



# WESTMINSTER SYNAGOGUE

Newsletter

February - March 2020

Sh'vat - Adar 5780

# Westminster Synagogue

## Community Tu B'Shevat Shabbat Dinner

Friday 21st February, 6:30pm



Join us on Friday, 21st February as we relax and welcome in Shabbat with a special Shabbat Unplugged service followed by a delicious three course meal in honour of Tu B'Shevat.

After Kiddush, we invite members to our Library Salon as we enjoy a fruity cocktail before sitting down to dinner.

Spaces are limited, so book now to avoid disappointment and share Shabbat together with our community

£15 Westminster Synagogue Members  
£20 General Admission

Book via [www.westminstersynagogue.org](http://www.westminstersynagogue.org)

**Shabbat Bo****Bar Mitzvah: Elias Wisnia***The last three plagues are cast; the Israelites use lamb's blood so death passes over their houses***Friday, 31<sup>st</sup> January, 6:30pm** - Shabbat Evening - Rabbi Benji**Saturday, 1<sup>st</sup> February, 10:30am** - Shabbat Morning - Rabbi Benji

Torah Portion: Exodus 10: 1-10

Haftarah Portion: Jeremiah 46: 13-28

Kiddush: The Wisnia Family

**Shabbat Bashalach****Bat Mitzvah: Chloe Francini***The B'nei Yisrael leave Egypt; Moses strikes a rock and water flows***Friday, 7<sup>th</sup> February, 6:30pm** - Shabbat Evening - Rabbi Benji**Saturday, 8<sup>th</sup> February, 10:30am** - Shabbat Morning - Rabbi Benji

Torah Portion: Exodus 13:17 - 14:8

Haftarah Portion: Judges 5:1-31

**Saturday, 8<sup>th</sup> February, 6:00pm** - Remembering Ilana Alexander

Kiddush: The Francini Family

**Shabbat Yitro***The B'nei Yisrael reach Mount Sinai and the Ten Commandments are revealed***Friday, 14<sup>th</sup> February, 6:30pm** - Shabbat Evening - Yael Roberts**Saturday, 15<sup>th</sup> February, 10:30am** - Shabbat Morning - Rabbi Benji

Torah Portion: Exodus 18: 1-27

Haftarah Portion: Isaiah 6: 1-13

Kiddush: Jeffrey &amp; Nora Ohrenstein

**Shabbat Mishpatim****Blessing for Adar****Shabbat Shekalim***Laws are given, such as 'not to cook a calf in its mother's milk' - the basis for meat/milk separation***Friday, 21<sup>st</sup> February, 6:30pm** - Shabbat Unplugged - Rabbi Benji & Yoav Oved**Saturday, 22<sup>nd</sup> February, 10:30am** - Shabbat Morning - Rabbi Benji

Torah Portion: Exodus 22: 1-12

Haftarah Portion: II Kings 11:17 - 12:17

Exodus 30: 11-16

Kiddush: Please contact the Synagogue Office if you can accept this Mitzvah.

**Shabbat Terumah***The B'nei Yisrael are told to build a Sanctuary so God may 'dwell amongst them'***Friday, 28<sup>th</sup> February, 6:30pm** - Shabbat Unplugged - Rabbi Benji & Yoav Oved**Saturday, 29<sup>th</sup> February, 10:30am** - Shabbat Morning - Rabbi Benji


Torah Portion: Exodus 25: 23-40

Haftarah Portion: I Kings 5:26 - 6:13

Kiddush: Please contact the Synagogue Office if you can accept this Mitzvah.

**Celebratory Shabbat**

Nora and Jeffrey Ohrenstein invite you to celebrate Jeffrey's 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday and their 40 years of being at Westminster Synagogue, on **Saturday, 15<sup>th</sup> February**. Do let the Synagogue Office know if you're able to attend.



# Shabbat B'Yachad

## Saturday 7th March

### 10:30am

"B'Yachad" means "together" and we are excited to welcome members of all generations to our Shabbat B'Yachad service, with participation from the children and teachers of Or Shabbat, on Saturday 7th March at 10:30am.

The service will be followed by a picnic themed Kiddush, during which we invite Or Shabbat parents to come together as we unveil the new shared vision that you have been helping to create.

We hope you can join us for this special day and if you have any questions, email [admin@westminstersynagogue.org](mailto:admin@westminstersynagogue.org)

**Saturday 7th March**  
**10:30am**

Please let us know you can attend by  
booking in via [westminstersynagogue.org](http://westminstersynagogue.org)

**Tots Shabbat**  
will also be held  
from 11am!



## Shabbat Tetzaveh

## Shabbat Zachor

*The Eternal Light is lit from morning to eve every day as a reminder of God's presence*

**Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> March, 6:30pm** - Shabbat Evening - Rabbi Benji

**Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> March, 10:30am** - Shabbat B'Yachad - Rabbi Benji & Yael Roberts

Torah Portion: Exodus 28: 29-43

Haftarah Portion: I Samuel 15: 1-34

Deuteronomy 25: 17-19

Kiddush: Please contact the Synagogue Office if you can accept this Mitzvah.

## Purim Service & Spiel

*Join us as we dress up and read the story of Esther - see page 13 for more information*

**Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> March, 6:30pm** - Erev Purim - Rabbi Benji & Community Members

## Shabbat Ki Tisa

## Baby Blessing: Billy Sokolowsky

*Moses ascends the mountain once more with new tablets*

**Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> March, 6:30pm** - Shabbat Evening - Rabbi Benji

**Saturday, 14<sup>th</sup> March, 10:30am** - Shabbat Morning - Rabbi Benji

Torah Portion: Exodus 32: 7-20

Haftarah Portion: Ezekiel 36: 23-38

Numbers 19: 1-22

Kiddush: The Sokolowsky Family

## Shabbat Vayakhel-Pekudei

## Bat Mitzvah: Giselle Samek

## Shabbat Ha-Chodesh,

## Blessing for Nissan, Chazak, Chazak, v'Nitzchazek

*Moses assembles the people of Israel and reiterates to them to observe Shabbat .*

*The Mishkan is completed and a cloud appears over it, signifying the Divine presence*

**Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> March, 6:30pm** - Shabbat Evening - Rabbi Benji

**Saturday, 21<sup>st</sup> March, 10:30am** - Shabbat Morning - Rabbi Benji

Torah Portion: Exodus 35: 20-35

Haftarah Portion: Ezekiel 45:16 - 46:18

Exodus 12: 1-11

Kiddush: The Samek Family

## Shabbat Vayikra

*God informs Moses of the laws of korbanot, the animal and meal offerings brought in the Sanctuary*

**Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> March, 6:30pm** - Shabbat Unplugged - Rabbi Benji & Yoav Oved

**Saturday, 28<sup>th</sup> March, 10:30am** - Shabbat Morning - Rabbi Thomas

Torah Portion: Leviticus 2: 1-16

Haftarah Portion: Isaiah 44:6-23

Kiddush: Please contact the Synagogue Office if you can accept this Mitzvah.

## Kiddush - a tasty mitzvah

After the service on Saturday mornings, we invite the community to come together for Kiddush. This is a special chance to meet other members and share a bite together. We ask members to volunteer their time in making this happen by hosting a Kiddush. You can fulfil this mitzvah by yourself or with some friends. Whether you decide to cook in our kitchen, buy some platters or sponsor the Kiddush, we'd be happy to help you to make sure it's a stress free occasion. If you would like to accept this mitzvah, please contact the Synagogue Office.

### Our Learning Opportunities just keep increasing

The secular new year is a great time to make new resolutions – and why not commit to attending more inspiring Jewish learning here at Westminster Synagogue? We are looking forward to February and March as we launch another round of OneGs, this time about Progressive Judaism, and the educational vision for our community. We'll also have the return of Lunch & Learns, a great chance to learn about the weekly portion and build skills for reading it with Rabbi Benji or Yael.

Don't miss our **B'Yachad Service**, where we will be launching our new Or Shabbat vision, on **7<sup>th</sup> March**! This term also sees the start of a new adult learning series: **Art and Soul: Beautifying the mitzvot**. Join us on **3<sup>rd</sup> February** for our launch and on **2<sup>nd</sup> March** for the continuation, where we'll be learning about and making our own tallitot (prayer shawls).

As always, our learning here feeds into action, and we can't wait to see what you are inspired to create and build with us. As part of our vision for action, we are also building a new adult learning team which will lead Adult Education in the community. Please get in touch if you might be interested in working with us.



For: Ages 0 - 3 (and parents!)

**Dates this term:**

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> February

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March

11:00am-12:15pm



## Or Shabbat

For: Ages 3 - 11

**Dates this term:**

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> February

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> March

10:00am-12:30pm



## B'nei Mitzvah

For: Ages 11 - 13

**Dates this term:**

Friday 7<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> February

Friday 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup> March

5:00-7:00pm



## Kabbalat Torah

For: Ages 13 - 15

**Dates this term:**

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March

5:30-7:30pm

## GSCE in Religious Studies



For: Ages 13 - 15

5:00-7:00pm

Dates this term:

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> February  
Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> March

## Hebrew Ulpan



For: Beginners and Intermediates

Dates this term:

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> February  
Thursday 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup> March

Intermediates: 6:00-7:20pm

Beginners 2: 7:30-8:50pm

Beginners 1: 9:00-10:20pm

## Shabbat Unplugged



For: The whole WS community

6:00-7:15pm

Dates this term:

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February  
Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March



## Or Chadash

For: Conversion Students

Dates this term:

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> February  
Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> March

Or Chadash Class: 6:30-7:45pm

Hebrew Class: 7:45-8:30pm

## Torah in the city

**Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February - 8:30-9:20am**

We say the Hebrew Bible is our most sacred text, that we can live our lives in relation to it, yet often we never get beyond the simple and even absurd, treatment of Bible stories and passages that puzzled us at religion school.



In our Torah in the City sessions we do Torah for grown ups, exploring the sophisticated style and seeming contradictions of the Torah, reading closely, teasing out questions, exploring ancient answers, and ultimately considering lessons for our lives.

The session will run from 8.30-9.20am and includes tea, coffee and refreshments. We meet near Liverpool Street, once a month, so that you can bring our lively discussion straight into the complications of your working day, to help you navigate your week- and you don't even need to schlep into shul. For more information, contact the Synagogue Office.



### What is Oneg Shabbat?

Once a month, the community comes together to share a meal and explore a chosen topic as part of our Oneg Shabbat Lunches. They are held from **12:45-2:30pm** after the Shabbat Morning Service and members contribute what they can to the lunch table!

### Who can come?

This group is for members of all ages and if there is a particular topic you would like to see covered, please let us know.

### Do I need to bring anything?

Like a Chavurah Supper, we ask that guests bring a dish to add to our Shabbat Table. This can be a sweet or savoury dish that ideally serves 8-12 people. Dishes must be either fish or vegetarian and must not contain nuts (so if you're cooking, check the recipe, if you're buying check the label!)

### When is it?

The next Onegs will be on **Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> February** and **Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March**. Rabbi Benji will be delving into exploring what is progressive Judaism.

### Do I need to book in?

Yes. There is no charge to join us for the Oneg, but we have limited seats and don't want to disappoint people. Make sure you book in via the Synagogue Website.



Whilst our Oneg Shabbat invites a large group to come together and explore cultural or philosophical aspects of Judaism; our Shabbat Lunch and Learn Courses allow small groups of members to explore the Torah in more depth, developing skills and creating new and meaningful connections with the Torah.

Our Shabbat Lunch and Learns are held as a group of three consecutive sessions, each exploring the weekly Torah portion. We ask that members attend at least two of the three sessions which will be held on: **Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> February, 7<sup>th</sup> March and 14<sup>th</sup> March** from **12:45-2:15pm**. To book in, or for more information, please contact the Office.



# Art and Soul: Beautifying the Mitzvot

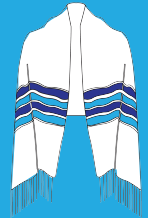
## Monthly Mondays 6:30-9:30pm

Over the next few months we will look into ways to beautify the everyday, giving deeper meaning to Jewish ritual and practices.

Held on the first Monday of each month, this 5 part course is designed to unleash your creativity, connecting you to the source of why we do what we do. Join us for deep Jewish learning, a light dinner and the making of ritual objects.

### Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> February & 2<sup>nd</sup> March

Learn how to make a Tallit it from scratch  
Join us as we explore the significance that goes into tallit making, customs, and tradition.



### Monday 6<sup>th</sup> April

Learn how to enter Pardes - the spiritual orchard  
Join us as we look for hidden meanings on four levels, through painting and creative exploration.

### Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May

Learn about the mystical aspects of scents  
Join us as we explore the scents that combine to create Havdalah, and how to make your own perfumed offering.



### Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June

Learn about the wisdom of the Hebrew Alphabet  
Join us as we explore the numbers and meanings of the Hebrew letters. Words take on a new significance that will enthrall, particularly when you master calligraphic skills.

Book in via the Synagogue Website

### In Recent Months

Towards the end of 2019, members came together to share meals, learn and connect on many occasions. On Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> December we had a sold out Community Dinner to mark Human Rights Shabbat, with guest speaker Gillian Merron from the Board of Deputies. It was an interesting and thought provoking evening. Make sure you don't miss out on our next Community Shabbat on 21<sup>st</sup> February.

We celebrated Chanukah together through learning with Yael Roberts over an Oneg Lunch *"Chanukah: Gift or Greed"*, as well as celebrating the sixth night of Chanukah right here in Kent House with a special Shabbat service led by Yoav and Rabbi Benji - along with latke-making, doughnut bobbing and music being heard throughout the building.

As we started 2020, members showed their passion for ensuring WS is a place where they can connect with each other through a variety of Friday Nights. Our B'nei Mitzvah parents helped organise a special Kiddush for the families who are going through this milestone journey. Our Or Chadash team arranged a Shabbat dinner for OC students to get to know other members of the community. New members were invited to a Shabbat Dinner to welcome them into the community, and, as we're writing, members are eagerly booking in to welcome Jonny Benjamin MBE to speak about Mental Health Awareness. If you ever want to get a group of ten together to learn, connect or start something new, don't hesitate to contact the Synagogue Office.





# AN UNKNOWN COUNTRY

A film by Eva Zelig



**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February**  
**7:00pm for 7:30pm**

**Westminster Synagogue** invites you to a screening of **An Unknown Country**.

This documentary tells the inspiring story of European Jews who fled Nazi persecution to find refuge in an unlikely destination: Ecuador.

Featuring first-hand accounts and archival material, the story opens a window on the exiles' perilous escape and difficult adjustment as they remade their lives in an exotic unfamiliar land.

Their poignant experience is a lesson in survival and adaptation - a story now more timely than ever as forced emigration has become a major issue of our time.

Director **Eva Zelig** will be joining us for a fascinating Q&A session after the film, so make sure you don't miss out on this fascinating evening.

**7:00pm** Refreshments

**7:30pm** Film Screening followed by Q&As

**Tickets:** £15 General Admission

**Book Via:** [westminstersynagogue.org](http://westminstersynagogue.org)

**Contact:** [events@westminstersynagogue.org](mailto:events@westminstersynagogue.org)



### Purim



Purim is based upon the biblical Book of Esther, which recounts the story of Queen Esther and how she saved the Jewish people from annihilation in Persia. This happens to be one of only two books in the Hebrew Bible in which the name of God is not mentioned and the story itself has been described as a sort of a 'thriller', at the end of which we are all mightily relieved to have been saved from genocide, through the efforts of Esther and her Uncle Mordechai!

#### What's the history?

When King Ahasuerus had his wife, Queen Vashti, executed for failing to follow his orders, he orchestrated a beauty pageant to find a new queen. A Jewish girl, Esther, found favour in his eyes and became the new queen - though she refused to divulge the identity of her nationality.

Meanwhile, the anti-Semitic Haman was appointed prime minister of the Persian empire. Mordechai, the leader of the Jews defied the king's orders and refused to bow to Haman. Haman was incensed, and convinced the king to issue a decree ordering the extermination of all the Jews on the 13<sup>th</sup> of Adar - a date chosen by a

lottery Haman made - in fact: the word 'Purim' means "lots"!

Esther invited both the King and Haman to a feast where she revealed to the king her Jewish identity. Haman was hanged, Mordechai was appointed prime minister in his stead, and a new decree was issued - granting the Jews the right to defend themselves against their enemies. At that point, the celebrations began!

Purim is marked in several ways:


- a) The reading of the Megillah (book of Esther), the Scroll which recounts the story of the Purim miracle. It's customary to cheer when Esther and Mordechai are mentioned, but boo and hiss for Haman ;
- b) dressing up;
- c) having a Purim feast - including Hamantashen and drinking!
- d) enjoying a Purim spiel, which is basically a play featuring a creative retelling of the Purim story.

#### How and what do we Celebrate?

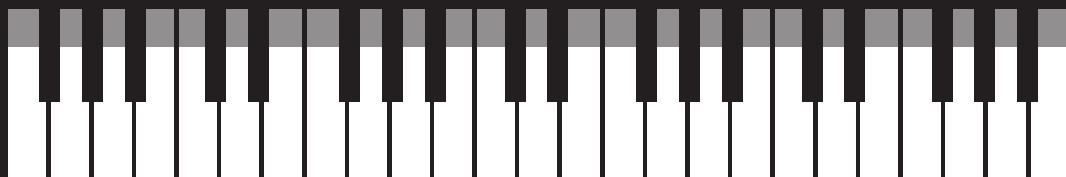
Purim this year falls on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March - Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March and so we will be holding a big family and community event in the evening of the **Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March** featuring children's activities from 4:30pm, the reading of the Megillah in many tongues and our traditionally spectacular spiel at 6:30pm, as well as a sumptuous buffet to follow.

This year, the Purim Spiel and evening will have an Elton John theme - if you want to be part of it, contact Jon. As mentioned above, fancy dress and fun are obligatory.





I Guess  
That's Why  
They Call It  
A Spiel



## Purim 2020

Join us on **Monday, 9th March**, as we celebrate the Story of Esther with fun for all the family. Including the much loved Megillah of Many tongues, activities for children and an Elton John inspired Purim Spiel!

**4:30pm** Children's Activities

**6:30pm** Megillah Reading and Purim Spiel

Let us know you're coming via our Synagogue Website

### Westminster Young Professionals

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Created in 2015 by members noticing that there was a gap in the opportunities on offer at Westminster Synagogue, Westminster Young Professionals have become an integral part of our Synagogue community.

Our WYP network has over 400 members and provides a wide range of activities and events for Jewish Young Professionals in Central London, which have included: An Evening with Mark Ronson, In Conversation with Josh Berger, A Vegan Cooking Masterclass, Cabaret Nights, A Tour of the Houses of Parliament and Speed Mentoring events.

The WYP themed Friday Night Shabbat Dinners are very popular and in fact are almost always 'sold out'. The evenings have seen over 70 young professionals coming together to enjoy different cuisines including French, Spanish, Israeli, Russian, Hungarian, Sephardic and more.

Across London, Kent House is already becoming recognised as a place where young professionals can walk through the door knowing that good friends and a great evening is waiting for them inside.

Stay in touch with updates via Facebook by liking our page and please do recommend WYP to friends and family members.

### The Team

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The WYP Team is made up of dedicated volunteers who are invested in the growth of the Synagogue community.

The team meets once every two months and is always eager to invite new members to join and get involved. If you would like to find out more information, contact [wyp@westminstersynagogue.org](mailto:wyp@westminstersynagogue.org).



### What's next?

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WYP are excited to once again join with WIZOnet for a night of inspiration at Kent House on **Tuesday, 10<sup>th</sup> March**.

We will be welcoming back Claude Littner, well known from his role on *The Apprentice*, as he hosts a panel of entrepreneurs at different stages of their career paths.

You can find more information on the facing page, and book in via our website.

If you have an idea for an event, or want to volunteer with our WYP Team, please don't hesitate to contact Jon via the Synagogue Office.

Westminster Young Professionals and WIZOnet  
invite you to

# Power Hour

Four Speakers, Fifteen Minutes,  
One Inspirational Hour

**Tuesday, 10th March**

7:00pm Reception | 7:30pm Panel

Claude Littner, Lord Sugar's long standing business associate and 'aide' on The Apprentice, returns to Kent House as we welcome a panel of four inspirational and entrepreneurial speakers who share anecdotes and pearls of wisdom gained along their journeys.

Whether you're starting your own business, are thinking of moving jobs or just want to be inspired, do not miss out on this fantastic evening, brought to you by Westminster Young Professionals and WIZOnet.

After the panel, join us downstairs for food and drink as you get a chance to ask the panelists more questions, and make new connections.



**Chair, Claude Littner**

**Tickets: £15** in advance, **£20** on door

**To book:** visit [bitly.com/PowerHour](http://bitly.com/PowerHour)

**Contact:** [events@w-s.org](mailto:events@w-s.org)



Changing Lives · Building Futures

### Remembering Ilana Alexander

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On **Saturday, 8<sup>th</sup> February**, we will be holding a special evening to remember Ilana Alexander who sadly passed away last year. We will begin with a Memorial Service at **6:00pm**, before sitting down for food and drinks as we share memories, readings and music that represent Ilana's optimism, love of words and Jewish/Israeli culture. Please let Jon know whether you're able to join us for this special evening.

We've also established a fund dedicated to Hebrew education, particularly for our Bar and Bat Mitzvah students which will carry Ilana's name. You can read more about the fund on our website by visiting [westminstersynagogue.org/ilana](http://westminstersynagogue.org/ilana)

### Tu B'Shevat Seder

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On **Wednesday, 12<sup>th</sup> February**, members are invited to join the Or Chadash session from 7:00pm as we take part in a Tu B'Shevat Seder.

Tu B'Shevat, the 15<sup>th</sup> Shevat, is the day that marks the beginning of a "New Year" for trees. It is the time that earliest-blooming trees in Israel emerge from their winter sleep and begin a new fruit-bearing cycle. The Seder will let us sample specific foods, and explore Jewish roots in caring for the world that we live in. Please let Yael know if you plan to attend the Seder.

You can also celebrate Tu B'Shevat with us at our Community Shabbat Dinner on **Friday, 21<sup>st</sup> February** - see page 2 for more information.

### Community Trip - Prince of Egypt

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Members and friends are invited to hear the story of Moses and the Exodus as we go on a community trip to see the new musical: The Prince of Egypt.

Based on the acclaimed DreamWorks Animation film, and featuring the Academy Award-winning song, *When You Believe*, The Prince of Egypt is an exhilarating, powerful and joyous celebration of belief and the human spirit. We have a few tickets left for the show on **Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> March** at **7:30pm**. Tickets are £40 and to book, please contact Jon.

### Singing Sessions

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Our community is finding its voice, as we hear more and more members singing out from their seats in our services. A passion for joining in with singing in services was expressed frequently in the 150 conversations we had about what our desires and aspirations are as a community. In response, our Singing Team, led by our Senior Warden David Connick and Yoav Oved, have arranged a few dates for the next steps in this initiative.

**Tuesday, 11<sup>th</sup> February, 6:00-7:15pm**

An evening of singing.

**Saturday, 15<sup>th</sup> February, 9:30-10:20am**

A morning of singing

**Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> February at 10.30am**

A Singing Service with our best yet participation

If you can join us, for one or all of the sessions, please contact the Office.



# New Sessions for Seniors



## **Keep Fit with Angela**

### **Plus tea!**

**Wednesdays  
4th, 11th, 18th March  
2:30-4:00pm**

Join us for easy chair and standing exercises with relaxation.  
This is a 45 minute class, followed by tea and refreshments.

There is no charge, **so don't be shy, come and try!**

Angela Charatan, Cert Ed., F&Ad Ed. Worked for  
Kensington and Chelsea College, specialising in teaching  
fitness for mature groups.

No special clothes required.

This is a new 3 week series to which members can come to  
one or all three sessions.

**Wednesdays 4th, 11th, 18th March**

**Wednesdays 6th, 13th, 20th May**

**2:30-4:00pm**

To let us know you're coming,  
please contact the Synagogue Office.



Member Only Booking  
Until 21st February

*Book Now*

## First Night Communal Seder Wednesday 8th April | 6:30pm

Take your seat at our Kent House Seder and celebrate the first night of Pesach with our community.

It's a mitzvah to hear the story of the Exodus from Egypt.  
so join us as we drink four cups, eat matzah & ask  
"Why is this night different from other nights?"

**Tickets: £70 Early Bird WS Adult Members**

**Early Bird Closes 16th March**

For non-member and children prices, or to book your tickets,

visit [westminstersynagogue.org](http://westminstersynagogue.org) or email [events@westminstersynagogue.org](mailto:events@westminstersynagogue.org)

We would never exclude anyone due to financial reasons.

Please contact the Rabbi in strictest confidence if you have any concerns.

## FEBRUARY

Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	6:00pm	Art and Soul: Beautifying the Mitzvot (see page 9)
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup>	6:30pm	Or Chadash and Hebrew
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup>	6:00pm	Ulpan Classes (6:00pm, 7:30pm and 9:00pm)
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup>	5:00pm 5:15pm	B'nei Mitzvah Classes Yin Yoga
Saturday 8 <sup>th</sup>	10:00am 6:00pm	Or Shabbat (10am) & Tots Shabbat (new time of 11am) Remembering Ilana Alexander (see page 16)
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup>	6:00pm 7:00pm	An Evening of Singing (see page 16) Film Screening: An Unknown Country (see page 11)
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup>	7:00pm	Tu B'Shevat Seder (see page 16)
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup>	6:00pm	Ulpan Classes (6:00pm, 7:30pm and 9:00pm)
Saturday 15 <sup>th</sup>	9:00am	A Morning of Singing (see page 16)
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup>	6:30pm	Community Shabbat Dinner (see page 2)
Saturday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	12:45pm	Oneg Shabbat (see page 8)
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup>	6:00pm 7:00pm	Ulpan Classes (6:00pm, 7:30pm and 9:00pm) Film Screening: The Song of Names (see insert)
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup>	5:00pm	B'nei Mitzvah Classes & Kabbalat Torah (5:30pm)
Saturday 29 <sup>th</sup>	10:00am 12:45pm	Or Shabbat Lunch & Learn (see page 8)

## MARCH

Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	6:30pm	Art and Soul: Beautifying the Mitzvot (see page 9)
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup>	2:30pm 5:30pm	Get Fit with Angela (see page 17) Or Chadash and Hebrew
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup>	6:00pm 7:30pm	Ulpan Classes (6:00pm, 7:30pm and 9:00pm) Theatre Trip: Prince of Egypt (see page 16)
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup>	5:15pm 5:00pm	Yin Yoga B'nei Mitzvah Classes
Saturday 7 <sup>th</sup>	10:00am 12:45pm	Or Shabbat (10am) & Tots Shabbat (new time of 11am) Lunch & Learn (see page 8)
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup>	6:30pm	Erev Purim Spiel & Service (see page 13)
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup>	7:00pm	WIZO and WYP: Power Hour (see page 15)
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup>	2:30pm 6:30pm	Get Fit with Angela (see page 17) Or Chadash and Hebrew
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup>	6:00pm	Ulpan Classes (6:00pm, 7:30pm and 9:00pm)
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup>	5:00pm	B'nei Mitzvah Classes
Saturday 14 <sup>th</sup>	10:00am 12:45pm	Or Shabbat Lunch & Learn (see page 8)
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup>	2:30pm 6:30pm	Get Fit with Angela (see page 17) Or Chadash and Hebrew
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup>	6:00pm	Ulpan Classes (6:00pm, 7:30pm and 9:00pm)
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup>	5:00pm	B'nei Mitzvah Classes & Kabbalat Torah (5:30pm)
Saturday 21 <sup>st</sup>	10:00am	Or Shabbat
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup>	6:30pm	Or Chadash and Hebrew
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup>	6:00pm	Ulpan Classes (6:00pm, 7:30pm and 9:00pm)
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup>	5:00pm	B'nei Mitzvah Classes
Saturday 28 <sup>th</sup>	10:00am 12:45pm	Or Shabbat Oneg Shabbat (see page 8)

# Useful Contacts

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## Our Rabbis

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Rabbi Dr Thomas Salamon, Rabbi Emeritus – [thomas@westminstersynagogue.org](mailto:thomas@westminstersynagogue.org)

## Education Enquiries

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## Lifecycle and Services Enquiries

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## Festival, Cultural and Young Professional Event Enquiries

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Louise Wendel, Events Coordinator – [louise@westminstersynagogue.org](mailto:louise@westminstersynagogue.org)

## Membership and Mitzvot Enquiries

Hilary Ashleigh, Membership Administrator – [hilary@westminstersynagogue.org](mailto:hilary@westminstersynagogue.org)

## Kent House Room Hire Enquiries

Louise Wendel – Events Coordinator – [events2@kenthouseknightsbridge.org](mailto:events2@kenthouseknightsbridge.org)

## Other Enquiries

Jeffrey Ohrenstein, Chairman – [chairman@westminstersynagogue.org](mailto:chairman@westminstersynagogue.org)

Howard Leigh, President – [president@westminstersynagogue.org](mailto:president@westminstersynagogue.org)

Gary Sakol, Executive Director – [gary@westminstersynagogue.org](mailto:gary@westminstersynagogue.org)

## Emergency Contact (evenings and weekends)

In case of emergency please call +4420 7052 9710, leave a message on the answerphone and a member of staff will promptly return your call.

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