

JFS Journal

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A Tribute to the Dee Family



On April the 7th 2023, Maia, Rina and Lucy Dee were shot dead while driving in the West Bank whilst on holiday. Lucy Dee, 48, was mother to Maia, 20, and Rina, 15. Her husband was Rabbi Leo Dee (Lucy also had three other children).

At the scene, Maia and Rina were declared dead, whilst their mother was taken to hospital in a critical condition, she died three days later. Between Maia and Rina, it took twenty bullets to kill them both, but Lucy was only shot twice. Although Maia and Rina's funeral were held separately to their mother's, political role models and government ministers, attended both.

It is suspected that Palestinians were the culprits of the crime. Rabbi Leo Dee said, "I do not hold any hatred toward them. The Israeli security forces will do what they usually do – track the criminals down – and bring them to justice, which I think is right because it prevents the next attack that these criminals may do."

Lucy's death saved the lives of five people who received organs from Lucy. The organs donated were the heart, both kidneys, lungs and liver and the corneas have been saved for a later date. Rabbi Leo Dee ensured before putting Lucy's organ up for donation, that it would be acceptable in the eyes of the Jewish law to do so. Whilst doing the research for this, he told

the Times of Israel that he and his wife had discussed in the past that they would donate their organs. However, they did not have donation cards in the fear that if they should end up in a Swiss or British hospital, their organs would be taken in a non-Halachic way. In the interview, he also mentioned that they made the decision because according to Jewish law, any life-saving organs should be donated if they are functioning. However, none of Lucy's bones or tendons could be donated due to the circumstances in which she died.

Lucy's remaining three children: Keren, Tali and Yehuda Dee, went with Rabbi Leo Dee to meet Lital Valenci, 51, who received the heart of Lucy Dee as well as other recipients of Lucy's donated organs. They each listened to the heartbeat of Lital Valenci through a stethoscope, and when asked if she could hear the heartbeat, Keren broke down in tears. "Listening to my mother's heartbeat made me feel like I am with her. It was very moving meeting Lital and all the recipients. We have lost so much but are comforted that so many families were saved from similar pain." Keren Dee was quoted as saying in a statement from the hospital, "Nobody can understand what it is like losing a mother, and two sisters at once." Her sister Tali added, "To hear my mother's heartbeat was comforting." Many have said that they are so moved by the actions of Lucy, and that although the loss was great for the Dee family and their friends, they also see the loss of Lucy as an event that resulted in something positive. For years, people have argued that even if you were to die donating your organs, the most important part of the donation is that it has saved another life. In this case, the greatest part is that Lucy will forever be remembered generously for donating her organs.

Zichronam Livracha – may their memory be a blessing.

By Esther Nathan Y7

From the Editor's Desk...

As we bid you a Chag Sameach and enjoyable half term the JFS Journalists have once again produced the reading material for your down time. Whether it's 'the' celeb wedding or international concerns this edition explains it all! As always I am amazed by the breadth of subject matter and hope that you will all learn something new.

Happy reading

Ms Wolfson

How Will the King's Coronation Affect the Taxpayer?



Many will know the Coronation event as an exquisite display of celebration, history, tradition and music focusing on one of Britain's biggest assets that tourists love to talk about. It has been 70 years since the last Coronation, and the commemoration will forever be one to remember. For a large section of the British population, the Coronation is an event unlike any other

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they have experienced in this country. We have had Jubilees, the Olympic Games and we are even gearing up to host the Eurovision Song Contest for the ninth time. Yet the Coronation is incomparable. Onsetting a boom of tourism and street parties galore, we are living through a time like no other. But under the veil of elegance, is an estimated nine figure sum bill that rests mostly on the money of the taxpayer, which makes me wonder, “Why is it so expensive and what effects will the Coronation have on a national and global scale? In addition, is it worth all the money?”

The costs of the Coronation can be split up into various different categories, the most significant cost being that of security. For the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, the Metropolitan Police met with a hefty sum of over £8 million, which seems like a minor

event compared to this one. For the wedding of Harry and Meghan in 2018, it was estimated at £30 million. One can only imagine how expensive security will be. Exact costs for the ceremony have not been revealed, however, when coupled with the expenses of the parade, flowers and adornments, we can only assume the numbers will be staggering. It's almost as if they'll be decorating the scene with banknotes. But it does not stop there. Sunday night sees more extravagance in the form of the Coronation Concert, a brilliant display of pieces performed from musicians and other acts all over the world, but obviously, those artists do not come cheap. Yet again, this cost is not known. Understandably, one wants to celebrate King Charles and his ascension to the throne. However, for someone who claims that he wants to slim back the Coronation at a time

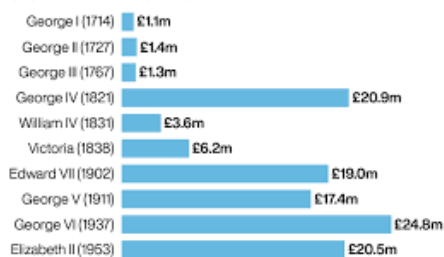
when people are struggling to afford food and essentials, the ambiguity of costs seems to almost make a mockery out of the general public!

Although, all this money may be worth it as the King's Coronation is set to boost the economy and paint the country in a positive light, which could be exactly what we need right now in our pessimistic society. In 2017, the Monarchy was said to have contributed £1.76 billion into the UK economy, and this was in a year with no major royal events. Imagine what the sudden onset of tourism will lead to because of the Coronation. Additionally, the extra Bank Holiday we're getting is likely to boost spending due to brands shining light on the event. After all, who wouldn't love to buy a pair of Coronation-themed oven gloves! But circling back to tourism, we all know how adored the Royal Family are by people all around the world, who admire their old-fashioned sophistication. They live out the fantasy every child has at some stage, of being Royalty. Many come to this country to experience the simple sight of Buckingham Palace and therefore, the Coronation is definitely a novelty the average tourist would love to cough up their cash for. We shall surely be seeing success in the sales of scintillating souvenirs in the weeks to come.

However, for us Brits, not everything is as great as it seems. As we are currently in the midst of a cost-of-living crisis, one might argue that it should not be left to us to pay

Estimated cost of coronations

(adjusted to Feb 2023 prices)



RA graphics. Source: House of Commons Library/Bank of England

for the Coronation. For many, it is not an essential spend. One might prefer to spend the money they are supposed to contribute on food, energy or water. An additional issue in terms of money is the cost of an extra Bank Holiday. Normally, each



UK bank holiday costs the country around £2.3 billion through lost productivity and the Coronation will mark the third Bank Holiday in the month of May alone. Money seems almost worthless to those currently in power, it is clear that claims for the Coronation to be on the cheap side have not necessarily been fulfilled. Considering that the new king was exempt from paying tax on his mother's estate perhaps he could use

some of that saving on his party!

So, what do the public have to say about this. Well, according to YouGov polls, 58% of Britons say that the monarchy is good for Britain. That percentage changes when the public is split into different age groups. Only 32% of 18–24-year-olds say that the Monarchy is good for the country, which is a relatively low number, and that number does not even exceed 50% for 25–49-year-olds. 54% of Britons also believe that the Royal Family are good value for money, but that being said, a separate YouGov poll, conducted on the 18th of April 2023, 51% of Britons do not believe that the Coronation should be government funded. From all of this information, it is hard to draw a general conclusion about what the public truly want. There really is no definitive view on the Monarchy that is held by the general public.

Nevertheless, to conclude, it seems as though the negatives of the Coronation are outweighing the positives, particularly in the sense of money. How everyone chooses to spend their money is different, however, for many people nowadays, they would much rather spend their money on necessities, which the Coronation is not. Yet, I must note, that this is a once in a lifetime opportunity, and since there's nothing we can do about just how much money has been pumped into the event, we might as well enjoy the occasion whilst it occurs.

By Emily Bunder Y12



Sofia Richie and Elliot Grainge: This Year's Royal Wedding

On the 22nd of April, the wedding of Sofia Richie and Elliot Grainge took the media by storm. Many platforms described the event as the 'perfect' wedding, credited to its euphoric setting and almost fairy-tale like appearance, as the ceremony took place at the magical golden hour only the French Riviera can create.

The 24-year-old designer, model, and daughter of singer Lionel Richie had been engaged to Elliot Grainge, a music executive, for a year prior to the wedding. Since then, Sofia had begun extensive wedding planning and described it to Vogue Magazine as a full-time job, this definitely showed!

In terms of attire, Sofia worked

“
Elliot felt it was important to pay homage to his Jewish heritage
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closely with Chanel to produce a trio of dresses for the special weekend. The ceremonial dress itself was a lace-embroidered halter gown, with a train down to the floor; a piece entirely hand-beaded. Elliot too wore a range of designers, including Ralph Lauren for the rehearsal dinner, and

a Tom Ford tuxedo for the wedding ceremony.

The ceremony itself was held in the Hotel du Cap-Eden-Roc, a lavish and most charming estate in Antibes which has stood since the 1870s. It is known for hosting Hollywood A-listers, during the Cannes film festival held annually in June. This time around, the hotel hosted the married couple themselves alongside other celebrities such as Paris Hilton and Cameron Diaz.

Rabbi Thomas Solomon officiated the wedding, which was a traditional Jewish ceremony. Elliot felt it was important to pay homage to his Jewish heritage. Given the fact Sofia had converted to Judaism for the marriage, said she also felt it to be very important that the wedding be a traditional Jewish wedding. Sofia spoke out very publicly of the process on social media as she was converting and how it was, “one of the greatest experiences”, as well as, speaking on the importance of religion and connecting to God. The couple took part in traditional Jewish wedding practices such as the smashing of the glass under the man's foot, being blessed under a Chuppah and being lifted on chairs encircled by Israeli dancing. Despite all the glamour of the wedding, the couple showed the importance of traditions, adding to the truly exceptional and memorable event.

The wedding lasted until 3.00 am as family and close friends celebrated, danced, and rejoiced well into the morning with the newlywed couple. Even in the presence of all the glitz and glamour of the celebrity event, Sofia and Elliot ensured the celebrations ended as every celebration should, with big bowls of pasta!

Leah Viner Y12



Little Amal and the Red Sea



At three and a half metres tall, and meaning of hope 'Little Amal', the ten-year-old majestic puppet walked from Syria through Greece and Germany to get to her final destination in the UK. Her long trek through many countries represents a refugee (a 10-year old girl) who journeyed away from her homeland to find a new home. But even though she has finished her walk she continues to pop up doing events; like the one she did a few weeks ago.

She was part of three different street parades, one for Easter, one for Passover and one for Iftar. My siblings and I took part in the street parade for Passover and were part of the Red Sea.

The performance was in three parts. The first part was at JW3. They held a play for 20 minutes explaining what Passover was about. Part one, ended when a kid entered the play to take

the Afikomen and rush out. The whole audience then followed him. The second part was where my siblings and I actively participated in the events.

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The second part included about 50 kids (three of those being me and my siblings) holding long pieces of red silky fabric that when cued rose up creating the effect of a roaring red sea splitting in half. As it split, Amal walked through followed by a marching band and a crowd of people. It was a phenomenal experience.

After walking through the 'waves', the crowd and Amal entered a park where Amal found the Afikomen and then threw sweets to everyone. This was followed by singing festive songs, dancing and eating matzah and charoset. After this Amal left to go to her next stop in Camden where she would celebrate Easter!

Overall it was an amazing once-in a life experience and seeing 'Little Amal' was a dream come true!

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By Roline Pillemer Y8

The Conflict in Sudan

Sudan is a country in Northern Africa, which achieved independence from the British in 1956. It was a democracy that didn't last long, and a series of military coups followed. Since then, and for over a week at the time of writing, clashes between two rival political groups have forced many to leave their homes, and at least 559 people have lost their lives in the chaos. But how has a rivalry caused all this, and have British people been affected?

The military forces have split into two groups. The Rapid Support Forces (RSF) and the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) have begun fighting over who should run the country, and how it should be run. The conflicts started when the RSF was deployed illegally, in the capital

Khartoum and another city called Merowe on the 11th of April. This raised fears of a rebellion. Four days later, the RSF began attacking SAF bases around the country, and the troubles have escalated from that.

British people and other foreign nationals have been evacuated. The first country to do so was Japan. The UK government has evacuated 2,197 people to safety from Sudan, in the longest and largest airlift by any Western nation during this crisis. The citizens have been taken in army planes to the British airbase in Cyprus. Sadly, only people with British passports could leave which has meant in some situations that families have been split up.

By Judith Mailer Y8

“British people and other foreign nationals have been evacuated”



Censorship of Roald Dahl's Stories



strongly urged writers to, “Remain true to your calling, unimpeded by those who may wish to curb the freedom of your expression or your imagination.” Furthermore, Prime Minister Rishi Sunak, also condemned these reports stating that literature should be, “Preserved and not airbrushed.”

Overall, it has brought the public to consider how far to go in terms of sensitivity. The changes promote gender-neutral descriptions, and vivid imagery of weight and appearance. Without this, I feel that Dahl's books will lose all integrity and the publishers should be rethinking their changes. I wholly agree and hope you do too, that the racial connotations and descriptions are unacceptable however I appreciate the normalcy of the time he wrote and thus like Sunak agree that works of literature should be ‘preserved and not airbrushed’.

By Tami Potishman Y11

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Recently, there have been changes to the ‘colourful language’ (as stated by The Guardian) of Roald Dahl's children's literature in order to make it ‘more accessible’ for children of the 21st Century.

Many authors, critics, and public figures such as the Queen Consort have challenged these changes and strongly opposed them. I grew up reading these books blissfully unaware of the harmful and odious opinions the author had about the Jewish community. However, we know today that there is misrepresentation in the media about minorities, and thus we have learnt to separate art from the artists' free will to have their opinions. So, why should we censor literature that has had abundant success and teaches a myriad of moral tales such as, ‘Matilda’, which teaches that it is ok to be different, Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, which teaches not to be greedy and

that good children are rewarded and bad children are punished, similar to ‘The Twits’, which teaches that the bad get punished.

However, publishers have tried to edit Dahl's stories in order to make them ‘less offensive’ and opinionated. Yes, some changes have been slight such as the replacement of ‘old hag’ to ‘old crow’ while others are needlessly changed such as replacing ‘black’ with ‘dark’ despite there being no racial connotations. However, simply the fact that they feel comfortable changing a man's lifetime work is concerning. The main debate on whether or not to publish and officially use these changes is whether or not it is ok to make posthumous edits.

On the opposition, writer Salman Rushdie stated he felt it was ‘absurd censorship’, whereas Philip Pullman said we should let Dahl go ‘out of print’ and read other authors' books. Additionally, the Queen Consort has

The End of Technological Advances: A Mirage or a Possibility?

Throughout history, civilization has been propelled by the relentless march of technological advancements. From primitive tools to intricate machines, from ground-breaking scientific discoveries to revolutionary inventions, our world has been shaped by the ingenuity and curiosity of mankind. However, with this, an intriguing question arises, 'Could there be a future where the wellspring of innovation runs dry, and no further technological advances take place?'

At the core of human nature lies an insatiable curiosity, a desire to explore and understand the world around us. This inherent curiosity has been a driving force behind technological advancements, pushing boundaries and seeking solutions to complex problems. As long as this intrinsic human trait persists, the quest for progress will continue unabated. The innate desire to improve, innovate, and discover will inevitably lead to further technological advances.

Technological advancements arise from the need to overcome challenges and improve our lives. However, even with significant progress, there are still countless issues that remain unresolved. Climate change, disease eradication, poverty alleviation, and space exploration are just a few ongoing challenges requiring innovative solutions. The quest to conquer

these obstacles will inevitably spur further technological breakthroughs. Moreover, technology has the potential to address problems we may not even be aware of today. As we deepen our understanding of the world, new frontiers of knowledge will emerge, creating new possibilities for innovation. The notion that we have exhausted all potential advancements in all fields is highly improbable. Technology is a limitless domain, constantly evolving and presenting novel avenues for exploration.

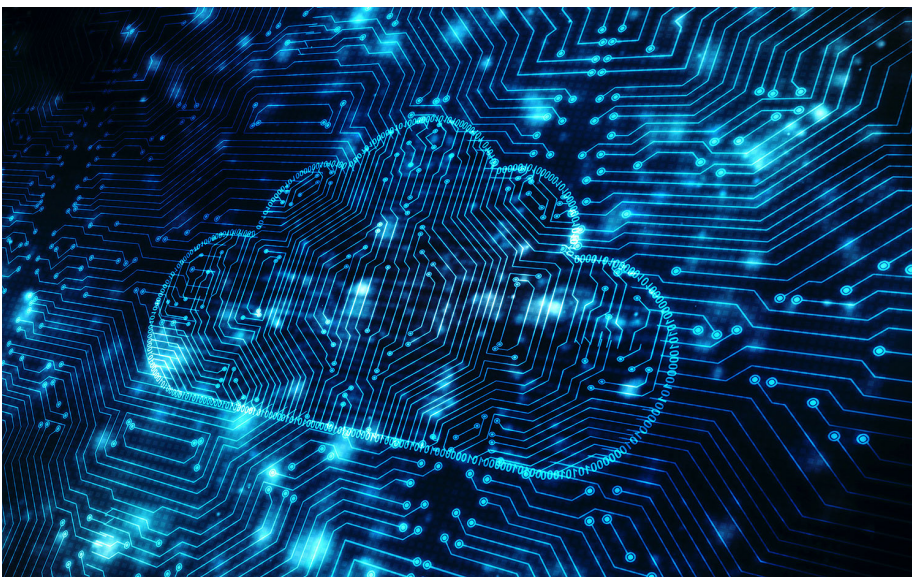
Technological progress has been characterised by exponential growth over the past century. This observation, known as 'Moore's Law', states that the number of transistors on integrated circuits doubles approximately every two years. This exponential growth fuels the rapid development of new technologies, creating a snowball effect where advancements build upon one another. This acceleration is not limited to one specific field but encompasses a wide array of disciplines, such as artificial intelligence, nanotechnology, biotechnology, and renewable energy. The interconnected nature of technological advancements ensures that progress in one field can inspire innovations in others. As the pace of change continues to increase, it becomes increasingly unlikely that it will reach a point of stagnation.

“Could there be a future where the wellspring of innovation runs dry, and no further technological advances take place?”

History has demonstrated that transformative technological advances often arise unexpectedly from paradigm shifts. These shifts disrupt existing industries, challenge established norms, and open up new possibilities. For instance, the internet revolutionized communication and transformed the way we access information. Similarly, the emergence of quantum computing, genetic engineering, or breakthroughs in materials science may herald ground-breaking advancements that we cannot foresee today.

While it is tempting to speculate on the end of technological progress, a thorough analysis suggests that such an eventuality is highly unlikely. The inherent human curiosity, unresolved challenges, limitless possibilities, the accelerating pace of technological change, and the potential for paradigm shifts all point to a future filled with continued innovation. As long as humanity remains driven by its innate desire to explore, understand, and improve, the march of technological progress will persist, shaping the future of our civilization.

By Leah Israelsohn Y10



A Day in Westminster

Rene Cassin is a Jewish human rights organisation/charity, who's mission statement is to make 'human rights relevant for Jewish people and provide a vehicle through which they can speak out against violations'. Since the start of 2023, my friend and I have been a part of Rene Cassin's 2023 Human Rights Ambassador Programme. We each had to design a project for a human rights issue, which we believed to be important. Whilst our projects, and the overall programme isn't completed yet, on Wednesday the 19th of April we were invited by Rene Cassin to visit Parliament, in order to meet one another in person, and understand how important human rights are at all levels of government.

Undoubtedly, the most inspiring event of the whole day was the panellists that we heard from in the morning. Amongst the speakers was the Shadow Environment Minister Alex Sobel, MP for Leeds North West. He was followed by Amos Schonfield, the Founder and Director of 'Our Second Home' (a youth movement aimed at helping refugees build communities) and Deputy Director of HIAS-JCORE, as well as Nina Freedman, a Trustee of the Jewish Leadership Council and the External Affairs Officer of the Antisemitism Policy Trust, and finally, Isabela Rodrigues, the Strategic Advisor for Stop Uyghur Genocide UK.

They spoke about a wide range of human rights issues, from the Uyghur Genocide to the proposed Rwanda scheme. They explained to us that it doesn't matter at what stage you decide to get engaged in politics, with some of them starting activist work at university, and others only taking an interest in human rights issues years into their careers. They gave advice on how to organise and participate in activism, the usefulness of grassroots movements and explained to us the benefits of participating in activism for our future careers. After their speeches, we were given some time to ask them any questions that we had, to which they all happily and thoughtfully responded. Following this,



around half of us presented a brief summary of our projects to the group, and the diversity of ideas and issues covered was incredible.

We were then taken on a tour of the Palace of Westminster by Alex Sobel. We toured the Chapel of St Mary Undercroft, a Baroque Chapel underneath Westminster Hall, which is still in use. We walked through the central lobby past multiple MP's and Lords, along the corridor of the Members dining room and the Peers dining room. This can be identified by size (the Peers dining room is much larger). The carpets are red for the Lords and green for the MP's. Unfortunately, we weren't allowed into the House of Commons, as it was in session whilst we were visiting, but we saw the Speaker of the House presiding as we moved past. After peeking into the House of Commons library, which was extensively packed with books, we were allowed onto the Terrace, where we saw, arguably one of the best views of the Thames.

Throughout that day, courtesy of Rene Cassin, we met and listened to some extraordinarily interesting politicians

and activists, and gained a rare insight into how activism translates into political change from the heart of Parliament. I would suggest that anyone reading this article apply for next year's Rene Cassin Ambassador Programme - it's an opportunity that you wouldn't want to miss!

By Ilana Long Y12

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The Rise of Non-League?



From crowds of up to 80,000 at Old Trafford to the 2,000 at Meadowbank in Dorking, these clubs share their similarities in that 'yes', they may have a hot dog and hamburger stand, a matchday programme and two sides playing football but in fact, they are polar opposites.

A few weeks ago, a viral clip surfaced online featuring the Leeds United's squad ignoring a child draped in hundreds of pounds worth of hard-earned money spent on team merchandise, as they left their team hotel for the game. It's one of many videos that have created a negative stigma in the past few weeks that includes the Arsenal squad seeming to not greet the selected. The girl who was in awe of the stars as they entered the stadium, and they went to sign her shirt without engaging outraged millions of people. Is this how footballers act?

The Vanarama National League is England's fifth tier but is considered the 'first' tier of what is called 'non-league football'. Non-league football's stereotype is Sunday League quality football, flying tackles and an ageing population that may be just there to tick off the stadium from their

extensive list on their ground hopping adventures. While that may be true, this year has shown that there is so much more to non-league football. Non-league is all about engagement with players more than happy to ask how your day is going and what you're up to in the evening; students volunteering as matchday presenters, announcers and media directors and most chairmen's really putting effort into ensuring that the experience is one that won't be forgotten. After all, these clubs rely on gate attendances as up until this year, games weren't available to be watched from home and merchandise isn't exactly selling through the roof. With every ticket sold, raffle ticket purchased, and scarf bought you are directly helping the club as opposed to feeding the back pockets of the owners or the sponsors. The Vanarama National League is the epitome of an advert for English Football. The league is constantly adapting, with streaming services now on offer and some games selected for broadcast by BT Sport, a club owned by Hollywood stars Ryan Reynolds and Rob McElhenney, former Premier League goalkeeper Ben Foster filming Go-Pro content in goal for his millions of subscribers to watch and so much more. In fact, four of the six sides in the play-off stages

are from around the London area, including Barnet and Borehamwood who are two teams that are very close to JFS (the 688 bus passes the entrance!)



While there's no guarantee that you are getting the same quality that you may see from Row Z at the Emirates, Stamford Bridge or the Tottenham Hotspur Stadium, you may be able to hand the ball to a player, become involved with the club, feature on TV, see 10 goals in one match and potentially, book a trip to Wembley Stadium before Spurs ever manage to?



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With no intention of being biased, I would recommend coming to watch Barnet. Located at the 6,500-seater The Hive London in Edgware, the atmosphere isn't raucous, but it is welcoming, the team are a likeable bunch and they're somewhat becoming good again, finishing fifth and into the knockout playoff rounds.

If you prefer something even quieter and face-to-face, try Wingate and Finchley or Hendon FC which are community-heavy, meeting all types of football enthusiasts and people who are ecstatic to tell you who the 'Number 7' with the hair like Jack Grealish is running down the wing.

Non-league football is an evolving phenomenon, and the best part is you don't have to drop your love for Arsenal or Spurs to come and watch a game. So come down to the Hive, Meadow Park or the Maurice Rehak Stadium for a fraction of the price you would pay elsewhere - who knows, you might love it!

By Aaron Jaffe Y12





The Hebrew date of Shavuot is the 6th of the month of Nissan. It is the second of the three foot festivals (Pesach, Shavuot and Succot). At these three points in the Jewish calendar, people from all across Israel would make the journey from their homes to the temple in Jerusalem in order to offer sacrifices to Hashem and to celebrate the festival in the holy city. Shavuot marks the beginning of the period when farmers would bring their first fruits (called Bikurim) to the temple for the Bikurim ceremony which showed appreciation to Hashem for the land and the produce that He had given them. Here are possible sources of two of the customs of Shavuot:

EATING MILK & HONEY

There is a widespread custom to eat foods containing milk and honey on Shavuot. Here are a few suggestions as to the origin of the custom:

- The Maharam MiRotenburg (a 14th century rabbinic leader) suggests that the custom originates from the words in the book of 'Shir Hashirim - Song of Songs' that says, "Milk and honey under your tongue," which is understood to be alluding to the sweetness of the words of Torah.
- Another possibility is that the custom originated because the Jewish people only ate dairy after they received the Torah. This is because, having received the new laws of meat preparation, it took time before they correctly slaughtered and prepared meat for eating. Until they had properly prepared their meat, they could only eat dairy.
- The custom to eat milk could also represent the receiving of the Torah: Just like a mother gives life to her child by feeding it milk, so too Hashem gives life to the Jewish people by gifting us with the Torah.
- Finally, the land of Israel is referred to in the Torah as being, "A land flowing with milk and honey." During the ceremony of the Bikurim that began on Shavuot, we thank Hashem for the produce and the land that he has given us. This is another suggested link between milk and honey and the festival of Shavuot.

MEGILLAT RUT



Ruth was a Moabite convert who, despite a very challenging life, remained committed to Judaism and to Hashem. She ended up being the antecedent of King David. The story of Ruth is read in the Synagogue on Shavuot.

Some say that Ruth is read on Shavuot because the story begins during the harvest season (which is the time that Shavuot occurs). Ruth is also connected to Shavuot as she lived with the commitment to Hashem that the Jewish people agreed to at Mount Sinai. The Midrash says that the book of Ruth is read at the time of the giving of the Torah as chesed 'lovingkindness' is a central recurring motif in the story of Ruth, and it is also a central Torah value. Another message from the book of Ruth is that of the universalism of the Torah. Ruth was a woman convert from Moab (who were enemies of the Jews at the time). Nonetheless, she found her place in Jewish society and discovered her strong connection to Hashem and to the Torah and its values. In doing so, she also cemented her place in national Jewish history as the great great grandmother of King David. On Shavuot, we reflect that the Torah is relevant to every human being and that each and every one of us can find our special connection to Torah, to Hashem, and to the Jewish people.

CONCLUSION

Shavuot is a festival with many different reasons for celebration and many different rich customs. Now that you are more informed about the different aspects of Shavuot, try to find something that speaks to you, that you can connect to in order to make these two days slightly more meaningful. Chag Sameach!





JIEP Recipe

Peanut Butter Cheesecake

BISCUIT BASE

200g Digestive biscuits
100g Oreos
125g melted butter

CHEESECAKE

560g Cream cheese
1 tsp vanilla extract
100g icing sugar
150g smooth peanut butter
450ml double cream

METHOD

1. Crush digestives and Oreos into fine crumb and then mix with melted butter. Firmly press this into a cake tin (best size is 8"/20cm)
2. Mix cream cheese, vanilla extract, icing sugar and peanut butter with electric whisk until smooth. Then whisk in double cream until thick and can hold itself
3. Spread mixture evenly over biscuit base
4. Chill in fridge for at least 5-6 hours (best to leave overnight)
5. Remove from tin, and feel free to decorate!
6. Enjoy!



Please note that if anyone has a nut allergy, they can either leave out the peanut butter altogether or replace with either melted cooking chocolate or any other flavouring.



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