

BARNET WIN NEWSLETTER

January 2016



Thought for the New Year

**Sing like no one is listening, Love like you've
never been hurt
Dance like nobody's watching, and Live like
it's heaven on earth.**

(attr. Mark Twain - but could have been someone else!)

Dear Friends

Well, here we are at the end of yet another year. We hope you, your family, loved ones and friends can look back on 2015 with positive thoughts and also to look forward to the New Year at our meetings.

BARNET WIN NEWS

We have great pleasure in welcoming three new members to Barnet WIN. They are Ros Goldfarb, Lesley Jacob and Frances Sutherland and we look forward to meeting them at our functions in the future.

In December our member Jane Rosenberg, together with her husband Harold, hosted an Oneg Shabbat at their home for Barnet WIN members and their families. This was the welcoming of the Jewish Sabbath, together with a candle-lighting ceremony not only for Shabbat, but also for Chanukah, the Jewish festival of Lights. It was very successful and all who attended praised Jane and Harold for their clarity in explaining everything connected with welcoming the Sabbath and the festival of Chanukah, and also the warmth of their hospitality.

We also celebrated Christmas at a special lunch at Kate's home in December. It was absolutely fabulous and many thanks to Kate for not only throwing open her home, but also presenting a beautifully laid Christmas table and ensuring that the spirit of Christmas was evident for everyone to share, regardless of faith. It was a truly lovely afternoon.

Future Functions - January/February/March 2106

On **Tuesday morning 12th January** we have a **coffee morning** at the home of Jackie Goymour (flyer attached) - **places are limited** so please contact her beforehand if you would like to come.

On Tuesday evening 23rd February we have the second in our series of *Courageous and Inspiring Women*. This time the two faiths represented will be Judaism and Sikhism and will be held at the home of Phlipa Goldmeier in Mill Hill, so please put the date in your diary - all details will follow in the February Newsletter.

On Sunday afternoon 13th March we have been invited by an organisation called *Food for the Soul* to join them in an interfaith cooking session with women of several faiths in a church in Finchley. Again, please put the date in your diary and all details will follow in the March Newsletter.

We have planned many other meetings and you will all be informed in due course. We look forward to seeing you and your friends.

HEAD OFFICE NEWS

Website

Head Office is busy working on the new WIN website - people from Barnet WIN involved are Salma Hassam and Jackie Goymour, and as soon as it is up and running, everyone will be informed. We hope this will not take too long.

Visit to British Museum - 26th January 2016 (booking deadline 11th January 2016)

Earlier this month everyone received BY POST together with other correspondence from Head Office a notification of a Head Office event to visit the exhibition *Egypt - faith after the Pharaohs* at the British Museum. This looks at the rise of monotheism in Egypt in connection with Judaism, Christianity and Islam, as well of course how this impacted on other cultures in the area. You all received notification about it - the absolute deadline is Monday 11th January (Jackie has to contact the BM on Tuesday 12th January to confirm final numbers) so if you have not confirmed your place, please complete the form that was sent to you and send it with your cheque for £8 to Jackie Goymour. If you have any questions and would like to go (but have lost the form), please contact Jackie as soon as possible on honeyhill@btinternet.com.

OTHER NEWS

Oasis of Peace/Neve Shalom/Wahat al Salam is an organisation that has a village in Israel where Jews and Arabs have been living peacefully alongside one another for nearly 40 years. They are organising a visit to the village from 28 Feb - 2 March and have asked if this information could be passed on to Barnet WIN members. Some of you may remember that they came to speak to Barnet WIN a few years ago and everyone was bowled over by their presentation. If you are interested, please contact Benita Hide, the Executive Director, on 020 8952 4717 / email: britfriends@btconnect.com / www.oasisofpeaceuk.org.

May we take this opportunity of wishing all of our members, their family, friends and loved ones a very happy and peaceful New Year.

We look forward to seeing you soon.

Love
Kate (Chair) and Jaleh (Vice-Chair
Barnet WIN



Below are the festivals celebrated by different communities for the month of **January 2016**.

1st Mary, Mother of God Catholic Christian

This is a celebration of the mother of Jesus.

Feast Day of Saint Basil Orthodox Christian

Basil of Caesarea, also called Saint Basil the Great died on 1 January in the year 379. He was the Greek bishop of Caesarea Mazaca in Cappadocia, Asia Minor (modern day Turkey). He was an influential theologian who supported the Nicene Creed and opposed the heresies of the early Christian church, fighting against both Arianism and the followers of Apollinaris of Laodicea. His ability to balance his theological convictions with his political connections made Basil a powerful advocate for the Nicene position.

5th Twelfth Night Christian

Christian observance of the close of Christmastide and the prelude to Epiphany, which begins the next day.

Guru Gobindh Singh's Birthday Sikh

Sikh honouring of the birth of the founder of the Khalsa who lived from 1469-1539.

6th Epiphany Christian

Christian commemoration of the manifestations of the divine nature of Jesus Christ. The homage of the magi to the infant Jesus is honoured by some. For others the Baptism of Jesus is the remembered event. A season of the Christian year from the close of Christmas to the beginning of Lent.

Feast of Theophany Orthodox Christian

Orthodox Christian celebration of the Baptism of Jesus, at which time the Trinity was revealed to the world.

7th Feast of the Nativity**Orthodox Christian**

For Orthodox Christians who have adopted the Gregorian calendar, Christmas falls on Dec. 25 as it does for others, and Jan. 6 marks the Epiphany, a Christian holiday that celebrates the revelation of God the son as a human being in Jesus. For those remaining on the Julian calendar, the Epiphany/Feast of the Nativity is celebrated on Jan. 19.

8th Feast of the Holy Family**Catholic Christian**

The Feast of the Holy Family celebrates the human family unit, as well as the ultimate family unit: Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. The feast, not a solemnity, is usually celebrated on the Sunday after Christmas.

10th Baptism of the Lord Jesus**Christian**

Christian commemoration of the beginning of the public ministry of Jesus.

13th Maghi**Sikh**

Sikh commemoration of a battle in which forty Sikhs died for Guru Gobindh Singh Ji.

17th World Religion Day**Baha'i**

Baha'i sponsored day dedicated to the unity and oneness of all world religions.

18-25th Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**Christian**

Christian observance with prayer for the restoration of unity between the churches of the faith.

24-27th Mahayana New Year**Buddhist**

Celebration of the New Year - first full moon in January - in Buddhist Mahayana countries, viz., North Asia, including China, Mongolia, Tibet, Korea, and Japan.

25th Conversion of St Paul**Christian**

Christian observance of the experience of Saint Paul when he was confronted by a vision of Jesus while on his way to persecute Christians. He became a leading presenter of Jesus. This is observed at worship services.

Tu B'Shvat**Jewish**

Jewish celebration of the coming of spring by preparation of foods native to

Israel. It is also known as the *New Year for Trees* - a method for determining the age of trees for tithing purposes.