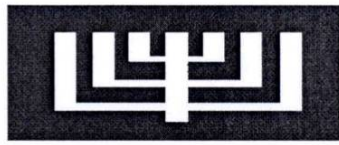


The



בס"ד

# Menorah

Volume 5, Number 8

May 2008, Nissan 5768

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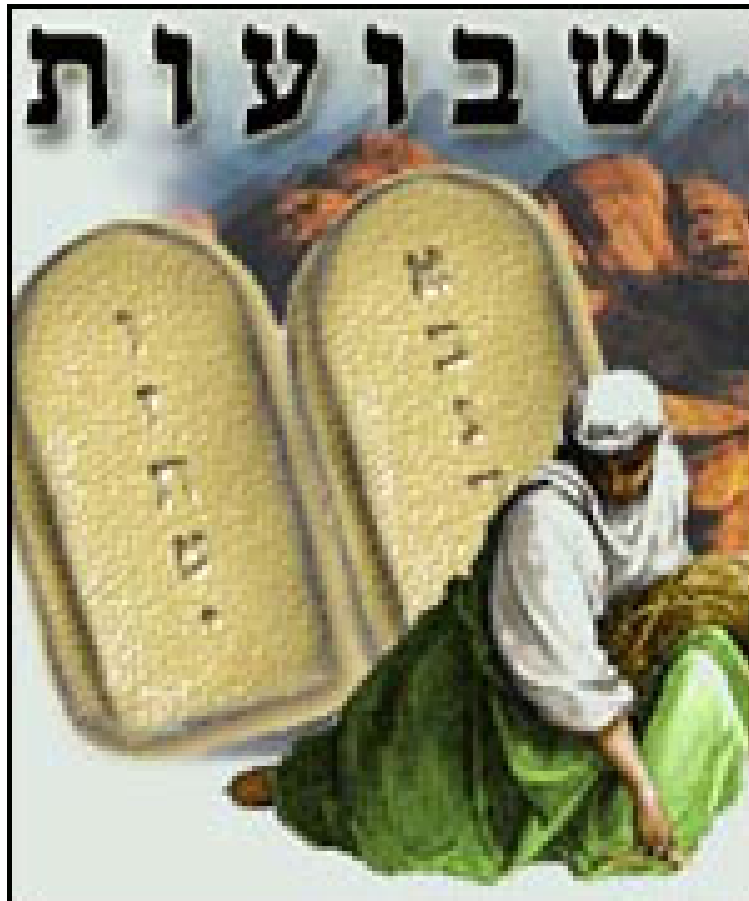
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*"Please note: This photo is an artist's rendition. The tablets handed to Moses were in fact perfectly rectangular, not rounded at the top".*

# A Happy Shavuot 5768

Visit [www.nejc.com.au](http://www.nejc.com.au) to view this Menorah in FULL COLOUR

## *Second Siyum Sefer Torah Photos*



Benjamin Sztypel Photographer

## *Rabbi's Report*

The last six months have been particularly exciting for members of the NEJC. Several new programs have been initiated which were aimed at creating as many varied opportunities as possible for members of the Centre to participate in activities that interest them.

On a personal level, one of the highlights of my recent experiences was attending the International Conference of Chabad rabbis in New York last November. I cannot describe the exhilaration of being amongst four thousand rabbis from around the world united with a common cause of spreading Judaism to Jews living in the far flung corners of the earth. It was also fantastic to catch up with my predecessor, Rabbi Gidon Fox, who also attended the event from South Africa, as did his predecessor, Rabbi Mordechai Gutnick. We had a photo taken of us for old time's sake.

I was also privileged to have been invited to meet with Victorian Premier John Brumby at the beginning of the new Jewish year. The meeting took place between Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur and I had the onerous task of blowing the shofar for Mr. Brumby (as if I hadn't blown it enough during Rosh Hashana). He then requested that I stay behind with him after the other rabbis left, to teach him how to blow the shofar. I must say, he was a very fast learner.



In terms of shul services, in a bid to create a more homely (heimish) environment in shul for regular Friday evening and Shabbos morning services, I suggested a proposal to install a mechitza in the men's section of the shul enabling women to daven downstairs. It was also hoped that this development would increase regular shul attendance during these times. The proposal was very warmly received within the community and is currently in its final stages of implementation (and may already be functional by the time you read this report).

I have also initiated two regular Monday night Shiurim, one on the weekly parsha and the second on Ethics of Our Fathers. Thankfully, they have been relatively well attended, although it is hoped that more members of the community see the obvious benefits of attending these Shiurim in terms of their own self development as well as the positive example they set for their families when doing so.

Additionally, we recently concluded a three week course on "The Kabbala of Intimacy" exploring the spiritual dynamics of intimacy as it exists in married life. These Shiurim were very well attended and I am deeply grateful for the fantastic feedback I received from participants. I hope to present similar courses on the future.

The NEJC Women's Circle events have also been very well attended. Rebbetzin Sara has done an outstanding job in organising the Women's Circle and has thanked all those who have contributed to make the program as enjoyable and stimulating as it is. The women of our community recently heard acclaimed speaker Timmy Rubin talk about her experiences as a female Jewish Prison Chaplain. That was certainly an eye-opener.

The NEJC Bat Mitzvah program being run this year covers all the traditional Jewish life-cycle events and is taught under the guidance of Rebbetzin Sara. The curriculum, known as the L'chaim Life-cycle, has been carefully selected from one of the leading Jewish Educational organizations in the United States and is taught in weekly study sessions during school terms. The program includes workshops and other interactive activities designed to create a stimulating and holistic learning experience.

The program commenced in mid February and will culminate with a Bat Mitzvah ceremony for family, friends and the general community to be held at the NEJC in early-mid November, 2008. Each participant will be afforded the opportunity to present selected ideas which they have learnt during the year that have been of particular interest to them.

The Playgroup, which has been enjoying much success with new mothers joining the program, will soon be even more successful as the world famous Gymparoo program hits the doors of the NEJC. As part of negotiations with the Centre, Gymparoo will be running a weekly session for Jewish moms and children. This session will take the place of the existing weekly Playgroup sessions.

In utilising modern technology to further the Centre's reach and appeal in the wider community, time has been invested in enhancing the shul's website. Boruch Hashem, we have received much positive feedback about the site, and more importantly, the site has been visited by some Jewish families who have been largely unaware that our Centre offers so much more than just traditional shul services. On the new website, visitors can see the wide spectrum of programs, services and activities that our Centre provides.

I wish you and yours a fantastic and enjoyable Shavuot and let us pray for true and everlasting peace in our Holy Land of Israel.

Rabbi Yaakov Glasman.





My name is Hynda Feldman and I am the new Public Relations Officer for the NEJC. As a new member to the NEJC Board of Management I am looking forward to making a significant contribution to the Centre. My family and I have been part of this community for 22 years now and I have always taken an active interest in what goes on at the Centre. I feel the more we can communicate to our members about what is happening at the centre, the more you will all benefit and will want to be more involved.

*Editorial*

This edition of the Menorah comes at a time of great activity at the NEJC.

On 2nd March we celebrated an event unique in the history of the Centre, in that we were privileged to welcome to its new home the **second** Sefer Torah ever to be purchased by the Yeshurun congregation. Over 170 people attended this auspicious occasion. This could only be achieved with the incredible support of our members, community and friends, both past and present, to whom a deep appreciation is expressed.

Over 160 people attended our Purim Bonanza held on March 21<sup>st</sup>, with the main attraction being a Clown show, fancy dress, children’s raffle and yummy lunch.

The Annual General Meeting of the Centre was held on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2008.

The Elected officers for the ensuing year are:

President	Milton Shenker	Property Management	Michael Katzew
Vice President	Issy Allen	Public Relations	Hynda Feldman
Imm. Past President	David Tofler	Activities	Stuart Oboler
Treasurer	Milton Lasnitzki	Youth	Michael Densham
Hon. Secretary	Heidi Hayden		
General Members	Herb Epstein, Mary Hirsch, Bram Presser, Lili Recht, Marcel Saxone, Arthur Zulman.		

The Pre-Pesach Shabbaton held on Friday night 18<sup>th</sup> April 2008 was attended by 70 people. Many thanks to Geta Shenker and her helpers for preparing such a wonderful dinner.

There have been a number of improvements around the Centre- new guttering, new fascia boards and new door access to the men’s shule. Michael Katzew, Property Manager is busy obtaining quotations to upgrade the kitchen and the toilets as they are very old and our members deserve better. A gardener has also been hired to tidy up the front gardens. We are proud of our centre and want to look after it for many more years.

The Board of Management would like to express their sincere thanks to Fred and Leah Bergman for providing the **Honour Boards** proudly on display in the main foyer.

On behalf of the NEJC family, have a Happy Shavuot, don’t eat too many blintzes and cheesecakes and we look forward to a vibrant, exciting year ahead at the NEJC.

Hynda Feldman



# What's New at the NEJC



## Kosher Food Lists Updates

Updates from Kosher Australia will now be displayed on both notice boards (main foyer and corridor to Mens shule). Many thanks to the Zulman family for making the display.

## “What’s On”

All functions will now be advertised in the Jewish News in the “What’s On” section. Please look out for these every Thursday.

## **NEW CARDS AVAILABLE!**

The NEJC has a new selection of Jewish cards for sale to the public. The cards are from “Gold’s World of Judaica” and all profit from the cards goes back to the Centre, so when buying your cards, why not support our Jewish Centre. The display is upstairs, outside the office and cards are available for sale during office hours.

*All cards are \$3.25.*

Card varieties include Bar/Bat Mitzvah, Engagement, Anniversary, Wedding, Children’s Birthday, Mazel-Tov, Good Luck, Boy/Girl Birth, Sympathy, Get Well and Blank.

## **Hynda’s Mum’s( Leonore) Famous Cheese Cake recipe**

The biscuit base is my Grandmothers recipe that has been passed down the generations. Use the dough to make Kichals (biscuits) or for the base and sides of this great baked Cheesecake.

### **Biscuit Base**

500g (1lb) flour  
250 g (½ lb) sugar  
170 g (6 oz) butter  
3 eggs  
Pinch salt  
½ teaspoon baking powder

### **Cheese Mixture**

500g (1lb) cream cheese  
2 eggs  
85 g (3 oz) soft butter  
85 g (3 oz) sugar  
1 tablespoon SR flour  
2 tablespoon cream

### **Method-**

**Base-** cream butter and sugar till soft and fluffy. Add eggs, flour, salt and baking powder and mix till a firm dough. **Cheese mixture-** Combine all ingredients till smooth. Use the biscuit dough to line a greased 20 cm loose bottom tin. Fill with cheese mixture Bake at 165C temperature till firm.



Exclusively Food

YUM!



# COMMITTEE MEMBERS REPORTS

## Activities - Stuart Oboler

The **Pesach Shabbaton** on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> April was well attended with close to 100 people joining us for dinner. A big thank you to everyone who made the night possible.

**The Lag B'Omer** Barbeque and Bonfire was well attended with about 60 adults and children enjoying sausages, hamburgers and delicious salads. Arthur Zulman led the crowd in song as he played guitar to well known Jewish tunes. There was a fantastic atmosphere and hosting it in the "Succah area" proved successful as everyone stayed warm and could make use of all the facilities. Thank you to everyone who has volunteered their time to make the evening so special.

The next event on the calendar is **Shavuot on the 8<sup>th</sup> of June**. The Shule service starts at 615pm, from there we will move to the dining room for a scrumptious three course dinner at 7pm. Following dinner there will be a series of stimulating lectures and discussions in the Shule. Please either phone (9816 3516) or email ([nejc@bigpond.com](mailto:nejc@bigpond.com)) the office to book. On Monday there will be a Kiddush following the service with ice cream and cheesecake.

## Youth - Michael Densham

*When I was young I was once told not to waste my youth growing up. Since that moment I have heeded no advice more than this. The truth is it that I grew taller, my voice sank deeper, and I soon grew a beard which shamed most biblical prophets. Despite this mild regression, my youthful spirit was loyal to the principle I was told. So in this year's commemoration of that advice I hereby proclaim my intent to prevent Doncaster's Jewish youth from wasting their remaining youthful years.*

*To achieve such an important feat there will a few wondrous events throughout the year. Hopefully a number of dinners, social evenings and talks will be gracing the halls of the NEJC in the nearby future. Events will be primarily based around strengthening friendships and having a good old time!! Whilst I have many contact details which have aided me in organising past events, there is still a long way before all of Doncaster's youth can be fully united in rejuvenating the community. I implore anyone considering coming to any youth functions to please contact me ASAP on [mikedensham@msn.com](mailto:mikedensham@msn.com). I look forward to building a stronger and more connected Jewish Doncaster youth with the help of you all.*

## UJEB - Marcel Saxone

Doncaster is lucky to have the only Sunday morning UJEB primary school program in Melbourne where the children learn about the Jewish festivals, Hebrew language and culture in a creative, fun environment. The classes are small and the teachers are enthusiastic.

The children at UJEB have enjoyed a feast of great activities as we have celebrated Purim with a dress-up party and Pesach with a model Seder. They have been creating some beautiful artworks to be displayed at the upcoming Shuk Ha'shishim family festival being held at Mt Scopus College in East St Kilda on May 25<sup>th</sup> to celebrate Israel's 60<sup>th</sup> birthday. The Lag B'Omer festivities began with a bonfire and the children are looking forward to the ice-cream party on Shavuot.

A feature of UJEB this year is the new kindergarten program which caters to the little ones by offering a shorter, more flexible approach to classes. Contact the Principal Esther Raitman (ph: 0408408770) if you would like to know more or come and share an ice-cream for Shavuot (8<sup>th</sup> June).



# NORTH EASTERN YOUTH PROGRAMS

## Playgroup [Ages 0-5]

The NEJC Playgroup has enjoyed much success in the past year. A strong group of mothers and children attending regularly, and the newly purchased Playgroup equipment has made for a more comfortable and enjoyable experience. All Playgroup activities are held in the "Scout Hall" and run weekly on Tuesdays 10:00am-11:30am except during school holidays. Playgroup fees are \$25 per term or \$80 per year - Centre members free.

## BGUN [Ages 9+]

The Betar youth movement has become a part of the Doncaster Jewish community. Since Betar and Nachas joined forces, they have run activities at the NEJC, providing the youth of our community programs and activities aimed at strengthening their Jewish awareness and their love and appreciation of Israel.

Weekly meetings take place at the Centre at 4:00pm on Sundays. Activities are run for kids up to Year 9. During Year 10, participants experience a year of Hadracha (Youth Leadership Training) and in year 11, are able to put their experience into practice running activities for the younger kids.

Betar offers an Israel program for members finished school, and last year 5 Doncaster members went to Israel for the year with Betar.

The highlights of this year will be our winter camp (for years 2-10) starting on the 7th of June. The end of the year will have a junior camp for years 2-7 and a federal camp with members from all over Australia (Melb, Qld, Syd) for years 8-12. BGUN will also provide its youth members a chance to have fun and meet new friends, with some exciting activities coming up.

If you want any information about BGUN, are interested in coming to experience a weekly meeting or are free during the holiday and want to have some fun with other Jewish kids please call Eytan Epstein on 0414541537.

## Bar Mitzvah Club



Every six weeks, boys aged 13 - 16 gather on a Sunday morning with their Dad's to put on tefillin, say a short prayer, eat bagels with lox and socialize, reminiscing about their Bar Mitzvah experiences. Each member of the Bar Mitzvah club prepares a small Jewish thought to share with his friends to keep that Jewish spark shining. For the "Barmy Club" schedule, please contact Rabbi Glasman at the Centre.

## Mini Minyan

A fun way to introduce YOUR child or grandchild to the wonderful world of Synagogue Prayer. Mini Minyan is an innovative program where the joys and traditions of Judaism are brought to life for kids. Replete with their very own scaled down synagogue furnishings including: ark, sefer torah, beginner prayer books and prayer shawls, the children's service curriculum includes introductory prayer, interactive Parsha, and activities that instill a sense of history, pride and a genuine understanding of core Jewish values and the Hebrew language. The service concludes with their very own Kids Kiddush after which the kids join with the adults in shule for the conclusion of their service.

This unique program, geared for children ages 4-12 (the younger group is 3-6 years and the older group is 7-12 years), commences at 10:30am every Shabbat morning and is under the guidance of responsible and experienced youth leaders.



# NEJC ADULT ACTIVITIES



NEJC Women's Circle – 2008/09  
6 High St. Doncaster

T193

April 6

## Zooz Israeli Dancing

Join us as we hit the "Zooz" dance floor.

Excellent night- Approx 30 women learned various dances and thoroughly enjoyed the evening.

Exe... body together with your mind with Glas... re-pesach pearls of wisdom. Bring original insight... to your Seder night Haggada discussion and surprise your family by showing them just how deep the Haggada truly is.

May 25

## Prison Chaplaincy – A Woman's Perspective

Timmy... Excellent night- Approx 25 women listened to Timmy telling her stories of meetings with Jewish prisoners.

a... ment of prison and co... tries to imbue them with a sense of hope.

July 6

## Let's Laugh!

Bronwyn Roberts is the founder and CHO (Chief Happiness Officer) of Let's Laugh, an organization which teaches proven laughing techniques that improve physical and mental health, assist in formulating a naturally positive attitude, increase creativity and productivity, improve focus and promote resilience. Bronwyn is the current president of Laughter Yoga Victoria. Join her in laughter as you have the laughing time of your life!



August 17

## "Maintaining the Connection When the Going Gets Tough"

Helen Luntz, a qualified Psychologist and Family Therapist, will moderate a stimulating and highly relevant group discussion on dealing with the difficulties of adolescent turbulence and symptoms of family friction. With extensive experience dealing with the most difficult of family situations, Helen will provide clear and well thought guidelines on how to find the right balance between allowing family members personal independence whilst requiring them to conform to family expectations.



September 21

## Rosh Hashana Cooking Demo with Hynda Feldman

Are you sick and tired of making the same festival foods every year? Are you looking for new and innovative recipes to tantalise the taste buds and imaginations of your hard to please family? If you answered yes to either of these questions then don't miss out on this active cooking demo in preparation for the High Holidays by long standing NEJC member, Hynda Feldman. Learn new insights into traditional gefilte fish and discover how to make matza balls that will keep your family coming back for more!

And... Food for your soul with the Kabbala of Rosh Hashana. Join Rabbi Glasman as he takes you through the journey of spiritual creation and reveals to you a Rosh Hashana experience that you never thought possible!



November 2

## Medical Ethics of Botox and Plastic Surgery

In 2007, Australians spent \$300 million on Botox treatment and other forms of cosmetic enhancements. In an ever increasing society of image and personal appearance, Botox and plastic surgery have become, to many, as precious as life itself. But at what cost? Join Rabbi Glasman as he elucidates the Jewish ethical guidelines of these and other procedures, and provides insight as to just where we should draw the line.



RSVP to saraglasman@yahoo.com.au or to the NEJC Ph: 9816 3516. All sessions start at 7:30pm



## FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Senior members of the community enjoy meeting every second Wednesday at the NEJC for morning tea and light entertainment.

Meetings are held from 10:30am to 12:30pm.

If a lift is required or if you have any queries regarding the Friendship Club please contact Elaine at the Office on 9816 3516.

Please contact Elaine for Friendship Club dates after July 2008.



The Menorah May 2008

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Log on to [www.nejc.com.au](http://www.nejc.com.au) for the latest news about YOUR community



# NEJC FAMILY NEWS

## SEPTEMBER 2007 - MAY 2008



### Births

#### A hearty Mazel Tov to

Hilton and Maryann Katz on the birth of a grandson.

Joe and Sharon Liebowitz on the birth of a granddaughter.

Rabbi Gidon and Aviva Fox on the birth of their son.

Les and Judy Milner on the birth of their granddaughter.

Fred and Leah Bergman on the birth of a granddaughter.

Issy and Sheila Allen on the birth of their grandson.

Esther Press on the birth of a great grandson.

Edith Laznitzki on the birth of her great granddaughter.

Sam and Sylvia Lew on the birth of their granddaughter.

Abe and Dagmar Snyder on the birth of a great grandson.

Fred and Leah Bergman on the birth of a granddaughter.

Michael and Yvonne Neiger on the birth of their grandson.

Simon and Raquella Neiger on the birth of their son.

Gary and Rhonda Kagan on the birth of their granddaughter.

### Engagements

#### A hearty Mazel Tov to

Alan and Sharon Bergman on the engagement of their daughter Francine to Ben Ereira.

Roy and Elaine Gaddie on the engagement of their daughter Diane to Rael Queit.

Sam and Sylvia Lew on the engagement of their daughter Rebecca to Alain Doig.

Hilton and Maryann Katz on the engagement of their son Darren to Candy Levin.

Sam and Sylvia Lew on the engagement of their daughter Deborah to Mark Barit.

Reuven and Merle Avital on the engagement of their son Gary to Naomi Osborne.

Gary Avital on his engagement to Naomi Osborne.

### Weddings

#### A hearty Mazel Tov to

Jeffrey and Shirley Zajac on the marriage of their daughter Michelle to Roman Serebrianik.

Sara Glasman on the marriage of her sister in the USA.

Jack and Mary Hirsch on the marriage of their daughter Rosie to Daniel Faigen.

### Bar/Bat Mitzvah

#### A hearty Mazel Tov to

John and Beverley Davis on the Barmitzvah of their Grandson James.

Ben and Christine Cochrane Davis on the Barmitzvah of their son James.

Deborah and Steven Donald on the Barmitzvah of their nephew James.

Arthur and Roslyn Zulman on the Barmitzvah of their son David.

Shirley Zulman on the Barmitzvah of her grandson David.

Alan and Heidi Hayden on the Barmitzvah of their nephew David.

Martin Delatycki on the Barmitzvah of his son Tomas.

Oskar and Jeanette Delatycki on the Barmitzvah of their grandson Tomas.

Les and Judy Milner on the Batmitzvah of their daughter Rachel.

Colin and Moira Kahn on the Barmitzvah of their son Dean.



## Condolences

We extend heartfelt condolences to

Michael and Edna Samuels on the passing of Michael's brother Andrew.

Michael and Michelle Saling on the passing of Michelle's father.

Maurice and Ingrid Wulfson on the passing of Maurice's father Aubrey.

Leon and Jenny Schwartzstein on the passing of Leon's mother.

Steven and Deanne Lentin on the passing of Steven's mother.

Aron Zawoznik on the passing of his wife Helen.

Claude and Henryka Fromm on the passing of Henryka's mother Helen.

Carol Metter on the passing of her mother Connie.

Ian and Janet Richter on the passing of Ian's mother Connie.

Theresa Frankel on the passing of her uncle Gerald.

## Birthdays

A hearty Mazel Tov to

Edna Goodman on her 80<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Milton Goldman on his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Shirley Zulman on her 70<sup>th</sup> birthday.

## Anniversary

A hearty Mazel Tov to

Wolfie and Elma Sacks on their 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

## Upshern

A hearty Mazel Tov to

Rabbi Yanki and Rebbetzin Sara Glasman on the Upshern of their son Moshe

Birthday,  
Anniversary  
and  
Bar Mitzvah  
Anniversary  
greetings to  
all.

Please advise  
the office of your  
family news.

Phone: 9816 3516

B'SD

**NEJC'S ANNUAL...**

**SHAVUOT DINNER!**



**Where:** NEJC, 6 High Street, Doncaster  
**When:** Sunday June 8, Services begin at 6:15pm followed by the Shavuot Dinner (approx 7pm)  
**Cost:** Child—\$12, Adult—\$18, Family—\$60  
**Shavuot Learning:** Series of lectures following dinner. Main speaker - Rabbi Glasman to talk on:

*"The Stolen Generation: Is saying sorry good enough?"*

May 20, 1997

## Dry Bones



www.DryBonesBlog.com



## Our Rabbi Glasman certainly gets around the World schmoozing with the big boys!!



Rabbi's Fox, Gutnick and Glasman at the International Conference of Chabad Rabbi's last November in New York.



Rabbi Glasman blowing the Shofar for Premier Brumby after Rosh Hashanah 2008.



Rabbi Glasman schmoozing with Premier Brumby.

## Photos from Functions at NEJC 2008

### Purim



Parrot gives our Rabbi Glasman a kiss!  
(AJN photo of the week)

### Lag B'Omer



Arthur Zulman leads the Group in song



Selwyn entranced!



Some of the NEJC youth



Rabbi and children enjoy the music



The Organizing Committee  
Rebbetzin Sara, Esther, Geta, Stuart and Mary

Benjamin Sztypel Photographer



# Communal Diary

Rabbi's Shiur - Every Monday 8:00-9:30pm

Playgroup - Every Tuesday 10:00-11:30am



## June

8<sup>th</sup> - Shavuot Dinner  
11<sup>th</sup> - Friendship Club  
25<sup>th</sup> - Friendship Club  
28<sup>th</sup> - Cholent Shabbos

## July

6<sup>th</sup> - Women's Circle 7.30 pm- "Lets Laugh"  
9<sup>th</sup> - Friendship Club  
23<sup>rd</sup> - Friendship Club  
26<sup>th</sup> - Cholent Shabbos

## August

17<sup>th</sup> - Women's Circle 7.30 pm- "Maintaining the Connection When the Going Gets Tough"  
30<sup>th</sup> - Cholent Shabbos

## September

21<sup>st</sup> - Women's Circle 7.30 pm- "Rosh Hashanah Cooking Demonstration with Hynda Feldman".  
27<sup>th</sup> - Cholent Shabbos

## October

25<sup>th</sup> - Cholent Shabbos

## November

2<sup>nd</sup> - Women's Circle 7.30pm- "Medical Ethics of Botox and Plastic Surgery".  
9<sup>th</sup> - Bat Mitzvah Ceremony  
22<sup>nd</sup> - Cholent Shabbos

## December

20<sup>th</sup> - Cholent Shabbos

