

Message from the Editor: Karina Katz

Welcome to the first North Hendon Newsletter Supplement. It is wonderful to share in so many unique family occasions and to highlight the range of contributions that our members are making to the community. I will endeavour to do all I can to ensure that the newsletter is a success and in return I hope that you will be in contact to share your news be it a marriage, bar/bas mitzva, birth, anniversary, birthday, graduation, new job, impressive achievement or indeed any milestone in your life or in that of your family. If there is a recent simcha that I have overlooked this is an unintentional omission and I would urge you to be in contact so that I can include it in the next supplement.



Meet the Chairman

Yoni Weisz lives in Hendon with his wife Marion and their children Ariella, Avidan, Maytal and Netanel. Yoni is CEO of Vision Construct Ltd and has been a member of North Hendon for the last twelve years, serving as gabbai for six years before being elected as Chairman.

Why did you decide to stand for the position of Chairman?

I was a member of the Shul for a year before I was persuaded to become involved with the Board of Management and four years later I became a gabbai. Having worked extensively with the Rav and Executive of the Shul for so many years I felt that I was in a strong position to ensure that there is a continuity of purpose and values.

What qualities are you hoping to bring to the position?

I am in a unique position given my previous roles in the Shul to make positive changes whilst protecting our core religious values.

What would you say North Hendon has to offer members old and new?

Our members are remarkable for their sincerity and in addition we are a warm and friendly community. We encapsulate a range of age groups and our members originate from a variety of backgrounds. There is a place for everybody within our community.

How do you envision the future of North Hendon?

I believe we will retain our existing membership and that we will succeed in inviting and welcoming more people to our shul. Within the last year we have taken many positive steps; we are now an independent shul; we've seen women making more substantial contributions to the community including attending and voting at the AGM; we have instigated the recitation of Hallel on Yom Ha'atzmaut after davening; we are championing new initiatives including a bas mitzvah programme and this supplement. I look forward to harnessing the positive energy that is currently buzzing round the Board of Management and Women's Forum so that the shul may go from strength to strength.



Bas Mitzva Programme

A Bas Mitzva Programme for girls in Year 6 and 7 is to be launched in the coming months. The programme will feature a range of fun activities as the girls begin to grow as Jewish women.

The programme will culminate in a beautiful celebration with family and friends. For more information and to book your place please contact Karina Katz by email: karina@katzdomain.com or mobile: 07980 514 763.



Rina Bayla Gilbert

Alicia and Phil Gilbert hosted a Shabbos Mevorchim Kiddush on 24 May to celebrate the birth of their daughter Rina Bayla, a sister for Sara. Alicia and Phil are

both teachers and have been members of North Hendon since their marriage six years ago. Rina Bayla was born on 19 February/19 Adar Rishon. We extend our good wishes and a sincere 'Mazal Tov' to Alicia, Phil and Sara and thank them for sharing their simcha with the North Hendon community.



Dr Mireille Toledano

As recently highlighted in our weekly Newsletter we would like to extend congratulations to Mrs Cynthia Toledano whose daughter Dr Mireille Toledano of Imperial College has been appointed to head up an important research project.

Dr Toledano currently leads the UK arm of COSMOS, an international long-term cohort study of mobile phone users. Mobile phones have rapidly become central to our everyday lives. The COSMOS study aims to carry out long term health monitoring of a large group of people so that we can identify if there are any health issues linked to long term mobile phone use. This study has been identified as a priority by research agencies worldwide, including the World Health Organisation (WHO).

The Jewish Chronicle reported that the project is being funded by the government and will track two thousand five hundred 11 and 12 year olds to investigate the effects of mobile telephones and wifi devices on their cognitive abilities (thinking skills, memory and attention). The study will be repeated in 2017.



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Uri's Bar Mitzva

Uri Schmulian recently celebrated his bar mitzva alongside his parents Nechama and Howard and siblings Racheli and Yehoshua. Uri is currently a pupil at Hasmonean Boys' School having previously attended Menorah Foundation. He has a range of interests from the musical (he plays the piano) to the intellectual (chess) not to mention sport (badminton and table tennis) and of course the technological (computers).

Uri's seudah took place on Sunday 4 May, the actual day of his bar mitzvah. His parents describe the atmosphere as having been wonderfully leibedik and Nechama was touched by how beautifully both Uri and Howard spoke. The following morning Uri was called to the Torah and leyned for the first time. However, it was the next day, Tuesday 6 May that Uri demonstrated a true zeal for his newfound obligations. Despite a

class trip to York Uri arranged with his friends to be up extremely early in order to daven with a minyan. Nechama recounts how this commitment ensured that the occasion of Uri's bar mitzvah was particularly moving for her.

The highlight of Uri's bar mitzvah fell on 10 May when Uri leyned on Shabbos morning for the North Hendon community. His mother recalls a tangible sense of being enveloped by the warmth and support of the entire kehilla as she sat in shul listening to Uri. The Schmulian family appreciated the effort of those who walked from Hendon and Golders Green and were particularly humbled by the presence of Rabbi Yehoshua Hartman. They also commented on the depth of support they received from Rabbi Cohn during the year leading up to Uri's bar mitzva. They emphasised how Rabbi Cohn was on hand for advice on all manner of minute details and how this too enhanced the simcha of the occasion.

North Hendon Synagogue is delighted to wish Uri and his family Mazal Tov; we are sure that he will continue to be a source of nachas to his parents as well as to the wider community.



Rina and Sammy Barron

On 16 February 2014 North Hendon parents Sheiny and Michael Lebrecht and grandparents Dr and Mrs Leslie Shapiro celebrated the marriage of their daughter and granddaughter Rina to Sammy Barron, son of Karen and Philip Barron of Manchester.

Rina grew up in North Hendon, attending Menorah Primary School and Menorah Girls' School before embarking on a year's study at Darche Bina in Israel. Having graduated from seminary Rina commenced study at Compuskills in Jerusalem where she attained qualifications in photography and graphics. Sammy was a pupil at Manchester Grammar before studying at the

Mercaz Hatorah and Medresh Shmuel institutions in Israel. After yeshiva Sammy qualified as an electrician and is now pursuing a career in that field.

Sheiny identifies the chupah as being the highlight of Rina and Sammy's wedding day. Looking back she is struck by how incredibly special, meaningful and emotional the occasion was and yet how calm and natural it felt to be standing alongside her daughter under her chupah. She also recalls how time became elastic; standing still yet rushing by. If Sheiny has any advice to other mothers of the bride, it is to focus on the relevant and the important, to remember that what truly matters is not the colour of the serviettes or other wedding details but rather the essence and significance of the occasion.

Rina and Sammy are now living in Broughton Park, Manchester where they are setting up their respective businesses as a family portrait/simcha photographer and as an electrician. Members of North Hendon would be well advised to remember that Rina and Sammy on their frequent visits to London are available to undertake work. They can be contacted either by email: rinalebrecht@gmail.com or mobile: 07946 268 053.

It is with much warmth that the community wishes Rina and Sammy and their families Mazal Tov - we wish them hatzlocha in all their endeavours and much happiness and joy in their lives together.

Shul Contacts

We have been made aware that the Shul needs to have more open and clearer communications with its members. For many years we have been using group emails to help us communicate better with our members. It has come to our attention that we need to better communicate what these group emails are along with numbers where appropriate. Below is a useful list:-

Secretary

Henry Ehreich – 020 82030797
secretary@northhendon.co.uk

Treasurer

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Board of Management

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We intend to publish this supplement four times a year (approximately every three months in March, June, September, and December).