

GLASGOW JEWISH REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL



SEPTEMBER 2020

A Letter from the President

Dear all,

As the first year of my presidency of the Glasgow Jewish Representative Council passes, we look forward with cautious optimism.

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused painful and tragic loss of life in the community, and we send our thoughts to those affected.

During the past year the Rep. Council held community events on antisemitism and a hustings meeting for the General Election. Most significantly, we held a successful "Celebration of Glasgow Jewry" with the First Minister of Scotland, the Chief Rabbi of the United Hebrew Congregations of the Commonwealth, the President of the Board of Deputies of British Jews, and the Chair of the Jewish Leadership Council plus the "great and good" from throughout Scotland, all with us in the City Chambers in early February. We are anticipating more interactive events in the future via Zoom.

Underpinning these events has been our quieter but most important work of representing the Glasgow Jewish Community in the community's political, social and communal life. In that, most importantly, during the current COVID-19 pandemic we formed a Community wide steering group to oversee all activities in that for the Glasgow Jewish Community. That has been most successful with us coordinating all of our Jewish Community's organisations in dealing with the COVID-19.

The Glasgow Jewish Representative Council recently held our Annual General Meeting. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the outgoing Board Members for their hard work over the past year, particularly their dedication to ensuring the community was well supported during COVID-19.

I am delighted that Micheline Brannan will be continuing in her position as Honorary Secretary and Linda Wolfson as our Vice President after previously taking up the position temporarily. Barry Berlow-Jackson has been elected as Honorary Treasurer - I am looking forward to working with him. I would like to particularly welcome our newest Board Member, Jonathan Manevitch, a 26 year old postgraduate law student at the University of Glasgow. I look forward to working with our new management board in the future. The list of the new Management board can be found on the next page.

My fellow Honorary Officers and Board wish you a happy new year and well over the Fast. The COVID-19 pandemic has created many challenges for our community as well as uniting us. As the High Holy days approach we cautiously look forward to an easier year ahead for the community.

We are here for you; our Glasgow Jewish Community and we will respond quickly to your needs. Our contact details are attached at the end of this newsletter.

Best wishes,

Paul Edlin
President of the Glasgow Jewish Representative Council

GJRC Board

We are delighted to present the new Management Board for the Glasgow Jewish Representative Council:

President	Paul Edlin
Vice President	Linda Wolfson
Honorary Treasurer	Barry Berlow-Jackson
Honorary Secretary	Micheline Brannan
Trustee Board Members	Michael Clerk
	Alan Kay
	Bradley Kay
	Nicola Livingston
	Jonathan Manevitch
	Paul Morron
	Nicola Murray
	Susan Siegal
	Howard Singerman
	Sammy Stein

Jewish Care Scotland COVID-19 Grant

We know this has been a challenging time for everyone. For anyone worried about making ends meet due to the ongoing situation with Coronavirus, we have set up a specific COVID-19 Grant.

We are pleased to be able to offer **one-off grants of up to £1000** to help with essential expenses, such as food and bills.

To be eligible for a COVID-19 grant the following must apply:

- Household has suffered a reduction in income as a direct result of COVID 19 **OR** household expenditure has increased as a result of COVID 19
- We would also normally expect that you:
- Have savings of less than £1000;
- Apply for, or be in receipt of, any statutory help you are entitled to.

If you would like more information, or are interested in applying for a COVID-19 Grant, please contact us on 0141 620 1800 or email admin@jcarescot.org.uk

You will be put in touch with one of our Community Team, who can offer advice and information about what you may be entitled to. Support offered will be dependant on individual circumstances and applicants will be asked to provide supporting documentation.

First Minister's Rosh Hashanah Message

"I hope you and your loved ones continue to stay safe, and that the year ahead brings joy and happiness to you all. So on behalf of the Scottish Government, and the people of Scotland, Shanah Tovah."

The First Minister, Nicola Sturgeon MSP, has issued a message ahead of Rosh Hashanah.

It can be viewed on SCoJeC's website: https://scojec.org/news/2020/20ix_rh/fm.html

Glasgow Reform Synagogue High Holy Day Services

If you are not affiliated to a Synagogue or just not ready to attend in person yet, you could consider joining our virtual services this year.

You do not need to become a member of our Synagogue and there is no charge. We are simply offering to share what we have with the wider Jewish community. Since lockdown we have continued to provide Shabbat services via Zoom.

Student Rabbi Lev Taylor will lead the HHD services with our own service takers. The services will follow a fairly traditional format. Reform Judaism permits a virtual minyan and our egalitarian values mean that women participate in services equally. However, we also respect your individual beliefs.

Contact the Synagogue at shul@grs.org.uk or telephone 0141 639 4083 for more information or to register (for security purposes). Register by 1200 Thursday 17th for Rosh Hashanah and by 1200 Friday 25th for Yom Kippur.

High Holy Day Services are to take place at Giffnock Shul, Newton Mearns Hebrew Congregation and Garnethill Synagogue however they require advance registration.

Giffnock Shul

Giffnock Shul have been holding many events online.

For information about future events, please visit <http://www.giffnockshul.co.uk/online/>

For further information, please contact the Shul Office by phoning [0141 577 8250](tel:01415778250) or by emailing office@giffnockshul.org.uk.

Renewal, by Limmud Festival

The High Holy Day publication Renewal, by Limmud Festival, is now available to read.

Renewal can be read by visiting https://issuu.com/limmudfestival/docs/limmud_zine_renewal_edit?fbclid=IwAR1Thhb9MyZWE6zIN2x-Siqf1SeL0TLfhQJL6Y6wPli97uc1m_my8AIDWR8

UJIA Events

UJIA Centenary Celebration

UJIA requests the pleasure of your company to celebrate the start of our centennial year at a very special online event taking place Wednesday evening, 30th September. Our night of celebration and entertainment will feature honorary speaker President Reuven Rivlin and an intimate performance exclusively for UJIA by Israeli singer-songwriter Idan Raichel.

Register for the **Centenary Celebration** [here](#).

Jerusalem LIVE

Broadcast directly from Jerusalem, this hour long Jerusalem LIVE tour offers you the chance to discover, in real time, the hidden corners of the Holy City you've never seen before through the eyes of your own private guide.

Harnessing a blend of history, storytelling, and trivia, the Jerusalem LIVE tour is guided by Yoni Zierler – the director of the StandWithUs strategic tourism department 'Discover', and a master tour guide whose live tours on Facebook have been enjoyed by hundreds of thousands of viewers. The tour is interactive and you will have the chance to ask questions, share your thoughts, and even send notes to be placed in the Western Wall.

Register for **Jerusalem LIVE** [here](#).

Centre for Scotland and Israel Relations



"My name is Christina Jones and I have recently taken over as the Director of the Centre for Scotland and Israel Relations, you may have previously been in contact with my predecessor Ruth Kennedy.

The Centre is the Scottish office for the Embassy of Israel in London which supports the strategic development of positive relations between Scotland and Israel across all spheres of society.

Now a little about me, I was born and raised in Scotland to Canadian parents, so my accent is a little bizarre but I am a Paisley buddy! I obtained my BA from Glasgow University and MA from Tel Aviv University. I previously worked at the Embassy of Israel in London for two and a half years, as the Assistant for Inter-communal Affairs within the Public Diplomacy Department and I have recently returned to Scotland where I was asked to re-open the centre.

I am always looking to connect with people and if you feel that I should be in contact with anyone or if I can help with anything, such as getting a diplomat to speak or up-to-date information on what is happening Israel, please do be in touch. My contact details are office@scotlandisrael.co.uk or 0798 539 0752."

Useful Contacts

If you are in need of support, we have put together a list of useful contacts on our website that may be able to help you.

For more information, visit <https://www.jewishglasgow.org/useful-contacts/>

Coronavirus Guidance

Guidance and regulations regarding COVID-19 in Scotland has recently changed. Keep up to date with it by visiting <https://www.gov.scot/coronavirus-covid-19/>

Community Calendar

The Glasgow Jewish Representative Council Community Calendar can be found at <https://www.jewishglasgow.org/events/>

We would like to encourage local organisations to add their events to the calendar.

More information on how to add events to the calendar can be found at <https://www.jewishglasgow.org/calendar-instructions/>.

Technical Support

The Glasgow Jewish Representative Council is keen to offer support and assistance to those in the community who would like help with technology.

If you, or someone you know, would like some assistance to stay in touch with loved ones please call the Glasgow Jewish Representative Council on **07377 992 918** and together explore if we can use available technology and knowledge to help you.



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

Telephone

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Email

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Website: www.jewishglasgow.org

The Glasgow Jewish Representative Council is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO) no. SC047108

