

beth shalom
auckland new zealand
בית שלום



February 2021

Shevat~Adar 5781

Teruah



*A strong, vibrant community with a spiritual heart
embracing Jewish life and its diversity.*

(ISSN 1177-2352)

Our Board members

Affiliated with the Union for Progressive Judaism (UPJ)

Charities Commission Registration Number CC29542

PO Box 26 052, Epsom, Auckland 1344, New Zealand

Tel: 09 524 4139 Fax: 0282 552 3027

Office: Christine O'Brien office@bethshalom.org.nz

Website: www.bethshalom.org.nz

Executive

- President, Olga Bernstein, president@bethshalom.org.nz
- Immediate Past President, Debbie Swiatek, debswiatek@gmail.com
- Acting Vice President, Alistair Kirk, vice_president@bethshalom.org.nz
- Secretary, Carol McCracken, secretary@bethshalom.org.nz (Hebrew School and Adult Education)
- Treasurer, Shane Sampson treasurer@bethshalom.org.nz

Board members and portfolios

- Julie Dick, primroseji@gmail.com, Burial & Benevolent Society
- Terry Haffern, haffernt@outlook.com, Ritual, Garden
- Alistair Kirk, alikir09@gmail.com, Vision Project
- Ted Ries, tedbries@gmail.com, Security, JCC
- Sandra van Eden, waiatamanu1@gmail.com, Membership, Garden, Community Care
- Michelle Wise, wisemichelle@gmail.com

- Educator, Debbie Miller educator@bethshalom.org.nz
- Community Care, Lita Summerfield, serendipitylins40@gmail.com
- Senior Outreach, Chris Shiller, shiller@orcon.net.nz
- Auckland Jewish Burial & Benevolent Society, Sue Berman ...

022 051 3589, ajbbs@bethshalom.org.nz

Service times are Fridays at 6:30pm and Saturdays at 10am.

During COVID-19 Level 1, all services

will be in the Sanctuary and livestreamed on OneRoom unless otherwise advised.


Contents

Opinions expressed in Teruah do not necessarily represent the views of Beth Shalom Board of Management.

1. February 2021 Shevat~Adar 5781
2. Our Board members
3. ToC - Box
4. Coming up ...
5. From the President ...
6. From the Board ...
7. The Buzz ...
8. David Robinson's Drash, Sh'mot - Names
9. Prayers for healing ...
10. Ritcom Reports...
11. Education Update
12. Community Care
13. Auckland Jewish Burial & Benevolent Society
14. Purim
15. Israel Elections 2021 Zoom invitation
16. Pesach

Coming up in February

- **Saturday 13 February 10am** – Bar Mitzvah of Dasan Paullay-Beazley. Please join Dasan's family as we celebrate this simcha as a community.
- **Sunday 14 February 2021** - Both Hebrew school and Introduction to Judaism classes start.
- **Friday 19 February at 6.30pm** – Our Erev Shabbat service will be a little different – it will be led by our teens as a collaborative service.
- **Saturday 20 February at 10am Beth Shalom Summer Walks - in Mt Eden.**
- **Thursday 25 February at 6.30pm.** Come along and enjoy Purim. We will read the Megillah, story of Esther, during our service, enjoy a Purim spiel, then we will party. Wear your best Purim costumes and enjoy eating Hamantaschen. Please bring some **finger food** to share. Family craft activities from 6pm.
- **Saturday 27 March at 10am** – Rabbi JoEllen will lead a meditative Shabbat morning service.
- **Sunday 28 March at 10am** First Day Pesach service, **6pm** – Community Seder for Passover, save the date!




**You're unique.
Your insurance
advice should
be too.**

TIB The Insurance Brokers

Rothbury
INSURANCE
BROKERS

TIB is now part of Rothbury Insurance Brokers.

We love being local and helping local businesses succeed and grow. Get in touch, we'd love to help you.



John Barnfield
Commercial Broker
P +64 9 942 4936
M +64 21 449 096
john.barnfield@rothbury.co.nz



Peter Palmer
Senior Commercial Broker
P +64 9 914 3471
M +64 21 445 608
peter.palmer@rothbury.co.nz

From the President ...

I often think that being on the Board is a bit like being a swan (or a duck) - what looks like floating on the surface takes a lot of leg work under the water!

When I spoke at Rosh Hashanah, I said that as a Board we were focusing on three strategic projects: The Jewish Community Centre (JCC) proposal; the need for Rabbinic presence; and the Vision Project. I am pleased to be able to report that we've been busy with all of these this month.

One of the highlights of the month was that we were able to come back to the community with an update on the discussions about the possibility of moving to the JCC site in Remuera. Over the past few months there have been extensive, intensive, and productive meetings between the Beth Shalom and AHC/AHC Trust working groups. Our group has been guided by the mandate and conditions provided by the community at the meetings in August 2019 and October 2020. We now have a path to move forward with investigating the opportunity. I would like to stress that this is not a decision point and that no decisions can or will be made without coming back to the community and getting the required support.

I would like to extend sincere thanks to our working group - Ted Ries, Paul Wilton, Judith Marks and John Pezaro - for all the time, thought, perseverance and care that they've put into bringing us to this point. The conversations they have led with the AHC and AHC Trust have been constructive, positive and respectful and I acknowledge all involved in this dialogue.

There is hard work ahead to look at the financial and practical implications of a possible move. We will keep you updated as events unfold. If you have any feedback, please let us know by emailing JCCworkinggroup@bethshalom.org.nz

We've also re-started our rabbinic search. We've agreed, as a Board, to approach candidates who applied during the previous search in 2018/19. Our main constraint is our ability to get permission to bring anyone into the country. However, the search committee is exploring a range of options and I am optimistic that we will make some good progress over the course of the year.

The Board has also been meeting with Rabbi George (via Zoom) to progress the Vision Project. The Working Group and Board have had a number of sessions with Rabbi George at the end of last year in preparation for our anticipated community conversations, which we are all looking forward to. This remains a crucial project for us at a pivotal time in our history and I hope you will take the opportunity to add your voice to ensure we plot out a path that will best serve our community for decades to come.

Olga Bernstein

FROM THE BOARD

This last month the Board has had been busy with variety of exciting initiatives.

Vision Project

The Board has been meeting with Rabbi George to start formulating a future vision for Beth Shalom. Rabbi George is working with the Board to develop survey and interview questions and we're aiming to start getting community views before Pesach.

JCC

The last few months have seen several meetings and phone calls between the Beth Shalom and AHC/ AHC Trust working groups, resulting in the letter you will have received from the Board. This is just part of a long process. The Board is currently setting up a community meeting where our Beth Shalom family can hear from and ask questions of representatives from all parties currently involved in the discussions - the Fisher Trust, the AHC/ AHC Trust, and Beth Shalom. We'll get details of this meeting out as soon as we've set a firm date.

Rabbinic search

The Board agreed to re-start our rabbinic search. We recognise the desire and need to have a rabbi at Beth Shalom. As part of our previous search in 2018/19, we had some strong candidates who, for a variety of reasons, we did not continue with. We've agreed, as a Board, to approach these candidates in the first instance.

We also have a potential rabbi for the High Holy Days. We're working through whether we will be able to get the rabbi into NZ before Rosh Hashanah.

Hebrew School

Based on the feedback that Debbie Miller received from Hebrew School parents during a series of focus groups, she has proposed, and the Board has approved, a new and exciting format for Hebrew School sessions.

The Buzz ...

Chanukah at Beth Shalom, December 2020 (photos from Ashley Hingston-Daniels)





Dasan Paullay-Beazley, Bar Mitzvah 13 February 2021.

Tzedakah project. Making toys for the dogs at the Henderson council shelter and we'll also take donations of old sheets and towels.

Beth Shalom Summer Walks - 10am Saturday 20 February in Mt Eden (starting point tbc).

After a holiday interlude, Beth Shalom Summer Walks are resuming. The next walk will be at **10am on Saturday 20 February** in Mt Eden, followed by refreshments at the Liebman-McGrath household, 59 Shackleton Road, Mt Eden. (Please note this walk is on Saturday not Sunday - hoping this means some people involved in Hebrew School on Sunday will be able to join us.)

Starting point and route to be advised (we are planning to walk up Mt Eden and towards Three Kings, but just working out best route).

As previously, contributions to refreshments are welcome but not necessary.

Please bring a hat, sunscreen, water and (optionally) your dog :)

Any queries please contact Christine at the office or email Tanya on tanyathomsonnz@gmail.com

The L'Chaim Committee



TU B'SHVAT SUNDAY 24 JANUARY 2021



GLOBAL TRAVEL AUTHORS

FOSTERING CROSS CULTURAL DIVERSITY, TOLERANCE, INCLUSION, AND UNDERSTANDING AROUND THE WORLD WITH AN EMPHASIS ON JEWISH HISTORY.

Irene Shaland is an internationally-published art and travel writer, educator, and lecturer. She focuses on the rich tapestry of global Jewish experiences, culture, and heritage. Irene writes and lectures on various countries' responses to the Holocaust. A member of the international Society for

Crypto-Judaic Studies, she is a regular presenter at the Society's annual conferences and contributor to its HaLapid academic journal. Irene is a contributing author and lecturer at such academic institutions as Siegal College of Jewish Studies and Touro Law School of New York; museums and cultural institutions, like the Center for Jewish History Research/American Sephardic Federation in New York and Maltz Museum of Jewish Heritage in Cleveland.

February 24, 2021 at 7:00 PM - 1:00 PM Thursday 25th NZ time
Zoom virtual event. Irene Shaland presents her lecture "Jewish Mosaic of Singapore." Hosted by the New City Library, New City, NY.



David Robinson's Drash 8th January

This week's portion is called Sh'mot - names.

It deals with control, what we can control and what we can't, what is worth speaking up for and about and what is not. Finding a balance between keeping quiet and speaking out is sometimes tough. How often have we come across something we don't agree with or is just wrong but we have been unwilling to speak out because we "don't want to get involved". Does silence make an injustice correct?

How often have Jews been the victims because they haven't spoken out. We just have to look at what has happened in the United States over the last 48 hours to know the dangers of not speaking out and taking action against people and their utterances that are clearly not acceptable. To listen to so many "people of influence" utter meaningless political statements with no intention of actually doing something about it is quite upsetting and frustrating. This happens here in New Zealand as well as around the world.

Narrowing it down a little, how often do we, as progressive Jews, not agree with what is happening in Israel and in other parts of the world and, maybe, even here in New Zealand but we just keep quiet because it is too hard to get involved and speak out and we don't want to "stand out"? Moses tried to take that line. "I've never been good with words," he said. "I wouldn't know what to say. I wouldn't know how to say it. I wouldn't even know who to say it to - I've just never been good with words."

The anxiety swelled up in Moses' chest. Who am I to be the one that must speak? I've never been good with words. I'm a man of action, not speech. Come on - there are scores of midrash stories about my lisp. Everyone knows that I have a speech impediment because I ate hot coals as a baby. Clearly, God knows I can't do this. I am slow of speech. Slow of tongue. I've never been good with words. It was ostensibly a New Year in Egypt. A new chapter, a new book, with a new Pharaoh who knew not Joseph.

We find ourselves on the banks of a river. We catch a glimpse of a baby boy put into a basket, raised up in the Pharaoh's palace. We watch him discover his people. We see his first attempt at responding to injustice. We see him flee into the desert. We see him see a burning bush. We are privileged to see the journey that is Moses' maturation. But we don't hear much from him. He was never good with words.

But what he does say - speaks volumes. Hineni, he answers God at the thornbush burning brightly. Here I am. I am present. I am listening. I am witnessing this moment, God. Hineni, here I am. And then: Mi Anochi? Who am I? he asks God. Who am I to go to Pharaoh? A moment of humility or a moment of low self-confidence?

וְהֵן לֹא יֵאֱמִינוּ לִי וְלֹא יִשְׁמָעוּ בְּקוֹלִי: /V'hen - lo ya'a'minu li; v'lo yish'm'oo b'kol'i - What if they do not believe me? What if they do not listen to me? As if to say, why should they believe me? Why should they listen to me? And finally - אֲנִי לֹא יֵשׁ דְּבָרִים אֲנִי כִי /Adonai, lo ish d'varim anochi - God, I've never been good with words vad lashon anochi'ch'ved peh'u'ki'ka/: אֲנִי דְּלִשָׁה וְכִבְדִּי אֲנִי I am slow of speech and slow of tongue.

Moses, a reluctant prophet. (They all are at first.) Here I am, he says. But who am I? Will they believe me? Will they listen to me? I've never been good with words. Beyond reluctance, however, Moses is a model of self-awareness. He knows his shortcomings. He states them openly. He stands before God unadorned, slight of speech, of few words - declaring over and over his humanity.

It was this vulnerability upon which Moses and God developed over time a relationship that created a safe space for terms of engagement, declarative acts of commitment, accountability, and deep promises. Each layer of their relationship was fraught with raw emotion. At times God was furious. At times God was loving and protective. And Moses, in all his humanity, was, well... human. He made mistakes. Moses struck rocks. He was angry. And again, he was human: He mourned losses. He was persistent. And together Moses and God shared disappointments and joy.

What would it look like to say to another: "I've never been good with words." Or, "I've never been good with whatever it is you've never been good at." What would it mean to share with another those shortcomings? What would our relationships look like if we shared with another our anxieties, our fears, our pain? What would our connections feel like if we shared our successes, our growth, our moments of pride? Richer, I'm sure. Therapeutic, perhaps. Fraught with emotion and vulnerability, of course. Fulfilling, absolutely.

When we are aware of our growing edges, or shortcomings, or weaknesses, when we are conscious of how they play out in our daily life, and when we name them, and perhaps share them with trusted others - we, like Moses, learn to navigate difficult paths. We learn to sing new songs even if we think we sing off key (just look at me when talking about singing off key!) We learn to say new things we never would've said before...even if we've never been good with words.

And so it is for Moses, our sweet son of Israel, who with his slow tongue, humble reticence, but trust in God. So it is with Moses who had never been good with words, who so feared his inability to communicate, his inability to give voice, who was so aware of who might hear him and how they might hear him. So it is for Moshe Rabbeinu, Moses our teacher, who says three of the most important words ever uttered in the story of the Jewish people: *Shalach Et Ami* Let My People Go.

From Moshe Rabbeinu, we learn that self-awareness literally sets us free. So - let's set ourselves a challenge for 2021 as we reach Beth Shalom's 65th birthday in March. The challenge is not to retire at 65 but to speak out about injustices, wrongs and things that worry us.

Do not stay silent and let others make decisions which you believe may not be correct. Democracy dictates not everything we believe in will find favour with the majority but if you don't have your say then no-one will know what you think and they don't have the opportunity to maybe agree with you.

Shabbat shalom

CLICK HERE FOR THE FEBRUARY SERVICE ROSTER



Prayers for Healing Group

A group of Beth Shalom members has commenced, to think of and pray for individuals in our community, who are in need of healing.

The idea is that this group is not an organised group or minyan. Simply, caring people who, when made aware of the need, help healing with the power of prayer.

And that families in distress might receive comfort from the knowledge that this is taking place.

Caring for the unwell is part of being a community.

For those interested, I can supply articles: "The Jewish Way in Healing", and some scientific research on the positive power of prayer in healing.

If you wish to be part of this group

Or, if you know of someone who is unwell that would appreciate our prayer

Please contact Leon Goldwater or Christine O'Brien at shul office

Leon: ldgoldwater@gmail.com 020 403 88054

Christine: office@bethshalom.org.nz 524 4139

Ritcom Reports ..

One of the special parts of Purim is that we eat Hamantaschen – the triangular sweet pastries. We acknowledge my Jewish Learning for the article below which explains this custom. At our Purim party we will be serving delicious Hamantaschen made by Aimee Sandler.



Leave it to the Jews to have a cookie inspired by cultural annihilation! Hamantaschen are the triangular pastries associated with the holiday of [Purim](#), when Jews read from the Book of Esther, [the Megillah](#), and celebrate the triumph of good (Esther) over evil (Haman, who planned to destroy the Jewish people).

This Yiddish word is pronounced *huh-min-tah-shun*, and while technically the plural form of *hamantasch*, the word *hamantaschen* can refer to either one cookie or many. To shape hamantaschen, circles are cut from thinly rolled dough and the sides are folded in around a dollop of filling. The cookie can be crumbly (if made with oil), or softer (when made with butter or cream cheese); and filled with almost anything: fruit, cheese, chocolate, Nutella. Did I mention Nutella? Or even savory ingredients. Traditionally, poppy seed, *ormohn*, was used, which some say represent Haman's bribe to King Ahasuerus or Esther's meals while in the king's palace.

The cookie itself is also highly symbolic; the most common interpretation is that they resemble the three cornered hat worn by Haman. In Hebrew the cookies are called "*ozney Haman*" which means "Haman's ears" and refers to the custom of cutting off a criminal's ears before his execution. *Mmm, yum, cookies!* A third idea suggests that each corner of a hamantaschen represents one of the "fathers" of Judaism – Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob – whose "power" weakened Haman and gave strength to Esther to save the Jews (incidentally, *tash* in Hebrew means "weaken"). One more thought is that because the German word *tasche* means "pouch" or "pocket," the cookies could signify Haman's pockets and the money he offered to the king for permission to kill the Jews.

Worth noting, however, is that *mohn*-filled triangle-shaped cookies existed in Europe since the Middle Ages (and German *MohnTaschen*, or “poppy pockets” appeared soon after), so it is possible that Ashkenazi Jews adapted the story of Purim to popular cookies already in existence whose name conveniently sounded like Haman (*mohn*). In addition to making, eating and gifting these three-sided treats, Purim is also a time to wear costumes, dance, and drink booze which may or may not remind you of parties you attended in college. Just don’t try to make any hamantaschen in the heat of merriment, as it’s already a challenge to keep those corners together and not end up with a tray of jam volcanoes.

Some hamantaschen recipes to try:

[Joan Nathan’s classic hamantaschen](#)

[Triple chocolate hamantaschen](#)

[Neopolitan hamantaschen](#)

[Rice krispie treat hamantaschen](#)

[Savory hamantaschen](#)

Education

Welcome to Experiential Jewish Learning



Experiential Learning at Beth Shalom is starting February 14th. We are doing something totally new and creative at Beth Shalom; we are becoming a hyperactive hub of creative Jewish activity. We have invited drama teachers, art teachers, costume designers, bakers, historians, library researchers to bring Jewish learning alive.

We have some amazing Hebrew teachers who are coming on board to make learning fun and engaging. Upstairs the kids will have one session that will be Hebrew and downstairs will be an activities hall which will have diverse programs happening.

We have been blessed this year with lots of new people coming to our shores and our shul with great talents and loads of experience in Jewish creative arts of film, theatre, art and music and we are going to tap into this wealth to make Beth Shalom a rocking center of activity.

We are going to have field trips, film making, and just an all-round amazing time.

Adult Education

We also plan to have an adult education program which will have a series of mini courses in which parents and community are encouraged to participate. Let's walk the talk and show our kids that education is not just for children.

We have so many talented people in our community and hopefully I will come out with a schedule soon as to what will be happening.

- Imago couples therapy
- Jewish parenting
- Jewish ethics
- Jewish History
- Writing a living will
- Talmud
- Acupuncture
- Feldenkrais

The goal is to have these classes for 1-3 weeks from 9.30-10.30am on Sunday.

Pre-school Shabbat Kat Monthly Shabbat Morning service starting up again on February 20th

We are sad that Ayelet and Ari's sabbatical in Ontario got cut short but we are ecstatic to have this dynamic duo back on our shores. Ari is an ethics professor and Ayelet is history professor both at Auckland University. Ayelet will be back again leading Shabbat Kat with me and Ari will be giving drashot and reading torah. We also have an active and welcoming group of young families who come to Shabbat Kat and hang out in the park together afterwards with their kids. It is a great atmosphere and speaks to a great future for the community.

What a super shabbat

Rabbi JoEllen Duckor lead Shabbat morning service at Beth Shalom this week and spoke meaning and connection to all our participants. It was especially powerful the way she connected the torah portion to the members who came up for their aliyot. It really made the Torah become a part of us.

We also celebrated all our new members at the Beth Shalom community. What a good feeling to see the bima crowded with new members all standing under the tallit for their blessing.

And yum afterwards we had a catered lunch which all enjoyed and stayed around enjoying our community. It always speaks volumes about the kind of community we are when I see how much everyone really enjoys seeing each other and sharing what is going on in our lives.

Rabbi JoEllen Led a Contemplative Shabbat Afternoon of Meditation and Study

Starting at 2pm about 30 people got together to share shabbat with Rabbi JoEllen. She guided us through a meditative process and Jewish awaking including blessings, and text study that was brilliant. We hope to do it again.

Introduction to Judaism Course is full

The introduction to Judaism course which is a prerequisite for the conversion process is full for this year. It will be starting on Sunday February 14th and it is hard to believe but we just do not have any more room. But in the meantime, people can take the mini courses offered on Sunday mornings until the next course. It is a blessing to have so many wonderful people wanting to engage in Jewish Learning.

Hebrew on Thursdays

It has been requested that we start up our adult conversational Hebrew course again on Thursday at 7pm-7.45pm. If we get enough people to sign up we will start the course again. Please inform the office@bethshalom.org.nz and we will notify you of the start date and the cost.

Leah Burger, our new Hebrew teacher at Beth Shalom wins Top Honours for her Holocaust essay and is invited to read it on Un Holocaust Remembrance day in Wellington.

Leah has just graduated high school with top honours in English and she is going on to study law and design at Auckland University. She was raised in Israel and has only been studying in NZ for the past 3 years. She is going to be teaching Hebrew. I would like to share her essay with you.

The light that defies the darkness

In the bible there is a verse that tells us, "Do not fear, for the evil's destruction will come." The word "destruction" that is used in this verse is the same word used for Holocaust in Hebrew. It can be interpreted as a prophecy for the Holocaust, but it can also be an inkling that the nations enemies will fall to destruction themselves. By reading literature of all kinds, we can find hidden meanings among them which brings me to analyse Holocaust survivor literature. The word 'Holocaust' itself is synonymous for great pain and loss to the Jewish people. It is something we carry with us, but the way we carry it is up to each and every one of us. It is a defining feature that either makes us weak or empowers us. Three generations later and it is still part of who we are. For a defining moment, "Look at how a single candle can both define and defy darkness," - Anne Frank's diary. This specific genre of literature is part of the Jewish people's defiance to the darkness inflicted by the Nazis and is a tribute to each and every victims suffering, and that's why it is so important to keep Holocaust literature alive.

Maus, authored by Art Spiegelman is a powerful insight into the relationships of survivors and survivors' demeanour. While it shows us a story depicting trauma, it is parallel with a story set in the present which focuses on the aftermath of the Holocaust. What our parents, grandparents and great grandparents went through was so extreme and traumatic that it has been engraved in our minds forever and might as well be a genetic quality we all inherit.

In this work, Jews are depicted as mice throughout the entire thing which holds a layer of symbolism for us to analyse. Mice are animals that will always avoid danger at any cost, and that is an underlying theme in a lot of survivor literature. These extreme circumstances brought out our human tendency to want to survive, just like mice. Mice are also relatively weak and are depicted as prey to the Nazis who are illustrated as cats. Another powerful insight in this work is the manner of how relationships have evolved between parent and child to a new dynamic.

We see, like many other survivors, Vladek, the father of the main characters, displays qualities of clinginess that drives him to 'waste not, want not, mindset while also treating his relationships in the same manner. Despite this idea among survivors' psyche, many find it hard to share their experience in fear of reliving it. So, when Vladek chooses to share his experience with his son we can imagine the tremendous strength it must have taken. Vladek showed resilience by telling his own story to his son and in doing so he passed on these qualities. When evaluating Vladek's motives, we can link this back to the evolved dynamic of their relationship, and it can be explained by the need to protect one's own children from harm. This new dynamic is not completely shattered, contrary to our assumptions. It is simply cracked but healed by victims' enlightenment about the value of family and the need to prevent any such thing from happening again.

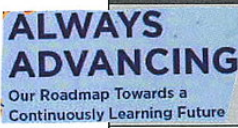

Holocaust literature stems out of the exigency to protect anyone else from such danger. We must read it and never forget. While the symbolism is mostly about tragedy and trauma, we can find an underlying theme of vengeance and regrowth in survivor literature. 'The Watch,'

by Elie Wiesel is a powerful short story accompanied with powerful phrases that evoke the audience to feel the underlying tone of sorrow. "Feverishly, furiously, my hands claw the earth impervious to the cold, fatigue and pain." The trauma Elie Wiesel experienced during the Holocaust lead him to feel eccentric about the injustice he experienced and builds up the narrative with the idea of desperately needing something to be done. "Here it is, in the palm of my hand: the last relic, the only remaining symbol..." when Wiesel was 'feverishly digging,

we can find a hidden meaning that he wasn't looking for just a watch he was looking for a way to restore the dignity he had lost. "I want to transform my watch into an instrument of delayed vengeance." since you can't make a simple gold watch an instrument of vengeance the author is actually positioning us to think about the meaning behind it, and to think about the vengeance every survivor warrants. Survivor literature is in a way delayed vengeance. Out of pain and sorrow they grew and used their rage to fuel themselves, their literature, and their accomplishments. Elie endured, survived, and showed resilience in order to avenge himself and his fellow victims. Holocaust survivors built a Jewish home and told their stories so that a thing like this will never happen again, and that is a quality I hope we all inherited.

Anne Frank did not survive, but she has a lot to teach about surviving. A survivor can be defined as someone who lives on while others have died, and therefore the people who are left are always responsible to fix the injustice, and that includes us. Her diary is admirable since she is constantly showing resilience while constantly trying to find meaning and hope in a world that offers very little. "In the eyes of the world we are doomed. But if there is Jewish people left, they will be held up as an example... maybe we will teach the world about goodness, and this is the only reason we have to suffer." Perhaps when talking about inherent human nature and the Holocaust we should talk less about the brutality of the Nazis and more about the human nature to relentlessly find purpose, and by finding a purpose we find hope. Anne Frank's strength throughout her life in hiding gave not only the people she hid with hope and strength of their own but millions of her readers.

As a Jew I find purpose in keeping this memory alive. Holocaust literature is a testament to all survivor's resilience and eagerness to survive and one day again, flourish. The essential idea of Holocaust literature being eternal should give us all hope that we will never forget their pain and suffering, and if we were to repeat our mistakes, we would have hope to rise above it, like Holocaust survivors. Without resilience survivors would not have had the chance to tell us their stories and we would be one step closer to repeating such heinous mistakes. And in that I find hope: that the Holocaust shall never happen again. "For the dead and living, we must bear witness,"- Elie Wiesel.

<div>  </div>						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<div>  </div>	1 Auckland Anniversary Day Holiday	2 7-9pm Israeli dancing, beginners	3 7-9pm Israeli dancing, advanced	4	5 Desiree/Terry lead	6 Roger Reynolds leads Ari Rosen Drash.
7	8 Waitangi Day Holiday	9 7-9pm Israeli dancing, beginners	10 7-9pm Israeli dancing, advanced	11	12	13 Dasan's Bar Mitzvah
14 9:30am-12:30pm Experiential learning, Purim themed 1:30pm Intro to Judaism.	15	16 7-9pm Israeli dancing, beginners	17 7-9pm Israeli dancing, advanced	18	19 Collaborative teen service.	20 Shabbat Kat (pre- school) Chris Shiller leads
21 9:30am-12:30pm Experiential learning Purim themed 1:30pm Intro to Judaism.	22	23 7-9pm Israeli dancing, beginners	24 7-9pm Israeli dancing, advanced	25 6:30pm Purim Party	26 	27 Paul Wilton leads Lilach Cohen Drash
28 9:30am-12:30pm Experiential learning Pesach themed 2pm Purim carnival in the park.	1	2	<div>  </div>	3 Hebrew for adults. Express interest office@bethshalom.org.nz	4	5

www.calendarlabs.com

OR CLICK HERE

Beth Shalom Hebrew/Sunday School, Contact: educator@bethshalom.org.nz

Ph: 027 765 3677. Your place to make friends and build community.

Community Care ...

Hi Everyone, welcome to 2021, I think a lot of us were pleased to see the back of last year, but do have to wonder what this year is going to throw at the world. We hope you had a pleasant holiday season and are enjoying the summer.

We here in NZ are among the lucky ones that we are able to enjoy these things with very little restrictions, but it is up to us all to make sure it stays that way. If you feel unwell, see your Dr. and stay indoors away from everyone. If you need any help then call us, and we can contact you and help in any way you need. Fortunately, we are able to 'mix and mingle' so can visit you if that is what you would like, or phone you.

This is a new year for Community Care and we will be starting with a new team of eager members, ready to help our Beth Shalom Community. We are also looking for more members, so if anyone out there would like to join us, we would love to have you do that. It is not an onerous job, and the more of us there are, the more it spreads the load.

We are having our first meeting of 2021 on Sunday 14th February at 2.30pm at Beth Shalom, and invite any of you to come along, meet us, ask questions, and see if you would like to be part of our team. Coming to the meeting puts you under no obligation, but it's the only way to find out if it is something you would like to be involved with.

For the rest of the congregation, take care and remember we are here for you all, and are only a phone call away. BUT, we cannot help you (or your family) if we don't know you would like us to, so we have to be informed by someone.

Maybe you would like a friendly telephone call every now and again, a visit, a lift to a Beth Shalom event, or anything you think of that we may be able to help you with. If it's help we can't give, then we can advise how you can get it.

We are looking forward to working with you all this year. We are hoping that the reason we have no work to do, is because you are all well, and NOT because we aren't being kept informed!!

B'Shalom

Lita (Chairperson) and the Community Care Team.

Contact: Chris Shiller 021 177 4934 shiller@iorcon.net.nz

Lorna Orbell 022 026 2899 chaim@slingshot.co.nz

Lita Summerfield 021 297 9462 (TEXT ONLY) serendipitylins40@gmail.com

or contact the office 09 524 4139.

B&B say goodbye to Diana Hoskyn as she moves to Christchurch

At the Shabbat service on Saturday 23rd January, we celebrated the wonderful contribution that Diana Hoskyn has given to both the Beth Shalom community and more particularly the Burial and Benevolent Society.

For many years Diana served as a hard-working committee member for the B&B and when the Society was faced with not having a President, Diana was prepared to step up and fulfil this role. She gave exceptional service as President while at the same time looking after her elderly parents. Diana is leaving Auckland and moving down to Christchurch to continue to care for her Mother.

The B&B wish Diana all the very, very best as she embarks on her new life.

To know more about the work of the B&B please contact either:

Sue Berman 021 051 3589

Sue Pezaro 021 826 440



THOMPSON MEMORIALS

High Quality Headstones
At The Best Prices

PH 818 5261

www.thompsonmemorials.co.nz
Email: sales@thompsonmemorials.co.nz
After Hours: 09 423 0248
Open Saturday mornings
4105 Great North Road, Glen Eden

Proud to serve the Jewish community

PURIM PARTY 25TH FEBRUARY 6pm

PURIM PARTY!

COME AND PARTY AT BETH SHALOM!

**BE INSPIRED BY THE HEROES AND REVILE
THE VILLAINS IN THE MEGILLAH!**

**6.30PM, THURSDAY 25TH FEBRUARY
WITH FAMILY ACTIVITIES FROM 6PM**

A PURIM SERVICE FOLLOWED BY A POT LUCK PARTY!

HAMANTASCHEN PROVIDED.

BRING A PLATE OF FINGER FOOD TO SHARE.

DRESS IN YOUR PURIM BEST!



Israel Elections 2021

You are invited to join us on Tuesday 9th February 8pm, for an interactive Zoom talk by Rabbi Dov Lipman, an ex MK, on the topic of the coming 4th election in Israel in 2 years using the following Zoom address

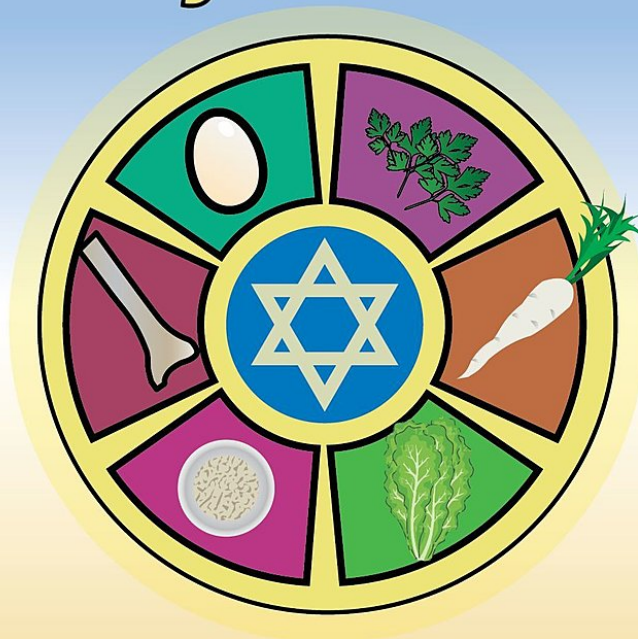
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85303331079>



Israel's 4th Election in 2 years: Why is there another election? Who are the players? What are the possible outcomes? A complete breakdown by former Knesset member Dov Lipman including time for questions and answers.

SECOND NIGHT SEDER

Beth Shalom Community Second Night Passover Seder



Sunday 28th March- 6:00pm
Beth Shalom Community Hall

Pricing:

Adult Members \$37.0

Adult Non-Members \$47.0

Young Adults (6~15) \$25.0

Children (under 6) Free

**For specific dietary requirements,
please advise on booking.**

**Contact Beth Shalom Office
for Payment and Registration
before the Monday 15th of March**

