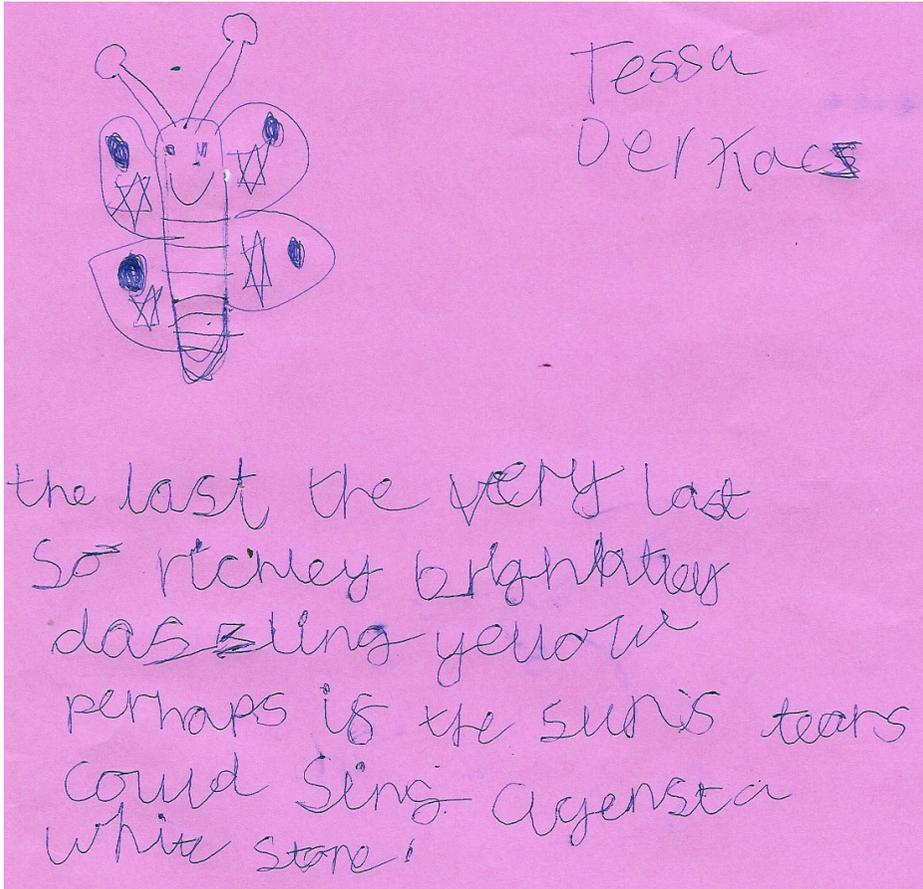


#### Across

- 1 All religions have one.
- 4 He was brought up as an Egyptian.
- 5 They were made of stone.

#### Down

- 2 Moses went up and got them.
- 3 God sent ten of them.



Pictures by Tessa (above) and Yuval (below).



mausoleum. This is somewhere I've long wanted to see and truth be told the initial reason why I'd personally welcomed the idea of this event. The Montefiore Synagogue is named after wealthy philanthropist Sir Moses Montefiore, who died at the age of 101.

Moses Montefiore (1784-1885) was a towering figure of Victorian England. The grandson of wealthy Sephardi London merchants he retired from the Stock Exchange a rich man to devote his life to philanthropy. He gave generously locally: his mayoral gold chain features the letter "mem" and is still worn by Ramsgate mayors.

He first came to Ramsgate in 1812 on his honeymoon with his wife Judith Cohen, sister-in-law to Nathan Rothschild. In 1831, he purchased East Cliff Lodge with its grounds, now George VI Park. The pious Montefiores immediately decided to build a synagogue as a private 'chapel' on their estate and they hired a cousin, David Mocatta, to design it. A striking external feature is the clock, an unusual feature for synagogues. It is inscribed in English with the motto "TIME FLIES. VIRTUE ALONE REMAINS". This chiming clock is the only example in an English Synagogue. Internally the synagogue is a delight to the eye especially on such a sunny day as this. It is beautifully proportioned and ornately decorated. External light came originally through a lantern of clear and red glass set on the octagonal dome roof, a very Regency feature, and by a tiny window over the Ark. Later on windows were introduced at the gallery level. The synagogue is still lit by candles in their original splendid brass chandeliers. The Mausoleum next to the Synagogue is a replica of Rachel's Tomb. The Montefiores lie side by side in brick vaults covered by tombs of Aberdeen marble. As is traditional the tombs face east towards Jerusalem dimly illuminated by a small stained-glass skylight. The inscription is from the last verse of "Adon Olam".

## Jewish Kent goes Seaside Shul Shlepping

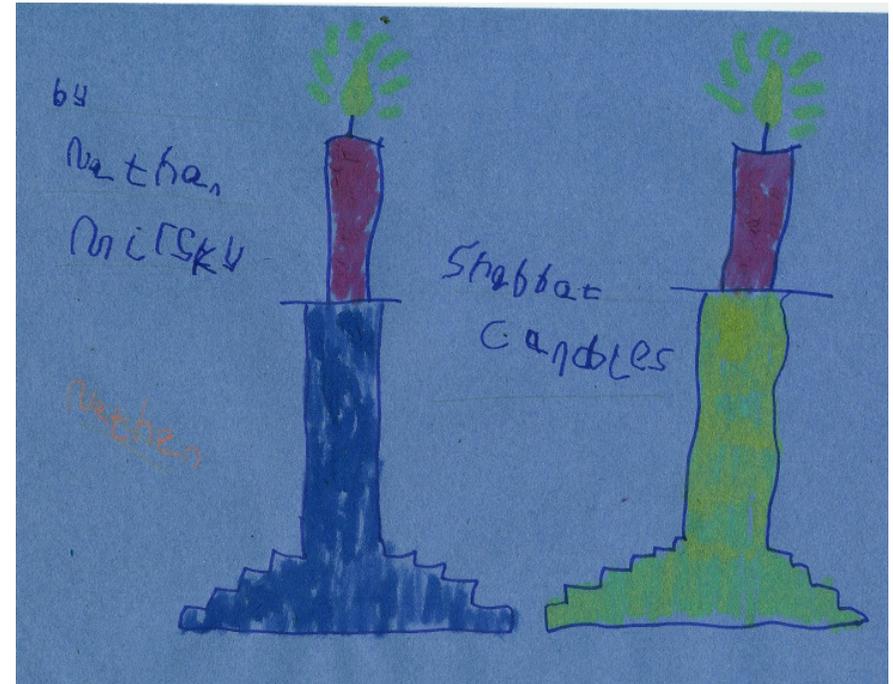
*The edited article by Toby Allin of Bromley and District Reform Synagogue also appeared in Highlight, the BDRS magazine. See the back page for photographs.*

Oh we do like to be beside the seaside...

And we and our many fellow day-trippers had a lovely day out on October 14th. Going to a synagogue when the sun for once has got its hat on and the sea is glittering blue, is not everybody's idea of a good day out and as for going to three. Well it turned out to be a treat of a day, educationally, socially and recreationally.

This latest Jewish Kent event billed as the Thanet Synagogue Trail kicked off in Ramsgate at the Thanet & District Reform Synagogue. Tea, coffee and homemade cake courtesy of Hazel Fischer and Kay Levy, made for an ideal introduction to this very intimate shul, Godfrey Fischer welcomed us with an interesting address on the history of the town, some of its notable persons and the development of the synagogue. I now know that thanks to the enthusiastic welcome also given to an earlier visitor to the town, George IV, that Ramsgate has Britain's only Royal Harbour. The splendid Bimah and Ark were recycled from Derby synagogue when it closed. The community justifiably cherishes their Sefer Torah that originated from Klatovy in the Czech republic. The value of this was reflected in a most moving and poignant slide presentation made of a visit to Klatovy documenting the few traces that still remain of the once thriving Jewish community and the cruel fate that befell its members.

After taking the opportunity to admire the religious themed artwork of Mark Negin and another local artist Albert Sinclair, it was time to head off to the famous Montefiore synagogue and



Pictures by Nathan (above), Tal (below left) and Toby (below right)



Finally we have this wordsearch by Zak:

H	A	R	O	T	T	A	H	C	M	I	S	Moses
A	T	B	C	T	U	B	S	H	V	A	T	God
E	H	F	R	F	M	U	R	G	H	G	H	Tu B'Shvat
X	Z	S	Z	U	Z	N	A	A	S	A	A	Shabat
B	D	E	I	E	P	A	L	L	E	G	E	Challah
A	B	X	Y	B	H	I	T	G	S	S	M	Mezzuzah
C	A	B	E	E	U	A	K	O	O	C	A	Hanukah
I	H	I	L	L	B	T	Y	M	M	D	A	Candle
H	A	D	B	A	A	C	D	X	O	A	L	Simchat Torah
M	N	U	H	M	O	L	L	E	H	Y	A	Yom Kipur
A	B	S	M	E	Z	Z	U	Z	A	H	H	
H	A	N	U	K	A	H	L	D	N	A	C	

### Is it kosher?

There is a new product on the kosher shelves in Sainsbury's, Broadstairs. A company called World Harbour has a Honey and Dijon mustard sauce marinade, which the label says is ideal for vegetables, pork, chicken and fish. No, it's not a misprint! It does say 'pork'. Is it kosher? Well, we guess so as it comes from Israel and has a kosher hechser. And we thought that the Israelis called it white meat! Also new is a kosher feta cheese from Israel called Bulgarian. Perhaps one of our readers, Bulgarian or otherwise, could enlighten us to the attributes of Bulgarian feta.

In Herne Bay, on the High Street, is a shop with the name "Kosher Fish and Chips". Inside, as well as Britain's first and favourite fast food (introduced to this country, believe it or not, by the Jews) is a revolving stand with meat for kebabs. Is it all kosher? Well, no. The owner is Iraqi and it just happens that his surname spells "kosher", when transliterated!

Do you play the label game when shopping? Amazing what turns up as certified kosher. Look at the Sainsbury's own label spices. Same applies to Rowley's honey and most of Tiptree jams.

### Interfaith is Progressive

You will have read elsewhere in this issue that the visit of the Imam of the Margate Mosque to our Shabbat service was a great success and follows on the work we have done with CANDIFA (Canterbury and District interfaith Action). You'll be pleased to know that two other Progressive Synagogues are doing their bit as well, as noted in the Jewish Chronicle in October.

The Westminster Islamic Community Centre needed a place to hold prayers during Ramadan. St Saviour's offered their church hall at a discount but the WICC was still struggling to afford it. West London Synagogue's Rabbi Winer heard of their plight and arranged for the Reform flagship to meet the cost in full. As a thank you the WICC hosted a special iftar (breaking of the Ramadan fast) for WLS and St Saviour's members.

In St John's Wood, Muslims and Jews danced to the words of "Shalom Aleichem" on the night both celebrated festivals. This year Simchat Torah coincided with Iftar and to mark the occasion the St John's Wood Liberal Jewish Synagogue welcomed members of Alif-Aleph UK – a group that unites British Muslims and Jews. At sunset the Muslims broke their fast in the Sukkah, before joining the congregation to mark the end and the beginning of the cycle of reading the Torah.

### Co-ordinator needed

We are planning another Faith in Art exhibition in the synagogue and need someone to liaise with the artists and monitor setting up the display. It's not onerous and the people you will be dealing with (Mainly CANDIFA people) have done it all before. Knowledge of art isn't actually needed. Just someone with time and the ability to organise and co-ordinate. Call Godfrey Fischer on the synagogue number if you are able to help.