# MERSEYSIDE JEWISH REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

## A YEAR IN REVIEW

2026/27 • 5787



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| | |
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| Henry Carr | 1956 - 1958 |
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| Nathan Silverbeck | 1965 - 1968 |
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| Mervyn Goodman | 1973 - 1976 |
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| Arnold Austin | 1979 - 1982 |
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| Mervin Kingston | 1992 - 1996 |
| Susan Lander | 1996 - 1998 |
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| Naomi S Kingston | 2000 - 2001 |
| David Finn | 2001 - 2002 |
| Ettie Morron | 2002 - 2003 |
| Eric Toke | 2003 - 2004 |
| Golda Steinberg | 2004 - 2005 |
| Gerald S Lipson | 2005 - 2006 |
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| Avril Lewis J.P. | 2016 - 2018 |
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| Johnny Cohen | 2020 - 2022 |
| Denis Salamon | 2022 - 2024 |
| Barry Levene | 2024 - 2026 |
| Michelle Hayward | 2026 - |

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| Edden Sharabi | 2020 - 2022 | Abraham Wright | 2024 - 2026 |
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| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
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| Gordon S Globe | 2008 - 2011 | Jeremy Wolfson | 2025 - |
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Year Book Editors: Zarah Ross & Alfie Blumenow

Other Trustees/Directors: Gordon Globe, Avril Lewis, Alan Rae & Zarah Ross

# Welcome to
# 2026 - 2027 / 5786 - 5787
## Merseyside Jewish Representative Council Year Book

Over the past 12 months the Merseyside Jewish Representative Council has been looking at ways that we can better represent the Jewish people and their families living, learning and working in Merseyside and surrounding areas. MJRC has spent some time looking at initiatives and ideas to bring our community together.

One of the ways that we feel this can be achieved is by highlighting to members of the community the wide range of activities and services delivered on behalf of our community, social care, welfare, religious practice, or cultural activities.

MJRC have also been involved in bringing together groups to discuss issues of relevance to our community; speaking and lobbying to both local councillors and local MPs; and engaging in Interfaith activities in the area.

We hope that you enjoy reading through this yearbook to find out about the wide range of activities that are on offer and delivered by members of our community.

If you spot any omissions or have something that you would like to add to next year's yearbook please **Phone: 0151 733 2292**. **Email: repcouncil@mjccshifrin.co.uk**

**Best wishes**

*Zarah & Alfie*

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# Luach 5787 - Calendar 2026-2027

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **2026** September | 12 | Shabbat | First Day Rosh Hashanah |
| September | 13 | Sunday | Second Day Rosh Hashanah |
| September | 14 | Monday | Fast of Gedaliah |
| September | 21 | Monday | Yom Kippur (Yizkor) |
| September | 26 | Shabbat | First Day Succot |
| September | 27 | Sunday | Second Day Succot |
| October | 3 | Shabbat | Shemini Atzeret (Yizkor) |
| October | 4 | Sunday | Simchat Torah |
| October | 11 | Sunday | First Day Rosh Chodesh Cheshvan |
| October | 12 | Monday | Second Day Rosh Chodesh Cheshvan |
| October | 25 | Sunday | **British Summertime Ends** |
| November | 10 | Tuesday | First Day Rosh Chodesh Kislev |
| November | 11 | Wednesday | Second Day Rosh Chodesh Kislev |
| December | 4 | Friday | Erev Chanukah (1st candle at night) |
| December | 10 | Thursday | First Day Rosh Chodesh Tevet |
| December | 11 | Friday | Second Day Rosh Chodesh Tevet |
| December | 11 | Friday | Last Day of Chanukah |
| December | 20 | Sunday | Fast of Tevet |
| **2027** January | 9 | Shabbat | Rosh Chodesh Shevat |
| January | 23 | Shabbat | Tu B'Shvat (New Year for Trees) |
| February | 7 | Sunday | First Day Rosh Chodesh Adar I |
| February | 8 | Monday | Second Day Rosh Chodesh Adar I |
| March | 9 | Tuesday | First Day Rosh Chodesh Adar II |
| March | 10 | Wednesday | Second Day Rosh Chodesh Adar II |
| March | 22 | Monday | Fast of Esther |
| March | 23 | Tuesday | Purim |
| March | 28 | Sunday | **British Summertime Begins** |
| April | 8 | Thursday | Rosh Chodesh Nissan |
| April | 21 | Wednesday | Fast of First Born |
| April | 22 | Thursday | First Day Pesach |
| April | 23 | Friday | Second Day Pesach (Omer 1) |
| April | 28 | Wednesday | Seventh Day Pesach (Omer 6) |
| April | 29 | Thursday | Eighth Day Pesach (Yizkor) (Omer 7) |
| May | 4 | Tuesday | Yom Hashoah (Holocaust Day) |
| May | 7 | Friday | First Day Rosh Chodesh Iyar |
| May | 8 | Shabbat | Second Day Rosh Chodesh Iyar |
| May | 11 | Tuesday | Yom Hazikaron (Israel Memorial Day) |
| May | 12 | Wednesday | Yom Ha'atzmaut (Israel Independence Day) |
| May | 25 | Tuesday | Lag Ba'Omer |
| June | 4 | Friday | Yom Yerushalayim |
| June | 6 | Sunday | Rosh Chodesh Sivan |
| June | 11 | Friday | First Day Shavuot |
| June | 12 | Shabbat | Second Day Shavuot (Yizkor) |
| July | 5 | Monday | First Day Rosh Chodesh Tammuz |
| July | 6 | Tuesday | Second Day Rosh Chodesh Tammuz |
| July | 22 | Tuesday | Fast of Tammuz |
| August | 4 | Wednesday | Rosh Chodesh Av |
| August | 12 | Thursday | Fast of Tisha B'Av |
| September | 2 | Thursday | First Day Rosh Chodesh Ellul |
| September | 3 | Friday | Second Day Rosh Chodesh Ellul |
| October | 1 | Friday | Erev Rosh Hashanah 5788 |

# Merseyside Jewish Representative Council

The Merseyside Jewish Representative Council, known as MJRC, is the representative body for Jewish communities across Merseyside and the surrounding areas.

Established in 1944, MJRC acts as an umbrella organisation, bringing together synagogues, communal groups, charities and individuals to support and strengthen Jewish life across the region.

## Who MJRC represents

MJRC represents Jewish communities in Liverpool, Southport, Wirral, Chester and nearby areas. It works on behalf of the wider Jewish community, including people of different ages, backgrounds and levels of religious observance.

## What MJRC does

MJRC provides a collective voice for the Jewish community in civic, cultural, religious and public life. It works with local authorities, community organisations, faith groups, elected representatives and national Jewish bodies to ensure the community is represented, supported and heard. The Council also helps promote Jewish education, culture, heritage, interfaith understanding, community safety and local communal activity.

## Key priorities

MJRC's key priorities are to protect and strengthen Jewish life across Merseyside, support community cohesion, respond to antisemitism, promote Jewish identity and heritage, and ensure the community has a clear and respected voice in wider society. Through representation, communication and partnership, MJRC continues to play an important role in supporting the future of Jewish life across the region.

## How to get involved and show support

There are several ways to support the work of MJRC and help strengthen Jewish life across Merseyside.

You can get involved by attending MJRC meetings, coming along to local events, becoming a member, or putting yourself forward to sit on the Council. Support can also be shown through donations, which help MJRC continue its work representing the community, supporting local initiatives and promoting Jewish life across the region. Whether through your time, your voice or your contribution, every form of support helps MJRC continue to serve and represent the Merseyside Jewish community.

## Get involved

Merseyside Jewish Representative Council meetings take place regularly throughout the year usually on the first Tuesday of the month.

New representatives, community organisations and those interested in supporting the Council's work are encouraged to get involved.

Community members can get involved by attending meetings, representing a local organisation, volunteering, contributing to events or supporting the Council's work.

**Contact:** repcouncil@mjccshifrin.co.uk
Tel: 0151 733 2292
Address: Merseyside Jewish Representative Council,
Shifrin House, 433 Smithdown Road, Liverpool, L15 3JL
Website: www.merseysidejewish.org

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# Welcome from MJRC Chair & President

## The Chair's Report

Welcome to the new-look MJRC Year Book. I hope you like it as much as I do.
I was honoured to be re-elected Chairman of the Merseyside Jewish Representative Council at our AGM held on 28th April 2026. MJRC represents the Jewish community on Merseyside either personally or through various organisations such as schools, charities or synagogues.It has been a memorable year. Highlights for me include the first ever Chanukah lighting at Liverpool Football Club and Jewish Culture Month which was extremely inspiring with so many outstanding events taking place including the launch of the Jewish Heritage trail leaflet developed collaboratively by MJRC and Museum of Liverpool.
I conclude by thanking all the volunteers, contributors and supporters who helped bring this Year Book publication to life. Without them, the pages of this Year Book would not be filled with the rich stories and insights that bring our community together.

**Wishing you all a Shana Tova and Chag Sameach.**

*Jeremy Wolfson*

Chair Merseyside Jewish Representative Council

## Presidents Report

As we look back at the milestones and memories shared over this past year, it is a profound joy to present the Merseyside Jewish Representative's annual year book, which celebrates the bonds, traditions and resilience that define us.
MJRC continues to aspire to pursue its role of promoting and defending the interests of the Jewish community in every possible sphere.

It has become even more apparent the significance of MJRC in representing Jews and Judaism to the outside world and in fostering positive external relations. The value of this interfaith engagement lies in social cohesion, combatting antisemitism and prejudice and advancing tikkun olam through shared community action. I extend good wishes and thanks to all those who give of their time, willingly and freely, in support of MJRC and all its endeavours. In addition, may I extend hearty thanks to the donors and contributors of the MJRC Year Book.
Finally, I wish to express my good wishes to all members of our community for good health, happiness and prosperity in the coming year.

**Shana Tovah U'metuka.**

*Michelle Hayward*

President Merseyside Jewish Representative Council

# MJRC Year in Review 2025/26 - 5786

Representing, supporting and celebrating Jewish life across Merseyside

**SEP 2025**

### DIPLOMATIC ENGAGEMENT

Connected Israeli representatives with Liverpool's Jewish community leaders.

**OCT 2025**

### REMEMBRANCE, STUDENTS AND SECURITY

Commissioned the October 7 Memorial Event, supported Jewish students and convened community security partners.

**NOV 2025**

### ADVOCACY AND INTERFAITH LEADERSHIP

Raised concerns about antisemitism and spoke at Warrington's Interfaith Peace Event.

**DEC 2025**

### CHANUKAH ACROSS LIVERPOOL

Supported celebrations at Liverpool Town Hall, King David Campus and Liverpool Football Club.

**JAN 2026**

### HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE

Supported commemorations across Liverpool and welcomed Board of Deputies President Phil Rosenberg.

**MAR 2026**

### CIVIC AND COMMUNITY REPRESENTATION

Met with political and community partners, organised the Civic Service and discussed key local institutions.

**APR 2026**

### ENGAGING THE NEXT GENERATION

Welcomed Liverpool JSOC's Co-Presidents as guest speakers at the MJRC AGM.

**MAY 2026**

### COMMEMORATION AND CELEBRATION

Supported Yom HaShoah, Yom HaZikaron and Yom HaAtzmaut events with community partners.

**JUN 2026**

### CELEBRATING JEWISH HERITAGE

Supported Jewish Culture Month and the launch of Liverpool's Jewish Heritage Trail.

**JUL 2026**

### EDUCATION AND NATIONAL LEADERSHIP

Presented Siddurim at King David Primary School and met with the Chief Rabbi.

*A year of advocacy, partnership, remembrance and community leadership.*

# September – December 2025 - 5786

MJRC YEAR IN REVIEW

## SEPTEMBER

- Attended the Embassy of Israel Rosh Hashanah Reception in London.
- Helped organise a Liverpool meeting with Deputy Israeli Ambassador Daniela Grudsky Ekstein and local Jewish community leaders.

## OCTOBER

- Attended an interfaith meeting to discuss the attacks at Heaton Park Mosque and other mosques around the country.
- Commissioned the October 7 Memorial Event, held at Allerton Synagogue.
- Wrote to the University of Liverpool in support of Jewish students and proposed campus activities.
- Organised a community security meeting with Merseyside Police, CST, local policing representatives, shuls, the school and MJRC.

## NOVEMBER

- Participated in Mitzvah Day activities at Childwall Synagogue.
- Wrote to all Merseyside MPs regarding antisemitism, including Paula Barker MP, and to the Liverpool Combined Authority about Kneecap's proposed local performances.
- Commissioned Rabbi Abel to devise a prayer commemorating the AJEX coach crash disaster, to be read in synagogues on the 40th anniversary.
- Attended and spoke at an Interfaith Peace Event at Warrington Town Hall.
- Attended the Embassy of Israel's "Together Again: A Reception of Gratitude" in London.

## DECEMBER

- Attended the Chanukah Lighting at Liverpool Town Hall.
- Supported the Liverpool Community Chanukah Lighting at King David Campus, in the presence of the Lord Mayor and civic dignitaries.
- Attended the first Chanukah Lighting at Liverpool Football Club.
- Attended the interfaith launch of the Board of Deputies' Living Exhibition at Eccles Library.

# January – July 2026 - 5786

MJRC YEAR IN REVIEW

## JANUARY

- Attended Holocaust Memorial Day commemorations at Liverpool Town Hall and the Liverpool Combined Authority.
- Took part in the Holocaust Memorial Day commemoration at Liverpool Central Library, organised with Unite Against Fascism Merseyside.
- Supported the visit of Board of Deputies President Phil Rosenberg.
- Coordinated a meeting at King David High School with the Archbishop and Rector of Liverpool, Rabbi Elf, Sister Anne and Phil Rosenberg.
- Organised a meeting with Derek Twigg MP following MJRC's correspondence with Merseyside MPs after the Yom Kippur attack in Manchester.

## MARCH

- Organised a meeting with Ian Byrne MP following MJRC's correspondence with Merseyside MPs.
- Met with Tesco regarding claims of Israeli apartheid and the display of Palestinian flags on products.
- Organised the Annual Civic Service at Childwall Synagogue.
- Invited the wider community to an MJRC meeting on the future of King David Kindergarten and Stapley Care.
- Attended an Iftar meal organised by the Dialogue Society.
- Wrote regarding Holocaust education and remembrance in Liverpool schools.

## APRIL

- Attended the All Faith Network at Liverpool City Council.
- Held the MJRC AGM with guest speakers Kezzy Miller and Eva Myers, Co-Presidents of Liverpool JSOC.

## MAY

- In partnership with King David High School, supported Yom HaShoah commemorations.
- In partnership with Mosaic Liverpool, supported Yom HaZikaron and Yom HaAtzmaut events.

## JUNE

- Supported the Board of Deputies' Jewish Culture Month, including the launch of the Jewish Heritage Trail with the Museum of Liverpool.
- Met with the Lord Mayor, Councillor William Shortall, at Liverpool Town Hall.
- Held an executive meeting with guest speakers Michelle McCreary and Assistant Chief Fire Officer Ged Sheridan.

## JULY

- Presented Siddurim at King David Primary School and met with the Chief Rabbi.
- Met with Janet H. Potter, Chief Crown Prosecutor for Mersey Cheshire CPS.
- Wrote to FACT regarding promotional material for the forthcoming screening of Life Support.

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*New Year greetings from*

**Michelle, Arthur & Rebecca Hayward**

*Best Wishes from*

**Eve & Barry Fineberg**

***Joanne & David Bennett together with their children & grandchildren***

wish the Community a joyous and healthy New Year

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*Marc, Richard and Lawrence wish the Liverpool Jewish Community a Happy New Year*

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# The Ellenbogen Family

*wish family, friends*
*and the community*
*a healthy & successful*
*year ahead*

## Jewish Students

Liverpool Jewish Society supports approximately 120 Jewish students across the University of Liverpool, Liverpool John Moores University and Liverpool Hope University, representing its largest student community for a decade. The society provides an active and inclusive programme of Shabbat dinners, social gatherings, festival celebrations, educational activities and larger communal events, working closely with Chabad at Liverpool Universities and the wider Jewish community. It also promotes positive relationships across campus through interfaith initiatives with Christian, Catholic and Islamic student societies. In 2026, Liverpool was named JSoc of the Year by the Union of Jewish Students in recognition of its exceptional growth, welcoming atmosphere and commitment to vibrant Jewish student life.

## Community Updates

Stapely Residential and Nursing Home has entered a new chapter following a recent change in ownership. Most importantly, the home remains open and continues to provide residential, nursing and specialist care for older people in Liverpool. With its long history, strong Jewish character and important place within the local community, this transition offers renewed stability and a positive future for Stapely, while preserving the care, companionship and sense of community it has provided for generations.

# Synagogues and Congregations

## ALLERTON HEBREW CONGREGATION

Allerton Shul has been a hive of activity over the past year. As well as the regular Shabbat, Yomtavim and children's service, we have celebrated many social activities around the Chagim ably organised by our Rabbi and Rebbetzen, Natan and Avital Fagleman.

Rebbetzen Avital holds a regular, well-attended monthly children's service. We have been a popular venue for post-Matzevah (stonesetting) teas, Rabbi Fagleman holds a regular Monday night learning KEF session. Sumptuous bagel breakfasts are a regular post-Sunday Shacharit feast, normally held around Rosh Chodesh and ably catered by Howard Norman.

The Shul is used by a number of communal groups including the monthly MJCC Seniors Wednesday Lunch Club and the monthly AJR (Association of Jewish Refugees) meeting. In addition, the annual Yom Hazikaron service is celebrated in Allerton Shul.

Visits are held throughout the year for non-Jewish schools, organised by our administrator, David Coleman, who explains aspects of Judaism to the pupils as part of their curriculum learning about world religions.

Various social activities in the Shul over the last year include:

1. A number of Friday night events throughout the year.
2. Visit of Phil Rosenberg, President of the Board of Deputies, including a Friday night Oneg.
3. Showing of the film Levi, produced by Eli Hassel, on mental health and wellbeing.
4. Visit and talk by Rabbi Benji Rickman, including a sushi kiddush.
5. Purim party, Megillah reading and seudah.
6. Pre-Pesach cookery demonstration by Sylvia Nacamulli, author of Jewish Flavours of Italy.
7. Shavuot lunch and Tikkun Leil learning session with special guest Rabbi Michael Pollak from Yad Vashem UK and LSJS (formerly Jews' College).
8. Pre-Rosh Hashanah families' event including a shofar-making factory hosted by Rabbi Shmuli Brown and biscuit making with Rebbetzen Avital Fagleman.
9. Visit of the Chief Rabbi and Lady Valerie Mirvis, including Shabbat day kiddush and a Q&A session.
10. Simchat Torah lunch and Hakafot kiddush.

11 Chanukah chocolate-making craft event.
12 Shabbat Chanukah lunch.
13 Comedy shows featuring Rachel Creeger and Philip Simon, who had been "cancelled" at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. The event was organised by member Henry Churney,

So, as you can see, Allerton Shul is more than just a place of worship. We are a Shul which encourages social activity not just for our members but for the whole Merseyside Jewish community. Not for no reason, we refer to ourselves as the "Allerton family."

## CHABAD LUBAVICH

Chabad Lubavitch Liverpool has served the local Jewish community since December 1992 and is approaching 34 years of continuous activity. During that time, it has become a central part of Jewish life in the city, providing learning, worship, celebrations and community support for people of all ages.

Regular activities include daily classes, Shabbat meals, programmes for children, teenagers, young adults and older members of the community, as well as welcoming and accessible High Holy Day services.

Chabad also delivers major events throughout the Jewish calendar. Its public Chanukah menorah lighting has become the largest annual gathering of Jewish people in Liverpool. Other highlights include a Purim seudah attended by approximately 100 to 120 people, the distribution of Shmurah matzah before Pesach and a popular Shavuot ice cream party. Alongside these public events, Chabad provides ongoing pastoral, educational and community support throughout the year.

## CHILDWALL SYNAGOGUE

Looking Forward with Confidence

The past year has been one of achievement, resilience and optimism for our community. Against the backdrop of a challenging period for Jewish communities across the country, our synagogue has continued to thrive, strengthening both its religious life and its place within the wider community.

Our regular Shabbat and Yom Tov services remain at the heart of synagogue life, with the joint Shacharit services with Allerton continuing to develop successfully. This spirit of cooperation has extended beyond services, reflecting a shared commitment to securing a vibrant future for Orthodox Jewish life in Liverpool.

Our social calendar has been equally successful. From the much-enjoyed first-night Rosh Hashanah dinner to our popular Friday evening Kugel and Whisky Kiddush, members and visitors alike have found opportunities to come together in friendship and fellowship. The warm atmosphere that now characterises our Kiddushim, where conversations continue long after the service has ended, is something of which we are particularly proud.

We were honoured to welcome a number of distinguished guests during the year, including the Lord Mayor, the President of the Board of Deputies and the Chief Rabbi, whose memorable Shabbat visit brought members of the community together for inspiring services and shared meals. We also hosted a successful Civic Service and have continued to strengthen our excellent relationships with Merseyside Police and local civic leaders.

Looking to the future, there has been significant progress on several important projects. Following the granting of planning permission for the redevelopment of our land, thanks to the unstinting efforts of our Building Chairman and his team, we are now closer than ever to creating a modern synagogue and community hall fit for future generations. Alongside this, work continues on preparing accommodation for a permanent minister, enabling us to move forward with the appointment of a permanent spiritual leader to guide the community in the years ahead.

These achievements would not have been possible without the dedication of our volunteers, officers and members, whose commitment continues to make our synagogue a welcoming, active and forward-looking community, together with the invaluable support of the United Synagogue and Rabbi Kievman. With a newly appointed Executive and Council, planning permission now secured for our redevelopment and exciting plans for the future, we look ahead with confidence, knowing that our congregation is well placed to continue growing as a vibrant centre of Jewish life in Liverpool.

## LIVERPOOL OLD HEBREW CONGREGATION

The past year has been busy at Princes Road. We have had two very successful concerts this summer. The first, embracing Jewish Culture Month with performances by David Rome, Andrew Winter and Ian Tracey who entertained with voice, violin and keyboard.

The second, totally different, where our choir were joined in concert by the Welsh Choral Society. This was so enjoyable that it is hoped that we can hold another similar event in the future.

We have recently welcomed over 200 people who came to celebrate the annual Walk of Faith. Peter Grant addressed them on aspects of history, synagogues in general and religion. He was joined by Rabbi Warren Elf.

Our main thrust for next year is to secure funding for the necessary repairs and modernisation of our beautiful building.

We are hoping to promote increased numbers of tours and events into next year and beyond and would welcome any offers of help either to join our team of tour guides, or to contribute to our fundraising to help in preserving this important building.

Our most important priority is to get a full building condition survey to assess the full extent of our financial needs. We are looking at improving disabled access and toilet facilities as a priority.

We are hoping for help from any source to benefit both the whole Liverpool Jewish Community as well as the City of Liverpool.

Next year should prove to be another busy one.

## LIVERPOOL REFORM SYNAGOGUE

Liverpool Reform Synagogue continues to thrive as a vibrant, welcoming and growing community, bringing together members of all ages to celebrate Jewish life, learning and friendship.
This year marked an important milestone as we became part of the newly formed Movement for Progressive Judaism. While embracing this exciting new chapter, we remain proud of our own identity and traditions as Liverpool Reform Synagogue.

Our commitment to Tikkun Olam—repairing the world—is reflected in our fundraising, which supports charities at local, national and international levels, while our congregation has also celebrated many family simchas throughout the year.

The synagogue remains a busy community hub. Alongside our regular services, our building is home to an orchestra, table tennis clubs, the Jewish Youth Club, Israeli dancing, and provides a popular venue for children's parties and family celebrations.

We are proud to be an open and inclusive congregation. Through the work of our Rabbi, we have supported people exploring Judaism, including several who have chosen to convert. As a congregation that recognises patrilineal descent,

we are delighted to welcome families from mixed-faith backgrounds, creating a community where everyone can explore and celebrate their Jewish identity.

Supporting the next generation of Jewish leaders is also important to us. Over the past year we have been delighted to welcome Student Rabbi Jennifer Verson, who has led a number of our services and become a valued member of our community. We look forward to continuing this relationship and welcoming future student rabbis from Leo Baeck College.

We have continued to invest in our synagogue building while developing new opportunities for our secondary school-aged members, helping them build the confidence, knowledge and skills to strengthen their Jewish identity as they move into adulthood.

Our annual Community Seder remains one of the highlights of the year, bringing together members from across the Jewish community. Organised by our volunteers, it reflects our commitment to building connections across Reform and Orthodox communities alike.

Festival celebrations continue to be a highlight of synagogue life, from our ever-popular Purim party—which sees the synagogue bursting at the seams—to our Chanukah celebrations and Chavurah vegetarian suppers, reflecting our commitment to Eco Judaism. Looking ahead, we hope to achieve the Eco Judaism Silver Award, building on the progress we have already made towards a more sustainable future.

## SOUTHPORT ORTHODOX SYNAGOGUE

The synagogue holds Orthodox services every Friday evening and Shabbat morning, as well as services for all Jewish festivals throughout the year. Anyone wishing to visit is asked to contact the synagogue in advance via our email office

## SOUTHPORT REFORM SYNAGOGUE

The  synagogue provides a focus for Progressive Judaism within Southport and the surrounding district. Although we do not have a retained Rabbi, we do have the support of the national Movement for Progressive Judaism, and all the expertise that this offers to us, along with our enthusiastic membership. Our local outreach ensures that we have contact with those that are housebound or in hospital.

This year the synagogue was quoted on national BBC news, responding to the Heaton Park killings, and our profound shock. We also were shown on local TV

and the in the local press as we initiated the ‘Southport Walk of Unity’, during Interfaith Week, commencing from our synagogue, to a church in the centre of Southport and then onto the Southport mosque. We had the support of local dignitaries as we demonstrate 'tikkun olam', in making Southport a more cohesive community. Small changes leading, we hope, to larger outcomes.

Sukkot, saw us supporting the Southport Food Bank, rather than see fruit and food go to waste, we have our congregation’s understanding that some good should be done for those in need. As part of building bridges with the community, at Chanukah we invited our local police to join with us in lighting the Chanukah candles in our synagogue.

At Pesach, we invite the whole of the Jewish community, and friends, to join in our synagogue’s community seder. No one needs to be alone. Our seder is well attended from across the North West Jewish communities.

The synagogue’s chairman, represented our synagogue at various civic events in Liverpool, being the only member of the Jewish community on Merseyside to offer a prayer for world peace at the civic Commonwealth Day Service, in Liverpool Parish Church. We also represented Jewish people at various Holocaust Memorial Day services around the North West.

We will shortly be hosting another ‘Walk of Unity’ from our synagogue. The synagogue is embedded in the Southport community and the Southport Interfaith Group. We continue to host the educational needs for school children and scout groups so that they can learn about Judaism and its values.

We host a local show choir, a drama group, and sequence dance class. The year ahead will see us continuing our work within the Jewish community of Southport and the surrounding district, as we build bridges in the area, welcoming all members of our community to our services and festivals.

## OTHER CONGREGATIONS IN MERSEYSIDE INCLUDE;

**MASORTI LIVERPOOL**
**CHABAD UNIVERSITIES**

Full contact details can be found in the list of organisations.

# *Best wishes from Ruth Bender & Sue Heller*

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בת הכנסת המרכזי אלערטון

ALLERTON HEBREW CONGREGATION

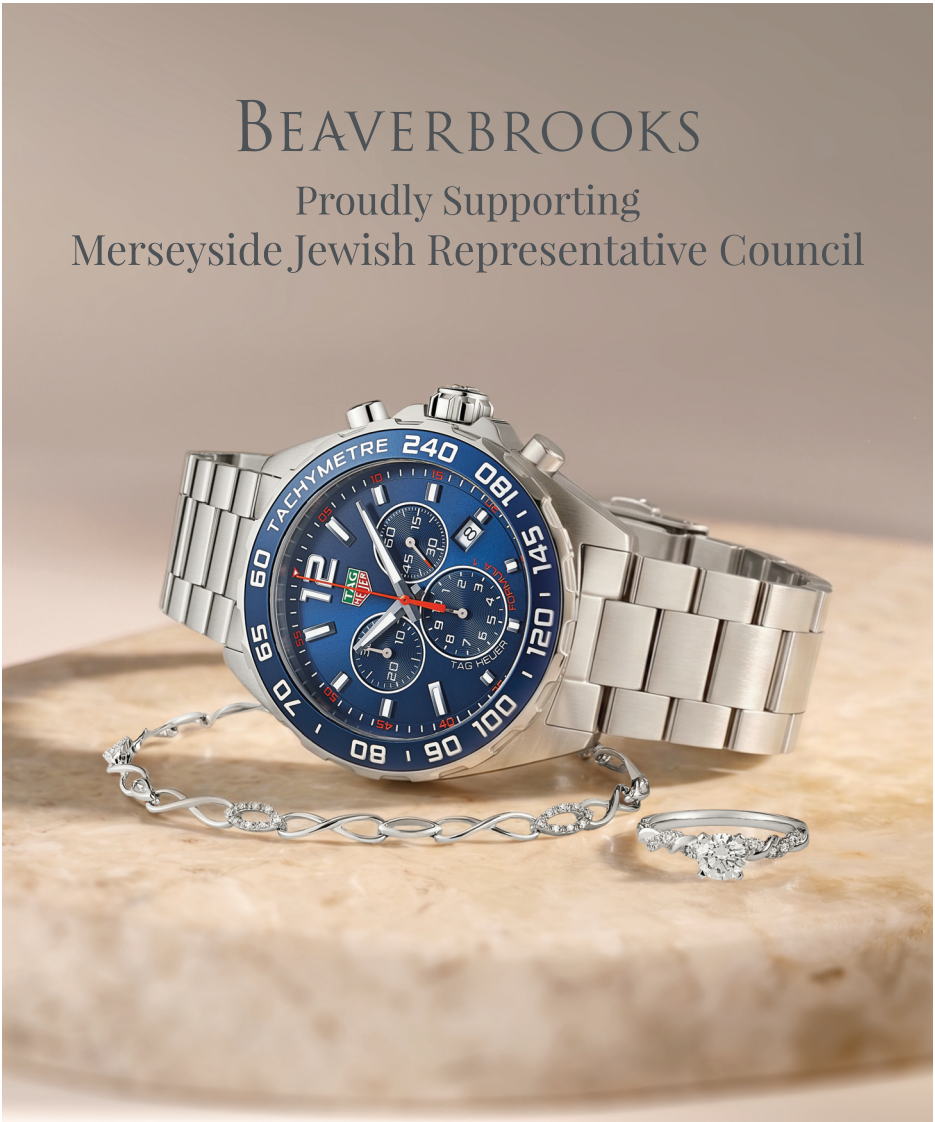
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*Wishing family and friends a Happy New Year and well over the fast.*

Hilary & Alaster Burman

Judy & Johnny Cohen

Shirley & David Coleman
*Wishing MJRC future success and cativah v'chatima tovah*

Anita & Allen Dansky
*Best Wishes to Family and Friends*

Jennifer Dickinson
*Best Wishes*

Estelle & Clive Fisher

Beatrice & Michael Fraenkel

Malcolm Freedman
*I wish MJRC and MJCC staff lots of Mazel Tov*

Mark Gaier

Norman Goldstone

Beatrice & Sydney Grant
*New Year Wishes*

Gillian, Michael Green & Family
*Wishing everyone a Happy New Year and well over the Fast*

Annette & Ellis Haft
*With Best Wishes from Annette and Ellis Haft*

Judith Harris

Nikki & Mark Harris

Steven & Lorene Korb
*Wish their family and friends and congregation a Happy New Year and well over the fast*

Laurence Lee
*Very best wishes for a healthy and happy New Year*

Sharon & Barry Levene
*Wishing our Family & Friends a Happy & Healthy New Year*

Barbara Levin

Avril Lewis

Bernie Morron

Ray Morron

Malcolm Povlo & Family
*Wish the whole Jewish Community a Happy Healthy and Peaceful New Year and easy fast.*

Hilary Rosenthal

Paulette Rubin
*Wishes Family & Friends a healthy and Happy New Year*

Anthea & Howard Simon

Susan & Jonathan Simon
*Wishing all our family and friends a very happy, healthy and sweet New Year.*

Hilary & Michael Swerdlow

Linda Tragen

Vivienne & Malcolm Turner

Jeremy Wolfson
*Wishing everyone a Happy New Year and well over the Fast*

Helga Young
*In memory of my dear parents Ida and Philip Taylor*

## YOUNG PATRONS

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# SCHOOLS AND EDUCATION

## King David Campus/Foundation

As another busy and successful year draws to a close at King David Campus, we are proud to reflect on the many exciting developments that continue to strengthen our school and wider community.

While we were saddened by the closure of King David Kindergarten, we are delighted that this has led to an exciting new chapter. In September, we will open our new school-based nursery, which is already fully subscribed and has a waiting list. Led by qualified teachers, the nursery will embody the values, ethos and high educational standards that are at the heart of our primary school.

Thanks to a generous donation from members of our community, we are transforming our nursery garden into an engaging sensory and physical education space, creating new opportunities for outdoor learning and development for our youngest children.

In addition, funding from PAJES has enabled us to redesign our campus reception area, creating a more secure and welcoming entrance while establishing a central hub for campus support services.

Building work on the high school's four-classroom extension is progressing well and has now reached the internal fit-out stage. We are hopeful that the project will be completed by the end of September, providing much-needed additional teaching space for our growing school community.

We have also welcomed the installation of free electric vehicle charging points on site, supporting our developing sustainability strategy and commitment to reducing our environmental impact.

Looking ahead, 2027 will mark 70 years of King David on its current site. This significant milestone will provide an opportunity to celebrate our rich history and the generations of families who have been part of our journey. We will be reaching out to the community to help us celebrate and support future fundraising initiatives.

As schools across the country continue to face financial pressures, King David also bears additional costs associated with kosher food provision, Jewish education and security, which are not fully funded. We will therefore be increasing our fundraising efforts to ensure that we can continue providing the outstanding Jewish and secular education that our community values so highly.

# School & Other Education

## MATT CHEDER (MERSEYSIDE AMALGAMAED TORAH TRUST)
### Orthodox Cheder

Cheder welcomes approximately 20 children every Sunday at Childwall Synagogue and provides Jewish education for children from the age of four through to Bar and Bat Mitzvah.

From September, it is hoped that a new class will be introduced for children aged four and five. Cheder also offers dedicated Bar and Bat Mitzvah classes led by specialist teachers.

A particular strength of the programme is its individualised Aleph-Bet and Hebrew reading tuition. Each child works independently with a teacher and progresses at a pace suited to their ability. This approach has produced strong results, with local schools commenting positively on the Hebrew reading skills of children who attend.

Sessions run from 10.00am to 12.30pm and combine Jewish learning with games, arts and crafts, refreshments and social activities. Cheder provides a welcoming and enjoyable environment in which children can develop their knowledge, confidence and Jewish identity.

## LIVERPOOL REFORM SYNAGOGUE CHEDER & KIVINUM
### Reform Cheder

Liverpool offers a monthly session to young people to children young people and their families, This forms our Cheder provisions for primary age children and our Kivinum provision for the Bnei Mitzvah group (11-14years). The Cheder at LRS, fully self-funding for the first time, No longer reliant on shul contributions. This has strengthened both the programme and the sense of shared ownership within our community.

**Cheder** currently welcomes around 28 children who attend primary schools. Those aged seven and above attend independently, while younger children participate alongside a parent. The cheder is aimed at children aged 4-11, although younger siblings can join in the fun, with story time and soft toys.

The curriculum this year combined Hebrew learning with crafts, stories, cultural exploration and discussion. Families consistently shared how much they valued the sessions—not only for the educational content, but also for the welcoming

and inclusive environment. Looking ahead, one of our priorities is to strengthen Hebrew reading, helping children continue to grow in confidence and deepen their connection with Jewish learning.

**Kivinum/Bnei Mitzvah programme,** 12 young people currently take part in our Kivunim, Progressive Judaism's national B'nei Mitzvah programme for Years 7 and 8. Through residentials, community activities and discussion, participants explored Jewish identity, values and tikkun olam, while building lasting friendships. Six young people also attended RSY residentials this year, and a meeting with parents about the B'nei Mitzvah programme helped prepare families for the next stage of their children's Jewish journeys.

# YOUTH

## JEWISH LADS' AND GIRLS' BRIGADE - JLGB

JLGB Liverpool runs activities on Monday evenings at King David Liverpool for children from Y3. Led by young leaders and Israeli shinshinim, it offers the opportunity to have fun in a friendly and inclusive environment outside of the school day.

This year we had trips including trampolining and bowling. We have welcomed university students new to Liverpool to help expand our group and run activities. We have also had members head down to London in full uniform to attend Remembrance Day Parade at the Cenotaph.

Beyond the local group, there are national camps, Israel and Europe tours and leadership training weekends throughout the year, all of which have been enjoyed enthusiastically by our Liverpool members.

In the coming year, we will be sending our next cohort of Y10 and Y11 students to begin their leadership journey through JLGB. This provides a fantastic opportunity for young people to develop confidence to lead groups, design programmes and, of course, to make friends from all over the UK. Friendships that last lifetimes!

## LIVERPOOL JEWISH YOUTH CLUB

This year, the Liverpool Jewish Youth Club based at Liverpool Reform Synagogue celebrated its seventh year, continuing to provide a welcoming, inclusive space for young people to socialise, have fun and strengthen their connection with the Jewish community.

The club is divided into two age groups: a Junior Youth Club for children aged 7–11 and a Senior Youth Club for young people aged 11–18. Sessions run on alternate weeks and offer a varied programme of arts and crafts, music, cooking, sports and games, giving young people the opportunity to relax, develop new skills and spend time with their friends.

Members of the youth club were involved in the Merseyside Jewish Civic Service and recently took part in end of term activities at the Water Sports Centre and the annual Epic water fight!

One of the unique features of the Liverpool Jewish Youth Club is that members of the Jewish community are welcome to bring a non-Jewish friend along to sessions. We recognise that friendships often extend beyond the Jewish

community, and this approach allows young people to share their Jewish community with their wider friendship groups while ensuring that the club remains a vibrant space for Jewish young people.

The Junior Youth Club now has around 18 regular members, while the Senior Youth Club has grown to 12 members  The club is supported by two trained volunteer youth workers, together with a dedicated team of volunteers, whose commitment ensures that sessions are safe, engaging and enjoyable for everyone.

The Youth Club also provides an important bridge for children helping them remain actively involved in the Jewish community, and a strong sense of belonging within.

## COKE AND CRISPS

Coke and Crisps has been running for more than 30 years, bringing together between 15 and 25 Jewish pupils each Tuesday during term time. The children spend half an hour learning about the weekly parsha, socialising and strengthening their connection to Jewish life, while the boys are also given the opportunity to put on tefillin.

## TEFILLIN CLUB

Tefillin Club began approximately six years ago and expanded significantly three years ago through the dedication and fundraising efforts of Gavriel. Each Friday, between five and ten boys attend during the school day to put on tefillin, give tzedakah and enjoy refreshments. Participants receive raffle tickets, with a larger prize awarded each month.

The programme also includes activities such as go-karting, laser tag, Shabbat services and occasional Shabbat lunches. Together, these initiatives create a strong sense of friendship, participation and Jewish identity among local young people.




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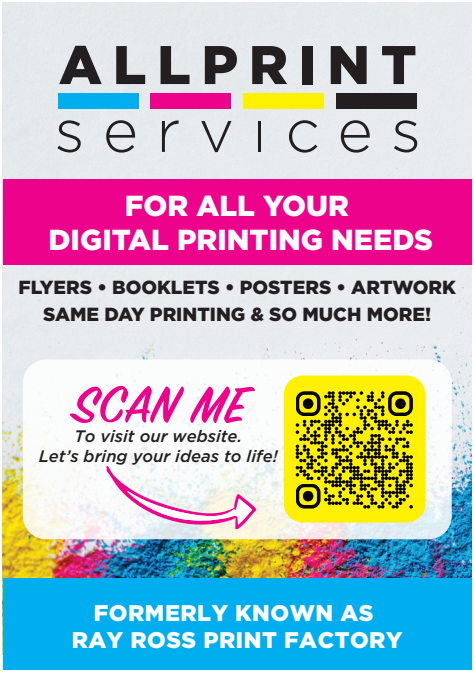
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# WELFARE & SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

Contact details of all activities and organisations can be found in the blue pages

## CAFE CONNECT

During the year Café connect had opened its doors again, mainly at Stapely Care, for anyone who wanted to drop in and have a coffee and a chat. This enabled individuals especially who were isolated or felt they wanted to be with others to chat and just improve their wellbeing.

We had a few discussion Sunday mornings, and we also held activity events during the year bringing people together.

Whilst numbers were small, we were encouraged that those who came and joined in felt a benefit, which is all we wanted to achieve.

Moving on we are hoping to kick start Café Connect again with an Activity Café Connect and a Café Connect for wellbeing (possibly changing the day from a Sunday morning) to encourage more people to come and just get together and be able to talk in a relaxed and friendly environment.

As for new initiatives. Café Connect (thanks to the idea from JAMI UK and Headroom Café in London) would like to introduce new initiatives such as a regular Jewish Comedy Night, and also look at developing activities new ideas on the activity front alongside the drop in sessions.

## COMMUNITY FILM APPRECIATION CLUB

(Established in May 2013) Monthly screenings of carefully selected art, classic and feature films, documentaries, comedies, dramas, musicals, from around the world and the occasional Jewish content.

Pro audio video screenings in comfortable community venues. Refreshments. See monthly communal announcement for details

## MERSEYSIDE JEWISH COMMUNITY CARE

Last year Merseyside Jewish Community Care (MJCC) marked its 150th anniversary, celebrating a long history of care and service to the Merseyside Jewish community. Founded in 1875 as the Board of Guardians for the Relief of the Jewish Poor of Liverpool, MJCC has supported vulnerable, elderly, isolated and disadvantaged community members for generations.

Today, MJCC continues to provide vital welfare and wellbeing services that improve quality of life for people of all ages, from newborns to older members of our community. Our work helps individuals and families stay connected, independent and supported.

Our services include Kosher Eats, luncheon clubs, wellbeing and social groups, Art Club, Bridge Club, Gesher Support Group, Visual Support Group, Citizens Advice outreach, small grants, Pesach parcels, transport, visits, calls and practical help for those in need.

Our greatest strength remains our volunteers. Many of our services rely on the kindness and dedication of almost 150 volunteers, without whom MJCC could not continue its work. We are deeply grateful for all they do.

Demand for MJCC's support remains strong. Our ageing and declining community continues to need help, especially as more older people remain in their own homes for longer. Rising costs also place increasing pressure on our services.

Every day, MJCC makes a real difference to people facing isolation, poor health, mental health difficulties, low income, bereavement or practical hardship. For some, MJCC is their only regular source of trusted support, companionship and reassurance.

Looking ahead, MJCC remains committed to strengthening community bonds, expanding outreach and adapting to changing needs. With continued support from donors, volunteers and legacies, we will keep caring for the Merseyside Jewish community with compassion, dignity and integrity.

Please continue to support MJCC with your donations, time and goodwill. We could not do this without you.

## MOSAIC LIVERPOOL

Highlights and Hope for the Year Ahead.

Mosaic Liverpool was established in October 2025 with a vision of creating a welcoming, inclusive Jewish community. In less than a year, that vision has begun to flourish through a growing programme of events, meaningful partnerships and opportunities for people of all ages to connect, learn and celebrate together.

We are incredibly proud of everything that has been achieved. This year has seen the launch of several new initiatives. Shabbat Shalom, our monthly community gathering, has created a welcoming space for people to enjoy good food, conversation and companionship.

Monthly Israeli Dancing sessions that attract not only people from Merseyside, but also North Manchester & Leeds

We have also introduced family walks across Merseyside and regular family picnics, giving people of all ages the opportunity to connect and spend time together.

Our community came together to mark Yom Ha'atzmaut, Yom Hazikaron and our moving October 7 commemorative events, which were made possible through the generous support of the MJRC, WIZO and the Chief Rabbi's Office for Excellence. These occasions allowed us to celebrate, remember and stand together as a community. we also facilitated Jewish Book Event as part of the Board of Deputies Culture Month.

In partnership with Stapley Care, we ran a Hanukkah chocolate making session and with Liverpool JSoc we created Michlach Manot at Purim for the residents. As well as supporting the annual Tashlich gathering at Calderstones

The Book Club has also gone from strength to strength. What began at Liverpool Reform Synagogue has flourished through our partnership with Childwall Library, with members regularly telling us how much they value the friendships, conversations and sense of belonging it offers.

Looking ahead, we are excited about what the next year will bring. Plans are already underway to launch an Ulpan (Hebrew language programme), introduce a Jewish Woman of the Year celebration, Interfaith Mitzvah Day and expand our calendar of events so that even more people can enjoy everything Mosaic Liverpool has to offer.

Thank you to our volunteers, partners, funders and, above all, our wonderful community. We look forward to building on these strong foundations and continuing to create opportunities for people to connect, celebrate and thrive together across Liverpool.

## Liverpool WIZO / Revive

Liverpool WIZO Revive continues the cherished tradition of hosting its annual coffee morning in memory of the late Ettie Morron and Vera Steinberg. This much-loved event brings members and friends together to celebrate their legacy while raising vital funds for WIZO's work.

This year, the coffee morning was kindly hosted and organised by Sheli Abrams at her home, following more than 20 years during which Judy Cohen generously

welcomed the event. The Liverpool group extends its sincere thanks to Judy for her outstanding hospitality and dedication over the past two decades, and to Sheli for ensuring this special tradition continues.

The Liverpool group's principal fundraising initiative remains its annual calendar, which is always eagerly anticipated. The new edition will be available to purchase before Rosh Hashana, with all proceeds supporting WIZO's important projects in Israel.

## OTHER SOCIAL & WELFARE ACTIVITIES INCLUDE

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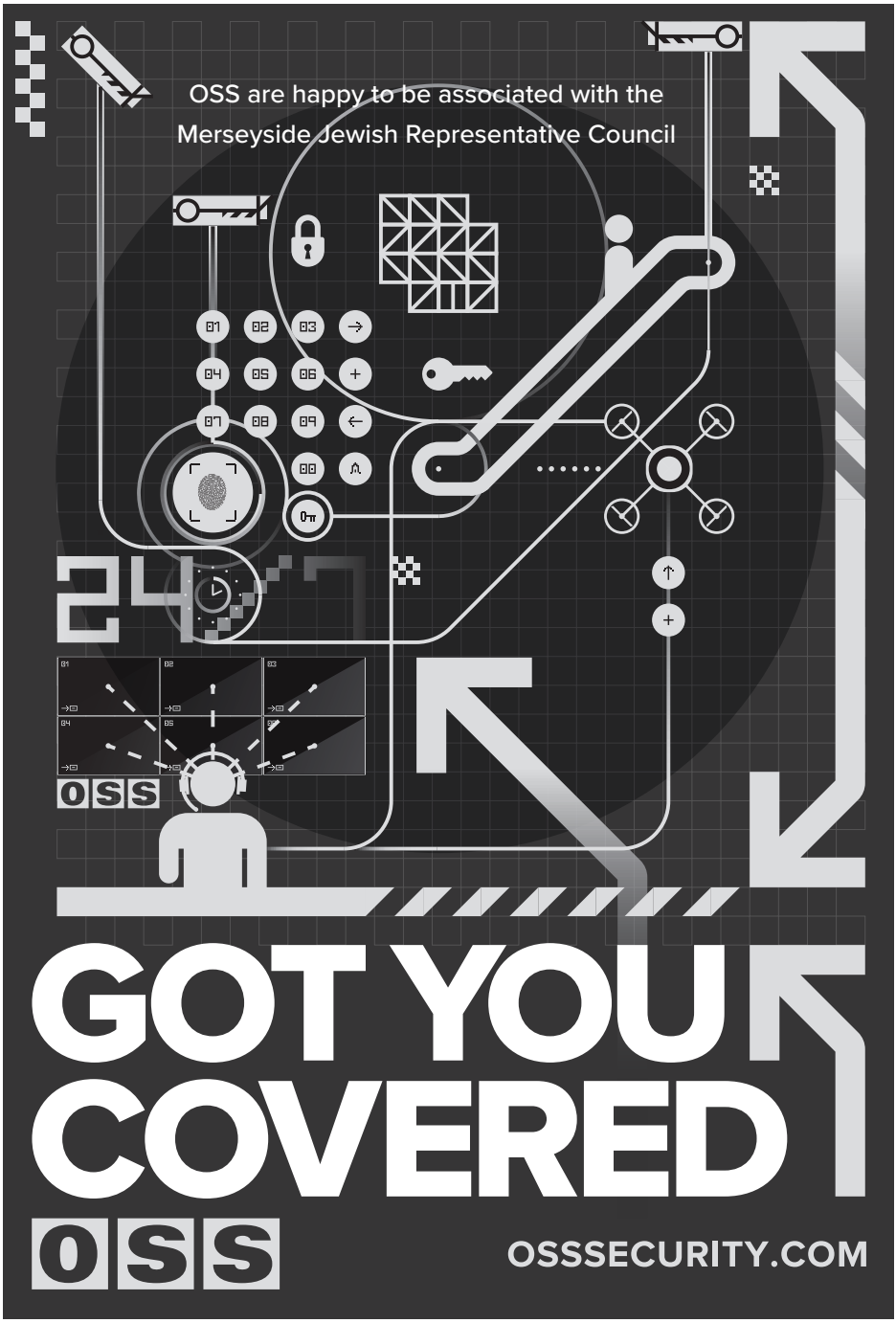
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*to family, friends and all the community*

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***Jacqui, Max and Hannah Marcus***

*wish family, friends and the whole Community a happy and healthy New Year*


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## *L'Shana Tova!* 🍎🍯✨

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New Year filled with simcha, sweetness, laughter, love,
and lots of nachas!

Here's to good health, great memories, strong community,
and a year of only good things ahead.

***Shana Tova U'Metuka!***
***❤️ Zarah, Joel, Lemmy & Rohan***


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# SHANAH TOVA

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*May ALL their memories*
*be a blessing.*

*Paul and Judith LEVER*

# *Best Wishes for a happy and peaceful New Year*

*from Caroline Ettinger and everyone at Purely Research*

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# *The Kaitiff and Stone Family*

*Wish Everybody a Happy New Year.*

בס"ד

Office of The
CHIEF RABBI

**The Chief Rabbi's Rosh Hashanah Message 5787**

In 2025, Netflix released a documentary entitled "Don't Die: The Man Who Wants to Live Forever." It followed Bryan Johnson, a billionaire entrepreneur who has devoted his life to slowing, and even reversing, the ageing process. His regimen involved aggressive medical treatments, extreme lifestyle disciplines and a vast array of scientific experiments. Yet despite these extraordinary efforts, Johnson was diagnosed this year with autoimmune gastritis, an incurable condition affecting the stomach lining. His story serves as a powerful reminder that even in an age of unprecedented scientific achievement, there remain limits to what human beings can control.

It is human nature to prize certainty. We crave clear answers and cast-iron guarantees wherever possible. Recognising this, the Rambam observed that "there is no joy as great as the resolution of doubt." Whether waiting for a diagnosis, news from a loved one or clarity about the future, most of us would rather live with an answer than a question. By contrast, prolonged uncertainty can leave us feeling vulnerable and anxious.

Our community is no stranger to vulnerability. Over the past year, we have faced terror in our shuls and on our streets, alongside a tidal wave of anti-Jewish hatred across social media, university campuses and beyond. The Hebrew word for doubt, "safek", comes from a root meaning "enough". Doubt should therefore spur us to seek sufficient understanding and perspective to confront the uncertainty before us.

Fascinatingly, the word "doubt" does not appear in the Torah because, even in the most challenging circumstances, God's presence is never absent. This is one of the central messages of Rosh Hashanah, reflected in King Avimelech's observation about Abraham in our New Year Torah reading: "God is with you in everything that you do."

Abraham's life was marked by hardship, upheaval and trial. Yet he achieved greatness because he knew he was in God's hands. A meaningful Jewish life is not necessarily one free from pain or uncertainty, but one in which we find the strength to move forward despite them, and sometimes because of them.

Every morning in our prayers, we say: "Many are the intentions in the human heart, but the will of God will prevail." Rabbi Shlomo Wolbe of the Be'er Yaakov Yeshiva offered a striking interpretation of these words. When we are paralysed by uncertainty and do not know which path lies ahead, God's guidance is contained in the final word of the verse: "Takum". Stand up!

Stand tall as Jews. Be proud of who you are, even when it is difficult. Hold fast to your values, even when they are challenged. Do so knowing that the same God who sustained our ancestors through generations of uncertainty continues to sustain us today.

Not every question will be answered. Not every problem will be solved. But as we enter this Rosh Hashanah, we can face an uncertain future with confidence, faith and pride, knowing that whatever lies ahead, our community will continue to stand strong together.

Valerie joins me in wishing you all a sweet, fulfilling, safe and peaceful New Year.

**Chief Rabbi Sir Ephraim Mirvis KBE**

עץ חיים היא למחזיקים בה · IT IS A TREE OF LIFE FOR THOSE WHO GRASP IT

***Hayom Harat Olam* – Today the world is born.**

As we celebrate our first High Holy Days as The Movement for Progressive Judaism – the coming together of Liberal and Reform Judaism – those words feel especially fitting.

Birth is not the end of a story but the beginning of one.

Over the past months we have been laying the foundations for a Movement that will serve Progressive Jewish life for generations to come.

Our first priority has been strengthening our communities. Alongside congregations we have developed stronger support for governance, safeguarding, HR, finance, compliance and trustee development, helping communities meet growing regulatory demands while remaining focused on Jewish life.

We have also brought Progressive Jews together in new ways. At Hineinu and Shirei Chagigah, our inaugural Movement conference, hundreds of people from across the UK and Ireland came together to pray, learn and celebrate.

We have worked to ensure Progressive Judaism is represented confidently in Jewish and public life. We have contributed a Progressive Jewish voice in Parliament, across the media and through interfaith partnerships, offering leadership rooted in Torah, committed to justice and unafraid of complexity.

We continue to invest in the future through our youth movements, new student initiatives and programmes that welcome the next generation into Progressive Jewish life, while remaining committed to a Judaism that is open and accessible to all.

Alongside all of this has been the quieter ongoing work of bringing together two organisations, two staff teams, two systems and two proud legacies into one Movement. Much of that work is unseen, but it is creating the foundations on which our shared future will be built.

This Rosh Hashanah we celebrate not simply what has been born, but what, together, we are still bringing into being.

We wish you and those you love a Shanah Tovah u'Metukah.

**Rabbi Charley Baginsky and Rabbi Josh Levy**
**Co-Leads of The Movement for Progressive Judaism**

The Movement for Progressive Judaism

## This Rosh Hashanah, we reflect on a year that has tested us, but also one that has demonstrated the extraordinary strength, resilience and vitality of Jewish life in Britain.

Our community has endured the most painful of moments. The terrorist attack at Heaton Park Synagogue claimed the lives of Adrian Daulby z"l and Melvin Cravitz z"l. We also saw a wave of violent attacks including those in Golders Green that left many feeling shaken and anxious.

Yet Judaism teaches us that even in the darkest moments, we must never lose sight of hope. We are a people who rebuild, renew and look forward. As we enter a new year, we do so with confidence in our community, pride in our achievements, and optimism for the future.

Over the past year, the Board of Deputies has worked tirelessly alongside our partners to ensure that British Jews are protected, represented and heard. Since the Heaton Park attack we have worked intensively with government and partner organisations to shape the government response, including through our co-published paper: "After the Heaton Park Attack: Towards a Comprehensive Government Strategy on Antisemitism". Influenced by our advocacy we have seen:

- **Unprecedented investment in Jewish communal security and specialist policing**, helping safeguard our synagogues, schools and communal institutions.
- **Independent reviews of antisemitism in healthcare and schools**, leading to action plans accepted by government, as well as a review of public order and hate laws.
- **New guidance from police forces and the CPS to speed up prosecutions of antisemitic abuse.**
- **Expanding training on antisemitism** among civil servants, healthcare workers, in education and in other workplaces.
- **New laws to tackle the threat posed by the Iranian regime and its proxies**, including proscription of the regime's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC), for which we have long campaigned.

This year has also been one of celebration of British Jewish life, with the Board of Deputies producing Britain's first-ever Jewish Culture Month, showcasing the richness, creativity and diversity of Jewish life across the UK. Thousands of people attended more than 150 events, with leading institutions such as the British Library, The Whitworth, the British Museum, the Victoria and Albert Museum, the Tate and the Southbank Centre joining communities across the country in celebrating Jewish culture and heritage.

I am delighted to share that next year's Jewish Culture Month will run from 6 June to 5 July. We would love to see communities across the country develop exciting plans for events, exhibitions, performances, and learning opportunities.

This has also been a year of innovation in which we have:

- **Launched the Commission on Disability Inclusion**, which will help make Jewish communal life more accessible and welcoming for disabled Jews and their families.
- **Strengthened relationships across faith communities**, including through interfaith initiatives and dialogue.
- **Ensured a strong Jewish voice is heard during local and devolved elections**, with specialist manifestos and hustings, so that the concerns and aspirations of British Jews ae heard loudly and clear across the country.
- **Campaigned for the release of all hostages held in Gaza.**

We are also grateful that, since this time last year, all the remaining hostages have finally been released. We extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone in our community who campaigned so passionately and persistently for their freedom.

As we enter 5787, let us carry forward both remembrance and hope; determination and optimism; resilience and joy. May the coming year bring peace, security and happiness to our community, to Israel, and to all who seek a better future.

Shanah Tovah U'Metukah – wishing you and your family a happy, healthy and sweet New Year.



**Phil Rosenberg**
President

BOARD OF DEPUTIES OF BRITISH JEWS
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# CULTURE & HERITAGE

Contact details of all activities and organisations can be found in the blue pages

## LIVERPOOL JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The activities of the Historical Society were restricted by the unavailability of the original venue as a venue for our meetings for much of 2025. However an alternative venue, Olive Mount Community Centre was found, for a well-received talk by communal archivist and committee member, Phil Sapiro, on the subject of notable families of 18th century Liverpool Jewry. This event in August 2025 was very well attended.

We were able to return to our original venue Stapely for a film documentary shown in the cinema in January 2026, In The Shoes of Sholom Aleichem. This was followed in March by a lecture by Meg Parkes on “Researching Far East Prisoner of War History: “A Jewish Perspective”.

We also participated, in organising events for Jewish Culture Month. Our first contribution was another showing of the Sholom Aleichem film, this time advertising it to the whole community and attracting a second full house.

Two visits were arranged during 5786 to the wonderful Liverpool Jewish Archives at the Central Library, in October 2025 and June 2026, the latter in association with Jewish Culture Month.

Over the past 3 years our documentary films have proved particularly popular. Details appear in the MJRC newsletter.

We very much appreciate the support we receive from our regular attendees. If anyone would like to be added to our mailing list please get in touch

## DEANE ROAD HERITAGE CEMETERY

### Help Bring Deane Road Heritage Cemetery Back to Life

The Deane Road Heritage Cemetery is one of Liverpool's most remarkable historic sites and an important part of Liverpool's Jewish heritage. Owned by Princes Road Synagogue, it is the final resting place of many of the city's early Jewish residents and has been the focus of an award-winning restoration project. For many years, the cemetery welcomed visitors to popular open days, guided tours and educational events, supported by a dedicated team of volunteers from both the Jewish and wider local communities.

Today, however, the project is at a standstill, and without a new group of volunteers there is a real risk that all the hard work, expertise and investment that went into restoring the cemetery could be lost.

We are looking for just two or three members of our community to help establish a new working group to oversee the project. They would work alongside representatives from the local neighbourhood to form a new management team. Liverpool City Council has already pledged its support, and local councillors are confident they can identify volunteers from the wider community. However, before asking others to commit their time and effort, we need to show that our own community is equally prepared to play its part. It would be difficult—and, frankly, rather embarrassing—to seek support from the local community and the City Council if we could not first find just two or three people from within our own community to come forward.

Princes Road Synagogue will provide guidance and support as the new team becomes established. Once a core group of five or six people is in place, additional volunteers can be recruited to help on a rota basis.

The cemetery was previously managed by a committed and enthusiastic group of volunteers who worked tirelessly to preserve this fascinating and valuable piece of Liverpool's history. We are confident there is a new generation ready to continue that legacy.

If you would like to help preserve this unique part of Liverpool's Jewish and civic heritage, please contact Princes Road Synagogue on **0151 709 3431 or email lohc1@aol.com.**

We also have an excellent film telling the story of this unique cemetery, its history, notable burials, visitor centre and guided tours. It includes a video diary of the restoration project, showing why all the time, energy and funding invested in bringing the cemetery back to life must not be allowed to go to waste. If you are interested in becoming involved, or would simply like to watch the film, we would be delighted to hear from you.

## HONORARY ARCHIVIST'S REPORT FOR 2026 YEAR BOOK

Our archive updating project, grant funded by the Rothschild Foundation Hanadiv Europe (RFHE) has now been completed. This means that 69 boxes of documents which had accumulated in the community since our last major upgrade in 2003 have now been properly stored in the City Council's state-of-the-art archive facility and are included in the archive catalogue. The catalogue

can be inspected on the 3rd floor of the Central Library in William Brown Street and on line at http://archive.liverpool.gov.uk/calmview/Overview.aspx

Our archive now consists of over 400 boxes of materials which would stack 200 feet high. Items can be selected from the catalogue and viewed in the Search Room at the library by requesting an appointment via https://liverpool.gov.uk/contact-us/service-area/liverpool-record-office/

The archive includes documents from over 200 organisations (many of which no longer exist), with items dating from the 1760s to the 21st century. Examples of the new material added in the recent upgrade project include: 20 years of correspondence relating to the Merseyside Amalgamated Talmud Torah; circumcision records for 1942-1979; minutes of the Liverpool Hebrew Bread and Flour Society; minutes of the Jewish Children's Holiday Fund; documents from the King David Primary School; press cuttings and scrapbooks of the Liverpool 35s group (Campaign for Soviet Jewry); records, photographs, and stories of the Thursday Club; and a large amount of documentation, publications, and event memorabilia relating to Harold House. Also recently added are items relating to the Historic plaques project, Merseyside Jewish Ramblers, Jewish Lads' and Girls' Brigade weekly orders and other items, and a number of items relating to the Liverpool Progressive Synagogue.

The project completion was celebrated through a well-attended exhibition in the five display cabinets in the Picton Reading Room in the library from July to October 2025, and a visit by the Jewish Historical Society to the Search Room where a further selection of items was on display. A second visit, open to members of the community, took place this June during Jewish Culture Month. Those attending these visits were surprised and impressed to see the variety of items included, so don't be shy about looking at the catalogue and arranging to view items at the William Brown Street Central Library – just a couple of hundred yards from Lime Street Station and Queen Square bus station; there is disabled parking on William Brown Street, and pay and display parking behind the library, adjacent to Hunter Street.

Finally, I am always on the lookout for material which might otherwise be lost, destroyed, or damaged, particularly when organisations cease to exist or merge with others, or new people take up office. In particular, as this is the twenty-first century, we can now also deposit digital (as opposed to paper) documents with the record office. If you have something which you think might be worth preserving – **please just email me at mjrcarchive@gmail.com**

# DEMOGRAPHICS YEAR BOOK REPORT FOR THE END OF 2025

## Introduction

Here are the key points from the current demographics report.
**Greater Liverpool Area (Including Wirral and Chester): a snapshot for the end of 2025**

*Births:* The number of births in the community is currently estimated at around **9** to 15 per annum (compared with **50** births per annum 40 years ago, and over **80** per annum in the 1950s).

*Young People:* Current pupil numbers at the King David Schools have been combined with historical information, to show the size of each year group of those currently aged from 4 to 52, **WHEN THEY WERE AT SCHOOL**. Whilst numbers have levelled off for the last 20 years, there are now early signs of a further decline. Note – the number of Jewish pupils at the King David Primary and High Schools is now **171** compared with **654** in 1965, **438** in 1993, and **243** in 2006.

*Bar Mitzvot:* In 2025 **six** barmitzvah ceremonies were recorded – just above the recent average; though numbers do fluctuate, year by year.

***Weddings:*** In 2025 **six** marriages known to Liverpool shuls, irrespective of where the ceremonies took place, were recorded; though, unusually, for only 5 of the 12 participants was this their first marriage.

*Synagogue Membership:* The total local adult membership of all Liverpool shuls at the end of 2025 was about 900, from about 610 households - **66%** orthodox, **34%** reform. The current total compares with a figure of about **1630** persons at the end of 2005.

*Deaths:* The average number of funerals in the 1970s and 80s was **84** per annum. In **2025**, **42** funerals were recorded, a figure similar to that recorded each year since 2018. Data over the last 10 years show that the mean age at death was **83**$^{1/4}$ years for men, and **85**$^{1/2}$ for women.

***The size and shape of our community at the end of 2025***

| 2025 Greater Liverpool community population estimate by age | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Age | 0-9 | 10-19 | 20-29 | 30-39 | 40-49 | 50-59 | 60-69 | 70-79 | 80-89 | 90 & + | **TOTAL** |
| Persons | 140 | 180 | 90 | 90 | 170 | 150 | 240 | 390 | 280 | 70 | **1800** |

The number of households is about **930**. The mean age of the Greater Liverpool community is about **55** years, and about **7%** of the total are resident on the Wirral & Chester side of the Mersey.

**The Southport Area: a snapshot for the end of 2025**
The total local adult membership of both Southport shuls at the end of 2025 was about **110**. There were **two** funerals at the Duke Street cemetery in 2025. The community consists of about **180** persons in **100** households; mean age **67** years.

*Philip Sapiro*
Honorary Demographics Officer – 17 July 2026



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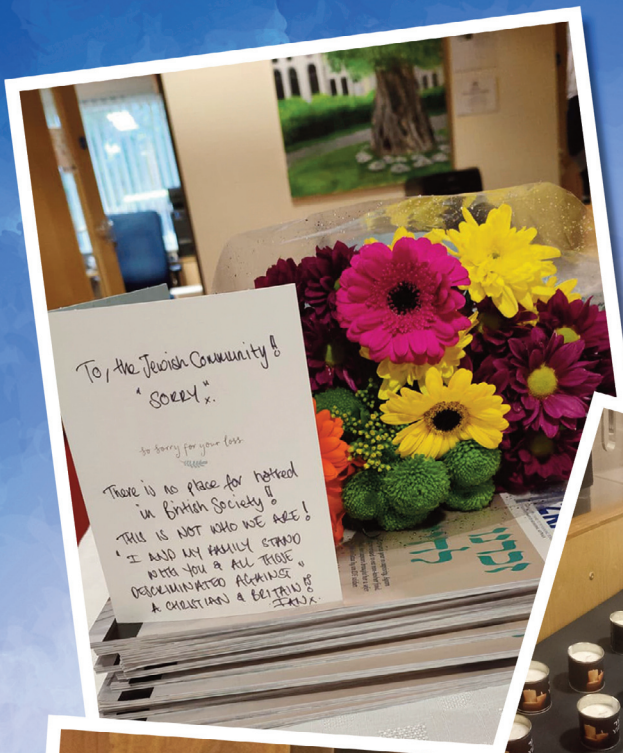
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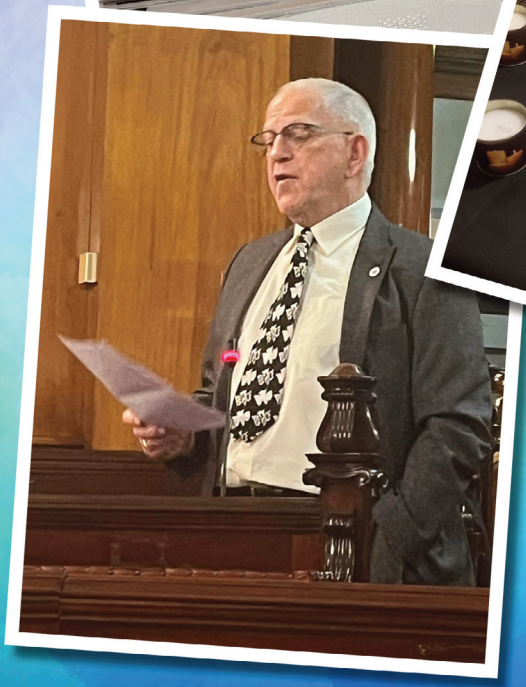
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Alan Coleman
& Family

**Lily, Marcy, Harry and Charlie, together with Ian and Sarah-Jane Cohen**

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To, the Jewish Community
"Sorry"
So sorry for your loss
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in British Society
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I AND MY FAMILY STAND
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A CHRISTIAN & BRITAIN
IS





# In Memoriam

IN MEMORY OF

Julia Gould, Martin Bracey
*Sheila & Ronnie Bracey*
*Debbie Bracey*

Ian Cohen
*Alan Cohen, Ruth Cohen and Devra Grugel*

Lorna Baygot
*Ben and Maimie Couts*

Judith Dresner
*Nat Dresner beloved Husband*

Lisa Alis
*My parents Ruth and Raphael Eisikovits*

Gwen Epstein
*Dr Ellis Jacob Epstein*

Jane Goldberg
*My Husband Mickey Goldberg*

Jonathan Gorsky
*Sidney Jacob Gorsky and Anita Hannah Gorsky, my beloved parents.*

Michael Green
*My dear parents Rachel & Max Green and late Sisters*

Gillian Green
*My dear parents Marie and Alec Kinshuck*

Alec Hurst
*Janet Barbara Hurst*

Corinne Kaufman
*Julian Lander*

Max Klein
*Erna Klein*

Laurence Levey
*Sidney Levey*
*Joyce Levey*

Jane Goldberg
*My parents Sylvia Lewin and Basil Black*

Clive Nagus
*Gerty and Elly Nagus*

Sara Radivan
*Naomi and Mervin Kingston*

Paulette Rubin
*My dear husband Paul*

Pam Talisman
*Ralph Talisman*

Jeremy Wolfson
*My dear parents Clare Wolfson and Norman Wolfson*

Eddie Clein
*Rose Dohren nee Cohen*

# Directory of Organisations

## SYNAGOGUES

**All synagogues and other religious organisations can be found at https://www.merseysidejewish.org**

**ALLERTON HEBREW CONGREGATION**
Telephone 0151 724 4811
Email: admin@allertonshul.org.uk
Website: www.allertonshul.org.uk

**CHILDWALL HEBREW CONGREGATION**
Telephone 0151 722 2079
Email: admin@childwallshul.co.uk

**LIVERPOOL OLD HEBREW CONGREGATION**
Telephone 0151 709 3431
Email: lohc1@aol.com
Website: www.princesroad.org

**LIVERPOOL REFORM SYNAGOGUE**
Telephone 07729 562174
Email: liverpool.reform.synagogue@gmail.com
Website: www.lrshul.org

**SOUTHPORT HEBREW CONGREGATION UNITED SYNAGOGUE**
Telephone 01704 532964
Email: office@shcus.org.uk
Website: www.southportsynagogue.co.uk

**SOUTHPORT & DISTRICT REFORM SYNAGOGUE**
Telephone 01704 535950
Website: www.southportreform.org.uk
Email: southportsynagogue@gmail.com

**CHABAD LUBAVITCH LIVERPOOL**
Telephone 0151 729 0443
Email: Info@lubavitchliverpool.com
Website: www.lubavitchliverpool.com

## OTHER ORGANISATIONS

**LIVERPOOL KASHRUT COMMISSION**
Telephone 0151 733 2292

**MIKVAH**
Telephone 07969 728022
Email: avitalfagleman@gmail.com

**MASORTI LIVERPOOL CHAVURAH**
Telephone 07798693756
Email: admin@masortiliverpool.org.uk
Website: www.masorti.org.uk

**REGISTERED MOHELIM (Manchester and District)**

| | |
|---|---|
| Rev E R Errera | 07967 012709 / 0161 702 1626 |
| Rabbi S M Goldberg | 07972 452333 / 0161 792 3918 |
| Rev D Olsberg | 07971 025089 / 0161 792 1907 |

## CEMETERIES

**See https://www.merseysidejewish.org/community-directory**

**Liverpool Old Hebrew Congregation** 0151 709 3431

**Greenbank Drive**
07764 654180 or 0151 722 3153 or 0151 486 8833

**Springwood Cemetery**

- Allerton Hebrew Congregation 0151 724 4811
- Childwall Hebrew Congregation 0151 722 2079
- Communal Section 0151 733 2292

**Allerton Cemetery**

- Liverpool Reform Synagogue 07729 562174

**Lowerhouse Lane** (closed) 0151 233 0890

**Rice Lane Cemetery** (closed) 0151 733 2292

**Duke Street Cemetery** 01704 533443

**REGISTRATION OF DEATHS**
Telephone 0151 233 3004 weekdays Liverpool City Council
Email: Cemeteriesandcrematoria@liverpool.gov.uk
Website:https://liverpool.gov.uk/births-marriage-deaths/deaths/

**Or at the weekend or during holidays ring 0151 733 2292 (MJCC) or your synagogue office**

# JEWISH EDUCATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

**KING DAVID – Telephone 0151 235 1420**

**KING DAVID HIGH SCHOOL**
Email: office@kingdavidliverpool.co.uk
Website: www.kingdavidliverpool.co.uk

**KING DAVID HIGH SCHOOL - BOARD OF GOVERNORS**
Email: c.roe@kingdavidliverpool.co.uk

**KING DAVID PRIMARY SCHOOL**
Email: primaryoffice@kingdavidliverpool.co.uk
Website: www.kingdavidprimary.co.uk

**KING DAVID PRIMARY SCHOOL - BOARD OF GOVERNORS**
Email: c.roe@kingdavidliverpool.co.uk

**KING DAVID PRIMARY SCHOOL PARENT TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION**
Email: primarypta@kingdavidliverpool.co.uk
Website: www.kingdavidprimary.co.uk/pta/

**KING DAVID PRE SCHOOL**
Email: primaryoffice@kingdavidliverpool.co.uk
Website: www.kingdavidprimary.co.uk/nursery-applications/

**KING DAVID & HAROLD HOUSE FOUNDATION**
Email: admin@kdf.org.uk
Website: www.kingdavidliverpool.co.uk/Parents/King-David-Harold-House-Foundation/
Telephone: 0151 235 1584

**CHEDER ETZ CHAYIM MATT**
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**LIVERPOOL REFORM SYNAGOGUE CHEDER**
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Email: cheder@lrshul.org
Website: www.lrshul.org/children-and-young-people/

**STAPELY JEWISH CARE HOME LTD**
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Email: accounts@stapelycare.co.uk
Website: www.stapelycare.co.uk

**NORTH WEST JEWISH HOUSING ASSOCIATION**
(formally Liverpool Jewish Housing Associations)
Telephone 0151 280 3260 / 0161 740 0001
Email: housing@ljha.org.uk or hello@mjha.org.uk

**LIVERPOOL HILLEL HOUSE (Ullet Road)**
Telephone 0151 280 0551
Email: housing@lhha.org.uk

**MERSEYSIDE JEWISH COMMUNITY CARE**
Telephone 0151 733 2292
Email: info@mjccshifrin.co.uk
Website: www.mjccliverpool.com

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**MERSEYSIDE FRIENDS OF ISRAEL**
Email: merseysidefoi@gmail.com

**MAGEN DAVID ADOM**
Telephone 020 8201 5900
Website: www.mdauk.org

**WIZO APPEAL**
Tel: Revive 07763 279964
Email: Central@wizouk.org

**CHAI CANCER CARE**
Free Confidential Helpline: 0808 808 4567
Reception: 020 8202 2211
Website: www.chaicancercare.org

## SOCIAL & CULTURAL ORGANISATIONS

**LIVERPOOL JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY**
Email: ray.morron2591@gmail.com

**LIVERPOOL JEWISH FORUM**
Telephone 07946 233209 or 07762 360591 or 07709 948454

**HAROLD HOUSE TABLE TENNIS CLUB**
Website: https://liverpool.ttleagues.com/
Tel: 07976-623729

**COMMUNITY CINEMA CLUB**
Email: michael@swerdlow.co.uk / ecohen9673@aol.com
Telephone:0151 707 1002 / 07721 047219

**ISRAELI DANCING & BOOK CLUB**
Email: info@mosaicliverpool.org.uk

**MOSAIC LIVERPOOL**
Telephone: 07703696398
Emai: info@mosaicliverpoool.org.uk

**CAFÉ CONNECT**
Email: jewishcommunitydevelopment@gmail.com

**JLIVE: NETWORK FOR JEWISH YOUNG PROFESSIONALS**
Email: Rabbinatan@allertonshul.org.uk

## YOUTH ORGANISATIONS

**JEWISH STUDENTS SOCIETY**
Website: www.ujs.org.uk/liverpool

**UNIVERSITY JEWISH CHAPLAINCY**
Email: rabbinatan@mychaplaincy.co.uk

**CHABAD AT LIVERPOOL UNIVERSITIES**
Email: rabbi@ulivchabad.org
Website: www.ulivchabad.org

**CHABAD LUBAVITCH: CTeen Program**
Email: info@lubavitchliverpool.com

**LIVERPOOL JEWISH YOUTH CLUB**
Email: youthclub@lrshul.org
Email: youthclublrs@gmail.com
Website: www.lrshul.org/youth-club

**JLGB**
Email: hello@jlgb.org
Website: www.jlgb.org

## ZIONIST ORGANISATIONS

**UNITED JEWISH ISRAEL APPEAL (UJIA)**
Telephone 0161 740 1825
Email: info@ujia.org
Website: www.ujia.org

**JEWISH NATIONAL FUND – JNF UK**
Telephone 020 8732 6100
Email: info@jnf.co.uk
Website: www.jnf.co.uk

## JEWISH PRESS

**Jewish Chronicle**
Email: editor@thejc.com
Telephone: 020 7415 1601

**Jewish Telegraph**
Email: newsdesk@jewishtelegraph.com
Telephone 0161 740 9321

**MERSEYSIDE JEWISH COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER**
Email: Repcouncil@mjccshifrin.co.uk
Subscribe: https://www.merseysidejewish.org/newsletter-1

# MERSEYSIDE JEWISH REPRESENTAIVE COUNCIL AFFILIATIONS

## ORGANISATIONS

Allerton Hebrew Congregation

Childwall Hebrew Congregation

Liverpool Old Hebrew Congregation

Liverpool Reform Synagogue

Southport & District Reform Synagogue

Southport United Synagogue

Liverpool Kashrut Commission

Lubavitch Foundation Liverpool

Liverpool WIZO Annual Appeal

Revive

King David & Harold House Foundation

Cheder Etz Chayim MATT

Merseyside Jewish Community Care

Northwest Jewish Housing Association

Jewish Historical Society

Liverpool Jewish Forum

Liverpool Masorti

## INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

**Max Marcus**

**Howard Simon**

**Michelle Hayward**

**Alfie Blumenow**

**Jeremy Wolfson**

**Richard Clein**

**October Wright**

## COMMITTEES AND INDIVIDUALS WHO SUPPORT THE FUNCTION AND WORK OF THE MERSEYSIDE JEWISH REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

Archivist & Demographic Officer - **Philip Sapiro**

Art Director - **Felice Beilin**

Antisemitism Liaison Monitoring Officer - **Elise Beilin**

Members of Board of Deputies Of British Jews - **Gordon S Globe, Benjamin Globe, Sue Hadden, Victor Huglin, Gillian Moonman**

Elected Officials - **Cllr Richard Clein, Cllr Geoff Pearl, Matthew Patrick MP**

## HONORARY OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, TRUSTEES & AFFILIATED ORGANISATION REPRESENTATIVES

A heartfelt thank you to all our MJRC Honorary Officers, Directors and Trustees, including our Immediate Past Chair, Town Hall Liaison Officer, Honorary Treasurer, Honorary Demographics Officer and BOD Representative. We are incredibly grateful for the time, dedication and hard work you give to the MJRC throughout the year. Your commitment, often behind the scenes, helps keep the MJRC moving forward and ensures that we continue to support and serve our community.

We would also like to say a big thank you to all our Affiliated Organisation Representatives. Thank you for representing your organisations, for working alongside us and for supporting the MJRC in everything we do. Your involvement, friendship and willingness to work together are a vital part of our MJRC family.

**Thank you all for everything you do — your contribution is truly valued and appreciated.**

## THANK YOU & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Merseyside Jewish Representative Council would like to express its sincere thanks to Merseyside Jewish Community Care, and in particular to Karen and Evie, for all the hard work, dedication, and support they have given in producing this year's Yearbook. Along with support from Alan Coleman. Their time, effort, and commitment have been invaluable and are greatly appreciated.

We would also like to thank Alan Rae, the previous editor of the Yearbook, for laying the strong foundations that have enabled this publication to continue and develop. Our thanks extend to all the organisations and members of the community who have contributed to this year's edition and helped make it such a valuable resource. Along with Denis Salamon for his unwavering production of the community newsletter.

We are especially grateful to Beatrice Fraenkel for her invaluable support in reviewing the governance of the Merseyside Jewish Representative Council, helping to ensure that the organisation is in the strongest possible position to represent the Jewish community across Merseyside. We would like to express our heartfelt thanks to Eliat Elfasi, and Gili Mazor, who supported Merseyside Jewish Representative Council to complete a review in Sept 2025.

Finally, we are deeply grateful to Paul Levinson & Barry Levene who this year have stepped down from their roles as Directors/Trustees of Merseyside Jewish Representative Councilafter several years of valued contribution and service.

**We thank all our advertisers for their support.**
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## ERRORS AND OMMISIONS

Every effort has been made to ensure that the information contained in this Yearbook is accurate at the time of publication.

However, if you notice any errors, omissions, or changes that should be made for future editions, we would be grateful if you could let us know.

Please contact the Merseyside Jewish Representative Council by email at repcouncil@mjcc.co.uk providing details of the correction or update.

Your feedback is greatly appreciated and helps us to ensure that future editions remain as accurate and useful as possible.

*Thank you for your support*




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