

Chairman's Notes - April 2017 - Iyar 5777

Dear Friends,

As you will be aware, when I came in as Chairman a year ago, one of my main objectives was to honour two ladies in the community each year as Neshei Chayil, to complement the Chatanim on Simchat Torah. In discussion with Rabbi Boudilovsky, we agreed that Shavuot would be the most appropriate time to honour them. Therefore, at the Shavuot lunch, I am delighted to inform you that Ruth Lyons and Hazel Broch will be this year's Neshei Chayil of the Young Israel kehillah. They are definitely very worthy to receive this honour.

We had a lovely Pesach here in Netanya. The weather was gorgeous, not too hot, and we hosted many visitors in Shul, including a large number of members who live abroad. The parallel services proved their worth, especially on the last day of the Chag, where we were full in Shul in both the gentlemen's and ladies' parts of the main Shul, and in excess of 100 people downstairs in the George Goddard Hall. My thanks go to everyone who organised and contributed to all the services.

There was an excellent joint Yom Hashoa service with McDonalds Shul, in their synagogue last Sunday evening. Next week we have the Yom Hazikaron/Ha'atzmaut service, the annual joint service with McDonalds Shul, this time in our premises, which will commence at 7pm next Monday, May 1st. We are hoping this will be a really meaningful experience, juxtaposing remembrance with joy.

The AGM is almost upon us and the final nominations for the executive and the board of management have now been proposed. As per the constitution, names of the nominees have been posted on the Shul notice boards. I am also noting them here, as I am sure that more people will read this article than will check the notice boards. Please note that the meeting is scheduled to commence at 8:30pm, as stated on the Agenda sheet.

Executive: Chairman - Hilton Share, Vice Chairman - Graham Nussbaum, Treasurer - Alex Stuart, Secretary - Sharon Carr.

Board: Gerald Barnett, Hazel Broch, Janet Elkoubi, David Feiler, Anthony Felix, Alan Gold, Elkan Levy, Ivor Lewis, Tony Plaskow, Eze Silas, Anthony Taub, Gordon Weinberg.

Gabbaim: Michael Kaye, Rev. Michael Plaskow, Hilton Share, Asher Edery.

Audit Committee: Barry Lyons, David Krasner.

As can be seen from the Board nominations, there are 12 for 10 positions, therefore there will be elections.

As agreed at the AGM last year, reports will be sent out by email, which will result in only a few needed to be printed for those members who do not have computers.

Planning has now commenced for the induction service for Rabbi Boudilovsky on Wednesday, May 24th, which will be conducted by Chief Rabbi Ephraim Mirvis. My next edition of Chairman's Notes will have further details. I have been asked to make a request - are there any members who have been choristers in the past and who would like to make up a choir, specifically for this service? If so, please contact me.

I have been mentioning the new website and the work that has been done on this by David Glass and Anthony Felix, kol hakavod to both of them. We are now ready to launch the new website into live operation. It is hoped that this will occur during next week. When the process commences, there will be a period during the changeover when neither the current, nor the new, website will be working. David will send an email to the members once he is happy with the launch.

Finally, once again I need to mention to the members about seating in Shul. This was noted by Gordon Weinberg in the AGM last year, and by me at least once this year. Seats that have been donated by members are for their specific use on the Yamim Noraim. During the year, on all occasions, there is no reserved seating in the Shul. If members wish to sit on their seat they need to arrive by the time the service commences. It is not correct to ask people to move seats once the service has started. I have received complaints from both ladies and gentlemen who have been moved from where they chose to sit. The Rabbi talked about decorum in Shul is his drasha last Shabbat. This issue also fully relates to decorum. If we are to maintain our kehillah to be very warm and welcoming, we need to adhere to these principles as well.

Kind regards,

Hilton