

GLASGOW JEWISH REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL



MAY 2020

A Letter from the President

Dear all,

I hope you are doing well during these strange and ever-changing times.

On Shavuot we commemorate receiving the Torah on Mount Sinai. Despite having to continue to observe social distancing, we can still enjoy this holiday and make it meaningful by joining one of the many online events being organised, having a Zoom – and hopefully enjoying some cheesecake!

I am proud to see so many organisations in our community host online events and work tirelessly to ensure we can still feel connected to our community and Jewish traditions.

This continues to be a difficult time with many people struggling with different challenges, from financial, to mental health and loneliness. We hope that people continue to reach out and ask for help. If you or anyone that you know is struggling, please don't hesitate to contact us so we can point you in the right direction for help.

As I mentioned in the Jewish Telegraph last week, I realise that not everyone is online and able to connect to Zoom events or social media. We are working on reaching as many people in our community as possible, but if you have any ideas on how to widen our reach, or know of anyone who hasn't been able to connect, please give us a call or drop us an email.

Lastly, I'd like to thank our professional staff for all their hard work on this, our first newsletter, and I hope you will find it enjoyable and helpful at a time of uncertainty.

All the best and chag sameach,

Paul Edlin
President of the Glasgow Jewish Representative Council



SERET: The 2020 Israeli Film and TV Festival

A collection of new Israeli films created by the best writers, directors, producers and actors - brought straight to your home. Film lovers can enjoy everything the Festival has to offer, including Q&As with directors and actors.

See the full list of films and buy tickets – multipass or single film tickets – here: <https://seret2020uk.eventive.org/welcome>

Shavuot

Glasgow Community Shavuot Event – 28 May @ 10.30AM

The Glasgow Community invites you to celebrate Shavuot together! Brought to you by Enjoy, Garnethill Synagogue, Giffnock Shul, Glasgow Reform Synagogue, Newton Mearns Hebrew Congregation, PJ Library and UJIA.

To receive the Zoom details and a PDF of the activity pack, visit:

<https://ujia.org/glasgowshavuot/>

Shavuot Around the World

UJIA's Glasgow Youthworker, Sydney, has virtually visited her friends all around the world to hear about their Shavuot traditions and to celebrate together.

Visit: https://ujia.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Party-Shavuot-Around-the-World-.pdf?fbclid=IwAR3gAgssSb0M5dMgwK6pKtU6iGvpNPVqw-Qso5_4ul3fBhCQNmqL0q9WX40

JLC Work Avenue Fund

The JLC in partnership with Work Avenue, has established a fund to support those across the community whose earnings have been directly affected by COVID-19. The fund specifically assists those who are ineligible for Government support or who face delays accessing Government funds. This fund is designed to help you with essential expenses up until the end of June.

For more information, visit: <https://theworkavenue.org.uk/covid19/>



Glasgow Community Hub

Hundreds of people are being helped via a new Glasgow phonenumber launched for city residents who are struggling during the Covid-19 pandemic.

A new website has just been launched outlining the range of support on offer via the Glasgow Helps hub which is a partnership between Glasgow Council for the Voluntary Sector (GCVS), Volunteer Glasgow, Glasgow City Council and Glasgow's Health and Social Care Partnership. The hub was established by GCVS in response to the lockdown and growing number of people having to self-isolate during the crisis.

For more information, visit: <https://www.glasgowhelps.org>

Pulling Together

Pulling Together, established to support vulnerable people isolating in the community, has diversified its activities beyond shopping, delivering prescriptions and other essentials. They are now also offering to provide face masks to help people keep safe - contact details to request facemasks are as follows:

Cheryl Gold - 07786262521

Maryon Benn - 07974930170

Sorelle Henry - 07974801361

Martin Links - 07836698618

Pulling Together have delivered over 2200 food orders from Mark's Deli, as well as supermarket shopping, prescription collections and a number of other requested tasks.

Please contact either Ethne (07703566484) or Joe (07771777976) if you think there is anything more that Pulling Together can do for those isolating in the community and use the numbers given for face masks on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

GJRC President in the Jewish Telegraph

Glasgow Jewish Representative Council President Paul Edlin wrote for the Jewish Telegraph, noting that the Glasgow Jewish community is moving ever closer together as they manage to live in the new 'lockdown' world resulting from Covid-19.

Read here: http://jewishtelegraph.com/glas_1.html



Kirsten Oswald MP - Early Day Motion on Cosgrove Care

Kirsten Oswald (SNP) (509) Cosgrove Care

That this House appreciates the focussed and dedicated support provided by Cosgrove Care in East Renfrewshire during the covid-19 pandemic; notes the difference that that work is making to those in the most vulnerable situations; applauds the important initiative taken by Cosgrove Care to ensure that support and assistance is provided in the way which best suits individual requirements; acknowledges the importance of working as a community to deliver targeted support during the covid-19 pandemic; understands the significant work done to facilitate local volunteers working with Cosgrove Care to assist others in their neighbourhoods; and thanks the Cosgrove care staff and volunteers for their tireless service to support others in our community.

Supported by: Alison Thewliss

<https://edm.parliament.uk/early-day-motion/57002/cosgrove-care>

Maurice Golden MSP - Motion on Pulling Together

Motion S5M-21568: Maurice Golden - Pulling Together Supporting the East Renfrewshire Jewish Community

That the Parliament congratulates Pulling Together on its efforts to support vulnerable members of the Jewish community in East Renfrewshire during the COVID-19 outbreak; understands that it is the largest group supporting the Jewish community in the UK; notes that the group has been instrumental in ensuring vulnerable residents have access to both food and medical supplies through the work of local volunteers; further notes that the group anticipates an increase in demand for its services and will act to ensure priority is given to those most at risk; is pleased that the group has a strong focus on the safety of its volunteers, including providing safety and cleaning equipment, along with clear instructions on best practice in hand hygiene; believes that both Pulling Together and other similar support groups serve as an example of communities at their best, and wishes Pulling Together continued success in providing its much-needed support.

Supported by: Miles Briggs, Alexander Stewart, Jeremy Balfour, Monica Lennon, Finlay Carson, Richard Lyle, Margaret Mitchell, Edward Mountain, Murdo Fraser, Bill Kidd, David Torrance, Neil Bibby, Liam Kerr, Jackson Carlaw, Annie Wells, Donald Cameron, Mary Fee, Bruce Crawford, Michelle Ballantyne, Maurice Corry, Jamie Greene, Clare Adamson

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-21568&ResultsPerPage=10>



For further information or support, please do not hesitate to contact us

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