



# Kesher @ CENTRAL

Strengthening your Connection with the Central Community



**5783 PROGRAMME**



this programme is sponsored by  
**project welcome**

an initiative of  OFFICE OF THE  
CHIEF RABBI

[www.centralshul.com](http://www.centralshul.com)

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## Dear Friends,

Central Shul has always been more than just a place to come and pray. It is where we gather to learn together and eat together. It is a place where lifelong friendships have been formed and nurtured, and where our Jewish identities have been enhanced through both cultural and religious activities. In short, Central is about community and relationships.

In Hebrew, the word “keshet” denotes a very special kind of relationship. A keshet is not merely a casual connection or a relationship of convenience. Rather, a keshet is a deep, meaningful bond formed between teacher and student, or between people with common interests and ideas. Sometimes a keshet can be formed between large groups of people, but equally a keshet can be something far more intimate.

In this brochure you will find an outline of our fresh new-look programming for the year ahead, now known as Keshet@Central. Some activities are intended to attract a high number of participants, whereas others are far more bespoke, catering for a more niche crowd. All have been designed to deepen your keshet with your friends, with your community and with your wonderful Jewish heritage.

We hope you find something in these pages which speaks to you, and we look forward to strengthening the links that bind us in the year to come.

Wishing you all a Shanah Tovah U'Metukah, a happy, healthy and sweet 5783.



## Contacts



**Birmingham Central  
United Synagogue**

[www.centralshul.com](http://www.centralshul.com)

**Shul Office**

0121 440 4044  
[office@centralshul.com](mailto:office@centralshul.com)

**Rabbi Yossi Hambling**

0121 285 1804  
[rabbi@centralshul.com](mailto:rabbi@centralshul.com)

**Rebbitzen Channah Hambling**

[channah@centralshul.com](mailto:channah@centralshul.com)

**Sarah Skelton Community Manager**

0121 285 1803  
[sarah@centralshul.com](mailto:sarah@centralshul.com)

**Eve Gold Safeguarding**

0121 285 1806  
[safeguarding@centralshul.com](mailto:safeguarding@centralshul.com)

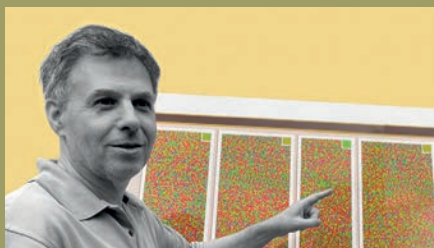
Best Wishes,

**Rabbi Yossi Hambling**

Discover a rich world of Jewish and British culture with our monthly programme of cultural events. With fascinating speakers, bespoke social evenings and exciting trips, there's sure to be something for everyone.

13 November 2022

## Gematriart - The Chromatic Art of the Torah

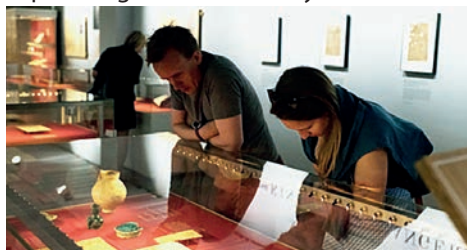


See the Torah colour code revealed with a succession of remarkable harmonies. Join us for a fascinating presentation by **Simon Prais**; colour expert, artist and author of *On The Sixth Day God Created Colour*. Prepare to be dazzled!

5 December 2022

## Trip to Cairo Genizah

The Cairo Genizah in Cambridge is the world's largest and most important single collection of medieval Jewish manuscripts. Come with us for a captivating visit and full day out.



29 January 2023

## Un Wine'd

Unwind with friends for an evening of wine tasting. Expand your horizons and test your tastebuds, as you enjoy a carefully chosen selection of kosher wines.



22 February 2023

## Symphony Hall Tour

We are fortunate to have a world-class concert venue right on our doorstep. Its acoustics are so fine it is said that if you dropped a pin on stage, it can be heard from anywhere in the hall. Join us for a behind-the-scenes tour to see this iconic venue in a new light.



9 May 2023

## Lag B'Omer Trip

Lag B'Omer commemorates the yahrzeit of Rabbi Shimon Bar Yochai, the great second century Jewish mystic. Celebrate the day as we travel to London for this special occasion.



11 June 2023

## The Jewellery Quarter... Still Birmingham's Gem?

Listen to local historian **Andy Munro**, a former Operations Director for the Jewellery Quarter Regeneration Partnership, who will share stories about the area's history and its dramatic transition to the present day.



28 August 2023

## End of Year Celebration

As we approach the end of 5783, please reserve this date for a special event bringing together the whole Central community.

31 July 2023

## Stratford-Upon-Avon Trip

Join us as we take a tour of the Royal Shakespeare Company theatre, hearing all about the workings of the theatre with engaging stories of its unique history. Afterwards, we will have a picnic lunch before watching a matinée performance.



When our shul was founded in 1883, it was known as the Birmingham Beth HaMedrash (House of Learning), and Jewish learning remains at the heart of what we do. In addition to Shabbat sermons, regular shiurim and Divrei Torah after services, Rabbi Hambling offers a wide variety of other educational classes.

## Daily

Join Rabbi Hambling's Two Minute Torah WhatsApp group to receive a daily Dvar Halachah straight to your phone. Previous topics covered have ranged from the laws of upcoming festivals to less spoken about subjects, such as what time Shabbat really begins and why we sway when we daven.



## Weekly



On Wednesday evenings, join the Rabbi at his home for the Tzurba M'Rabanan Halachah learning programme. Learn directly from the sources, all the way from biblical texts through to contemporary Rabbinic authorities. Topics for the coming year will include Cosmetic Surgery, IVF Treatment and Mezuzah.



## Monthly

Do you prefer an interactive discussion to a text-based shiur? Then why not come along to our Lunch and Learn sessions? Starting at 12:15 with a light lunch, join Rabbi Hambling to discuss a different contemporary Jewish topic each month.

### 2022

- 14 November
- 12 December

### 2023

- 9 January
- 13 February
- 13 March
- 8 May
- 12 June
- 19 July

## Guest Speakers

There are many different perspectives with which to approach our Jewish heritage. In fact, the Midrash teaches that there are 70 "faces" of the Torah! Open your mind to some of these faces – both new and familiar – with our diverse guest speaker programme throughout the year.



Nothing brings a whole community together quite like a communal meal! Whether for a Friday night dinner or a Yom Tov lunch, join us throughout the year to socialise with friends, make new connections and reconnect with Jewish traditions.

10-16 October 2022

## Sukkot

Join us throughout Sukkot in our beautiful new Shul sukkah for kiddushim, Shabbat seudah shlishit and an exclusive first night dinner.



18 October 2022

## Simchat Torah

Celebrating our Chatan Torah Rabbi Yossi Hambling and Chatan Bereishit Rabbi Yossi Cheruff, round off this year's festival season with a Simchat Torah kiddush lunch.



23-24 December 2022

## Chanukah



Come and experience an uplifting Shabbaton. Starting with candle lighting, then a lively Carlebach-style Kabbalat Shabbat service and finishing with Friday night dinner.

7 March 2023

## Purim

"They tried to kill us. We won. Let's eat!" Enjoy hearing the story of Purim with our late-morning Megillah reading, followed by a delicious Purim Seudah.



1 April 2023

## Shabbat HaGadol



Are your Pesach preparations getting stressful? Why not take a day off from cooking for Shabbat and join us for our communal Shabbat HaGadol lunch?

26 May 2023

## Shavuot

It's easy to overlook a festival as short as Shavuot, so don't let it pass you by. Our morning service features the reading of the Ten Commandments and is followed by a milky luncheon.



Keep your mind and body active with like-minded friends by coming along to our year-round social and healthy living sessions.

### Coffee & Chat

Join us every Monday afternoon for an informal conversation. We share the latest news, our memories from the past, our thoughts of the week, and anything else that comes to mind.



### Central Café



Stop by the Vanessa Lounge every second Thursday of the month for a hot drink and a sweet treat. Catch up with friends, read a book, talk to the Rabbi, play board games, or just enjoy a moment of peace in your busy week.

### Doodle & Draw

Relax and exercise your creativity by doodling with friends every Thursday morning. Bring some paper and coloured pens, and we will provide the inspiration.



### Rambling Group

Join the Rambling Group to explore the best countryside Birmingham and the West Midlands has to offer! Dates for the upcoming year are as follows:

**2022**  
**23 November**

**2023**  
**18 January**  
**12 March**  
**21 May**  
**5 July**  
**3 September**



### Table Tennis

All abilities are welcome to join us for a friendly game of table tennis on the first Monday of each month. This is a great opportunity to have fun, socialise and keep fit.

Central has run a successful Rosh Chodesh Group for the women of the community for many years. Over the next twelve months our programme continues with a wide variety of meetings.

Elul - 13 September 2022

## Understanding Eshet Chayil

With **Ma'ayan Sharona Fruhman**.



Cheshvan - 6 November 2022

## How to keep your skin healthy in winter

How to keep your skin healthy in winter with Bodyshop @ Home consultant **Tova Bamberg**.



Kislev - 20 December 2023

## Chanukah Lunch

We are delighted to invite you to the Ladies Chanukah Lunch with a guest speaker.



Shevat - 24 January 2023

## Fruit Carving

To celebrate Tu B'Shevat we are trying our hands at fruit carving.



Adar - 28 February 2023

## Hamantaschen Making

It is almost Purim. Join us for a fun evening of making hamantaschen together. Haman is the villain of the Purim story. This triangular-shaped cookie is supposed to represent either Haman's ears or his three cornered hat.



Nissan - 21 March 2023

## Laughing Yoga



Winter is ending and we could all do with a spring pick-me-up. So, we have invited a local instructor to lead us in a session of 'Laughing Yoga'.

Iyar - 9 May 2023

## Shavuot Learning

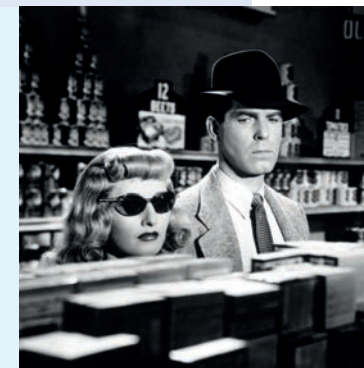
Shavuot learning with a guest speaker.



Tammuz -  
27 June 2023

## Film Night

Our traditional summer film night, with popcorn and laughs aplenty.



*If you would like to sponsor one of the above sessions in memory of a loved one or for a special occasion, please speak to Rebbetzen Channah Hambling.*



### The core function of any Shul is as a Beit Tefilla, a House of Prayer.

Tefillah with a minyan allows us the opportunity to connect with God as a community, as well as providing a space where mourners can recite kaddish for a loved one.

We are proud to be the only shul between London and Manchester to offer daily morning and evening services throughout the year and, as such, we frequently host visitors from out of town.

However, we cannot maintain these services without your support. If you can help with Minyanim, even occasionally, please join our WhatsApp groups: Central Minyan Men for weekdays and Central Shabbat Minyan for Friday nights and Shabbat afternoons.



### KADDISH PAIRING PROJECT

If you are a mourner or are observing a yahrzeit and for any reason you cannot attend a service, Rabbi Hambling can arrange for kaddish to be recited on your behalf by someone attending our minyan. He will match your request with a volunteer who has agreed to say kaddish at least once a day for one person.

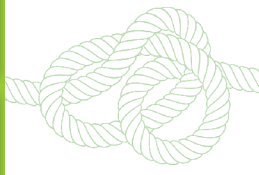
### WOMEN'S OFFICER

Sybil is available to provide women with assistance in following the service and helping them find the place during leyning and Haftarah. She can also help ladies who wish to say Kaddish, recite Birchot HaGomel and request a Mi Sheberach for those who are unwell.

Central Minyan Men  
WhatsApp group



Central Shabbat Minyan  
WhatsApp group



There are many ways to support, and be supported, at Central.

### Our wonderful volunteers

Thank you. From Kiddush and Security rotas to gardening, shul maintenance, leyning, pastoral care and laundering the tea towels, from making meals for the bereaved to leading our ongoing programmes, sponsoring events, hosting school trips, saying kaddish for those who can't attend, and serving on the Council and the Executive – your valuable contributions continue to make Central a strong and connected community.



### Pastoral Care Team

Alan, Sybil, Val, Ruth, Ros, Rebbetzen Channah and the Rabbi co-ordinate the support available to you through all life's ups and downs. Contact any one of them to share your news or receive support.



### Sponsorship

Share your special occasion or remember a loved one by sponsoring a kiddush, an event, a festive meal or a speaker, and help us to make 5783 a successful year of connection and community at Central.



### Keep in touch

If you don't already receive our events emails, join our newsletter to hear all about our upcoming Keshet programmes first! Email [office@centralshul.com](mailto:office@centralshul.com) and we will do the rest!



# Thank You



We are grateful to our sponsors for their support in making the production of this brochure possible.



Central Deli thanks the whole community for their continued support and together with their key suppliers are proud to be associated with Project Welcome.

