



Czech Scrolls Committee Chair, Alberta Strage with Simon Broughton, Director of *The Music of Terezín*, on Wednesday, 26th January 2011, when the film was screened in commemoration of Holocaust Memorial Day. *Photo courtesy Chris Rees*

## **NEWSLETTER**

**FEBRUARY 2011**

*ADAR 5771*

## Services

	SHABBAT	TORAH READINGS	HAFTORAH READINGS	SERVICE DETAIL AND LEADER
<b>FEBRUARY</b>				
Sat 5 1 <i>Adar 1</i>	<i>Terumah</i>	Exodus 26: 15 - 31 <b>Baby Blessing:</b>	1 Kings 6: 1 - 13	Rabbi Thomas Salamon <i>Shabbat Rosh Chodesh (1st Day)</i>
Fri 11 8 <i>Adar 1</i>	<b>FRIDAY FAMILY SERVICE</b>			Rabbi Judith Levitt
Sat 12 8 <i>Adar 1</i>	<i>Tetzaveh</i>	Exodus 28: 6 - 14	Ezekiel 43: 10 - 27	Rabbi Thomas Salamon
Fri 18 15 <i>Adar 1</i>	<b>FRIDAY OR CHADASH EXPLANATORY SERVICE</b>			Rabbi Judith Levitt and Rabbi Thomas Salamon
Sat 19 15 <i>Adar 1</i>	<i>Ki Tissa</i>	Exodus 31: 1 - 11	1 Kings 18: 20 - 39	Rabbi Thomas Salamon
Sat 26 22 <i>Adar 1</i>	<i>Vayakhel</i>	Exodus 36: 1 - 13	1 Kings 7: 40 - 50	Rabbi Thomas Salamon
<b>MARCH</b>				
Sat 5 29 <i>Adar 1</i>	<i>Pekudey</i>	Exodus: 40: 17 - 27 Numbers 28: 9 -15 <b>Baby Blessing:</b>	11 Kings 12: 1 - 17	Rabbi Thomas Salamon <i>Blessing for Adar Sheni Shabbat Shekalim</i>
Sat 5 29 <i>Adar 1</i>	<b>Afternoon Bat Mitzvah</b>	Leviticus 1: 1 - 13 Emma Davies		Rabbi Thomas Salamon

### Choir Rehearsal

If you are interested in joining the Synagogue Choir, please contact Miles Laddie by email at [Milesladdie@aol.com](mailto:Milesladdie@aol.com) for more information. Rehearsals are held after the *Shabbat* morning service and the next one will be on **Saturday 19th February**.

### Friday Evening Service NEW TIME

Due to the abolition of the Western Extension of the Congestion Charging Zone, our Friday Evening services will now commence at **6.00pm** starting on **Friday 4th February**.

**Evening Services commence at 6.00pm**  
**Morning Services commence at 11.00am**

## Tots

Baby Café has welcomed some new babies into the fold over the past month, which is very exciting. Our monthly *Shabbat* sessions are a huge success, especially with the Dads who love having the opportunity to sing and dance with their little ones! If you have a child under the age of 3, you are welcome to join us - come and celebrate *Shabbat* with the youngest members of our community, followed by coffee and chatting for the adults. !

**Saturday 5th February at 10.15am Tots *Shabbat***

**Saturday 5th March at 10.15am Tots *Shabbat***

SAVE THE DATE



## *or shabbat*

Entering into my second month with *or shabbat*, I have so enjoyed meeting the wonderful young people at Westminster Synagogue and getting to know the parents. Please do continue to come and introduce yourselves.

Following a lively *Tu B'Shevat Seder*, we are gearing up for a slightly calmer month in February.

*or shabbat* is having a 'Bring Along a Friend' day on **Saturday February 12<sup>th</sup>**. This is a great opportunity for young people to introduce their friends Jewish and non-Jewish to *or shabbat*. Perhaps they have a younger sibling who doesn't attend *or shabbat* and would like to try it out for a day? The theme this term at *or shabbat* is *Avodah* where we are exploring different aspects of prayer.

There are two weeks of **half term** on **February 19<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>**.

## ***B'nei Mitzvah* Group**

The *B'nei Mitzvah* class have begun a brand new curriculum this term in which the class are venturing through the journey of the Jewish people. They have begun with the story of creation and Adam & Eve, through to Abraham exploring ideas of hospitality and community and will spend the rest of the term focusing on key characters throughout Jewish history.

The idea behind this curriculum is that the class will engage with the Jewish narrative on both a historical and cultural level, whilst developing the ability to bring through modern and ethical themes.

## **GCSE**

The GCSE course is being expertly taught by Janet Berenson and Rabbi Ariel Friedlander. Coming up in February are units on conservation, the environment, animal rights and care of animals.

## **Adult Learning**

*Or Chadash* classes which cover an introduction to Jewish topics are running on **Wednesday February 9<sup>th</sup>** with Rabbi Thomas Salamon and **February 23<sup>rd</sup>** with Rabbi Ariel Friedlander. Saturday morning adult education continues at 10am on **February 5<sup>th</sup>** with the topic of '**Sibling Rivalry**' and **February 12<sup>th</sup>** with '**Bar and Bat Mitzvah**'. These classes are open to everyone including absolute beginners and experienced text scholars. Come along to meet me and join in the friendly thought provoking discussions.

## ***B'Shalom*, Rabbi Judith**



**weekly afternoons  
at Kent House**

**Restarting on Monday 7th February**

**Then Every Monday**

**2.30-5.30pm**

**SCRABBLERS VERY WELCOME, PLEASE BRING FRIENDS  
AND HELP US TO PUBLICISE THIS LOVELY MONDAY AFTERNOON ACTIVITY**



*Bridge is a game which tests to the limit  
one's little grey cells and competitive spirit.  
A game where all worries, stresses and ills  
are forgotten in proving one's knowledge and skills.  
It's a game that teaches one logic and patience,  
it's also a bridge to peoples and nations;  
if one is lonely, or just couldn't care  
it's a wonderful feeling to be aware  
of just how many bridge friends are everywhere*



**NEW PRICE £5, unsupervised bridge session**

**Scrabble £2**

**Best of all, afternoon tea or Nespresso Cappuccino**

**Kent House, Rutland Gardens, Knightsbridge, SW7 1BX**

**nearest Underground station; Knightsbridge or bus routes; 9, 10, 52, 452**

For more information or if you are planning to attend, please contact  
renee@westminstersynagogue.org or call 020 7584 3953

# CHAVURAH SUPPER NEW DATE

FRIDAY 18th February

Explanatory Friday Night Service led by Rabbi Judith  
and Rabbi Thomas from 6.00pm, **NEW TIME**  
Supper begins at 6.45pm after *Kiddush*

*Chavurah* means a community of friends and the idea of our *Chavurah* suppers is that they are just that. A group of friends who get together to share a *Shabbat* Friday evening meal together following the service.



They are organised as a “pot-luck” meal, everyone is asked to bring a fish or vegetarian starter or main course, salad or dessert, enough for 8 people. For those who come straight from work, a bottle of wine or some flowers are welcome.

Please join us for a 6.00pm service, followed by *Kiddush* at 6.30pm and the Supper from 6.45-9.00pm.

We would especially like to welcome our *Or Chadash* members, as these suppers offer a wonderful experience of Jewish community on *Shabbat*.



To confirm your attendance and to inform the synagogue what you are bringing to share, please contact Deborah Berenson at the Synagogue Office or by email at; [education@westminstersynagogue.org](mailto:education@westminstersynagogue.org)



**JCC**

**JEWISH  
COMMUNITY  
CENTRE  
FOR  
LONDON**



**DINNERS WITH A DIFFERENCE**

Escape the bitter winter and enjoy a warm sultry night of Argentinian food, music and dance. Join us at Kent house for the first of our new series of 'Thursday is the new Friday.' Enjoy a sumptuous meal, listen to the romantic sounds of the Panpas, and tango the night away. Come alone or with friends everyone is welcome.

**THURSDAY 10th MARCH**

Venue: Kent House, Rutland Gardens, Knightsbridge  
London SW7 1BX

Price: £40

To book: Online at [jcc london.org.uk](http://jcc london.org.uk) or call the JCC office on 0207 431 9866



(50+)



**KENT HOUSE**  
KNIGHTSBRIDGE

Jewish Community Centre for London registered charity number 1105622.

***It's PURIM at or shabbat***

**Saturday, 19<sup>th</sup> March**



**Join in with our annual Purim preparation and celebrations.  
Our morning will be filled with fantastic Purim fun, songs,  
cooking and games, all in fancy dress!**

**Purim Games  
Purim Craft  
Hamantaschen to eat!**

**And the all important...Purim Story!**

**All in readiness for the community celebration  
on Sunday 20th March (see page opposite)**

**For more information, contact  
Deborah Berenson; [education@westminstersynagogue.org](mailto:education@westminstersynagogue.org)  
or Rabbi Judith Levitt; [judith@westminstersynagogue.org](mailto:judith@westminstersynagogue.org)**



**Purim Celebrations**  
**At Kent House**  
**Sunday, 20<sup>th</sup> March**  
*from 4pm*



**“The Megillah According to the Beatles”**  
performed by the Kent House Purim Troupe, young and old.

**4.00pm Purim Service *Megillah* Esther in many Tongues**

**5.00pm “The *Megillah* According to the Beatles”**

**5.45pm Hamantaschen and Tea to follow**



**Dress: Fancy**

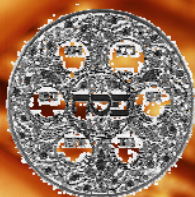
If you would like to participate in the service by reading from the *Megillah* Esther in your mother tongue, or would like to help with afternoon tea, please contact Hilary Ashleigh at [secretary@westminstersynagogue.org](mailto:secretary@westminstersynagogue.org)

# Communal First Night *Seder*

Monday, 18<sup>th</sup> April 2011 – 15 Nissan 5771  
Service 6.30pm, Seder 7.15-10pm

A very warm invitation is extended to all members, friends and family for our Communal *Seder* led this year by BOTH Rabbi Thomas and Rabbi Judith on erev *Pesach*, Monday, 18<sup>th</sup> April at 7pm.

**Our communal *Seder* is an opportunity to participate in a lively, traditional and creative *Seder* experience.**



Please bring an object, (it can be anything) that signifies **FREEDOM** for YOU, for our **Freedom Plate**.

We will be using the plate as part of telling the tale of our freedom in the *Maggid* section of the *Seder*. If you have any traditions you would like to have included in our *Seder*, just let us know.

**Cost per Adult £40**  
**Cost per Child £25 (under the age of 12)**  
**fish & vegetarian Meal 3-course meal**

## **VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED**

**To help with every aspect of organising our communal *Seder*. For more information, or to offer your help, contact Renee at the Synagogue Office.**

***If you have any queries, please contact the Synagogue or just book your places with Hilary in the office. Places will be reserved on a first come – first served basis***

The Synagogue would never exclude a person on financial grounds.  
Please speak to one of the Rabbis in strictest confidence.

## Event Calendar

**3 FEBRUARY - 5 MARCH 2011**

Date	Time	<i>Kiddush</i> and Events
Thurs 03/02/11	10.15am	<b>Baby Café</b> in the North Basement Classroom
Sat 05/02/11	10.00am 10.00am	<i>Kiddush</i> : Martine Latreuille with the Leiman-Hearn Family <b>Shabbat Morning</b> Study Group and Hebrew Class <b>Tots Shabbat Baby Café</b> in the Ground Floor Library
Sun 06/02/11	6.30pm	Annual Supper Quiz
Mon 07/02/11	2.30pm	Bridge & Scrabble Club—see page 5
Wed 09/02/11	2.30pm 4.30pm 5.00pm 6.30pm	<b>Library Group</b> —Drop in session <b>GCSE</b> session in the 2nd floor Seminar Room <b>Reading Circle</b> —in the Reinhart Library with Marika Henriques - <b>The Finkler Question by Howard Jacobson</b> <b>Or Chadash</b> class in the 2nd floor Seminar Room
Thurs 10/02/11	10.15am 6.30pm	<b>Baby Café</b> in the North Basement Classroom <b>Synagogue</b> Executive Meeting
Fri 11/02/11	5.00pm 6.00pm 6.45pm	<b>B'nei Mitzvah</b> Group Session <b>Family Service</b> <b>B'nei Mitzvah</b> Group <i>Chavurah</i>
Sat 12/02/11	10.00am	<i>Kiddush</i> : Isabel and Alex Morris <b>Shabbat Morning</b> Study Group and Hebrew Class
Mon 14/02/11	2.30pm	Bridge & Scrabble Club—see page 5
Wed 16/02/11	2.30pm 4.30pm	<b>Library Group</b> —Drop in session <b>GCSE</b> session in the 2nd floor Seminar Room
Thurs 17/02/11	10.15am	<b>Baby Café</b> in the North Basement Classroom
Fri 18/02/11	6.00pm 6.45pm	<b>NEW SERVICE TIME, Or Chadash</b> explanatory service <b>Community Chavurah</b> after the service
Sat 19/02/11	10.00am 1.00pm	<i>Kiddush</i> : Margaret Conklin and David Sabel <b>Shabbat Morning</b> Study Group and Hebrew Class Synagogue Choir Rehearsal
Mon 21/02/11	2.30pm	Bridge & Scrabble Club—see page 5
Wed 23/02/11	2.30pm 6.30pm	<b>Library Group</b> —Drop in session <b>Or Chadash</b> class in the 2nd floor Seminar Room
Thurs 24/02/11	10.15am	<b>Baby Café</b> in the North Basement Classroom
Sat 26/02/11	10.00am 1.00pm	<i>Kiddush</i> : Inge and Ralph Ehrmann <b>Shabbat Morning</b> Study Group and Hebrew Class <b>Purim Spiel</b> Rehearsal
Mon 28/02/11	2.30pm	Bridge & Scrabble Club—see page 5
Wed 02/03/11	2.30pm 4.30pm	<b>Library Group</b> —Drop in session <b>GCSE</b> session in the 2nd floor Seminar Room
Thurs 03/03/11	6.30pm	<b>Synagogue</b> Executive Meeting
Sat 05/03/11	10.00am 10.00am	<i>Kiddush</i> : The Cooper Family with Daniella Winkler <b>Shabbat Morning</b> Study Group and Hebrew Class <b>Tots Shabbat Baby Café</b> in the Ground Floor Library <b>Afternoon Kiddush</b> : The Davies Family

## Contacting

	<b>In the first instance, please call</b>	
<b>EMERGENCIES</b>	The Synagogue Office (in case of death, illness or accident) Evenings or Weekends contact: Rabbi Thomas Salamon thomas@westminstersynagogue.org or Senior Warden Belden Menkus	<b>(020) 7584 3953</b>  <b>(020) 8202 8987</b> <b>07973 187311</b> <b>(020) 7384 2549</b> <b>07710 170115</b>
<b>ENQUIRIES</b>	Hilary Ashleigh (Please check website first) Fax: secretary@westminstersynagogue.org	<b>(020) 7584 3953</b> <b>(020) 7581 8012</b>
<b>Hon. MEMBERSHIP</b> (Secretary)	Bob Stillman rstillman@crai.co.uk	<b>(020) 7436 8785</b> <b>07739 658068</b>
<b>EDUCATION</b>	Rabbi Judith Levitt judith@westminstersynagogue.org	<b>(020) 7584 3953</b>
<b>OR SHABBAT</b> (Administrator)	Deborah Berenson education@westminstersynagogue.org	<b>(020) 7584 3953</b>
<b>MITZVOT</b> (Senior Warden)	Belden Menkus	<b>(020) 7384 2549</b> <b>07710 170115</b>
<b>NEWSLETTER</b>	Synagogue Office secretary@westminstersynagogue.org	<b>(020) 7584 3953</b>
<b>MAGAZINE</b>	editor@westminstersynagogue.org	Tel: <b>(020) 7584 3953</b> Fax: <b>(020) 7581 8012</b>
<b>ROOM HIRE</b>	Renée Salamon renee@westminstersynagogue.org	<b>(020) 7584 3953</b>
<b>MUSEUM</b> Czech Memorial Scrolls Trust	Evelyn Friedlander czech.scrolls@virgin.net	<b>(020) 7584 3741</b>



### WESTMINSTER SYNAGOGUE

Kent House, Rutland Gardens, London SW7 1BX

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